



Newsletter

Waitomo Caves
RD 7 Otorohanga

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Te Whakatipu i to Uira - Growing Your Glow

Term Two 2025

Week Seven - 13 June

Dear Parents, Caregivers, Whanau and Friends of the School

Tena Koutou Katoa

Welcome to school Luke, Michael and Haylee Chase. The Chase whānau live locally and own The General Store. Welcome Jess and Te Huia to our parent community.



National Young Leaders Day (NYLD)

The Halogen Foundation which runs the National Young Leaders Day exists to inspire and influence a generation of young people to lead themselves and others well. The theme for the day was *Ehara taku toa I te toa takitahi engari he toa takitini. My strength is not due to me alone, but due to the strength of many.* The objectives of NYLD are:

- Inspiration
- Connection
- Student empowerment
- Promoting positivity
- Motivation
- Education
- Speakers: Cam Calkoen, Georgia Lines, Elisa Harley, Jase Te Patu

The senior class students who attended the NYLD this week were generously sponsored by Aotahi Pathways facilitators who attended with our group. They provided a van for transport along with each child's \$49.00 ticket to attend. This was very much appreciated.



Whaia te ara totika – Make the Right Choice

Matariki Celebrations

On Thursday 19 June we welcome our parent community to a shared breakfast in Kauri Class. Come along at the usual start of the school day at 8.30am and we can eat soon after once the food is ready.

We will have some toppings for the pancakes however if you have a favourite sauce you would like to bring and share, please do.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday morning for our Matariki breakfast.

Aria Orienteering

The Aria Orienteering Day, which some Kauri students are involved in, will be held Thursday 19 June at St Helen's Domain in Aria. These students will leave with Mr Dimond following the Matariki breakfast. Children will need to bring a change of clothes, suitable footwear, a towel, lunch, snack and a water bottle. There will also be a food stall available. This event will go ahead ... whatever the weather, so please come prepared. No postponement!

Reach Awards

Congratulations to our Reach Award nominees Taku Paul, Lexi Green, Samantha McLennan, Whitu Moetu, Kyler Mateara and Kelani Wright. The Lions Reach Award is funded and supported by the Ōtorohanga Lions Club, the Thrive Ōtorohanga Youth Trust and the Harvest Rock Centre. The Lions Reach Award acknowledges those students who are striving to reach their goals and do their best.

Community Assembly

We will hold our Community Assembly on Friday 27 June starting at approximately 1.15pm. Please come along as the children have work to share with you from the past five weeks. The assembly will conclude our last day for Term 2.

Student Reports

These will be distributed on Wednesday 25 June. Please ensure your child hands these to you so you can celebrate with them their learning throughout the first half of the year.

Cross Country Training

Please ensure your child/children have a spare change of clothes available at school over the first five weeks of Term 3. During the cross country training sessions children are likely to get wet and muddy, and therefore need to change into warm, clean clothes to comfortably continue their day.

Vomiting and Diarrhoea

With more winter bugs around and children home sick, this is a reminder that any child who vomits or has diarrhoea must stay at home for 48 hours after their last episode. This is in accordance with the Ministry of Health Infectious Diseases guidelines. It helps ensure that children are well enough to return to school and to minimise the spread of bugs. If you are unsure about when your child should return to school after being unwell, please contact the office.

Survey

Kei ngaku nui, kei ngaku rahi, tēnei te reo o mihi e rere nei ki a koutou.

Te Nehenehenui is the Post Settlement Governance Entity (PSGE) for Maniapoto me ōna hapū maha. In partnership with the Ministry of Education, Te Nehenehenui will look to support the increase of ākonga Māori and whānau engagement with their schools and learning.

Purpose of the Survey

The survey aims to collect honest feedback from ākonga Māori (students), their whānau, and educators to:

- Understand how Māori students experience learning and school.
- Strengthen the place of te ao Māori in schools.
- Improve partnerships with whānau, hapū, and iwi.
- Celebrate what is working well and improve where needed.

For Whānau of Ākonga Māori

This version helps whānau share how connected they feel to the school and share their ideas and thoughts about Māori language, culture, and identity in their child's school.

Tips for Whānau:

- Answer as honestly and openly as possible.
- Think about your experiences with school events, communication, and support for your tamariki.
- If unsure about any question, leave it blank or write a comment.

✓ General Tips for All Surveys

- Confidentiality: Individual responses will be kept private and confidential.
- Clarity: Take your time, and don't rush.
- Support: It's okay to ask for help or clarification at any time – contact Kristen Pari at TNN.

Next Steps After Surveys

- Responses will be collected and reviewed by the Te Hono Miro team.
- Key themes and suggestions will be shared with the schools.
- Actions will be planned with whānau, hapū, and iwi input to strengthen outcomes for ākonga Māori, their whānau and support for schools.

Here is the link to the whānau survey <https://wkf.ms/44zd6fE>. It is available on Skool Loop and if you prefer a paper copy please contact the school so we can get one to you.



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Board of Trustees News

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Monday 23 June starting at 2.45pm.

Our Tamariki

On Wednesday, we went to NYLD in Hamilton. My favourite person out of all the speakers was Cam Calkoen. His favourite word is awesome! He encouraged us to believe in ourselves and to not worry about what others think. He said, *"Focus on what we can do — leadership is an opportunity."* He also encouraged us to do our best.
By Kadilay Winikerei

At NYLD my favourite person was Elisa Harley because she was talking about plants and how she has her own company and it is making pot plants that are good for the environment.
By Takurangi Paul

Cam is a professional speaker with cerebral palsy. He talked about being awesome and to never give up on your dreams. Also focus on what you can do.
By Kyrin King

Cam Calkoen talked about being courageous and to do things that your brain says you can't do. He's a really awesome person and did lots of cool things even though he has cerebral palsy.
By Carlos Mendoza

At NYLD there were four speakers talking. My favourite one was Elisa Harley. She did gymnastics when she was eleven years old. She got into the finals but had to go around New Zealand to participate in them. Her parents asked her if she was going to help pay for the trip. So she did. She sold plants and made money but not enough. She was still doing it at year twelve and her and her friends had a business. She was successful and she made her own glass house with her own plants and she loved it.
By Lexi Green

What's Coming Up

18 June	Reach Awards
19 June	Matariki Breakfast Celebration
19 June	Aria Orienteering
20 June	Matariki (School Closed)
23 June	Board of Trustees Hui
25 June	Student Reports Home
27 June	Community Assembly, Last Day of Term
14 July	Start of Term 3

Mrs Tamae Dimond
Tumuaki ☺



Calling for expressions of interest -
part-time fixed term for student
support roles.

School visits welcome, phone
Tamae Dimond for more information
on 022 625 9776 or email
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