



Newsletter

Waitomo Caves
RD 7 Otorohanga

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Te Whakatipu i to Uira - Growing Your Glow

Term Three 2025

Week Five - 15 August

Dear Parents, Caregivers, Whanau and Friends of the School

Tena Koutou Katoa

Learning Conferences

It is always a valuable time to talk with parents and teachers about student successes and achievements. It's also a good opportunity to check in on your child's behaviour and expectations around their learning and attendance. Thank you to those parents who were able to meet yesterday for learning conversations, there was a good turn out of whānau.

Year 4 to 8 students played a positive part in sharing their learning which is something we hope they are able to do with you at home on a regular basis. You can prompt them by saying:

- Tell me about your maths topic
- What are you writing about at the moment?
- Tell me about your writing goals
- What are you reading?

Small Schools Cross Country

Congratulations to all runners. Well done everyone and thank you so much to the fundraising group of parents and caregivers who orchestrated a tasty food stall during the day. Thank you Tammy, Savanna, Ben, Glenys, Alannah, Batch and Miss Groube. Fundraising means students can enjoy EOTC activities at a reasonable cost. The following results show just how well our runners performed.

Year 0-2 Girls - 2nd Kyler Mateara, 6th Robyn Moetu, 16th Kelani Wright, 17th Claudia Haysom, 18th Karlyn Mateara, 19th Uru Taane-Edwards, 20th Kiara Gandhi.

Year 0-2 Boys - 2nd Whitu Moetu, 5th Luke Chase.



Whaia te ara totika – Make the Right Choice

Year 3-4 Girls - 3rd Lizzy Wright, 10th Nichole Taane-Edwards, 12th Phyper Haysom, 16th Willow Wilson, 17th Valeshka Gandhi.

Year 3-4 Boys - 10th Azarhn Khan, 12th Michael Chase.

Year 5-6 Girls - 3rd Haylee Chase, 4th Fay Wright.

Year 5-6 Boys - 2nd Thomas McLennan.

Year 7-8 Girls - 5th Samantha McLennan, 6th Lexi Green, 7th Annalieze Haysom.

Year 7-8 Boys - 8th Kyrin King, 11th Carlos Mendoza, 12th Carter Wanden.



COPs Cross Country

Hosting the annual COPs Cross Country race involved 220 runners from 7 schools. The following children competed in COPs from Waitomo on Wednesday, well done everyone.

Year 1 & 2 Girls: 12th Kyler Mateara

Year 1 & 2 Boys: 18th Whitu Moetu

Year 3 & 4 Girls: 27th Lizzy Wright

Year 5 & 6 Girls: 26th Fay Wright

Year 5 & 6 Boys: 24th Thomas McLennan

Thank you to all the parents and caregivers who worked non-stop in the food stall to accommodate the hungry tummies of runners and supporters. Thank you Miss Groube, Alannah, Batch, Glenys, Carlos, Carter and Councilor Janette Osborne.

Special thanks to Christen and Katie Dimond for the use of their farm. It is most appreciated that we were able to use this area as it provides challenging and adventurous terrain that makes up four different courses from 800m to 2800m. Thank you also to the HTG hut

custodians and Tokikapu Marae committee for allowing us to use designated areas that helped make the day a success. Over the two cross country days we fundraised \$1,483.40 which will go towards this year's Ski Day Trip.

Ski Day Trip

The EOTC school Ski Day Trip is scheduled for Friday 29 August. This day trip experience is available to students in Years 5 to 8. It is extremely important for planning purposes to receive confirmation of participants urgently. Kauri class whānau, please read, complete and return the forms that accompany this newsletter.

Student Voice

The following information is a snapshot of student voice. Our tamariki have shared how they feel about school, their learning and what makes them feel good about themselves and Waitomo Caves School.

Year 1	I like doing drawing, maths, and having a break.
Year 3	I used to not do my mahi because I thought that I was not good at it but now I think I am good at my mahi.
Year 2	I like coming to school to do my reading. I can write the letters and do the sounds now. I try hard in my writing to write the sounds. I love coming to school to see all of the teachers and my best friend.
Year 5	My favourite swimming stroke is freestyle because I am very good at my arm actions.
Year 2	My favourite thing at school is maths and learning about numbers.
Year 4	I've learnt about growth mindset and we don't say I can't do it, we say I just can't do it yet. I have improved in my writing. I can plan it in many ways.
Year 3	I never used to know the heart words and now I know a lot more.
Year 4	I feel good about being in a caring classroom.
Year 2	I feel good about reading books at school.
Year 3	I feel good about writing and learning new words at school.
Year 8	To get better at swimming I need to grab the opportunity to practise so that I improve my breathing.

Vision and Hearing Checks in School

Vision Hearing Technicians from Community and Southern Rural Health will be visiting our school. The objective of the test is to identify previously undetected vision and hearing problems. Which children are routinely checked?

- Children who have not completed vision and hearing checks as part of their B4 School Check
- Children absent from previous visit, require rescreens or follow up
- New Immigrants

- Year 7 student's vision only

What tests are carried out?

Ears - Audiometry (hearing test)

- Tympanometry, middle ear function test (only carried out when hearing test is not within a normal range)

Eyes - Long distance vision tests, not a complete visual examination, but a simple screening test

These checks are non-invasive, safe and should cause no discomfort. The Vision Hearing Technician will:

- Notify parents/caregivers of all test results

- Enter results on Ministry of Education database (Enrol)

The Vision Hearing Technician will obtain personal details from the school ie; names, date of birth. If the technician needs to contact parents/caregivers following the visit, addresses and phone numbers will also be required. This health provider may share this information with other health professionals involved in the children's care.

If any parents/caregivers do not want their child to be checked, or their child is currently under specialist care for their vision or hearing, please let school know.

Board of Trustees News

*Waitomo Caves School **School Board Elections***

Parent / Staff Election Results Declaration (no voting election required)

At the close of nominations, as the number of valid nominations was equal to the number of vacancies required to be filled, I hereby declare the following duly elected:

Parent Election: Aquarius Macpherson Heta
Christine McLennan
Katie Dimond

Staff Election: Alannah Batger

Signed: Kinneir Groube, Returning Officer

Congratulations to our new parent representatives. The new board takes effect from Wednesday 17 September 2025. Our next meeting with our current board members is on Tuesday 2 September.

What's Coming Up

18 August	Duffy Role Model Assembly
19 August	Ōtorohanga College Experience Day
22 August	Visiting School Experience
29 August	Ski Day Trip
2 September	Board of Trustees Meeting

Mrs Tamae Dimond, Tumuaki ☺