



Newsletter

Waitomo Caves
RD 7 Otorohanga

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Te Whakatipu i to Uira - Growing Your Glow

Term Three 2025

Week Seven - 29 August

Dear Parents, Caregivers, Whānau and Friends of the School

Tena Koutou Katoa

Thank you Erik and Lisa Petersen from Waitomo Village Chalets who shouted staff morning tea yesterday for being flexible about usage of our school grounds. Thank you for your generosity, korua.



Speeches

All our tamariki presented their speeches recently to a supportive adult audience. The speech themes consisted of super powers and some persuasive topics like protecting endangered animals, having more play time and being paid to do chores at home. We congratulate everyone's courage to get up and speak, well done for such a great job. Good work to the student audience who were engaged and showed interest in each other's korōro. Ka pai tamariki.

Congratulations to Carlos Mendoza for developing and delivering a top speech on 'Why we should ban sugary food and drinks.' Carlos will be delivering his speech at the regional speech competition next week at St Peter Chanel Catholic School, Hamilton. We wish him well.

Ski Day Trip

The senior Kauri Class students and teachers started out this morning for Whakapapa and were advised en route the mountain would be closed today. It is snowing, visibility is limited and winds are high. On returning to school we are looking at options to reschedule next week. Parents will be advised via text message asap.

Thank you to Black Water Rafting Co for sponsoring a van and driver for this excursion. Thank you Becs Blackwood for driving our group half way today. Becs has been a regular volunteer driver for WCS and we appreciate her joining us again. Thank you also to whānau and friends of the school with recent efforts in fundraising for this trip.

How You Can Support Your Child at Home

- Talk with them often
Conversations build vocabulary, confidence, and connection. Ask questions and listen to their ideas.
- Read stories together
Reading aloud, even for older children, helps grow comprehension, imagination, and a love of books.
- Model and correct grammar
Gently correct mistakes by repeating their sentence back the right way, so they hear proper language use.
- Limit device use
Too much screen time can impact focus and learning. Set boundaries for when and how long devices are used.
- No social media
Children don't need social media at this age. Protecting them from online pressures helps their wellbeing.

Role Model Assembly

Since our last newsletter we have hosted Shelby Wolf and Inka the Husky to our school as role models from the Alan Duff Charitable Foundation.

You may have guessed by her name that Shelby's passion is cars and animals. Shelby worked as an Education Officer for the SPCA for many years with a fantastic team of people and animals specifically selected to be part of the delivery of SPCA education presenting to over 100,000 students across the country sharing conversations about the bonds we share with our pets.

She finished working at Auto Angels in 2021, an all female car sales business, and as well as being a carer for her mum she currently works in her hapu areas in Whangaroa for Bay of Islands Animal Rescue. When time allows she loves building cars with her whanau. Shelby brought her canine companion Inka with her and promoted a love of reading.



Community News

Harvest Rock Holiday Climbing Ōtorohanga's Best Indoor Rock Climbing Centre
Monday 22 to Friday 26 September AND Monday 29 September to Friday 3 October
10,00am - 3.00pm each day.

Pricing: \$10 each for kids (under 14) \$15 each for adults (14 & over)
Belaying only (14 & over) FREE

* Under 14 years old must be accompanied by an adult for belaying.

* Bring your own water bottle and shoes to climb in please.

For further information contact Julian Pope on 021 182 1203 or email harvestrock@xtra.co.nz
Harvest Rock Centre, 5 Tuhoro Street, Ōtorohanga

Board of Trustees News

Our Board of Trustees meeting will be held at school the week after next. This will be the first meeting with new trustees Katie Dimond and Christine McLennan.

On behalf of the school whānau, wider community, students and staff we sincerely thank Talitha and Monica for their roles in committing to improving school governance. Thank you for your continued support, time and dedication.

Our Tamariki

Caught Being Good - Congratulations to the following students.

Valeshka Gandhi for demonstrating 'manamotu hake' (self-determination) by giving your best effort throughout cross country training and on the day of the event.



Congratulations to Michael Chase, Luke Chase and Willow Wilson for great attendance in the first half of Term 3 - 24/24 days.

Speeches - Tēnā koutou katoa, ko Waitomo Caves tōku kura, e rima ōku tau, ko Kunal tōku pāpā, ko Manci tōku māmā, ko Kiara tōku ingoa. Nō reira, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou kātoa. Good afternoon. My name is Kiara. I think that if I had a superpower it would be very good. I wish my super power was to be the fastest runner. If I was the fastest I could get a medal and a candy. That is why it is good to have a super power to be a fast runner.

Tēnā koutou katoa, ko Waitomo Caves tōku kura, e rima ōku tau, ko Stefan tōku pāpā, ko Kathleen tōku māmā, ko Hunter tōku ingoa. Nō reira, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou kātoa. Good afternoon, my name is Hunter and I am going to talk about why it is good to have a super power. If I had a superpower it would be invisibility. If I had invisibility I would use it to be sneaky. I would sneak into my mum's room and play Roblox on my tablet. If you were invisible would you be a sneak?

Tēnā koutou katoa, ko Waitomo Caves tōku kura, e rima ōku tau, ko Cory tōku pāpā, ko Becky tōku māmā, ko Karlyn tōku ingoa. Nō reira, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou kātoa. My name is Karlyn and my superpower is water. I can put fires out of cars and of houses and motor bikes. That is why it is good to have super powers.

Tēnā koutou katoa, ko Waitomo Caves tōku kura, e waru ōku tau, ko Dylan tōku pāpā, ko Stevi tōku māmā, ko Willow tōku ingoa. Nō reira, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou kātoa. Did you know that having super powers is actually very helpful? My super power would be mind reading so I could tell on people and help people. If I had mind reading I would think through my friends brains. I can tell if they are going to do something mischievous like sneaking Mrs Jordan's Baby Yoda. I would tell Mrs Jordan that someone's trying to steal her Baby Yoda! I could be the class helper by telling the teacher that someone is lying because I can mind read. I can also help my family clean the house by my mind reading. Thank you for listening to mind reading. Have I convinced you that it is a good super power?



What's Coming Up

29 August	Ski Day Trip
3 September	Vision and Hearing Checks
3 September	Regional Speech Competition
7 September	Fathers Day
TBC September	Board of Trustees Meeting
11 September	Reach Awards
TBC September	Dress to Impress
19 September	End of Term 3
3 October	Teacher Only Day PLD
6 October	Term 4 Starts
7 October	Weaving Wellbeing Module Starts
9 October	Floral Morning/Half Day Pet Day Prep
10 October	Pets Day
13 October	KickStart Classes Resume

Mrs Tamae Dimond
Tumuaki ☺

