



Newsletter

Waitomo Caves
RD 7 Otorohanga

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Te Whakatipu i to Uira - Growing Your Glow

Term Three 2025

Week Nine - 12 September

Dear Parents, Caregivers, Whānau and Friends of the School

Tena Koutou Katoa

KickStart to School

This term we have had the pleasure of two young preschoolers joining our KickStart to School Classes on Monday mornings. Welcome Thomas Dimond and Taaware Anderson-Paparahi. Also, welcome to our parent community Thomas' whānau Christen and Katie Dimond, and Taaware's whānau Tiwene Winikerei and Piri Anderson.

Whātua te Waiora Weaving Wellbeing Programme

Whātua te Waiora Weaving Wellbeing is a positive mental health programme which aims to enhance wellbeing for Year 7 & 8 students over 10 weeks during the school term (1 hour per session). It gives children the opportunity to weave positivity into their daily lives through a range of activities in a variety of areas. These areas include identifying and using their authentic character strengths, boosting positive emotions, developing, and nurturing positive relationships and connections, building practical resilience skills (including mindfulness) and developing self-efficacy through empowering beliefs.

The intention of the Whātua te Waiora Weaving Wellbeing programme is to support learners to feel good about themselves, have a vision for themselves that supports their best possible selves, and to be equipped with several resilient ways of thinking and being to support them in times of challenge. Students will gain life skills to add to their kete of knowledge to help support them now and into the future.

This programme will be delivered to all of Kauri Class (Years 5 to 8) throughout Term 4.



Whaia te ara totika – Make the Right Choice

Ski Day Trip

We had such a great time! Our 'new to skiing' learners did extremely well and the rest of us were awesome at remembering how to ski again. We even skied at the Rock Garden for the first time. The conditions were challenging, such as the visibility, however we kept on top of things, kept learning and had a good time doing so. Well done team.

Thank you to BWR for providing us with a van and driver. Thank you Evie for taking us to and from the mountain for the day.



Unfortunately, due to some illnesses not everyone in Kauri Class attended. Whakapapa Ski School requests medical certificates from those unable to attend in order to receive their refund. If you haven't already done so and want your refund please send along to school your child's medical certificate so we can pass this on for you.

Finlayson Park School

We were truly grateful for the opportunity to have some Year 7 & 8 students visit our school from Finlayson Park School recently as part of their '*Service to Others*' camp theme. Students were excited and honoured to share their Siva Samoa and Siva Afi (fire dance) performance and run a cultural workshop for our learners. It meant a great deal to them to be able to give back in this way, especially outside of Auckland.



Community Assembly

Our final Community Assembly will be held next week on Thursday 18 September starting at 6.00pm. Details are to follow so please come along to see first hand what we have been learning since our last Community Assembly.

Thursday 18 September 2025

Waitomo Caves School Multipurpose Room

Dress to Impress

Fashion Show



5.40pm students return to school

6.00pm SHOW STARTS



Please bring along a small plate of finger food to share
for supper after the show.

Dress to Impress

Join us in a fashion show you will never forget. Students will need to reassemble back at school promptly at 5.40pm having had dinner before leaving home. This event starts at 6.00pm. Parents are asked to provide a plate of finger food to share for supper.

Property

Following last weekend's storm we had a tree fall over the tennis court fence area. Thank you Lucas Batger for paying it forward to support the school in removing the wind blown tree and further inspect the school grounds for added safety. Thank you also to Munga Wright for helping with clearing away the debris.

Head Lice Reminder

Head Lice (nits) are a regular occurrence in school communities that requires everybody's attention to eradicate. Anyone can get head lice. Please be vigilant in checking your hair and your child's hair regularly and treat as necessary.

Community Assemblies for Term 4 take a different shape and form. Term 4 brings our traditional Pet Day exhibitions, and the end of year school prizegiving.

Pet / Flower / Art Exhibition Day

Pet Day will be held in Term 4 on Friday 10 October. Children will receive details for their entries next week and will need to read this information carefully. The following is a timetable with approximate times:

8.45 am	Students come to school at their usual time Room opens for pupils to enter baking exhibits Students final grooming and preparation of pets Baking Judged Food Stall
9.30 am	Pet Judging begins followed by prizegiving Challenge Zone
11.30 am	Multipurpose room opening for inspection
12.00 pm	Cakes up for auction

1.30 - 2.00 pm

End of day, big clean up

Pupils, pets, baking and floral arrangements may depart

All artwork will remain on the walls following Pet Day so that we can admire the children's beautiful work a bit longer and support them in removing it correctly from the display.

On Thursday 9 October following the floral section preparations, children will be leaving school from 12.10pm. We will confirm early next term the bus arrangements for those who need it. Traditionally parents/whanau join us for the morning. For non bus parents please arrange to collect your children as soon as the cleaning up has concluded at 12.10pm.

Reach Awards

Well done to the following children who received Reach Awards sponsored by the Ōtorohanga Lions Club. Congratulations to these students who have worked hard to reach their learning goals and be examples of good and improved behaviour.

Carlos Mendoza, Kyryn King, Michael Chase, Hunter Houlihan and Robyn Moetu.

Board of Trustees News

The Board of Trustees welcomed trustees to the first meeting of the newly elected representatives. Our school Board is:

Aquarius Macpherson	- Presiding Member	Tamae Dimond	- Principal
Katie Dimond	- Parent Trustee	Christine McLennan	- Parent Trustee
Alannah Batger	- Staff Trustee		

Our meeting covered areas of trustee induction, property, health and safety, reporting and legislation.

Our Tamariki



What's Coming Up

18 September	Dress to Impress, 5.40pm
19 September	End of Term 3
6 October	Start of Term 4
9 October	Pet Day Prep, half day
10 October	Pet Day
13 October	KickStart Classes Resume
15 October	Rangatahi in Action Day

Mrs Tamae Dimond, Tumuaki ☺