

Newsletter

Waitomo Caves
RD 7 Otorohanga

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Te Whakatipu i to Uira - Growing Your Glow

Term Four 2025

Week Four - 31 October

Dear Parents, Caregivers, Whanau and Friends of the School

Tena Koutou Katoa

Attendance

Our Term 4 attendance goal is to see positive movement across the four attendance levels. The aim is to have no students in the chronic absenteeism category, with those students moving into the moderate attendance group. Likewise, we want to see students in the moderate group shift to irregular, and those in the irregular group move into regular attendance.

In the first three weeks of this term, we've already had six out of fifteen days where *every student* attended school - an encouraging sign and something that's unusual for the start of a term here at Waitomo Caves School.

Last term we celebrated attendance with a usual treat, this time McDonald's. We had six students who attended Term 3 90% of the time or more. One student's attendance improved 10% from the previous term, Term 2. Well done everyone.



Whaia te ara totika – Make the Right Choice

Carols in the Cave

With the choir already practicing for the Carols in the Caves, we have been asked to support this community group by organising seating in the cave for evening performances (Friday 28 - Sunday 30 November). This is a good fundraising event.

We need helpers to move chairs and equipment into the cave, arrange them and move them out. Please support this opportunity and return your pink notes urgently so we can proceed with planning.

Photo Day

Our 2025 photo day is scheduled for Friday 14 November starting at 8.30am. A PhotoLife notice will be sent home soon with your child. Please read this carefully so you are aware of how to order your photo. These can be viewed and purchased online using your unique photo keycode which will be emailed to you after photo day.

School sports team photos will be taken, classes, siblings and individual photos for our school management system. Thank you coaches for being available for photo shoots. Your patience is appreciated as it is difficult to timetable sittings due to the preparation it takes in getting ready.

For sibling photos that include preschoolers, please ensure they are at school by 9.00am ready to be called for their photo. Younger children need to be able to sit up independently; otherwise, they will need to be held by an adult during the photo. Children may want to bring a comb to use prior to their photos being taken.

School Athletics Day

Apologies for the change in dates due to clashes. The COPs Athletics day was rescheduled to Wednesday 5 November which meant we needed to have ours before then. Thank you to those who were able to join us last minute.

Having our school athletics day today meant those who qualified for COPs will be able to have time for extra training.

Teacher Only Day

School will be closed on Friday 21 November where teachers will be involved in strategic planning and evaluation. Thank you for your support.

Reach Awards

Congratulations to Carlos Mendoza, Kyrin King, Robyn Moetu, Michael Chase, and Hunter Houlihan for receiving Reach Awards in Term 3.

Robyn - taking responsibility for her learning.

Hunter - making a super effort in all his learning.

Michael - always putting in an excellent effort in all learning areas.

Kyrin - for excellent independence in Maths.

Carlos - for excellent independence in Maths.



2 Bledisloe Ave, Otorohanga - 07 873 8029

Enrol Now for 2026

ŌTOROHANGA COLLEGE

FOR YEAR 8 STUDENTS JOINING ŌTOROHANGA COLLEGE

Is your child starting at Ōtorohanga College in 2026?

Get their enrolment form in before Tuesday, 2 December 2025 and they will go into the draw to receive a \$150 credit towards College uniform at Haddad's Menswear.

This is open to all Year 8 students enrolling for 2026.

The winner will be announced on Friday 5th December.

Don't miss your chance to start your child's College journey prepared and in style!

Enrolment forms are available from the College Office or online.

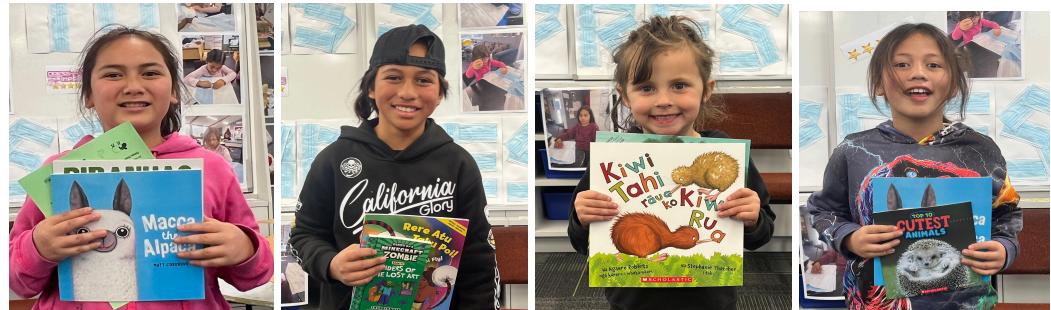


Our Tamariki

New Zealand ShakeOut is our national earthquake drill which happened on Thursday 16 October. Great work Kowhai Class! We all know how to Drop, Cover and Hold.



We are grateful to receive Duffy Books from our sponsors Mainfreight Air & Ocean, Hamilton.



Honesty - Recently, Lizzy Wright showed one of our key school values: honesty. Lizzy found a \$5 note in the playground and promptly handed it in. After some time, when no one came forward to claim it, she was allowed to keep it. Thank you, Lizzy, for doing the right thing and setting a great example for others!

Here is another glimpse at our awesome Dress to Impress crew.



What's Coming Up

5 November
7 November
14 November
21 November

COPs Athletics
Duffy Theatre
School Photos
Teacher Only Day

Mrs Tamae Dimond
Tumuaki ☺