



TE WAOTU SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

18 September 2025

Our vision:

To build confident and resilient life-long learners.

Our mission (how we will achieve our vision):

Teachers will empower students to be active learners who work in partnership with the teacher.

Teachers will ensure students know what they are learning, when they have been successful and where they are going to next.

Self and peer assessment is a routine step in the learning process.

Success criteria are most effective when great examples of work are used to show what quality looks like.

Teachers will use the learning progressions in the curriculum in order to confidently work with a diverse range of students.

The school recognises the influence of the home and will endeavour to build and nurture learning focussed partnerships with parents and whanau.

Our values:

Kindness, respect, honesty, responsibility, courage.

Our houses:

Haszard, Simmonds, Barnett, Rongowhitiao

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Term 3 is near finishing after such a busy time for our school community. We have seen lots of rich and engaging learning happening throughout the school this term. There have been many highlights from Daffodil Day, Playhouse Theatre and weekly sports battles across many winter codes. You will have noticed property maintenance, muck-in days and SSG events making this such a vibrant place to be! Staffing changes, Farewells, Board Elections and Professional Development for teachers.

Please take time with family and friends to enjoy some quality time together over the term break as we gradually move into longer days and warmer weather! Term 4 is always an action packed term with Agri Day, Athletics, Touch Rugby and plenty of end of year activities!



Supporting attendance

Thank you for being supportive as we strive towards reaching the Ministry of Education's goal of 80% of students attending school 90% of the time. I know this can be challenging particularly during the winter months. We are currently working around 70- 75% for the year to date! Keep supporting us to achieve these targets! We appreciate the prompt responses when checking student absences.

If you see me at the gate or around the school please stop in for a chat, my door is always open to discuss any thoughts you may have regarding your child.

Whakatauki - Mauri tū mauri ora

An active soul is a healthy soul

School Muck- In | Enviro Leaders Day Barnett Bush

It has been great to see our community, really mucking in over the last week at school to make our school looking sharp for the summer months ahead, you will notice more property projects coming up that will make us stand out even more! Earlier this term our enviro team visited Barnett's bush with the South Waikato Enviro School's group to look out natural alternatives for pest eradication - thanks to Jess Forkert for her efforts, organisation and enthusiasm with this event.



Te Wiki o te reo Māori

Karawhiua ! Give it a go ~ We have been doing Karakia, Waiata and learning te reo phrases together as a school this week to celebrate Māori language week. Awesome to see so many students & staff wearing their te reo shirts & hoodies to keep revisiting one of our official languages - we will be doing some timeless Māori games and activities later this week!

Out of Zone Enrolments - Term 1 2026

ENROLMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT TE WAOTU SCHOOL - TERM 1 2026

Enrolment at Te Waotu School is governed by an enrolment scheme.

This year there are four enrolment periods and the last enrolment period of the year covers term 1 next year. The Board has determined that there is likely to be a number of places available in various year levels throughout the school for term 1 2026.

The Board is prepared to receive expressions of interest for students seeking enrolment for term 1 2026. In addition to those which it already holds, so long as they reach the school by Monday 10 November, 12pm. Forms can be collected from the school office or downloaded from the [school website](#).

If a ballot for out of zone places is required, it will be held on Wednesday 12 November, 3pm. Parents will be informed of the outcome of the ballot in writing within three school days.

Please phone or email the School Principal - Michael Thompson (07 883 2815) or principal@tewaotu.school.nz, if you have any queries regarding this.



Staffing Update- Ruma Toru and Ruma Wha

Room 3 Teacher Update - Term 4

I wish to congratulate Anne Beal & Sheryl Humphrey who will be co-teaching Room 3 in term four. Anne will teach Monday - Thursday, while Sheryl will teach Friday's. We are very fortunate to have two experienced teachers to ensure the tamariki have consistency, while receiving high quality classroom programmes for the remainder of the year. I know you will take a moment to wish them well for their role coming up when you next see them!

Room 5 Teacher Update - Term 4

Inge Wilbers will be on parental leave from term 4 so we have enjoyed opportunities to celebrate her new arrival as a staff member, particularly recently. If you see Inge this week please acknowledge her contributions to date to school life and wish her and Ria all the best for their parenting journey ahead! Jessica Forkert whom you already know will teach in Room 5 this term coming up and we are excited to have her with others on a permanent basis!

TE WAOTU SCHOOL PARENT BOARD ELECTION - DECLARATION OF RESULTS 2025

TE WAOTU SCHOOL PARENT BOARD ELECTION DECLARATION OF RESULTS

NAME	VOTES
Mardell, Jess	61
Graham, Courtney	47
Barbour, Melissa	45
Pelham, James	42
Wright, Mathew	38
Langford, Fiona	26
Scorrige, Chavonne	22
Invalid votes	0

I hereby declare the following duly elected:

NAME	VOTES
Mardell, Jess	61
Graham, Courtney	47
Barbour, Melissa	45
Pelham, James	42
Wright, Mathew	38

Note from the Board

Hi all,

Your Board last met in August where we discussed a number of items including our quarterly policy review, achievement data following PAT testing & the Board induction plan for new board members leading up to elections. There will not be a September board meeting due to proximity to board elections, but we will hold an induction meeting to bring new board members up to speed and ensure your Board can hit the ground running at our first official meeting in October.

Approval has been finalised for the veranda and admin deck/stairs project to be completed over the coming school holidays. This project is part of our wider 5/10 year property plan which continues to gain momentum. We are working on a number of potential projects in our property pipeline which we look forward to sharing with you as they reach appropriate milestones.

You will all have seen the incredible transformations around the school achieved at the weekend working bee, and no doubt will be aware of the planning & preparation well underway for this year's agri-day and auction. I am continually humbled by the incredible effort of our generous community as they rise up to support our school in so many facets of school life.

Finally, following this year's triennial elections, we welcome our Board of Jess Mardell, Courtney Graham, Melissa Barbour, James Pelham, Mathew Wright, Michael Thompson and Sarah Topping. The School was fortunate to receive strong Board nominations and we thank all who put their name forward in support of Te Waotu School. Outside of the Board, parents & caregivers support our school through many roles (SSG, coaching & managing sport teams, maintaining school assets, attending & assisting school events etc). All of these roles provide valuable support to our students and the wider School community is immensely thankful for all who contribute to making Te Waotu School what it is today.

Thanks all and have a great week,

Jess Mardell, Te Waotu Board

Reminder - SchoolDocs Platform for School Policies

A reminder we are now using SchoolDocs to manage and share school policies. This platform will ensure transparent and accessible sharing of policy information. To view our school's policies, head to www.schooldocs.co.nz and follow these steps:

1. Click 'Search for your school' and enter 'Te Waotu School'.
2. Use the following details to log in:
 - Username: **tewaotu**
 - Password: **standtall**

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to make contact.

Free Lambs



COMING UP EVENTS!

- Putaruru College Open Day - 18 September
- Last day of term 3 - 19 September
- First day of term 4 - 6 October
- Te Wautu School Agri Day - 9 October
- Group Day - 15 October (Lichfield)
- National Shake Out - 16 October
- Strike Day - 23 October
- Labour Day - 27 October
- School Athletics Day - 5 November
- Interschool Athletics Day - 18 November
- Music in Schools - Student Showcase 10 December 11:30am
- Last day 17 December (Prizegiving 11am)

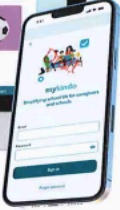
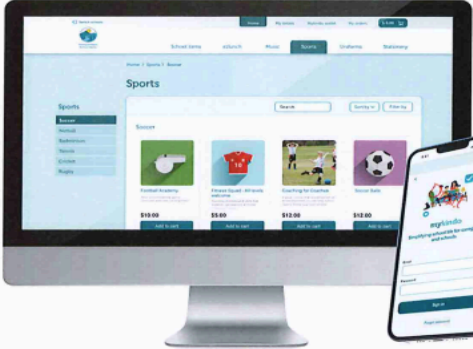




School payments simplified.

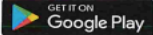
It's quick and easy to make payments, purchase stationery and uniform items, fundraise and more.

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hello@mykindo.co.nz or 0508 454 636

Music lessons use the following link to register interest: <https://www.ignitearts.co.nz/registration/>



Year 1-2 are encouraged to try the *Ignite the Beatz* programme which has been designed specifically for them. Each term the student gets to try two new instruments. At the end of the programme, the students would have had a good feel for a variety of instruments, and this should give them an indication of which particular instrument they would like to continue with.

NOHO ORA MAI

Sandra, Sarah Topping, Kirsty, Inge, Anna Blair, Sarah Du Toit, Hildegard, Haylie, Andrea, Jessica Forkert, Anne Beal, Becs Vaughan, Debbie Gray, and Michael

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