



Waituna West School

"NOT FOR SCHOOL BUT FOR LIFE WE ARE LEARNING"

WEEKLY NEWS NOTE – Term 4 Week 1 Wednesday 8th October 2025

Upcoming Events:

Friday 17th October - School Pet Day
Thursday 23rd October - Planned Strike Day
Friday 24th October - Room 2 Assembly
Monday 27th October - Labour Day - School Closed
Friday 7th November - Room 1 Assembly
Friday 21st November - Oroua Cluster Athletics
Friday 28th November - Room 4 Assembly
Wednesday 3rd December - Year 8 Leavers Dinner
Wednesday 10th December - End Of Year Prizegiving
Friday 12th December - Term 4 Ends

Week 1 Assembly - Mr Barnett's Assembly

Our first assembly of the term will be this Friday 10th October to welcome Mr Barnett! Please be seated, in Room 4, by 2.15pm.

From The Principal's Desk

Welcome back to another term at Waituna West School!

I've had a great first few 'official' days at school. The kids have been very excited and are helping to show me the ropes.

Term 4 is always an exciting term; with end of year events, prizegiving and Pet Day in the mix. I'm looking forward to being involved in these and celebrating the successes of the year.

The countdown is on for Pet Day - time for some last minute 'leading' training...if they haven't started already! It will be a great day and a chance to connect with you all. Fingers crossed the weather plays ball.

Have a great rest of your week.

Hope to see you next Friday.

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PET DAY 2024 CUPS

Can all 2024 Pet Day Cups be returned to the school office as soon as possible please

Term 4 Whakatauki

Mā te kimi ka kite, Mā te kite ka mōhio, Mā te mōhio ka mārāma.

Seek and you will discover, Discover and you will know, Know and you will become enlightened.

Term 4 Whakatauki

Our whakatauki for this term relates to both our focus on digital technology and new beginnings with a new Principal. The whakatauki encourages a proactive approach to finding new solutions and gaining understanding. It emphasizes a journey of learning and discovery, acknowledging that to find new ways of doing things, one must actively seek knowledge, which leads to discovery, understanding, and ultimately, wisdom and new perspectives.

Assembly Certificates Term 3 Week 10

Room 1:

Ashton Retter - Sense of Self - When you arrived at Waituna West School last year you were a shy wee guy who lacked confidence. BUT - now you have become this amazing student who is happy to share their ideas and work hard. You actively look for ways to extend yourself and take on all the challenges school life has to offer - including being a Policeman in a play. Keep it up!
Esme O'Brien - Sense of Self - WOW! Your performance at the Talent Show was amazing. Your 'can do attitude' meant you were able to get on the stage and produce a commanding performance. The audience was blown away by not only your incredible dancing, but your ability to absolutely go for it!

Tara Moar - Engaged - Tara, you have worked so hard so far this year and it shows in your attitude and your results. I have been particularly impressed with improvements to your writing and spelling. I know maths is not your favourite thing at school, but you continue to give questions a go, even when they are getting tricky!

Room 2:

Ryan Carne - Engaged - Ryan has achieved some good term 3 assessment results. He has recently shown an interest in aiming to increase the quantity of writing he does each day. Ryan's maths assessment results have also shown pleasing improvements in his understanding.

Andrew Lord - Sense Of Self - Andrew, both students and staff felt very sad when we heard the news that you and your family are moving to a new area and you will attend a new school. You have worked incredibly hard during your time at W.W.S. to develop a good understanding of who you are and what you are capable of. Your family has also been incredibly supportive of your learning and all school activities. We wish all of the Lord family all the best for your new chapter.

Our Expert Team of Teachers

You might be surprised to know that our three “young” teachers have lots of experience in teaching digital tech. Our theme across the school this term is all about digital technology. We'll be learning about cybersafety in fun, age-appropriate ways, discussing important rules for being safe online. We will grow our digital literacy skills looking at the internet, digital systems and programming. Our classes will be coding using our school's robotics gear. We have Blue-Bots, Sphero's, Indi, Osmo and our Vex kits, some of these are more suited to older and younger students and staff have been busy preparing lessons to meet students where they are at. We will also explore unplugged coding activities, which teaches the concepts of coding without using a computer!

Primary Teachers' Collective Agreement Bargaining - Proposed Strike Day Thursday 23rd October

As part of the Primary Teachers' Collective Agreement Bargaining process, Thursday 23rd October has been indicated as a proposed strike day.

If this takes place, the school will be closed on this day. So please have arrangements in place should the Strike Day occur.

We will let you know if/when this day is confirmed.

Annual Tennis School Tennis Competition

The Annual Tennis Competition will start in Week 2. It is for Year 4 students and above. Students must serve over arm serves. Please bring your own racket, if you have one.

ICAS 2025 Results are in! **CONGRATULATIONS MURDOCH, AUDREY AND HARRY F!**

ICAS is an international online academic competition which Waituna West offers our students in years 4-8 each year. This is a great way for students to challenge themselves as the questions and standards for each competition are set very high. Each year our results are getting better and better and this year was our best yet! Congratulations to Murdoch Newcombe who scored a Merit in Science beating 60% of the students his age globally. Audrey Hare who scored a credit beating 77% of the students in her age group in Writing. Harry Fitzherbert who got a credit in Maths with our highest score beating 84% of the students in his age group! Well done to all of the students who participated, we are so proud of you for challenging yourselves!

Congratulations to everyone for your great work in putting on the Talent Show at the end of Term 3, it was a brilliant show and you all worked your hardest and it really paid off on the day - very well done to you all you were all brilliant and you showcased the talent that we have here in Waituna West. Thank you also for the teachers and staff who put a lot of work in to get this production off the ground - you all rock!!!

Liam Fitz-Herbert - Engaged - Liam, you have achieved some pleasing progress across all curriculum areas during term 3. You are enthusiastic to write, you have improved your understanding in maths, you enjoyed the arts focus this term and you really impressed me when you sat at my desk before school and decided to read your reading book, which you did incredibly well.

Room 4

Ben Dittmer - Sense of Self - Ben you have grown up so much, I love the way you are communicating with me about how you are feeling. You are making such great improvements in self regulating. You are amazing!

Jack England - Creative - Well done on doing such a great job as a 'Macerena Man', you danced with great enthusiasm and stage presence.

Margo Shearer - Creative - You have had an excellent creative term, dancing on stage, singing with the whole school, playing piano, using the gold leaf technique in art and doing some brilliant acting when making your green screen movie.

PRINCIPAL'S AWARD

Fleur Hogan - For your perseverance and determination to complete physical activities with strength. For not letting the past injury define you and getting out there and doing your "Last Ever" cross country and finishing 2nd Year 8 girl. Also for taking on the ski slopes with a "can-do" attitude. You consistently display the Waituna West ACRES Values. It has been a pleasure seeing you flourishing as a year 8 student at Waituna West.

Isabelle Welch - You are an amazing learner who embraces challenges. Your courage to take the stage when your team was unavailable showed your amazing sense of self and incredible adaptability. You are a wonderful learner in the classroom and your easy going nature is respected by others. Keep being amazing!



Birthday greetings this week to Braxtyn Tipu who turned 7 on 1st October and to Tenley Richardson who will be turning 13 on 11th October, we wish them both a very Happy Birthday and a wonderful year ahead.



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