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2021 Terms dates

Term 3 Mon 26 Jul - Fri 1 Oct

Term 4 Mon 18 Oct - 15 Dec

Coming up

See the Term Calendar, Skool Loop and Class Facebook Pages

Waimataitai School has a Facebook Page. Join and you can keep up with the latest news.

View the newsletter on our Website at
www.waimataitai.school.nz



2ND HAND UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

WEDNESDAYS

2.50pm – 3.15pm

In Health Centre (by office)
OR

By agreed appointment
(Please book a time with Jo
ph: 021 444 903)

NEW UNIFORM &
STATIONERY SHOP
OPEN

EACH MORNING

8.30 – 9am

IN TEACHER AIDE
ROOM

PLEASE NAME ALL
UNIFORM

WAIMATAITAI SCHOOL

Newsletter No. 15 – 22 September 2021

Nga mihi mahana kia koutou. Kia Ora

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Alert Level Two at Waimataitai

I would like to take this opportunity to reassure you that Waimataitai is a safe and healthy place for your child to be during this alert level two time. The school is being cleaned to an appropriate standard to meet the Ministry requirement. Students are being encouraged to maintain the best personal health hygiene with coughing and sneezing into their elbows and then proper hand washing. We are grateful to whanau for keeping your children at home if they have any cold or flu symptoms or are otherwise unwell.

It does not appear that we are going to be going down the alert level scale at least until the holiday time. At the point where the government agrees it is appropriate, we will have all the required conditions in place as we have in level 4 and level 3.

Thank you for your understanding during the last weeks. We appreciate the support you are giving your child with their learning. If there is anyone in your whanau that requires assistance at this time, please make contact with the school and we will try to match them up with agencies that are available to help.

MSD's Financial Assistance Tool for your School Community

The Ministry of Social Development has communicated with the school about assistance for members of the Waimataitai community.

MSD has developed an online tool to help identify what types of financial assistance a person could be eligible for quickly and easily: [Check out what you might get | Ngā āwhina tērā pea ka whiwhi koe](#)

Please note, this is a guide and shows how MSD can help a person or whānau. Once the application form is submitted, MSD will be able to work out the exact financial assistance they will receive. This service is only available to New Zealand citizens and residents.

Class Placement

At the end of every year leaders and teachers spend considerable time thinking through class placement for the following year. Teachers compare how and who your children have interacted successfully with over the time they have been at Waimataitai. We consider how they learn best and which combination of other children cooperate well to be able to get the best out of their learning experiences.

When teachers have finalised classes the result is a combination of circumstances that make a best fit for your child. Occasionally families ask for a change to these arrangements. We are reluctant to make changes after classes have been arranged because often one change means we are required to make several others to get each child in the class carefully set up again in a class.

I am offering you a chance to speak to your child's teacher in advance of all this work that we do. If you have any concerns about next year and your own child please have a conversation with your child's teacher before the middle of term four. The teacher will take note of your concerns and we will be able to use this information to help place your child. This is the time that you WILL be able to help manage your child into the best position for 2022.

Waimataitai Board Elections will be held next year

I am getting in early to prepare your thinking for this event in 2022. The triannual board elections will take place in the middle next year. This is an opportunity for members of the public to stand for a position on the board. The role of school board member can be very satisfying. It is also important to the successful running of the school. If you are interested, now is the time to start talking to current board members to find out what is required.

Jonathan Young, Principal

Coming Up

TERM 3

20th September - 1st October – Awa Swimming
23rd September – School Photos
24th September – Sport photos

TERM 4

22nd October – Student Learning
Conferences (**NO SCHOOL this day**)

Students with Cell Phones at School

If your child brings a cell phone to school it is important that they leave the phone in the appropriate place during the school day. Sometimes it is left in the office as the student arrives at school. For other classes these are gathered in the classroom and taken across to the office. If your child has an apple watch and they use it during the day to communicate with or use inappropriately, we will insist that they leave the watch at home. Please have a conversation with your child about students not using devices unless they have permission to do so and are being supervised

WAI SPORT

YEAR 5-8 TOUCH RUGBY

Touch rugby is due to start after the school holidays. Permission forms have been emailed out to all those children who showed an interest in playing, please have these completed by **this Friday (24th September)**. Copies can be found at the office, so it is not too late yet to register :)

SPORTS PHOTOS

These will be happening this **Friday, 24th September**. Could I please ask the year 3-4 netball players to bring their uniforms to school that day to be able to wear them for the photos. Can I also ask for any other sports uniform that is no longer being used to be returned to school **immediately**. Thank you.

Casual Clothes day fundraiser



Last Friday the school held a casual clothes day for students and some teachers. I was impressed to see all students wearing their choice of clothing and some teachers managing to fit inside the Waimataitai school uniform for the day. The authors of this great idea were James Howie and friends. During the lockdown James sent me an e-mail outlining an idea

to raise funds for families who might be struggling through the COVID lockdown. After talking with James it was decided that we would not ask for money from families, instead we would ask for a can of food that could be donated to a food bank.

It was decided that we should give the food to the Family Works food bank as they often support the school. Last Friday the School council gathered up a small mountain of groceries from around the school. Some of the council accompanied Miss Howard and I as we drove the food to Family Works. The two workers we spoke to were very grateful for our contribution. They explained how the food bank works and we were able to see what a food package looks like from their store.



Thank you James for taking your idea and seeing it into action. Thank you for the help of the School Council whose role is to find ways of supporting groups who require assistance. You have all helped with a very worthwhile cause that you can be proud of. Thank you also to the Waimataitai school community who very generously supported this cause with your kind donations of food.

School and Sports Photos

This **Thursday** (tomorrow) the *school photos* are being taken. We are all hoping for a fine day when we will be able to find a stunning spring backdrop for our photos. Please make sure your child is in their correct school uniform, their hair is tidy and they have a smile on their faces.

This **Friday** (24th) we are holding our *sports photos*. Students involved in team sport across this year will be invited to have their photo taken with the team. **Please remind your child to be prepared for the photos on Friday.** (Refer to the sports news above for team photo requirements).

Cultural Evening at Waimataitai

On the 11th November we invite you all to join us at school for a cultural evening. Mrs Kim Dynes is organising the evening and the PTA will be involved in managing the event. The staff are looking forward to helping out where we can to ensure that this is a very successful evening. The PTA is looking for as many different ethnic groups and cultures to be represented on this evening. You are encouraged to set up your own stall to sell your culturally different foods. If you require a stall these cost \$20 and everything you sell you get to keep. Please contact Hayley Donaldson 021705118 from the PTA to book your stall for the event.

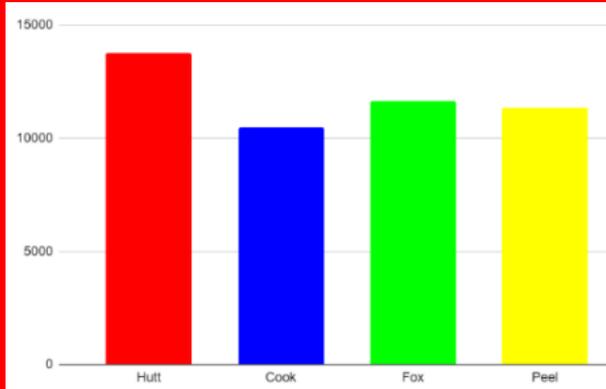
Our Kapahaka group and Pacifica group will perform on a stage that we will set up. Both groups will be looking forward to being able to share what they value from their community.

We are hoping to make contact with as many of the visiting cultural groups on the night to get your feedback on how the school is running. We had hoped to have a breakfast to achieve this, but it has been postponed due to COVID 19 restrictions. I am looking forward to this event. I have heard several glowing reports about how much fun and how interesting meeting our many cultural groups is, on this occasion.

HOUSE POINTS

Term 3: Week 7 & 8

Hutt house have won the house reward this time. Congratulations Hutt house



DO YOU HAVE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS THAT NEED A NEW HOME?



We are wanting to create a box of equipment so the tamariki can play imaginatively at play times

- Off cuts of PVC pipe
- Cable reels
- Rope
- Drainage pipe
- Planks of wood
- Tyres
- Anything else you think the children may use

Please send any equipment to Mrs Dynes in Room 9. If you have any questions please email Mrs Dynes on kid018@waimataitai.school.nz



Members of the Kaitiakitanga group with some of the feijoa and blueberry plants that they have put in in an empty space at school. They are looking forward to seeing the fruits of their labour.

A big thanks to the *Fruitful Potager* for helping us out with these plants.

BUBBLE TIME

DURING LEVEL 3 LOCKDOWN

During level 3, we were delighted to have some of our tamariki back at school. Seeing familiar faces back at school lifted everyone's spirits. We wanted to make sure that our school community was still connected even though our bubbles weren't, so we had a bubble olympics!

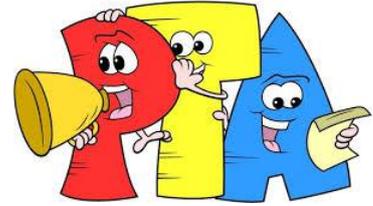
Press ups for Mr Young !!



Everyday there was a new challenge that each bubble completed. Some of them were how many pushups in 1 minute, a chalk obstacle course and running around the main block. Everyone had a great time completing the challenges, including the office staff!

Spring has Sprung 😊





PTA Meeting Summary - SEPT

We are working on a couple fundraisers to see out the year! Forms for an eco-friendly products fundraiser will be coming home very soon - Keep an eye out!

Unfortunately, we have had to cancel calendar artworks this year, but instead we are going to be doing a tea-towel fundraiser - each learning team will have a tea towel with their hand drawn portraits on it!

Next meeting **Monday, 18 October** –
Everyone welcome - come and see what else we have planned!

Tea Towels Instead of Calendars

The PTA have decided that rather than making calendars of class art we will create tea towels instead. The time lost through lockdown has meant that teachers do not have time to prepare the art works. Tea towels require a little less preparation, but result in a very good product that lasts for many years.

The students will be organised into learning teams and their portrait will be arranged on the tea towel. The PTA is organising the set up colours and details required. Thanks Hayley and your PTA team. Last night we looked at some of the tea towels that were created in the last few years and they have worn very well.

You will be able to put in an order for all the tea towels you require for your Christmas gift list later in the year.

Uniform night

The PTA is looking to hold a uniform evening during the holidays where families can come into school to get the items of uniform they require. More information on this will be provided through HERO as the details are finalised.

Quiz Night Fundraiser for the Big Field Project - 9th November (tbc)

In the first week of November the PTA will hold another quiz night at The Sail and Anchor. This is the second quiz held this year. The first was very successful and a great social night out. The funds raised here will contribute to the big field project which the PTA and Board hope to begin later this year. Put this date in your calendars and bring a team along to join us.

ECO Fundraiser

In Term 4 the PTA is running the very popular ECO fundraiser again. Bees wax wraps, tooth brushes, supermarket produce bags and soaps are some of the products that will be available for whanau to purchase. It was mentioned that these will make very good Christmas gifts. Please look out for the order forms that will be sent home soon.