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2022 Term dates

Term 1: Tues, 1 Feb – Thurs, 14 Apr

Term 2: Mon, 2 May – Fri, 8 Jul

Term 3: Mon, 25 Jul – Fri, 30 Sept

Term 4: Mon, 17 Oct – Thurs, 15 Dec

To keep up with information:

Download the HERO app and join your child's Class Facebook Page

Also, you can 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**

Nga mihi mahana kia koutou. Kia Ora

WELCOME

Welcome to the new school year at Waimataitai. I hope you and your family have had a fantastic break and have been able to spend some time together as a family over the summer. This time of the year is full of opportunities. I hope your children will be able to take as many of these opportunities as possible leading to having a brilliant year.

Last year some of you talked to us about communication and providing more information to our community. We have listened to your suggestions and are determined to improve the flow of information from school to you.

We hope that we can keep you informed about the many things that are happening here at Waimataitai.

It is with sadness that I acknowledge the death of one of our past students over the holidays. Sage Ross left Waimataitai to attend Grantlea Downs School at the beginning of 2021. We have been working together with Sage's whanau and Grantlea Downs to support students and staff. Some Waimataitai staff attended the funeral and visited with the whanau last week. We have kept our staff and the Waimataitai community informed through messages and letters. The school is looking out for staff and students who were associated with Sage to ensure that they have the support they require. This will continue until there is no longer a need. Waimataitai staff are contributing to a care box that we will give to Sage's whanau.

Omicron and Covid 19

With the latest move to RED on the Covid Protection framework there are some things that we all need to be aware of for the start of the school year. Schools, along with most other services, will remain open onsite at all colour settings, for all students to attend, subject to health and safety settings.

As has always been the case throughout the COVID-19 response, some children, students or staff may be required to self-isolate (as they are a confirmed case or a close contact) or have complex medical needs, particularly if not fully vaccinated, and therefore may not attend onsite for a period of time.

One of the strongest forms of defence for the Omicron strain of the corona virus is wearing masks. Children from year 4 and above will join with teachers in wearing masks (not face coverings) during indoor times - any face mask will be sufficient for students. *Families should provide a mask for their children please..* We are encouraging teachers to take classes outside where possible and take some lessons out of doors. When this happens masks are not so important.

If parents are planning to come into school they must be wearing a mask please. We are encouraging drop off and pick ups at the school gate.

During the current settings we will not be having any gatherings or assemblies. We hope when the RED level is removed we can begin to meet in this way again.

We are still strongly encouraging people other than students who enter the school to use our contact tracing options please. People can scan the QR code or sign in at the office or classroom they visit.

We are continuing to use and encourage good hygiene practices including:

- regular hand washing/sanitising
- cough and sneeze into elbows
- regular cleaning of high touch surfaces
- open doors and windows.

If children are unwell they must remain at home and have a COVID-19 test. If they are symptom free after 24 hours they may return to school.

Learning from Home

As COVID makes its way into South Canterbury and Waimataitai we are anticipating that there will be staff who are affected and will have to isolate at home. We are aware that people who have the virus need to isolate for 14 days. For contacts there is a ten day isolation. Teachers will not be allowed to return to work until they have had 72 hours with no symptoms. If one family member has the virus the whole family must stay at home. There is the potential for families to be at home without symptoms for several weeks. We will be trying to be as flexible as possible to utilise teachers and teacher aides in these situations, so all students get the best learning opportunities we can provide.

We will be providing learning materials and work online each week for the foreseeable future to cater for children who need to be at home with their families. The programmes of learning that are put together will be the same in class as they are at home. We ask that students attempt the work that is provided if they are at home and ask for assistance if they are unable to manage. Someone at school will be able to help them.

PB4L Programme - Respectful Language

We are aware that there are students at Waimataitai who use language that is not respectful. Our records show that swearing is a behaviour that is quite common. This year we intend to make it very clear to students that respectful language is the only acceptable option while students are at school. Teachers will be reminding students about their language. They will be teaching classes explicitly about the use of correct language. Our acknowledgement programme will continue to reinforce appropriate language use.

We are all aware that it will be difficult for some students to change this poor language habit and that progress may not be seen straight away. We would be very happy if families supported our initiative with their children by reminding them about using appropriate language while at home.

Survey Outcomes

I would like to thank families who completed our end of year survey last year. We were able to get valuable feedback about the issues that are concerning you. We were also able to put into perspective the numbers of people who had concerns about the issues. The major finding for us is that people would like to have more communication about things that are happening at school, both positive and negative. Some of the other issues raised can be traced back to a lack of information in the community.

The work we are doing with staff at the start of this year reflects your desire for more information. We are building on the ways we can send information to you through the HERO app. All working groups are being encouraged to communicate their work with you and to share their successes and difficulties. There are plans for school community groups to be invited to school to have discussions when we are able to do this.

If you feel you need to know more about something we are doing at school please ring and ask, or talk to your child's teachers, Jess, Nikki or I.

Building Renovations and Reroofing

We are mid way through several reroofing projects and have begun the renovation of the last areas of the school to be upgraded. There are a number of fences around the renovation blocks and these will be no go areas for students. Teachers will be clearly communicating these areas to children at the start of the term. We have three classes that are relocated in suitable teaching spaces for the first term this year. These locations are as follows:

Room 19 - Library

Room 22 - Main block, downstairs space

Room 23 –Room 1

We anticipate that by the end of this term all classes will be back in their renovated classrooms. Thank you for your patience during these weeks.

Tree Removal

Several large trees were removed this week from the school grounds. This action followed concerns that these trees were unstable and could cause a hazard if left in their present state. Other trees have been pruned to remove potential branch falls onto the playground.



Term 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
	24 Jan	25	26 Uniform shop: 1-3pm 5.30pm-7pm	27 Uniform shop 1-3pm 5.30pm-7pm	28	
1	Feb	31 Jan	1 Feb School starts	2	3	4
2	Feb	7 SCHOOL CLOSED Waitangi Day	8 PTA meeting	9	10	11
3	Feb	14	15	16	17 Cultural evening POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE	18
4	Feb	21	22 Wai-Tri ? TBC	23	24 Wai-Tri PP ? TBC	25
5	Mar	28	1 Mar	2 Moana camp - Living Springs	2 Moana camp - Living Springs	4 Moana camp - Living Springs
6	Mar	7 PTA meeting	8	9	10 SCHOOL CLOSED Student Learning Conferences	11 Swimming Sports? TBC
7	Mar	14	15 Roto Museum Trip Pt1	16	17	18 SC Tri (TBC)
8	Mar	21	22 Roto Museum Trip Pt2 Raincliff Hawai Day Camp Rm15, 16	23 Raincliff Hawai Day Camp Rm17, 18,19	24	25 Roto/Awa Duathlon
9	Mar	28	29	30	31	1 April SC Swim (TBC)
10	Apr	4 PTA Meeting	5	6	7	8 SCHOOL CLOSED Teacher Only Day - Team Planning
11	Apr	11	12	13	14 Last day of Term 1	15 SCHOOL CLOSED Good Friday

2022 details:

Term 1: 1 Feb-14th April

Term 2: 2nd May- 8th July

Term 3: 25th July-30th Sept

Term 4: 17th Oct- 15th Dec

WAIMATAITAI SCHOOL

LUNCH OPTIONS



LUNCHTIME NZ LTD MONDAYS

- Order and pay via **ONLINE ONLY**
- View menu and prices on facebook - Type in "Lunchtime"
- Orders will be delivered to the office for collection before school starts

SUBWAY

AVAILABLE WEDNESDAYS

(Complete order on printed paper bag at Lunch Order Table)

6-inch sandwich, apple and cookie	\$5.00
12-inch sandwich, apple and cookie	\$9.00

Choice of white or wheatmeal
up to 4 salad ingredients
up to 2 dressings
beef, turkey or ham



SPUD SUPREME

AVAILABLE THURSDAYS AND FRIDAYS

(Complete order on printed white paper bag at Lunch Order table)

Baked spuds served with butter and topped with 2 fillings of your
(No butter if preferred) **PRICE \$5.00**



Extra Fillings **\$1.00** each

Fillings:



Savoury mince
Pineapple
Savoury Tomato
Mushrooms
Chilli Beans

Onions
Spaghetti
Coleslaw
Bacon

Cheese
Baked beans
Sour Cream
Creamed Corn

NACHOS - \$5.00

(remember to write 'nachos' on the order bag)

Nachos with cheese, sour cream and sweet chilli sauce or
your choice of two fillings.