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Website: [www.waimataitai.school.nz](http://www.waimataitai.school.nz)

### 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](http://www.waimataitai.school.nz)



### 2<sup>ND</sup> HAND UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

If you wish to purchase Second Hand Uniform please arrange by agreed appointment (Please book a time with Jo ph: 021 444 903 )

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### 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*

### Thank You

Thank you for the many ways you have supported the school during this unsettled term one. We have been able to rely on parents making wise decisions and taking responsibility when children are not feeling well. I have noticed that many of the positive cases we have recorded have been diagnosed by you at home. You have kept your children home if they have shown any symptoms and you have had them tested to make sure they were not infected before sending them back. I am sure that this behaviour has helped to keep the numbers of staff and children who are sick to numbers that we have been able to work with. We have not yet thought about closing the school or entering the next phase of our planning, whanau bubble schools.

We have had enough experience to know that school is still one of the safer places for your child to be during the day. We expect all children will return to school to start the new term and we are looking forward to welcoming those who have been away. If you have any concerns about sending your child back to school we will be really keen to hear from you, so we can support you to do this.

### Covid 19 update

We have been hearing from about 5-12 families each day with children who have had a positive covid test. This has been reasonably steady over the last 4 weeks. There are no parts of the school that are more consistently being infected than others. On some days we have more children returning to school after their isolation than are testing positive. There are several children each day who are going into isolation as household contacts. The Ministry of Education has told us that 94% of all Canterbury schools now have students who have tested positive.

We have reviewed our risk assessment plan for term two and will continue to carry out the risk reduction activities we need to do to reduce the chances of people catching and being seriously affected by the virus. These include:

- Good personal hygiene
- Ventilation of teaching and learning spaces in line with the ministry criteria.
- Encouraging people who are not well to stay at home and have a test.
- All staff wearing Masks and encouraging as many students as possible to wear masks also.
- Thorough and regular cleaning of the school.

We have decided that we will move back to our normal settings when we return to school in term 2. Our 'block' arrangements have been successful in keeping student and staff illnesses to a manageable level. If the Government decides to return to 'Red' settings again, we will reconsider our arrangements. The Government has removed the mask wearing requirement in schools, however we encourage staff and students to continue wearing masks in the near future.

### Selwyn Street Changes Delayed until Later in the Year

We have been informed that due to COVID-19 disruptions, the road works that have been planned for Selwyn Street have been postponed until later in the year. The District Council apologises for any inconvenience caused to the school and they are looking forward to being able to complete this work.

## **TERM 2**

### **Welcome Powhiri**

I am very keen to have the welcome next term that we missed at the start of the year. The leadership team will be thinking about how this can be arranged at whatever traffic light setting we will be at. We are thinking currently that we will have a gathering outside early in the day on the 2nd May to welcome students and staff.

### **Cultural / Matariki Day 22nd June**

There is growing excitement at Waimataitai about being able to welcome parents and the community onto the school grounds to celebrate Matariki this year. Teams are planning programmes of learning for students that will culminate with the celebrations day. We will have displays of this learning and art work that highlights the special nature of Matariki.

We are also inviting all our other cultural groups to participate. We hope we will see performance and art from all the cultural groups that attend Waimataitai. The cultural event which was postponed from earlier in the year will occur at the same time. We have sausages donated by Hellers that we will share with students at lunch time.

### **Samoa Language Week**

Samoa Language Week is the first week in June. We will be hosting Samoan cultural groups at school on 3 June. This is a performance opportunity that other schools will be able to attend. This is not to be confused with our Matariki Celebration. We look forward to welcoming our Samoan culture as we celebrate Samoa Language Week.

### **Strategic Planning**

We have begun the preparation of the school's three year strategic plan. This will come into effect in 2023. This process encourages everyone at Waimataitai to look to the future and think about where we could go as a school. I am interested to know what whanau aspirations are for their children and for the school. I will be seeking your ideas over the next term to add into the planning.

### **DMIC Maths Training**

Teachers have been working with maths facilitators this year. Your child will have met these instructors and been part of the training that teachers are experiencing. I have had several very positive comments from our facilitators highlighting the growth that both teachers and students are showing this year. Aspects of the training that your child will be working on include:

- More discussion about problems they are attempting to solve
- Working in small teams to find solutions
- Sharing their understanding and knowledge
- Using a range of strategies to get to the outcome
- Using a range of new maths ideas and thinking
- Teachers are learning about assessment and they will be trialling some new ways of checking what students know and can do

### **Bullying Survey Encouraging**

Surveys carried out regularly to detect and work with bullying in the school have shown significant improvement this term. When asked if student understands what bullying means, the data showed us that more children now understand what bullying is.

“Bullying is ongoing and deliberate verbal, physical and/or social abuse of someone who is younger, less able or smaller. This behaviour intends to cause physical, social or psychological harm. It can be online or via digital platforms”.

Single incidents or fights between equals, although distressing, are not considered bullying.

There have been fewer bullying incidents this year than in the past. Students indicated that when they did something about bullying it stopped.

### **Active Transport at Waimataitai**

Some whanau will remember when there were walking school buses and programmes to encourage students to actively come to school. This is being repeated this year. As the new term begins we will be recognising those students who are walking, scootering and biking by handing out tokens at the school gate. Watch out for Mr Heke's golden shoe awards that the house teams will be able to win also.

You might like to know about the Waimataitai drop and walk zones. These are on White Street, Selwyn Street (East side) and by the art gallery on Waititi Road. Children can walk from these areas and not have to cross any roads as they get to school.

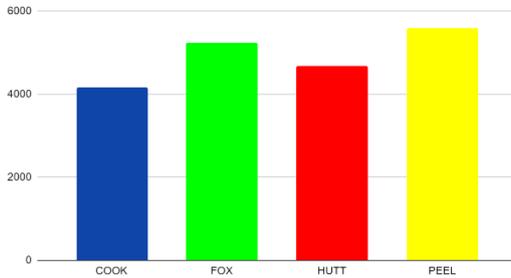
## HOUSE POINTS

### Term 1 : Week 9 & 10

CONGRATULATIONS PEEL HOUSE  
The winning house for Week 9 & 10



Week 9&10 house points

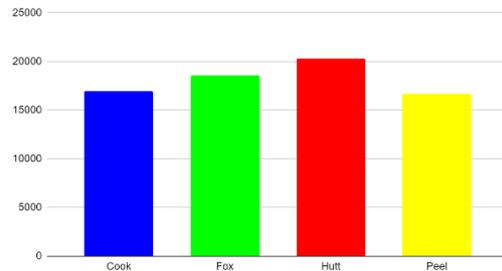


And the **OVERALL HOUSE WINNER**

For **TERM 1** goes to .....  
CONGRATULATIONS HUTT  
Enjoy your 'Wheels' Reward



TERM 1 HOUSE POINTS



## NO LUNCH OPTION FOR MONDAYS STARTING TERM 2

Lunchtime NZ Limited has made the very hard decision to close.  
We will be closing the doors on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2022 last day of business.

It is with a very heavy heart but with inflation, Covid and people in hard times, we cannot continue with such uncertainty and we feel this is the best decision for us at the moment.

This is not the last time Lunchtime will operate, we had a very successful first year given the circumstances, managed to bounce back after the second lockdown, but struggled after the rest.

I want to thank you for your support and business over the year and wish everyone all the best in these hard times.

