



# WAIMATAITAI SCHOOL

## Newsletter No 1 – 2 February 2023



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

### 2023 Term dates

Term 1: Tues, 1 Feb – Thurs, 6 Apr

Term 2: Mon, 24 Apr – Fri, 30 Jun

Term 3: Mon, 17 Jul – Fri, 22 Sept

Term 4: Mon, 9 Oct – Fri, 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

In Health Centre (by office)

By appointment only  
(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**

Waimataitai Newsletter Hui-tanguru / February 2023

Greetings, Kia ora, Mālō e lelei, Talofa, Mrhban, Namaste, Konnichiwa, dobryi den, Ahoj, tahiaati lak

Nau mai haere mai ki te kawerongo tua tahi o te kura Waimataitai

Welcome to the first Waimataitai School newsletter for 2023.

Welcome back to Waimataitai for all students. A special welcome to students new to Waimataitai. To start this year we have 31 new enrolments. We are all looking forward to making your arrival as successful and enjoyable as we can.

### Pause Breathe Smile

On the last day of the student holidays the teachers had already been working hard to get ready for the new year at school. As well as teachers preparing teaching and learning and getting their classes 'ship-shape' we all began the journey of learning about 'Pause, Breathe, Smile'. This is a mindfulness and calming programme that all teachers will be introducing to their classes from the start of this year. As whanau you may not notice very much difference around the school. I expect to see children who are calmer in the class and in the playground. This programme is designed to teach children how to relax and use that calmness to approach their learning in a different way. As we find out more about this, we will be sharing information with you about how you can use this approach at home. We hope you will be able to support how we are helping your child to grow positively.

### Whanau Get-Together – Picnic

We invite you all to join us for a picnic at school on **Thursday, 16 February at 5.00pm**. This will be a great way to meet your child's teacher and to be able to have a look in the classrooms. Teachers will be able to answer those questions you may have at the start of the year.

### Student Conferences

The first of two Student Led Conferences will take place **Thursday, 2 March**. Please be aware there is no school this day, however, you will be asked to book an appointment online for your child/ren in due course. We encourage all whanau to come to school and get involved with your child's learning. There will be more information from the class teachers about the focus of these conferences as we get nearer to the time. We look forward to seeing you all there.

### High Achieving Students at Waimataitai

Waimataitai students continue to succeed academically. The results from student academic performance last year show us that between 87 and 93% of our students are achieving at the appropriate level for their age. We have a significant group of students who are achieving beyond their appropriate level and of course we have some students who continue to require additional support for their learning. This year we start with a full complement of experienced and enthusiastic teachers, which includes 12 teacher's aides. All of our teaching and learning staff are continuing to upskill through professional development that we provide, or they see as appropriate for their own careers. I am confident that we have the very best teachers and teacher aides assisting your child with their learning.

### New Staff

I would like to welcome Miss Kirsty Ewart, Miss Alissa Quinn, and Ms Sharon Wilson to the staff at Waimataitai for 2023. I feel that we are very lucky to have such talented teachers who are keen to work with your children. Please introduce yourself to our new teachers when you see them and I know you will help them to feel welcome as well.

### Strategic Planning

This year will see us start the work we have planned on our new strategic direction. Initially we will be learning about all the cultures that share Waimataitai School now and finding appropriate ways to display aspects of these around the school. We have plans for a native planting area at the end of the big field and we will be creating spaces around the school that students can retreat to, to find calm and quiet time. As we get moving we will be giving you more information and hope that you will be able to join us on this exciting journey we are embarking on.

**PLEASE NOTE ..... SCHOOL FINISHING EARLY**  
**There is a Teachers' Union Meeting on TUESDAY, 28 FEBRUARY 2023**  
**SCHOOL WILL BE FINISHING AT 1.30PM ON THIS DAY**

**Coming Up ... REFER ATTACHED CALENDAR**

**Home Learning Review**

During the last two years Waimataitai have been upskilling in math and literacy teaching. We are developing an understanding of how students learn the new content in these subject areas and how to best set them up for success.

Currently Waimataitai has home learning expectations that in some cases contradict this new understanding. Techniques for basic facts and spelling learning don't match what we are being told is the most effective.

In addition to this there are many parents who do not insist that their child does home learning. We are told this results in conflict at home which is counterproductive to building learning relationships. The consequence of this is that teachers spend a considerable amount of time pushing students to mark home learning when very few of them have done it.

I have decided to post a survey to whanau to get your ideas for home learning in 2023. The feedback you provide and our up to date understanding about spelling, reading and basic facts learning will help us direct home learning more appropriately for you and your children.

I encourage as many people as possible to get involved in the survey as this will direct the structure of the home learning programme for this year.

**School Counsellors**

This year we welcome **Matt Cameron** who will be working as a Counsellor, alongside **Ginny Cabreana**.

**Introducing Matt .....**

I am a registered counsellor and teacher. I enjoy sports, especially racket sports, and being a handyman. I began teaching in a North Island primary school in 1997 and have taught at every level (from year 0 to year 13). I moved to South Canterbury in 1998 and have been teaching in various schools since then (Timaru Christian, Waihi, Gleniti, Roncalli, Pleasant Point and T-Tech). I completed my counselling training in 2009 (while teaching full-time!) and worked for Anglican Care part-time until 2022. I enjoyed working in South Canterbury as the Oceans Grief and Loss Coordinator since 2012 gaining valuable experience and have been applying the Solution Focused approach to all my work since 2016. I have been offering training workshops in the Solution Focused approach since 2020. I love this approach and see it as a client-centred, strength-based, multi-cultural, resource amplifying, a user-friendly approach that is life-changing and applicable to every situation.

If you feel your child would benefit seeing either Matt or Ginny, please contact the school office.

**Facebook Vs HERO**

This year **Roto** team (yrs 0-2) will have whole class Facebook pages where information relating to the whole class will be displayed. Team Roto will use HERO for individual posts and learning information for whanau.

**Awa, Hawai and Moana** (yrs 5-8) will not be using Facebook at all. All communications previously sent out through facebook for these teams will now come home via HERO.

**Contacting Teachers**

Please **DO NOT use Facebook Messenger** to contact teachers. Currently it is not unusual for teachers to be contacted late at night or at weekends - this is inappropriate. Instead, we ask that you use email as a better way to communicate with your child's teacher. These are accessed at regular intervals during working hours and responded to in an appropriate timeframe.

Please use the email addresses below followed by **@waimataitai.school.nz**

ROOM	TEACHER	EMAIL ADDRESS
<b>Roto</b>	<b>Team Leader: Nikola Vincent</b>	njv029
	2 Kim Sugrue	kas016
	Toni Manson	tmm020
	3 Karen Wyatt	kaw015
	5 Kirsty McKerracher	kjmh060
	Nicky Charteris	njc044
	6 Kim Dynes	kld018
	7 Jill Robinson	jar017
	Vanessa Riley	vjr015
8	Sally Finlayson	sf020
<b>Awa</b>	<b>Team Leader: Vanessa Galbraith</b>	
	20 Sharon Wilson	sw023
	21 Vanessa Galbraith	vlg019
	22 Kate Perry	kp019
	23 Zara Codyre	zac019
	24 Chris Davidson	cjd0078
<b>Hawai</b>	<b>Team Leader: Lara Sargent</b>	
	4 Michelle Bransden	mpb018
	15 Lara Sargent	las015
	Kerri Jopp	krj015
	16 Rachel Cormack	rnc018
	17 Juanita Thompson	jjt016
18 Ken Heaphy	kh020	
<b>Moana</b>	<b>Team Leader: Jess Howard</b>	
	10 Kirsty Ewart	jjh041
	11 John Willers	ke022
	13 Alissa Quinn	jdw017
	14 Tim Heke	aq022
	19 Nicky Severinsen	tjh
	nas	
<b>Administration Team</b>		
	Jonathan Young – Principal	jsy021
	Jill Crossan – Office Manager	office
	Sarah Garner – Office / Sport	slg016
	Sarah Garner – Library	librarian
	Janene McGrath – Uniform	jm020
	Ginny Cabreana - Counsellor	gc21

## SchoolDocs

Our school has been working with SchoolDocs to create a website for our policies and procedures. We are excited to announce that the site is now live and available to our school community.

The school works on a subscription basis with SchoolDocs to maintain, update and review our policies. SchoolDocs provides us with a comprehensive core set of policies, which have been well researched and align with the National Education and Learning Priorities. The policies and procedures are tailored to our school, and the school supplies specific information such as our charter, and procedures for behaviour management, reporting to parents, etc.



## PICNIC TEA & MEET THE TEACHER

We would love you to join us for a Picnic tea from 5pm onwards. This is a great chance to meet your child's teacher and have a look in their classroom

Classrooms are open from 5:45pm



Thursday 16th  
February  
5:00 - 6:30pm

## House Results from the End of Year

Congratulations to last year's house team winners. I am already looking forward to the competition this year and I expect it to be exciting. If you are new to Waimataitai your child will be in one of the following three house teams.

Cook/Aoraki	Blue
Hutt/Opuke,	Red
Peel /Tarahaoa	Yellow
Fox/Maukakukuta	Green

When we have school events, especially sporting events, your child will be able to dress in their house colours and support the others in their team as they compete.

The House teams are named after the well-known mountains from South Canterbury that feature on our skyline.

During the year your child will learn more about the local stories that relate to these mountains.

## LUNCH ORDERS will resume next week

SUBWAY – WEDNESDAYS  
Starting 8<sup>th</sup> February



SPUD SUPREME – THURSDAYS AND FRIDAYS  
Starting 9<sup>th</sup> / 10<sup>th</sup> February

## Lucky Book Club

Issue No. 1

Orders close FRIDAY, 24 FEB



## Breakfast Club 2023

Breakfast Club resumes this term. Mrs Dynes is looking for parents and some older students to help out occasionally. Last year this very successful programme encouraged approx. 9-15 students a day to join us at 8:10 each morning to enjoy healthy food and start the day positively. Mrs Dynes is looking forward to getting started on **13 February**. There is *no charge* for this and we encourage any student who wishes to join us for breakfast to do so.

If you are interested in helping, please get in touch with Mrs Dynes email: [kld018@waimataitai.school.nz](mailto:kld018@waimataitai.school.nz)



## BREAKFAST CLUB

STARTS  
MONDAY 13TH  
FEBRUARY AND  
WILL BE  
EVERYDAY

8:10 – 8:30AM

DOWNSTAIRS  
SHARED SPACE

EVERYONE IS  
WELCOME TO ATTEND



## Waimataitai Chess Club

We would love to get a chess club running at school. We are looking for enthusiastic adults who would be able to come into school and teach keen students how to play chess, and help run the chess club.

There are even local competitions we can attend with other schools if we have tamariki who are interested. Please reply below or contact Kim Sugrue in Room 2.





Term 1		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
		23 Jan	24		26	27
<b>1</b>	Feb	30	31 Jan	1 School Starts Whole School Hui 11am	2	3
<b>2</b>	Feb	6 Waitangi Day	7	8	9	10
<b>3</b>	Feb	13 Roto trip 9:30-12	14 Wai Tri (pm) Awa Kaupapa Maori 9-10.30 Roto trip 9:30-12	15 Awa Kaupapa Maori 9-10.30	16 Awa Kaupapa Maori 9-10.30 Roto trip 9:30-12 Picnic Tea / Meet the teacher 5pm-6.30pm	17 Roto/Awa Duathlon from 9:15am→
<b>4</b>	Feb	20	21	22	23	24
<b>5</b>	Mar	27	28 <b>SCHOOL FINISHES 1.30PM</b>	1	2 Student learning Conferences	3
<b>6</b>	Mar	6  Moana Camps →	7 Awa Kaupapa Maori 9-10.30  Moana Camps →	8 Hawai Eco Centre Rm15,16,17,4 Awa Kaupapa Maori 9-10.30 Moana Camps →	9 Hawai Eco Centre R18 Awa Kaupapa Maori 9-10.30 Moana Camps →	10  Moana Camps →
<b>7</b>	Mar	13	14	15	16	17
<b>8</b>	Mar	20	21  Roto trip 9:30-12	22 Wai swim sports (morning)	23 Cultural Evening 5-7pm  Roto trip 9:30-12	24
<b>9</b>	Mar	27  <b>Awa Kaupapa Maori 9-10.30</b>	28  Awa Kaupapa Maori 9-10.30	29  Awa Kaupapa Maori 9-10.30	30 Hawai Activity day	31
<b>10</b>	Apr	3	4 Pp Hawai activity day	5	6 Wai-Learner assembly Holidays begin	Good Friday

2023 details:

Term 1: 1 Feb-6th April

Term 2: 24th April- 30th June

Term 3: 25 Jul – 30 Sept

Term 4: 17 Oct – 15 Dec

# WAIMATAITAI SCHOOL

## LUNCH OPTIONS

### SUBWAY

AVAILABLE WEDNESDAYS

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

6-inch sandwich, apple and cookie **\$6.00**  
12-inch sandwich, apple and cookie **\$10.00**

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



### SPUD SUPREME

AVAILABLE THURSDAYS AND FRIDAYS

(This is now done ONLINE via website [spudssupreme.nz/order/schools](http://spudssupreme.nz/order/schools))

Baked spuds served with butter and topped with 4 fillings of your choice  
(No butter if preferred) **PRICE \$6.50**



Fillings:



Savoury mince  
Pineapple  
Savoury Tomato  
Mushrooms

Onions  
Spaghetti  
Coleslaw  
Chilli Beans

Cheese  
Baked beans  
Sour Cream  
Creamed Corn

**NACHOS - \$6-50**

**Stuffed Sausage – \$5.50** Filled with Potato, Garlic, Tomato Relish & Cheese



## Hero is one place for all school communications.

To personalise your experience, your unique Hero account has been created using the email address that you provided to the school.

Simply set your password to get started!

### Learning

- Reports
- Progress
- Goals
- Portfolios
- Student sharing

### Communications

- Personalised Notices
- Notifications
- Pay online
- Permissions
- Surveys
- Term dates

**1**

Scan the code -->  
or search for "Hero" in your  
app store and download.  
or visit  
<https://go.linc-ed.com>



**2**

Select "New user"

Your account will be set up by your school using the email address that you provided when you enrolled your children, use this address to request a password. Please note: each contact must have their own email address.

**3**

Enter your email address and click the  
"Request Password Link"

**4**

Check your email!  
If one doesn't arrive, ensure your school  
has your correct details on file.

**5**

Follow the secure link and enter a  
password.

