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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



2ND HAND UNIFORM SHOP

In Health Centre (by office)

FRIDAYS 8.30-9.00AM
OR

By 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**

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

Nau mai haere mai ki te kawerongo tuatoru o te kura Waimataitai

Welcome to the third Waimataitai school newsletter for 2023.

Teacher Only Day - 24th April

This is the first day after the term 1 holidays (**24th April**). The Ministry of Education has issued a directive to all schools to take one of two teacher only days for this year around this time. The purpose of this teacher only day is to have all teacher working on the refreshed New Zealand Curriculum at the same time. We appreciate the inconvenience that this may cause to families and are sorry for this. The two teachers only days this year will result in improved understanding and knowledge of the refreshed New Zealand Curriculum and that will provide better outcomes for your child. As yet we have not been informed about the timing of the second teacher only day but we will inform you as soon as we know when this is mandated to schools.

HERO Notices

If you are yet to be connected to HERO, our school notice board and student achievement platform, I encourage you to do this as soon as possible please. We are concerned that there are people from the Waimataitai community who are missing out on important information that we send out. The best way to manage the flow of information from school to home is to be connected to the HERO app and **check the information to answer any queries may have – especially regarding school trips/events etc.**

If you are having trouble connecting, please do not hesitate to come into school to get that sorted out.

School Docs

Waimataitai is now a school docs school. This means that we belong to an organisation that oversees our policies and procedures and works with us to keep these up to date. Each of our school policies has a review timeframe. When the end date is reached School Docs sets up an opportunity for whanau, teachers and the Board to review the policy. When there are changes that our community recognises are needed these can be incorporated into our policies. At times we will ask you, the whanau of Waimataitai, to give your thoughts about a policy or procedure. If you follow the steps below you can find out how to see the policies and to review them when it is time.

All reviewers

1. Visit the website <https://waimataitai.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.htm>
2. Enter the username (waimataitai) and password (wailearner)
3. Follow the link to the relevant policy as listed.
4. Read the policy
5. Click the Start your review button at the top right-hand corner of the page
6. Select the reviewer type
7. Enter your name (optional)
8. Follow the prompts to show that you've read the topic and enter your feedback if you'd like to comment
9. Agree to the privacy statement and click "Submit Review"

New Staff Member

We would like to welcome **Jasmine Pye** to the Waimataitai staff. Jasmine is a teacher aide who has been working in Temuka recently. We are thrilled to have Jasmine working at Waimataitai with your tamariki. Introducing Jasmine:

Tēnā koutou katoa,

My name is Jasmine. Your tamariki will know me as Whaea Jas and I am a new teacher aide here at Waimataitai School. I have ample years of working in the education sector, in early childhood and primary school. I also have four tamariki of my own, aging from preschoolers to high school. I am guided by the idea "It takes a village to raise a child". My spare time is spent engaging with my children's interests, taxiing from activity to activity and being part of school, sport and whanau committees. I look forward to working with the staff and tamariki of Waimataitai and being part of your community.

COMING UP Term 1

- 11 Mar Relay for Life
- 6-10 Mar Moana Camps
 - Mon-Wed – Rooms 10, 13 & 14
 - Wed – Fri – Rooms 11 & 19
- 7 Mar Awa (yrs 3 & 4) Kaupapa Maori
- 8 Mar Hawai Eco Centre – Rooms 15, 16, 17 & 4
- 9 Mar Hawai Eco Centre – Room 18
- 9 Mar Awa (yrs 3 & 4) Awah Kaupap Maori
- 21 Mar Roto Trip – Washdyke Lagoon
- 22 Mar Swimming Sports
- 23 Mar Cultural Evening 5.00-7.00pm
- 23 Mar Roto Trip – Washdyke Lagoon
- 30 Mar Hawai Activity Day (yrs 5-6)
- 4 Apr Hawai Activity Day (*Postponement day*)
- 6 Apr Wai Learner Assembly
- 6 Apr Last Day of Term 1

Term 2

- 24 Apr **Teacher Only Day**
- 25 Apr ANZAC Day
- 26 Apr First day back for Students – Term 2

Student Learning Conferences

These were held this week. Thank you to all the whanau who participated in the conferences. You have contributed to your child having a very successful year. If you have missed out on joining a conference with your child's teacher, it is not too late to have one. Your child's teacher will contact you to make sure you have another chance to get together and set goals for the year.

Leadership Assembly

Earlier this week we held a leadership assembly. This was a great opportunity to welcome and acknowledge the great work our leaders do at Waimataitai. This year there has been a significant increase in the number of senior students applying for leadership roles and we have tried to accommodate as many of those applying into a leadership role. I aim to make leadership a real adventure for our students. I make it clear that leaders have a really important role to play in the running of the school. There are many extra activities that we are able to host because we have a great bunch of leaders willing to help us out. Thank you to everyone who applied for a leadership role and I am sure you will have a great year in your new work.

HOUSE POINTS

Week 1 & 2

Congratulations Peel/Tarahaoa house for winning the house points for weeks one and two.



Cultural Evening 23rd March

Musical performances

23rd March

WAIMATAITAI CULTURAL Evening

5PM - 7PM

23rd March

RAIN OR SHINE

Food stalls

To book a stall fill in the google form or contact Jo on 021 444 903

Whanau engagement is one of our strategic goals for the next three years. The cultural evening we are holding on the **23rd March** is one of the ways we will engage with whanau this year. We are hoping to attract all our families to participate in this event being held at school. There will be **food stalls** from members of the many different ethnicities that make up Waimataitai School. We will be having **continuous entertainment** from students and participating groups. I have already heard from our Pacifika, Kapa Haka groups, and a group of our Indian students who will perform cultural waiata and dances for us.

Pizza Lunch with the Principal

I was lucky enough to spend time with a wonderful group of Wai Learners this week during our PB4L Pizza Lunch. This is one of our PB4L acknowledgement initiatives. The students who are recognised for their Wai Learner attributes earn gold slips. These are posted in the mailbox outside my office. The lucky participants are drawn out of the letter box randomly. These winners get to bring a friend to share the Pizza Lunch with. I really enjoy mixing with these students and hearing their stories.



Relay for Life – 11 March



Come join Waimataitai teachers and support staff as we walk for Relay for Life fundraising for South Canterbury Cancer Society. Please complete the form - <https://forms.gle/mmcEwLtxWnbnE2ps7>

- Saturday 11th March
- 10am to 10pm
- Walk for 1 hour, 2 hours or as many as you like

If you have any questions please email Kim Dynes on kld018@waimataitai.school.nz or pop in and see Kim Sugrue in Room 2.

Disney Day

Last Friday we held our Disney character dress up day. This is part of a much wider plan to raise funds for the 'Relay for Life' event which will be held 11th March. The idea for this event was initiated by our Student Council.

Nearly all students took part in the event and there were some very creative costumes on the day. We had a competition to see who was the most creative and there were three winners from across the school who won. Thank you to all whanau who helped prepare costumes and made sure that their own little Disney character was well turned-out for the day. We were able to raise \$686.00 for relay for life with this event. The school council has a target of \$2000 to raise for the relay for life. You can all feel proud that you are supporting cancer awareness in South Canterbury.



Disco

The next Student Council event designed to raise more money for the 'Relay for Life', was the school disco which was held this week. There has been lots of excitement and discussion about the disco. It has also been a wonderful success and we were able to raise \$1,678.50 It was great to see all the students who participated enjoying themselves and having a great time at the disco. I want to make a special mention of the incredible dancing skills we saw at the Disco. Mr Pousini Amato led the way showing the children how more mature people can dance. Well done Pousini. You are an inspiration to us all.

Koha for Kai

Last week teachers put together a morning tea and sold this to the Waimataitai staff. It was a great fundraiser for 'Relay for Life' and raised almost \$400.00. Thank you to those teachers who put the morning tea 'Koha for Kai' together for us. Well done Mrs Dynes and your team.

Altogether we raised a WHOPPING

**THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR YOUR
OVERWHELMING SUPPORT !!**



Road Patrol

I would like to congratulate the school road patrol teams for the great work they are doing to keep all students safe at the road crossings. One of the things we are noticing at the crossings is that there are many more students getting to school actively. This means that there are many more students travelling to and from school actively in the mornings and afternoons. To help our road patrollers we are asking parents to be as helpful as they can when picking up and dropping off students please. You can help by:

1. Using the crossing when you enter and leave the school. If the students see you using the crossing they will realise that it is a good idea.
2. Stay well behind the road patroller when they are managing the crossing and wait until the all-clear is given. The road patroller will say, "Signs out, Check" and then "Cross Now." After they have said that, it is safe to cross. Please encourage your child to stay behind the waiting marks until then.
3. We are encouraging your child not to get on their bikes and scooters until they have crossed the road. Getting on bikes and scooters as they cross can be unsafe.

Active Transport Update

I have been impressed by the number of whanau who are encouraging their children to arrive at school actively. One of the reasons for promoting this is to raise the level of fitness and preparedness for learning amongst our students. Another is to reduce the congestion we have on Trafalgar and White Streets. Already I am noticing a reduction in congestion and an increase in students walking, scootering and biking.

We are in the middle of preparing an Active Travel Plan for Waimataitai in conjunction with the South Canterbury Health WAVE team. You can expect to see footpath markings and signs that advertise the drop off zones for school soon. There will be promotions and competitions to encourage students as we go through the year.

I understand that getting to school actively is not a possibility for some students and whanau due to distance from school and other circumstances. It is not our intention to make people feel guilty if you are unable to join in this health promotion. You may still like to be involved by dropping your child in one of the three recognised drop off zones near school, where they are able to walk or scooter the final distance to school.

ROTO DUATHLON

This was held last week and it was so great to see all our 'wee munchkins' out there giving it a go!



Here are the results

Year 1 Boys

1 st	Joash Daly	Peel
2 nd	Austin Heffernan	Fox
3 rd	Alby Harris	Peel

Year 1 Girls

1 st	Maddy Garland	Fox
2 nd	Brooke McClenaghan	Hutt
3 rd	April Doran	Peel

Year 2 Boys

1 st	Flynn Stephenson	Cook
2 nd	Hudson Bradley	Peel
3 rd	Luke Rae	Hutt

Year 2 Girls

1 st	Ailini Amato	Peel
2 nd	Skye Foster	Hutt
3 rd	Ivy Hunt	Peel

Year 3 Boys

1 st	Reece Sellner	Peel
2 nd	George Stevenson	Fox
3 rd	Jaxson Goldsmith	Cook

Year 3 Girls

1 st	Maddi McClenaghan	Hutt
2 nd	Quinn Wilson	Fox
3 rd	Caitlyn Lincoln	Fox

Year 4 Boys

1 st	Logan Heffernan	Fox
2 nd	Jonah Daly	Peel
3 rd	Braxton Blackmun	Cook

Year 4 Girls

1 st	Lilly Rae	Hutt
2 nd	Lauren Ganer	Peel
3 rd	Imogen Smeele	Cook