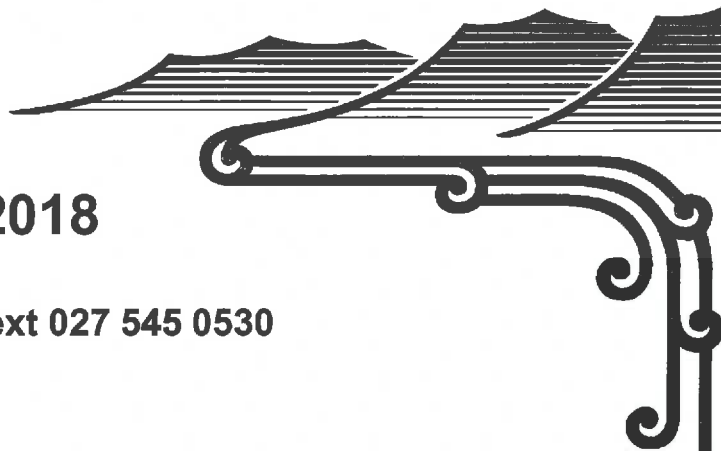


Waitohu School

Newsletter – December 6 - 2018

For absences please phone 364 8272 or text 027 545 0530



THANK YOU Shelly
for all you have given us –
'our' kids have been the winners.

TO BE OUR BEST Valuing and nurturing individuals to be themselves
In all things there are many forms of best - as individuals and as a community of learners we always strive to be our best

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NEW PUPILS

Mali Miratana and Aria Walker have joined us in Room 1. Welcome to Waitohu School Mali and Aria.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

School finishes for the year next Thursday 13 December at 2.00pm. The bus will leave at this time.

It is hard to believe the end of the year is almost here. What an incredibly full and exciting year it has been. Right throughout the year, there have been so many highlights and neat moments shared by the students, staff, parents and friends of Waitohu School. Our very genuine thanks to all who make our school the very special place it is.

Special thanks to our graduating Year 6 students. You have contributed greatly to our place during your years at Waitohu School. We wish you all that is good, as you make the exciting step to college. We look forward to hearing of your successes over the years ahead. Be strong, and take pride in who you are and where you come from. We will miss you.

Thanks also to the parents who have their 'youngest' child graduating from Waitohu School. Many of you have been greatly involved and active in helping provide rich opportunities for 'our' children. Your support has been greatly appreciated. I'd like to pay a particular THANK YOU to Shelly Warwick, Kirsty Webber, Lisa and Joseph Te Wiata, each of whom have made huge contributions during their children's time at Waitohu School.

HOME AND SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Dear Waitohu Whanau,

On behalf of the Home and School Association I would like to thank all those parents, grandparents and extended family who have helped us with our fundraisers this year. Putting on our Gala is a big enough feat, the Fireworks is on a different scale, with up to 100 volunteers who help us put on this community event. Without everyone who pitches in we would never manage to raise the funds we do for the school. This year we have put new TV's in classrooms, replaced the data projector in the hall, bused the "whole school" to Zealandia Sanctuary in Wellington, sent Yr 5's to Kāpiti Island, had our kids' vegetable garden area developed with raised gardens, installed a garden shed and had espaliered fruit trees planted, purchased new sunhats, provided for a swim and lunch for our Year 6 students at camp, put money into classroom resources, helped to pay for the online Athletics website our students have access to and committed to a new sandpit and play area behind Rooms 10 and 11. We could not do this without all of the help we get.

As chairperson of the committee, I would like to give a huge thank you to my wonderful committee. A dedicated group of very hard working parents, with busy lives, who go the extra mile to coordinate events and put in many many hours to make sure things go smoothly. We are very lucky at Waitohu to have Kirsty Webber, Jill Hawea, Paula Archibald, Penny Bedggood, Shay-Marie Peneha, Andi Paroli, Maine Curtis, Jin Humphreys, Craig Esselmont, Natalie Molloy, Marya Hakaraia and Angela Taylor who have worked so hard on the committee this year. Thank you for making our meetings a place primarily of friendship and the hours you have put in to making our fundraisers successful.

Also a big thank you to the amazing office ladies who do so much of our administration, never with complaint, and always with a smile.

Cheers and Merry Christmas, Shelly Warwick

KAPA HAKA

Tomorrow, 67 of our students will represent us at the Ōtaki-Kāpiti Kapa Haka Festival. Each of these students has chosen to be in our senior kapa haka rōpu. Tomorrow, all of their hard work throughout the year will culminate in the most awesome presence of dignity, passion, joy and skill being on display. Last Friday, as part of our farewell assembly to Robyn Dean, Angela Graham and Nikki McLean, we were all treated to our kapa haka rōpu performing for us. They were quite simply magnificent. I was SO proud. Well done to each of you - you were awesome.

The love and skill our tamariki have, and their attraction to being part of this rōpu, is a reflection of the love Matua Kahura has for our tamariki. This, combined with Matua's love of tikanga and te reo Māori and his skill in empowering our tamariki to shine in this space, deeply enriches our school. THANK YOU Kahura.

Thank you also to Kim Tahiwī, who has supported Matua Kahura during the year. Kim, your talents and presence have really enhanced our rōpu. Long may the both of you be gifting our tamariki in this way. THANK YOU.

THANK YOU FRAN TULL

This afternoon we celebrated and enjoyed the artistic talents of our Year 5 & 6 students. Another display of how once again, our music teacher Fran Tull has woven her magic, teaching with gentleness, expertise and fun, to enable our tamariki to shine. At our Kai and Carols on Tuesday, Fran led our singing of the carols. So much fun was had. On Thursdays throughout the year, Fran has worked with individual classes providing rich and stimulating music programmes for our tamariki. The depth of musical talent Fran has, and her generosity and love when sharing it with our school community, is such a gift to us. THANK YOU Fran.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS BY OUR VERY OWN JARED CARSON

Several weeks ago in our newsletter I thanked Kyuss Carson's dad Jared, for his very generous work creating with Room 10 students, a published book. Each student was then gifted a published copy - a real taonga. Attached to this week's newsletter is a poster advertising Jared's new fun children's books "Animals in Vehicles". They would make great Christmas presents! To get more information simply go to jaredcarson.co.nz

THANK YOU - KAI & CAROLS

Thank you to Fran Tull, Penny Bedggood and Shelly Warwick for organising a great whanau 'Kai & Carols' evening on Tuesday. It was a fabulous community gathering filled with all treasures of Christmas - whanau, smiles, kai, carols, presents and laughter.

KĀPITI SWIM CLUB SUCCESS

Congratulations to our Waitohu students Nevaeh Gardner, Kupa Gardner, Nevaeh Lawton, Riley Cohen and Leah Shipp who all achieved personal best times at a recent 'Gold Coast Swimming' meet, held last Sunday. These awesome results enabled their team to win the Personal Best Trophy at the competition - tumeke, ka rawe.

STUDENT REPORTS – FRIDAY 7 DECEMBER

Tomorrow 7 December, students will receive their school reports. Your child's teacher and room number for 2019, as well as next year's stationery requirements. Swimming opportunities and instructions on how to book your parent teacher interviews for Tuesday 29 January, will be included with the report.

CLASS LISTS FOR 2019 – FRIDAY 7 DECEMBER

Class lists will be displayed on the office window tomorrow Friday 7 December (after 3.00pm). I thank you in advance for affirming with your child the marvellous year they are going to have with their next year's teacher and classmates. Your positive attitude goes a long way toward assisting your child to look forward to, and make the best of, the opportunities that await them. Please note I will give Kapa Haka students their reports after the festival.

ŌTAKI COLLEGE ENROLMENTS

Please return all enrolment forms for Year 6 students intending to go to Ōtaki College in 2019 to Waitohu School office as soon as possible. Alternatively, the forms can be returned to the college. We have spare Ōtaki College enrolment forms here at Waitohu School office if you have misplaced yours.

SCHOOL SPORTS UNIFORMS

Please return all touch rugby, basketball and other sports uniforms to the office tomorrow (they don't need to be cleaned).

YEAR 6 LIBRARY BOOK DONATIONS

In the past, Year 6 students leaving Waitohu School have donated books, or money to purchase books, to the school library. Over the years we have greatly appreciated this generous contribution to our library. Students wishing to do this can drop them into the office before Monday 10 December.

LUCKY BOOKS READY FOR COLLECTION

The lucky books have arrived and are ready for collection from the office. If parents want to collect gifts please let the office know or they will be handed out to children on Monday.

Maine Curtis
Principal

EVENTS – UPCOMING

- Wheels Day - Junior Syndicate - Friday 7 December
- Kapa Haka Festival - Friday 7 December
- 2018 Student Reports and 2019 Class Lists Published – Friday 7 December
- Fun Activities - Monday 10 December
- Year 6 Lunch (11.30am) / Year 6 Assembly (1.30pm) – Tuesday 11 December
- Disco - Tuesday 11 December (6.00 - 8.00pm)
- Final Assembly – Wednesday 12 December (1.30pm)
- Term 4 Finishes (2.00pm) – Thursday 13 December
- Student-Parent Teacher Interviews – Tuesday 29 January 2019
- Classes begin – Wednesday 30 January 2019

TERM DATES FOR 2019

Term 1	Tuesday 29 January - Parent / Student / Teacher Interviews (Instructions for online bookings will be provided with your child's end of year report tomorrow) Classes begin Wednesday 30 January to Friday 12 April
Term 2	Monday 29 April to Friday 5 July
Term 3	Monday 22 July to Friday 27 September
Term 4	Monday 14 October to Thursday 12 December

STATIONERY AND CHROMEBOOK SALES – MONDAY 28 AND TUESDAY 29 JANUARY 2019

The Waitohu School office will be open on Monday 28 and Tuesday 29 January 2019 for stationery and Chromebook sales from 9am-3pm.

RELATED INFORMATION

LOST PROPERTY

All lost property will be displayed in the hall for students to collect next week. I encourage you to pop into the hall and check the lost property cupboard (in foyer of the hall) to ensure you get all the items that belong to your whanau. All items that remain at the end of the term will be given to charity.

FUN ACTIVITIES - MONDAY 10 DECEMBER

As their farewell gift to all of the students, a group of Year 6 students have organised fun activities for the whole school. This includes (using funds they raised from their Term 1 'Kids Quiz Night') a big slide being set up. Everyone will get a chance to have a turn! Each student will also be able to have a sausage and bread at lunchtime (thank you Home and School). We look forward to a great day.

YEAR 6 LUNCH AND SPECIAL ASSEMBLY - TUESDAY 11 DECEMBER

All parents of Year 6 pupils have been invited to a special assembly on Tuesday 11 December. There will be lunch at 11.30am followed by a play time for the children, and then the assembly will begin at 1.50pm. Students will have lunch provided, thank you Home and School Association. Parents are encouraged to bring a plate of finger food to share with other parents.

DISCO – TUESDAY 11 DECEMBER

The Home and School Association are organising a disco to be held on Tuesday 11 December, 6.00–8.00pm in the school hall. In keeping with the 'spirit' of Christmas the entry cost will be a can/packet of food which will be given to our local food bank. Parents are most welcome to stay for the evening. As this disco is for current Waitohu School students I ask that older siblings / friends only drop off and pick up students. There are teachers and parents organised to take care of the children.

FINAL ASSEMBLY – WEDNESDAY 12 DECEMBER

Our closing ceremony for this year will be held on Wednesday 12 December, at 1.30pm in the school hall.

COMMUNITY NEWS

REAL CHRISTMAS TREES FOR SALE

Real Christmas trees for sale at Ōtaki Market, State Highway 1, opposite New World on Sunday 9, 16 and 23 December. Priced between \$20 - \$30 with delivery in Ōtaki costing \$5. Call Maggie for more information on 021 949 214.

FUNZONE SUMMER SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

The Funzone summer holiday programme will be full of fun activities with both in-venue and day trips. The in-venue days will be filled with various activities like Kool Kiwi Fun, Xmas Crafts & Baking, Avatar Elements Day, Ōtaki Big Dig, Wearable Arts, Where Wally, Narly Nature, Edible & Blow Up Science, Opposites Day and so much more. Visit days will include; Kayaking, Kāpiti MENZSHED, Pool Parties, Staglands, Wellington Zoo, Splash Planet, Cloud 9 Tramp Park, Te Manawa Museum. They have special guests joining the programme with Charlie Rudd Personal Trainer for Crossfit, Michelle Davies for Photography, Scouts NZ and Dr K for Science and an awesome Rainbows End Camp. Go to <https://funzone.co.nz/fun-zone-summer-2018-2019/> for bookings.

GARAGE SALE SATURDAY 8 DECEMBER

A Garage Sale will be held on Saturday 8 December from 8.00am-2.00pm at 22 Brandon Street, Ōtaki with general household items, clothing, furniture and sci-fi collectables.

KIWIANA CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION ŌTAKI LIBRARY

Ōtaki Library Kiwiana Christmas celebration will be on Monday 10 December 5.00-6.30pm. Bring along some canned food for the local food bank.

ŌTAKI LIBRARY SUMMER READING PROGRAMME

Ōtaki Library are taking registrations for the Summer Reading Programme on 17-31 December for children in Years 1-8. There are activities and reports to do and on completion of the programme the children can join in a finale party at Waikanae Pools and will receive a free book to keep. Go to www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/libraries for more information.

EVENTS AT MĀORILAND HUB

Māoriland Hub are hosting the following event on Saturday 8 December: Tawata Productions present The Night Mechanics - a play where water is no longer free. Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7.00pm performance. Entry \$15 waged, \$7.50 unwaged.

ZERO WASTE ART CLASSES FOR CHILDREN

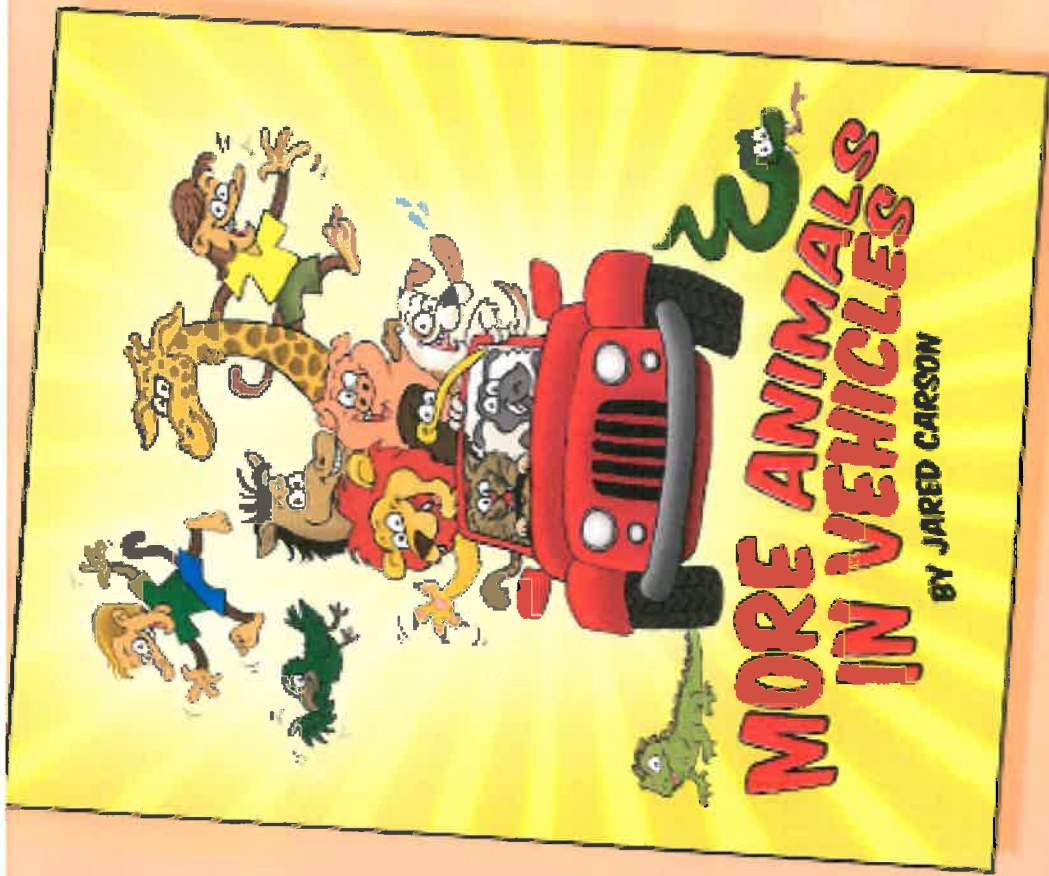
Zero waste art classes will be held in Ohau, Levin in January 2019. Half day classes will cover; fairy house and wand making (5 years and over), earring and flower making (10 years and over) and lotions and potions (10 years and over). Morning tea and all equipment provided. Contact Stephanie on 021 0293 6798 or email Stephaniejacobs29@gmail.com for more information or to book.

CASTING CALL FOR CHILD SINGERS TO RECORD SONG AND MUSIC VIDEO OF 'FEEL BRAVE'

If you think you've got what it takes to be part of a song and music video recording with some fabulous musicians of the "Feel Brave" song, send a video link of you singing to info@feelbrave.com. The recording will be happening at a studio on the Kāpiti Coast on Sunday 20 January. You would need to be available for auditions in person on Wednesday 16 January and rehearsals a few days before the final recording. It doesn't matter what age you are, your voice just needs to sound like characters who are around the 8 to 10 year old range. Go to www.feelbrave.com/casting-call for more information.

BOYS ONLY DANCE WORKSHOP IN PORIRUA

The Royal Academy of Dance are holding a boys only 2 day dance workshop on 23-24 January 2019 at Extreme Dance, 5 Paremata Street, Porirua, called Project B Summer Workshop. It will be led by experienced male teachers and includes hip-hop, ballet and contemporary dance. Everyone is welcome no matter what their level of dance experience is. Cost is \$60 for RAD members, \$70 for non members and \$30 with a community services card. There are a few financial assistance scholarships available. Registrations close on 10 January 2019 and are available at: <https://goo.gl/forms/mYQkoCu2ZypddtK82>.



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