



3rd December 2021

Kia Ora Koutou,

Ehara tāku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini. My strength is not as an individual, but as a collective.

Thank you to the Board and teachers who gifted me a week to be with my whānau in Wellington. My daughter had her first baby. So yes, I'm the proud Granny of Theadora. What a special occasion it was.

Wow, we have made it. Two weeks to go until the Summer Holidays. Congratulations to everyone for your perseverance and resilience over this difficult Covid year, where every change can feel huge.

Reports will be uploaded to Educa by Monday. Remember the traditional one page report makes up one part of the package, look on Educa to find out further information about your ākonga (learner).

Creatives In Schools I have just been informed that we have been accepted for this amazing project by the Ministry of Education. It is a funded project worth \$17,000, where we partner with a local 'creative' to inquire and produce an artefact for our local community. We have named the project Papanekeneke Waitati. Here is a part of the application briefing for you to read. "Waitati is a well known creative community, residents claim an alternative lifestyle based on creativity and environmental awareness. Waitati School is a Green/Gold EnviroSchool with a local curriculum strongly centred around environmental wellbeing. We work alongside our local Marae, Puketeraki with our Kaitoko Mātauraka, Rua McCallum. Together with our newly formed relationship with David Milne our Creative, we will use clay as a medium to explore stories, relationships and histories, to produce an art installation that clearly expresses our journey. " Our vision is to have an installation

to gift to the Waitati Village. David Milne, a local Ceramics artist, will be partnering with us along with Chris Slabbert who during 2022 is doing further studies around Ceramics and Wellbeing. This is truly an exciting project which will run over Term 1 and 2 of 2022. David will be in every Friday working with different classrooms and will be taking Passion Projects in the Ceramic studio as well.

Passion Projects Today is our last Passion Project day for the term. We are putting on an exhibition in the Playcentre next week so when you come in for parent conferences you can go and enjoy the amazing artifacts from the projects.

Covid-19 The traffic light system doesn't take effect in schools until 2022. We remain with our normal systems in place until then and I will update you on any changes in January.

Building Project Demolition begins on the last day of school, the 17th December at 1pm. Mapounui and Huatea buildings are being upgraded. Kapuka building has double glazed windows going in. We are super excited about starting 2022 with new spaces. The teachers have begun to pack up the classrooms. We have a container coming to store furniture etc.. over the summer. We have four high school students coming to help move, but if you are free, can you let me know and I will find a time where we can obey all the rules and stay safe but help.

2022 Talking about 2022. The teachers have decided to swap the learning spaces to suit the students and the flow of learning. Please note, the building names stay with the spaces. The year group moves to whatever space suits the learning for that year. I am

truly sorry to have to change things again. I know how this will take some getting used to. However, we know that it is the best for the way we want to teach in 2022 and will support the ākonga's learning.

The Kapuka building will house the Year 1 and 2s. It will be fenced off to make a lovely area under the oak tree. Apparently this space used to be used for the playcentre and has also been used for a library. Bex and a newly appointed experienced teacher Haidee MacKenzie will be situated here.

The Mapounui classroom will house the Year 6 to 8's. This gives them access to the kitchen and use of the beautiful new space.

The Huatea classroom will house one class of Year 3, 4 and 5s. Mikaela will be teaching here.

The Mihiwaka classroom will house another class of Year 3, 4 and 5s. We welcome New teacher Elizabeth to this space for 2022. Elizabeth is an experienced teacher who is moving home to Dunedin. She has a degree in geography and a Masters in Primary Education. Elizabeth is passionate about the environment and of course teaching.

We invite you to a hui to learn more about the learning for 2022 on Monday 20th December at 3pm. We will split into two learning areas. Year 1-2 and Year 3-8. Please wear masks. Social distancing and scanning is essential. No vaccine is needed due to it being a parent hui.

We end the year with the Year 8's leavers dinner on Wednesday 15th December and a live streamed assembly on Thursday 16th 1.30 - 3pm, where amongst other things we celebrate our year 6s who have chosen to attend a different intermediate school.

Finally, Merry Christmas, Happy summer holidays. Stay safe and may you go well. Thank you for your support and love over the year.

Tara O'Neil

SCHOOL CALENDAR

For our Online Calendar [Click Here](#)

Term 4

Week 8

Mon 6th Dec

Reports uploaded to Educa
Teina Junior Athletics 11am - 2.30pm at Waitati School Field

Wed 8th Dec

School closes early to allow for conferences 1pm pick up please

Wed 8th Dec

Parent/teacher/child learning conferences. 1.30 - 5pm
Passion Project exhibition in the Playcentre

Thu 9th Dec

Parent/teacher/child learning conferences. 3pm - 7pm
Passion project exhibition in the Playcentre

Week 9

Mon 13th Dec

Whānau hui re learning design 2022. 3pm

Mon 13th Dec

Board Hui - 5.45pm.

Wed 15th Dec

Year 8 leavers dinner

Thu 16th Dec

Bouncy Castle for the morning.
End of year prize giving at school. 1.30pm - 3pm - This will be live streamed

Fri 17th Dec

Fire service water slide
Last day of school, pick up at 1.30pm

Term 1 2022

Term 1 2022

Teachers back on 31st January.

Week 1

Thu 3rd Feb

School begins for students with a Mihi Whakatau

Week 2

Mon 7th

Waitangi Day

Wed 9th - Fri 11th

School Camp for Year 3-8 at Waiora Camp.
(Parent help required, you will be required to be vaccinated to attend)
(There will be a cost to this camp)

Thu 10th Feb

Year 1 - 2 visit Waiora Camp for the day.

Fri 11th Feb

Music lessons start

NEWS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL



Ākonga have been busy preparing for our Passion Project Exhibition next week. This will be held in the playcentre.

Gardeners, Janet and Beatrice continue to lead our ākonga in planting and cooking Kai from the garden. This week they made a lovely rhubarb pie.



Lots of reading is still happening. And writing. And Maths.

Congratulations to Conner Turei who has had a piece of writing accepted into the Young Writers magazine, Write On 57: Believe it or Not.

We have copies ordered for the school. We plan to celebrate Conner's achievement when they arrive.

PTA

Waitati School PTA End of Year Fundraiser

We are still collecting items to create our great big bumper Christmas Hamper. If you have any grocery items to donate, please make sure these are delivered to the office by Friday 10th December. We are welcoming canned food, wine or fizzy, jars, biscuits, chocolate, and sweets!

Be in the draw to win our great big bumper Christmas Hamper! raffle tickets are available now, \$2 per ticket. Please return any sold raffle tickets to the school office by Monday 13th December. The winner will be announced on Tuesday 14th December, so we can ensure the lucky winner gets the bumper hamper before the end of term!

Donations are always welcome and can be paid directly into our PTA account 03 1726 0008823 000

NOTICES

Blueskin Nurseries & Cafe School Lunch



The final school lunch of the year from Blueskin Nurseries will be delivered this week on Thursday 9th December. If you are ordering week by week, then please remember the deadline is midday Tuesday for a Thursday delivery. You can place your order at the cafe and pay there in the usual ways. If you cannot make it to the cafe then you can drop an order form and cash payment into the office and we will pass it on for you.

This week's menu is: chunky fries \$4, Cheese toastie \$3.20, triple chocolate muffins \$3.50.

Is your child struggling with big emotions?

Do they find it hard to stay calm?



Lots of kids find it tricky to manage their emotions. It can impact their friendships & family life.

Our 4 day 1:1 holiday intensives for kids 4-12yr are designed to develop emotional regulation skills in a fun environment with a skilled occupational therapist.

DUNEDIN
Monday 24th January -
Thursday 27th January

Fee: \$415.00

Join our school holiday intensives.

Register today
office@rethink.net.nz

reThink
CHILDREN'S THERAPY

Is your child struggling to learn to read?

Do they find understanding letters & sounds difficult?



Lots of kids find it tricky to learn to read. It can impact their confidence & learning in the classroom.

Our 4 day 1:1 holiday intensives for kids 4-12yrs are designed to develop literacy skills in a fun environment with a skilled speech & language therapist.

DUNEDIN
Monday 24th January -
Thursday 27th January

Fee: \$415.00

Join our school holiday intensives.

Register today
office@rethink.net.nz

reThink
CHILDREN'S THERAPY