



Light the mind, Fire the heart, Engage the whānau

**February 2nd 2022 Update - New information highlighted**

Tēnā Koutou Katoa, ngā mihi o te tau hou. Whakamānawa ki a koutou.

There is so much excitement about school starting tomorrow. Some of us will feel anxious, some excited and some worried. This is part of starting back and we are here to help you. Take a deep breath. Welcome back. Welcome to our new families. Thank you for your patience with the new COVID-19 settings.

Mihi Whakatau Thursday 3rd Feb @9am.

Participants and families only for mihi please.

**Pick up and drop off**

At Waitati School, we welcome all parents vaccinated or not onto site that want/need to drop their children off at school and/or pick them up for whatever reason. This is described as fulfilling parental duty. We want children to feel comfortable at school and parents are often integral in settling them in.

However, when entering school you must at all times:

- wear a mask at all times inside and out.
- scan in
- sign in at office first
- socially distance.

We want to limit the number of people on site. So if you are able to drop your child/ren off at the waharoa (entrance) that would be much appreciated.

Pickups - we will walk the children up to the gate for pick up. If you need to come down to school to pick them up, that is okay, remember to wear a mask/sign in at the office/socially distance.

**Stationery** - Please keep at home until Week 3. This is because of the lack of space.

**Music lessons** - Postponed until Term 2 due to COVID

**Building Update** - The builders have been working hard however, Huatea learning space will not be available until 14th February. Mapounui learning space will not be available until the beginning of March. This is due to subcontractors being busy and delays in materials and building checks.

Do not fear - we have a workaround! We will start school like this -

Year 1-2 - Kapuka learning space.

Year 6,7 and 8 - in Mihiwaka learning space.

Year 3-5 both Mikaela and Elizabeth's classes will be learning in these spaces as follows..

- Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th - Playcentre building.
- Monday - Waitangi Day.
- Tuesday 8th - Mihiwaka with Kapuka preparing for Camp.
- Wednesday 9th - Friday 11th - Waiora Camp.
- Monday 14th February - Year 3-5 both in Huatea with Mikaela and Elizabeth.

When Mapounui is completed Year 6-8 will move to Mapounui learning space. Elizabeth's Year 3-5 class will move to Mihiwaka.

### **Learning Costs**

Laura will be sending invoices out soon.

### **Installments**

*You are able to pay these costs in installments over the year.* Please talk with Laura to set this up, but basically you set up an automatic payment to the school.

*Waitati School Bank Account 02-0900-0000305-000.*

In details add your *name*, plus the *name of your child* and the *activity* you are paying for. Many parents set up automatic payments throughout the year.

### **Waiora Camp:**

- Wednesday 9th - Friday 11th for Year 3 - 8. Suggested Donation \$100 per child.

### Waiora Camp:

- Thursday 10th for Year 1-2 students. Suggested donation \$10

### Swimming:

- Term 1 - Suggested Donation - \$4.80 x 9 sessions = \$43.20 per child.
- Transport (2 buses) is covered from a donation by Oceana Gold.

### Mathletics and Reading Express 2022 subscription:

- Year 3-8 - \$35. Can be used at school and home for one year.

### Number seeds and Reading Eggs 2022 subscription:

- Year 1-2 - \$35. Can be used at school and home for one year.

## **COVID-19**

### Further detail

Red Light setting at Waitati School - all schools are open for all students, vaccinated or not. This includes, whānau, caregivers, parents, supporting students with their learning.

In line with the Ministry of Health and Education guidelines. All children from Year 4 to year 8 need to wear a facemask. Bring your own from home or get one from school.

We will teach ākongā why and how to wear masks. Children and staff in Year 1-3 do not have to wear masks. Children in Mihiwaka and Huatea in Year 3 may wear a mask but do not have to.

Parents/caregivers can drop off their children to the classroom as long as they wear a mask at all times, scan in and social distance.

Stay home if sick.

Get your child immunised.

Schools and kura will support off site learning for those required to self-isolate or waiting for a test result. Support will also be required for children with complex medical needs, especially if not fully vaccinated, and who are learning from home following advice from a health professional. (please let us know)

**Ventilation** - all classes have windows that will be open during the day. Heat pumps will be used if necessary to heat the room. Heat pumps do not ventilate hence the use of windows.

Camp Waiora will go ahead because we are the only school at the camp for the three days. The camp will be treated as a school. Again, parents can come to camp to support as a parent but if helping other children, you will need to be fully immunised. Covid protocols will be followed - so mask wearing inside and 1 metre distancing.

As always, we are trying our best to interpret the settings. We are concerned about you and your child and are doing everything we can to keep you safe at school.

Parent Help needed - will need to be fully vaccinated plus wear masks inside.

We require whānau help for Waiora Camp on 9th - 11th February.

Swimming from 24 February, Thursdays at Moana Pool from 1.30 - 2.30.

### Calendar Term 1

Week 1

Feb 3 - 9am - Mihi Whakatau

Week 2

Feb 7 - Waitangi Day

Feb 9 - 11/2 - Waiora Camp for Year 3-8

Feb 10 - Waiora Camp for Year 1-2

Week 3

Feb 16 - Tech DNI - Year 7-8.

Feb 17 - Swimming begins at Moana Pool. Bus leaves at 12.45 and will return at 3.15pm.

Feb 18 - Passion Projects begin

Finally, we are so looking forward to seeing you back at school. We can't wait! I hope you have found your school bag and are preparing some great feasts to have at school for lunch.

Ka kite ano and much love,

Tara

Please contact Tara on 02102660014 or Laura our Office Manager on 03 482888.

### **Other Notices**

SATURDAY MORNING MUSIC CLASSES For Primary School Children  
([www.smmcotago.com](http://www.smmcotago.com))

- A wide variety of instruments to choose from.
- Instruments available for affordable hire.
- Small group lessons.
- Orchestras and ensemble groups for 2<sup>nd</sup> year players to advanced level.
- A variety class especially designed for young children: “Let’s Make Music”.

#### CENTRES:

- George Street Normal School (Saturday morning).
- Bathgate Park School (Saturday morning).
- Elmgrove School (Wednesday after school)
- Mornington School (Tuesday after school. “Let’s Make Music”)
- Tainui School (Thursday after school. “Let’s Make Music” and Guitar)

ENROLMENT DAY FOR 2022 -----Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> February at George Street Normal School main block, 9:30-11:00

or Bathgate Park School Foyer, 9:30-10:30

(Elmgrove School, Mosgiel, is Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb, 3:30-4:30pm)

Vaccination passes will need to be viewed on entry.

Enrolment enquiries: email [stephanie@smmcotago.com](mailto:stephanie@smmcotago.com) (phone 03 4772296) or see website: [www.smmcotago.com](http://www.smmcotago.com) for contact details.