

Kia Ora whānau,

What a relief to be in the newly renovated learning spaces. Thanks for being so patient. We have noticed a real change in the atmosphere of the school as we establish routines and relationships. The teachers still have resources that need to be stored. We are doing some of that on Friday during Teacher Only Day.

**COVID-19**

As expected, Covid-19 has made its way to Waitati School. Thank you for letting us know. Our plan to have children from Year 3-8 with their own ChromeBook has already been helpful and is enabling children to continue learning from home. Please continue to support your child to bring their laptop to and from school. It really helps if it is charged. For Year 1-2 your learning packs are already at home waiting. Teachers will be in contact with you to support learning with Google Meets. However, if your child is unwell or if you want to do other learning activities that is okay as well. Here is an update on the information from the ministry of education:

“Household contacts are required to isolate for the same seven days as the case. They can return to their normal activities on the same day as the first case in their household, so long as all test results have been negative, and they are not symptomatic. Household contacts should continue to self-monitor for symptoms up to Day 10. Household contacts will be required to take a self-administered rapid antigen test (RAT) on Day 3 and Day 7 of the case’s isolation period.

**If symptoms develop at any time during isolation:**

- the usual advice remains in place to undertake an additional RAT.
- if the test is negative and symptoms persist or worsen, test again 48 hours after that negative test.
- if symptoms resolve there is no need for a further test until the required Day 7 test. If this is negative, they can return to daily life on Day 8.

**If a household contact has new symptoms on the day of release:**

- they should undertake an additional RAT and stay at home while unwell.
- if that test is negative and symptoms persist or worsen, test again after 48 hours. If symptoms resolve, there is no need for a further test.

If a household contact has finished their period of isolation they do not need to return to isolation if a new case is identified in their household. However, **this only applies for a period of seven days** following their leaving isolation. Should a new household member be confirmed as a case eight or more days after the household contact has left isolation, then they must start a new period of self-isolation for seven days.”



## Learning Conferences & Teacher's Hours

Together as a staff, we have agreed on some reasonable hours that teachers can be contacted. We would like to keep most contact within 8.30am - 4.30pm. If you do contact teachers via email, please allow 24 hours for a reply. If you want to catch up with teachers, then a 10 minute chat after school is fine, but if you need longer, please email and book a time. If you work during these hours, then we can arrange an early morning or a time in the evening to meet.

## Educa & Reports

Keep an eye out for learning posts. Some posts are portfolio style, where the child has posted and the teacher commented - linked to the NZ curriculum. Some are learning stories where the teacher has recounted learning and linked to our school values and/or learning. Please comment if you can. I'm not sure if I shared this with you yet, but [here is a video](#) that Educa made with me last year. If you are new to narrative assessment as a way of sharing learning then it could be interesting to you. The idea behind Educa is that we share learning as it happens throughout the year instead of twice a year with traditional reports. We will share a graph twice a year once at the end of Term 2 and once at the end of Term 4, which shows where your child is in relation to the NZ curriculum.

## Thank You - Year 7 and 8 Programme Parent Hui

Thank you to those parents who joined our Zoom call. We are looking forward to an action packed Year 7-8 adventure programme. The purpose is to find activities which will stretch our young people, giving them opportunities to really grow their character skills and dispositions. Our first activity is a river adventure with Wild Earth Adventures. Either on Monday 4th or 11th of April. At the Taieri River. If you can help with transport please contact Kat. Famous and inspiring speakers - know anyone who has done amazing things and would come and share with our students? Contact Kat please. Mentors - We would like to have adults come in and provide some coaching for our young people. Do you know anyone (it might be yourself) that would like to spend an hour a term with a small group of young people discussing issues important to them? Contact Kat please.



## Bikes in Schools and Walk n' Wheel Week

Feedback from Bikes in Schools is that Waitati School had the most children on bikes out of all local schools. I think we need to work on that bike track. Walking to and from school meant the car park wasn't so busy and therefore safer for pick-ups. I really encourage you to regularly drop off and pick up your children from the library.

Tara O'Neill



## NEWS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

### Bee Club's Trip to Extract our Very First Honey



This week the club is working on labelling our honey and working out how much they will sell it for.



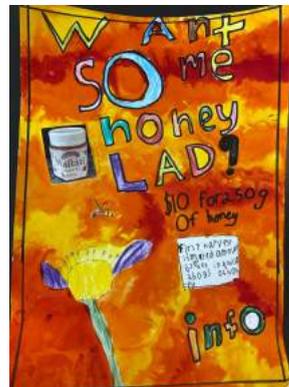
There is a limited supply, so be quick. The students will be at the car park Monday afterschool to sell you honey. Bring Cash please.

Thanks to Eli, Koa, Oliver and Neave for working hard on the art work.

### For Sale at the Office

\$10 for 250 grams of Waitati Gold Honey.

Fundraiser for the Bee Club to help supply further equipment  
CASH ONLY PLEASE



### Creatives in Schools Programme

Our Ceramics tutor, David Milne is having a Country Calendar programme made about him. The crew came to school on Friday to film him teaching. Congratulations to those students who took part and for your excellent self management. We can't wait to see you on TV!

Teachers are learning how to use the ceramics studio. The studio allows us one more option when wanting to record visually what

learning has happened. It is also really great for wellbeing. We discussed how it gives your brain a break from the load of worry or detailed thinking we experience every day.



The Ducklings

09/03/2022 by Tara O'Neill

1 minute

Edit More



We were looking at the chickens and this woman came with a box. I thought that it was wine but it was baby ducks and we got to hold them. They were cute. I saw Mr Long legs the chicken. He was orange and tall and I got to hold a duck and they were loud. By Paxton.

Reading in the Sun  
Waitati School



Reading in the Sun

The other day I put out some picture books for Powerful Play. I put them on a mat, under the shade of the big oak tree.

It was such a lovely day and the perfect day to sit down and read in the sun and that is what you did, Maggie and Polly.

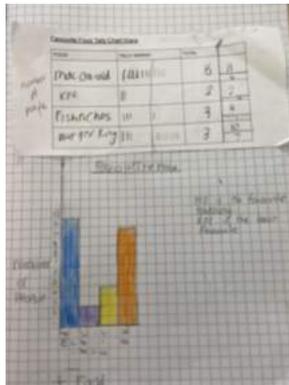


You spend the afternoon reading the picture books that were there.

What learning is happening here?

Maggie and Polly, you are learning the amazing art of reading! You may not be able to read the words...yet, but you are forming a story in your head using the pictures and talking about what is happening with each other.

This is a vital part of reading. It's called Prior Knowledge and you are engaging in the story and putting your ideas in there. You can then retell the story to your friends.



This is Kiara and she is working on a tally chart. Kiara is very accurate when recording details. Kiara found out that the favourite takeaway meal is MacDonaldis. Ka Pai Kiara.

Te Pai's question was "What lolly is your favourite?"



Writing about Camp

My group was walking up the hill for archery. The sun was out and it was blazing hot. The sun was pelting down on the group. I was panting so hard that I thought I was like my dog. My group reached the top of the hill. There were three big targets and a row of bow and arrows. There was a person with a bag. They told us to line up into 6 rows. I was the first into the line. He told us how to use them. I took the bow and arrow and an arrow I armed and then fired at the target. It just got a bit on the top. I got one more out and I pointed the arrow up and fired but the arrow just flew over the target. I got my last arrow but the same thing happened. I went to the back of the line that was really small then it was my turn again. The person put a piece of chocolate on the target and said that the person who gets their arrow the closest to the chocolate would get it. I got the bow and arrow and got an arrow and aimed up and shot. But it went over the target. I got another arrow but the same thing happened. I got my last arrow aimed but I thought to myself if I aim down... So I did and let go of the string. It hit right next to the chocolate and the person gave me the chocolate and I was filled with pride.

By Neave Ashford.

Who Am I? - Portraits Inspired by Sandra Silberzweig - 09 Mar 2022  
Waitati School



This year for our Project Based Learning, Waitati School tamariki are looking at the over arching topic of 'Ko au te whenua, Te whenua ko au - I am the land, The land is me'. As this project is about identity and where we fit in the world, we are kicking off our project this term by asking "Who Am I?"

To start answering this question, Mihiwaka have been doing self portraits inspired by Sandra Silberzweig. These portraits allow students to express their identity in abstract ways. I love this art project because the portraits are as unique, colourful and expressive as the children themselves. They have brightened up our classroom walls and are an important step in making the tamariki feel ownership over their new classroom.





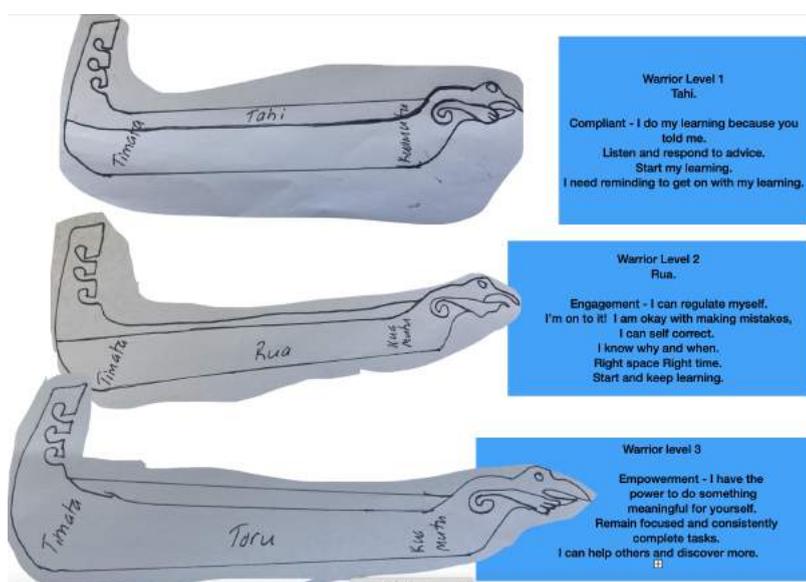
## Block 2 - Literacy Year 3-8

Ākonga have a timetable. The bell rings and they move to their first workshop. Teachers run workshops that are teaching explicit skills. These range from Structured Literacy for decoding and encoding (reading and spelling), and comprehension workshops. Learning to self manage is one of our school values.

Rangatiratanga, leadership. Start by leading yourself. Learn to be in the right place at the right time. Learn to get yourself ready in the green zone for learning. Learn to have your book, pencil and timetable with you. Get yourself started. To help learners understand how they are going with self management we have

three waka. Each level expects more of the ākonga as learners. During circle time/class meetings we teach children how to self regulate. This week we talked about self control. Playing games that require children to stop, like musical dance, is a good way to explain that they do have control of their body. They can stop. Play is another powerful way to support self regulation. In free play children learn to regulate their body in order to play.

Some of our learners find self-regulation really tricky and benefit from medication to support their brain, giving their prefrontal cortex time to think. If children are finding self control challenging, we look to professionals to support us. We need this because if a child is struggling they might think that they are dumb or that there is something wrong with them. We want to identify when they need support and help them early. We want each of our learners to have a positive learner image.



We use the zones of regulation to teach self regulation which in turn enables self control. In the famous Dunedin study, one of the key indicators of success as an adult, is the ability to have self control.

While they write, other teachers are running workshops in the other rooms. One benefit is that these rooms are very quiet and the quality of the workshops are high. Myself and another teacher help out in the Huatea during Kete Time. We mark their writing, helping students to understand next steps. Homeroom teachers set writing tasks and also give feedback.



Teachers also set tasks on Reading Eggs and Reading Express. These programmes allow our learners the opportunity to practise skills depending on their goals. Reading Eggs is all about decoding, learning to read and Reading Express is all about comprehension, grammar and like skills.

Kete time is held in Huatea and our learners practise self direction as they work on writing. You can see their timetables beside them.

Whānau Groups - Remember those feathers from camp? Friday saw us finish cutting out the last of these ready to be glued onto the birds.

Whanau Groups are Year 1-8 where our learners work together on tasks. This helps them to get to know all ages at Kura.



## CALENDAR

### Term 1

#### Week 7

Fri 18 Mar

#### Week 8

Mon 21 Mar

Tue 22 Mar

Wed 23 Mar

Thu 24 Mar

#### Week 9

Tue 29 Mar

Wed 30 Mar

Thu 31 Mar

Fri 1 Apr

#### Week 10

Mon 4 April

For our online calendar: [Click Here](#)

**Teachers Only Day - SCHOOL CLOSED**

**Otago Anniversary Day - SCHOOL CLOSED**

Bee Club - 1pm

DNI

Blueskin School Lunch delivery

Vision & Hearing testing - New Entrants/ Yr 7

Bee Club - 1pm

DNI

Blueskin School Lunch delivery

Passion Project 4

HPV Vaccinations at school

BoT Meeting

**Play with Clay**  
Otago Anniversary Day Monday 21st March from 4-5.30pm

Families and community members are invited to a Play with Clay afternoon at Mahi a Ringa, Waitati Ceramics Studio. Come and get stuck into your own creative project this Otago Anniversary Day from 4-5.30pm

This is a koha event to cover the cost of clay and firing RSVP as there is a limit on numbers

Remember to please wear a mask and sign in

**Waitati School**  
Mahi a Ringa Waitati Ceramic Studio  
Waitati School 1121 Mount Cargill Road, Waitati 9085  
Enquiries to Office@waitati.school.nz

## PTA

The PTA will be organising an Easter Raffle in the next week. They are after any donations of Easter items: eggs, chocolate, rabbits, etc... Please bring your donations to the school office over the next two weeks.

## NOTICES



Te Punaka Oraka:  
Vision Hearing Technicians  
Main Block, Level 2, Wakari Hospital  
Tairā Road, Dunedin  
Private Bag 1921, Dunedin 9054  
Tel: 03 476 9600 Fax: 03 476 9658  
0800 885504 Ext: 7

### YEAR SEVEN VISION SCREENING

The Vision Hearing Technicians from Population Health, Southern District Health will be visiting your school to screen all year seven students for distance vision on **Tuesday 29th March 2022**

- **Distance Vision (Amblyopia & Hyperopia)**  
This determines how well your child is able to see at a distance. It involves reading an eye chart.

(Not required if child wears glasses/ or is currently under care for their vision)

**If you do not wish your child to be screened please fill out an opt-out slip, which are available at the school office before our visit.**

### Children's Book Club @ the Blueskin Bay library

Come and try out our children's after-school book club for independent readers. Join us for book reviews and discussions, games, puzzles, art and nibbles.

Every second Tuesday of the month 3.30pm - 4.30pm. Years 3 and up.

The next book club will be on Tuesday 12 April. See you there.



### School Lunch

Please remember to place your orders by midday Tuesday for a Thursday delivery. You can place your order at the cafe and pay there in the usual ways or 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.

**This week's menu:** Macaroni cheese \$5, chicken wrap \$4.50, boysenberry muffin \$3.50.

**Next week's menu:** Spaghetti bolognese \$5, vege lasagne \$5, banana choc muffin \$3.50.