



Light the mind, Fire the heart, Engage the whānau

Newsletter 13th May 2022

Kia ora whānau,

Welcome back to school for Term 2. There is a real buzz around school as we go about our learning. I would encourage you to pop in and see for yourself - wear a mask, but please, feel welcome to come in.

Learner Agency - What is it?

When I applied for the position of Principal at Waitati school I was blown away with the schools mission and vision statement set by the Board of Trustees.

“Light the mind, fire the heart, engage the whānau.”

I was encouraged to find a school which really walked the talk as far as learning goes. The staff were nearing the end of a piece of work with Bek Galloway on developing Learner agency. This year, we are continuing this journey.

Many people think that when teachers talk about learner agency, or student-led learning that the teacher is sitting back drinking coffee and the children are having a free for all? Nothing could be further from the truth. It takes skill, organisation and time to support learners to have agency. If you are interested in learning more, [read this blog I have put together.](#)

A huge thank you to our amazing teachers who work ever so hard. Welcome to Maria Trotter. Maria did a placement with us last year while training to be a teacher. Maria has fitted right back in. Maria has a degree in science with a double major in nutrition and psychology and a postgraduate diploma in science and technology (psychology) and a postgraduate diploma in teaching and learning (primary).

Health and Sexuality Education Programme

We teach from this curriculum every year. Last year we used the Keeping Ourselves Safe programme and this year we are using the Family Planning curriculum called Navigating the Journey. We always teach at a developmentally appropriate age level. Thank you to those people who came to the after school meeting about this programme.

At the end of this term we will send out a google form asking for feedback. You are able to ask for your child to withdraw from this programme if you don't want them to participate.

Concerns Procedure

We encourage open communication and ask that you contact the school promptly when issues arise. If you have a concern, please let us know before sharing negative personal views online. In all instances, you may have a support person to help you raise a concern or make a complaint. It is best to talk with the person involved directly or the Principal if it is about something else.

Most concerns can be resolved informally through discussions with the people involved – see

Raising Concerns. If informal discussion doesn't resolve the issue, see **Making a Formal Complaint or Serious Allegation.** The documents referred to are found on

<https://waitati.schooldocs.co.nz/> Password - feather

On the other hand, if you have something positive, don't hold back. Please let your teacher know. Encouragement and gratefulness is so powerful.

Road Crossing

Please use the crossing at the top of the Waharoa, the stairs. We need to model how to cross a road safely and that includes the safest place.

Health, Safety and Welfare Policy

We are reviewing this policy all year. So far we have updated our Emergency plan. This week we have put three Grab bags into different classrooms. If we have to leave for say a Tsunami, we have the basics in a bag ready to go. Thank you to those who have brought in an icecream container of food in case we have to lockdown at school or are flooded in.

This week we practiced an Earthquake drill.



NEWS FROM AROUND THE SCHOOL

We were sad to hear the passing of Scott Clearwater. Lachie and Bayden came to Waitati school over the past years. Our thoughts are with the family.

Sunday 15th May at 7pm on TVNZ 1 - Country Calendar

A programme starring David Milne and his Bee Business and for about 1 minute - our Ceramics Studio and students, so cool.

Ignite trip and Projects and Creatives in School

This term we continue with our investigation around Ko au te whenua, te whenua ko au. I am the land and the land is me.

The Year 3-8 will be moving around each teacher to have 6 lessons on the following three topics; 1. the Kai Tahu Creation Story, 2. making a wetland in our swamp, 3. Me and my environment from the Enviroschools curriculum. After this, the students will be taken through a design thinking process to come up with their individual or group projects on this topic. We are hoping for a wide range of new topics to develop into projects.



Our Ignite trip was designed to spark interest and think deeply.

Xoe Hall - Bloodline - a modern piece on the Kai Tahu Creation story we are basing our sculpture we are making out of clay.

While half the ākonga listened and thought about Zoe's mural, the other half were invited into a creative process with loose parts. The ability to think creatively will be needed for our clay sculpture we are making.





Papa and Rangī



Taking notes



We found Isla's poster displayed in the museum

Covid Update

We have two teachers isolating with Covid-19 and various families either isolating because it is with their family or they have Covid-19. I think we are hitting the peak now. We continue to wear masks in years 4 and up. We also have windows open and the heat pumps on. It will cost us extra money but I know from the CO2 measurements that the buildings are well ventilated. Maybe send an extra jersey along.

We have plenty of RAT tests available to share with you. They were sent to us from the Ministry of Education. Please email or phone and we can pop them into your child's bag.

Message from Ministry of Education

Kia ora koutou,

With Term 2 underway, we're looking ahead to what might come next – not just from COVID-19 but the upcoming winter season and illnesses that may come with it.

With New Zealanders mostly sheltered from exposure to flu in the last two years, health experts are concerned about our lower immunity to flu. This winter there is the very real possibility of getting the flu and COVID-19 within a short space of time. This can lead to very serious illness and high mortality rates.

If you are normally someone who doesn't bother with the flu vaccine, we strongly encourage you to get your flu vaccination this year and get your whānau up to date with any other vaccinations (for example, measles, whooping cough).

Flu (influenza) vaccines – Ministry of Health

In 2022, flu vaccinations are free for:

- pregnant people*
- people aged 65 years and over*
- Māori and Pacific people aged 55 years and over*
- people who have a long-term medical condition like diabetes, asthma, or a heart condition (ages 6 months+)*
- children under the age of four who have been in hospital with respiratory illness such as asthma.*

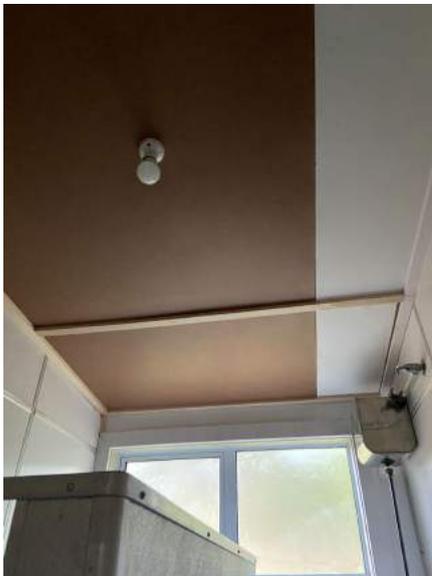
If you're not eligible for a free flu jab, and not covered by an employer-funded programme, it costs between \$25 and \$45 depending on the vaccine and provider.

There is further information about the symptoms and danger signs for flu on the Ministry of Health website.



Waitati Resort

The outdoor lighting has been upgraded to make it a safer place to be at night. Pete and I thought it looked like a resort - Flash. Bring on Matariki.



New ceiling in the Kapuka bathrooms. Also new roofing over this area and a new window.

Painting Update

A huge shout-out to our amazing painters, Dean and Anthea who have gone above and beyond to do an excellent job on Kiliomoko and Kapuka. Both these buildings are old and overdue for some attention. What I love about Dean and Anthea is they really care. They took extra time to pick up all the paint left over from sanding from the play area outside Kilimoko, so the children are kept safe. The school is being painted in stages over the next 4 years. This year it is Kilimoko and Kapuaka. 2023 - Block 1 exterior. 2024 - Block 1 - interior and 2025 - Playcentre. Painting is paid for by the school from our annual budget, it is something the board budgets for annually.



View from the inside.



Kilimoko looking bare. Kilimoko is the oldest building on site and was a dental clinic. There are photos inside of the history of dental clinics in NZ.



Kapuaka looking all flash with its new coat of paint.

Core Subjects

Mapounui during a Maths lesson. A group on the mat for a lesson with Jess, while other students are busy solving their warm up problem. The first part of Term 2 the Year 3-6 students are focusing on addition and subtraction, Multiplication and division. The Year 1-2 students are focusing on time, measurement, addition and subtraction.

You can help at home for Year 1-2 - by making maths fun and practical - cooking, measuring for a project, games with adding and subtraction. For older students who are ready for multiplication, this can often be a chore, but practicing and learning the timestables is a real asset. Make it as fun as possible, but it is one of those skills that will always be useful.



This week we started back into our Block 2 literacy lesson. Students have a variety of teacher explicit lessons including reading, Structured Literacy, writing and Kete Time to practice. For the first part of Term 2, students are learning about descriptive writing. You can help at home by reading to or with your child every day. Provide them with plenty of paper and pens for making notes, writing letters etc.



Tuakana - Getting organised with timetables, Kete Time choices and reflection sheets.

Enviroschool

On Thursday Bex went on an Enviroschools day at the Waitati Hall. Waitati School is a Green-Gold Enviroschool, and started the journey as a trial school way back in the day. Teachers from other Enviro-schools came for a visit. Alexia, Freda, Elmer, Elayna, Te Paia and Kiara came along and spoke so well about what being an Enviroschool meant to them. We were super proud.



Jeremy and Fergus with a enviro friendly sandwich wrap

We are always trying to reduce, reuse and recycle here at Waitati Kura. There are many ways to help, and starting with lunchboxes is great! When you pack your children's lunch please;

- Remove any extra packaging which ends up as litter at school
- Use reusable containers to put things in
- Send heat-ups, wrapped in baking paper, then you can reuse that or it goes to the compost!

I have attached a quick and simple muffin recipe that I use each week. It takes minutes to make (especially if you have a NutriBullet)

If you would like to help or have ideas for making our environment better and giving back to papatuanuku, I would love to hear.

Bex

School Muffins Recipe

2 cups flour
2 tsp baking powder
1/4 cup sugar
1 tbsp cocoa (optional)
1 cup frozen berries (optional)
1/2 cup chocolate chips (optional)
Whisk together in a bowl and set aside.
In your Nutra-bullet pop 2 bananas (really handy for those bananas that keep making the journey to and from Waitati School) about 1/4 cup oil, and fill up to the max line with milk.
Blitz together and pour into the dry ingredients and fold together.
Place in pre-sprayed muffin tins (no cases) and bake at 180 degrees until baked (approx 20 mins)

Paper Making



Alexia asked if she could make paper. I bought my kit along today and the girls in Huatea read the instructions and made some paper. They are super excited about saving the environment by re-using waste paper and want to start a collection box for paper scraps. They also want to hone their skills and make paper they can sell.

Te Ao Māori

Poutama Crossman is coming to teach and support us with KapaHaka starting this Friday. Every second Friday after that. We are so grateful. He will also be available for staff, students or parents (Whānau) every second Wednesday at 5pm. Come along and enjoy. Starts this Wednesday 18th May in the staffroom.

Hui for Whānau who are Māori on Monday 23rd at 6pm in the Kitchen.

Powerful Play

Teina, Year 1-2 are offered Powerful Play each day. Our learners have access to play throughout the day to support their emotional and creative development alongside teacher-led learning on core subjects, however, the chunk of play happens in the afternoons. This week a new provocation was added into the mix. The teachers notice each child, they really care and want to grow each child's interests. Then they collect the resources and add in another option. You can imagine how motivating it is to have someone notice what you love and provide

opportunities for you to show your strengths. Teachers are expert at adding core subjects to the play at the appropriate time. This makes for very powerful learning. Teachers model language both academic and social and emotional, learners need the language to progress with learning. For example, carpentry offers very natural connections to mathematics. Both with providing measuring tapes, but also in experiencing length, shape, volume of objects. It also provides opportunity for eye and hand co-ordination, something that is absolutely necessary for handwriting and reading. Plus the obvious development of large and small motor skills in hammering and sawing. Play provides such a rich transdisciplinary learning.



Ardie showing how it is done.



Polly showing how it is done.



Music Lessons



CALENDAR

Term 2

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

Week 3

Mon 16 May

Swimming starts again. Leave school on buses at 12.15 and return by 3pm. Our lessons are from 1pm - 2pm. You can pick up children from Moana pool from 2.30pm.

Wed 18 May

Tech DNI

Wed 18 May

Pokemon club in Mapounui

Wed 18 May

Te Reo with Poutama Crossman 5pm at school in the kitchen. All whānau invited.

Thu 19 May

Ski camp fundraising meeting - Year 6-8 students and parents 6pm at school.

Fri 20 May

Music Lessons

Fri 20 May

Passion Project Exhibition at Waitati Hall at 1.30pm - 2.30pm. Come and support. All welcome.

Fri 20 May

Kapa Haka with Poutama Crossman lunchtime 12.30 - 1.30pm

Week 4

Mon 23 May

Swimming. Afternoon sessions.
Māori Whanau Hui 6pm in Kitchen.

Wed 25 May

Tech DNI

Wed 25 May

Pokemon club in Mapounui

Fri 27 May

Music Lessons

Kapa Haka with Poutama Crossman lunchtime 12.30 - 1.30pm

NOTICES

Working Bee - Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who came along and helped out at the recent Working Bee. An extra special thank you to Mark and Selai of Gibson's Tree Care & Earth Works for sorting out the wood chips under the Flying Fox and to Sarah and Dave Begg for sorting out the gutters and hut. The school is very grateful to Matt from the Board of Trustees for leading these works, the school is looking great!

Another Working Bee will follow towards the end of this term, date to be confirmed.



P.O. BOX 87
DUNEDIN 9054
www.smmcotago.com

The Saturday Morning Music Classes have spaces starting Term Two

this year for the following beginner classes:

Beginner Let's Make Music (for 5/6 year olds) and Recorder and Guitar (for 7 year olds).

Classes held at George St School, Bathgate Park School on Saturday Mornings; Mornington School after 3:30pm Tuesdays (LMM only); Elmgrove School after 3:40pm Wednesdays; Tainui School (LMM & Guitar) after 3:40pm Thursdays.

Enrolment forms available by email to aart@smmcotago.com

Enquiries to stephanie@smmcotago.com

East Otago Musical Theatre Inc.

TICKETS ON SALE  TICKETS ON SALE

Presents

CHICAGO

book by FRED EBB and BOB FOSSE
music by JOHN KANDER lyrics by FRED EBB

based on the play CHICAGO by MAURINE DALLAS WATKINS
script adaptation by DAVID THOMPSON
BY ARRANGEMENT WITH ORIGINAL THEATRICAL
ON BEHALF OF SAMUEL-FRENCH LTD.
A CONCORD THEATRICALS COMPANY

East Otago Events Centre
7 - 11 June 2022

Tickets \$50 - 7th & 8th (no meal)
\$75 - 9th 10th 11th (meal)

email eomt.tickets@gmail.com
or Chelsea/03 4657117 Kay/027 2265223

Blueskin Nurseries & Cafe - 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.

This week's menu: Hotdogs veg or meat \$5, boysenberry muffins \$3.50.

Next week's menu: Mini mince & cheese pies \$5, cauliflower wings \$4.50, raspberry & white choc muffin \$3.50



Angelina Young

to bcc: me ▾

Kia ora koutou,

Good morning to all you glorious **Okahau Dune Project** friends and volunteers!

A brief message to let you know that Angelina will be at the **Waiputai Hub (next to Warrington Memorial Hall)** this **Sunday 15th May** from **1pm - 3pm** to answer any questions you might have about this year's planting project, and to hear any ideas you might have.

Your question may well be: what the hey happened to the ODP??
To which the answer, broadly speaking is: Covid happened!

9:29 AM (2 hours ago)





CUMIA

It is well understood that mental illness and/or addiction affects more than just the sufferer. The family of a person with a mental illness and/or addiction may experience loss, grief, anger, frustration and much more in dealing with the illness of a family member. Education and understanding of mental illness and/or addiction are key factors in the recovery process.

CUMIA (Children Understanding Mental Illness and Addiction) is a programme that addresses the needs of primary school age children who have a family/whānau member with a mental illness and/or addiction. This can be undertaken as a group exercise, or parts can be used with individuals using activity-based exercises to aid in the understanding of mental illness and addiction in a fun appropriate way.

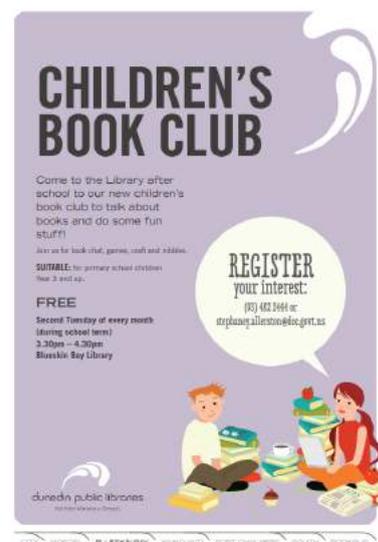
Providing the children with a safe space to learn and express their feelings as well as learning emotional self-regulation strategies.

Presented as a six week programme during the school term or as a school holiday programme over 3 or 4 days.

Call Rebecca 021 361 034

Email: Rebecca@able.org.nz

www.able.org.nz



Walk n' Wheel Winners!

We are pleased to announce that Waitati School came first in the Walk 'n' Wheel Day Prize Draw. Winning vouchers worth \$500 from Otago Sports Depot.

Play with Clay

Tara will open up the studio on 22nd May, 12th & 26th June. 4 - 5.30pm

Families and community members are invited to Play with Clay afternoons at Mahi a Ringa, Waitati Ceramics Studio. Come and get stuck into your own creative projects.

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



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