



Light the mind, Fire the heart, Engage the whānau

Newsletter 26th August 2022

Kia ora whānau,
Welcome spring. “Mā roto hoki kia ora ka pai te kōrero” When refreshed the conversation will be agreeable.



Thank you for continuing to focus on the wellbeing of our learners. Winter is always a struggle with bugs around, but especially this year, with the after affects of Covid-19. You are so thoughtful with keeping your children home when required. We absolutely want them to be at school, and our attendance is suffering, but we also want well and rested learners. Wellbeing really supports learning. The numbers of families with Covid-19 has slowed right down.

Update on Wearing Face Masks at Orange

- They **must be worn** by ākonga aged 12 and above on school and public transport, unless exempt. The mask must be attached to the head by loops around the ears or head and cover the nose and mouth properly. This can be a well-fitting reusable fabric mask (three layers are recommended) or a medical-grade disposable mask (the blue surgical mask).
- It's **strongly encouraged** that face masks continue to be worn by ākonga and staff in Years 4-13 when indoors. Face masks are one of the key health measures to help slow the spread of COVID-19 in indoor settings.
- It's also strongly recommended to wear face masks in large indoor gatherings such as assemblies.

We still have 1,308 active cases of Covid-19 in our area. Based on this information, we will continue to wear masks for another week. You are welcome to come into school, but wear a mask. All staff and children do not need to wear masks outside. Staff and Year 4 and above will try their best to wear masks inside and at school hui's.

Dropping-Off and Picking-Up Children

There have been a couple of questions about after school pickups and I just wanted to let you know what our expectations are. We want everyone to be safe.

Our school policy;

*“For **your child's safety**, please make sure that they arrive at school **after** 8.30 am and have **left** the school grounds by 3.15 pm. We cannot guarantee supervision at school outside those times.” Obviously if you are with them you are welcome to stay as long as you want.*

If you can't pick up your child, please phone the school office on 03 482 2888. Teachers are too busy to check their phones.

*Please let us know if your child is being picked up by another parent/caregiver. If it is a regular thing then send us an email. **We can't legally let your child go with another parent unless we have been advised.***

Parent and Caregiver Survey

Please take the time to fill out this Parent and Caregiver survey, as it helps us with improvements.

Here is your opportunity to give the school your opinion anonymously. Click [here](#) to fill out.

Learning Conferences Feedback

Here is an opportunity to give us feedback on the learning conferences held this term. It has now been made anonymous, so if you haven't already done it, then click [here](#).

Thank you to those who have taken the time to respond to this, your feedback helps us to improve our communication.

Year 7 and 8 Programme 2022



Term 1

During 2022 we offered to run a river skills trip in Term 1, but it was cancelled due to Covid.

Throughout the year, Year 7 & 8 students enjoy accessing technology at DNI. If I'm lucky I get to taste some yummy food. Thanks Otto and Taylah for letting me take a photo to show your amazing items. It is great to know that our Year 7 & 8's get the same time at Technology as students at DNI.

Term 2

They took part in a leadership day for all Year 6-8 students, where Purakanui School joined us. It was lovely meeting up with another school. The ākonga learnt about their strengths through the VIA site - [Free survey here](#). They found out their top strengths, discussed these, played some team building games and went to Chingford Park to play Frisbee Golf, while noticing how they used their strengths. Since then the learners have been making some bag tags with their top strengths on and continue to talk about strengths in their learning.



Fundraising for Ski Camp

Students, teachers and families spent time during weekends focused on fundraising for ski camp. Thanks to Hellars Sausages for donating 750 sausages. A huge thank you to our teachers for organising each of these opportunities. We really appreciate you taking your own family time to do this. Thanks to each family who also supported these opportunities.



Camp at Duntroon for Year 7 & 8 Students

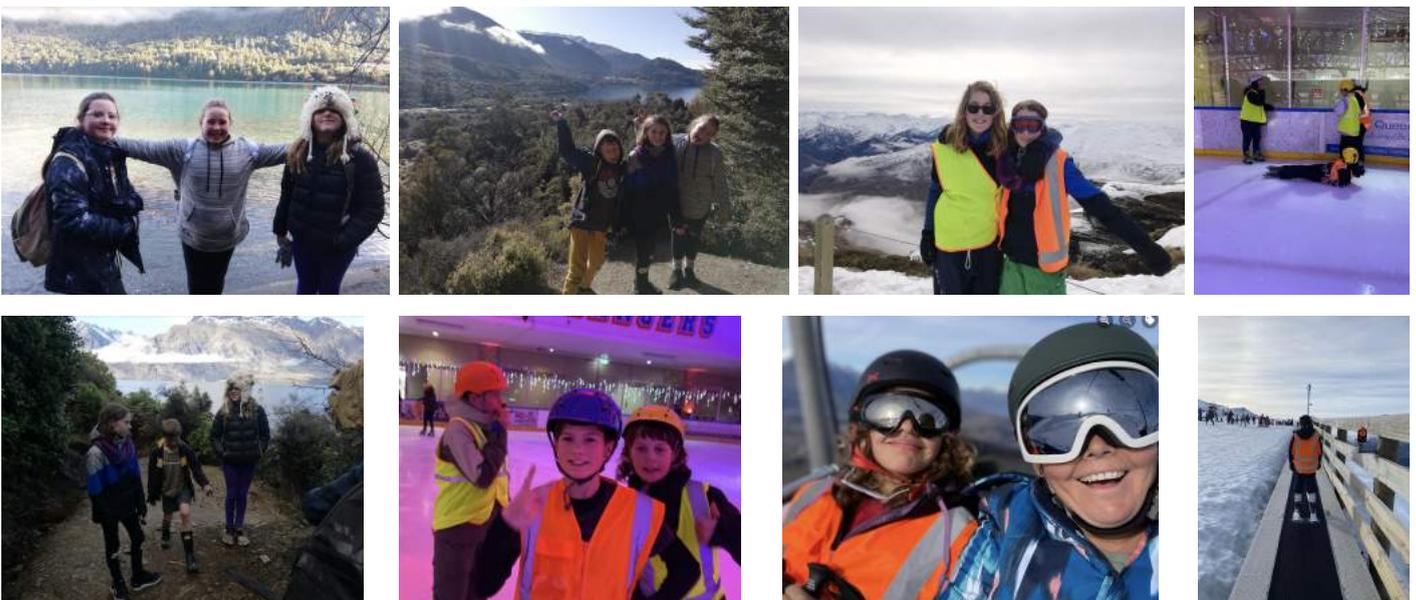
What a fabulous opportunity this was. The trip was mostly funded by the Year 7 & 8 leadership programme with the aim to spend time together as a group. While exploring the area they had time to discuss age specific ideas. Highlights were the Waitaki Whitestone Geopark, a forge, the Māori art, and Elephant Rocks.



Term 3

Ski Camp - Year 6-8

How lucky were we to actually make it to Ski Camp this year, with a pandemic and other illnesses. Thanks to Bex and Maria and our amazing parents, who made the camp possible. The learning experiences that Ski Camp brings are powerful. Focus was on building self-esteem, challenging yourself, learning a new skill, being away from home, and collaboration. A great opportunity to build on all our school values.



Term 4

We will finish off the year with two more days for our Year 7 & 8's. During Term 1 parents were invited to a Zoom hui about our 2022 programme. Here are some of the ideas they wanted from these days; a chance for inspiration and a chat, a balance of things that are fun and challenging, a trip to Portobello for a walk, and inspiring people to come in and talk.

As well as these things, we will be focusing on the 5 ways of wellbeing, by discussing how to keep well through life's challenges. Our Year 8's will be given opportunities to say goodbye and look forward to their next journey.

We are so proud of our Year 7 and 8's! We really hope those in Year 6 and 7 will stay with us next year. More about 2023 in our next newsletter.



You might be thinking, "why bother working on my wellbeing now?... I feel fine."

It's hard to build resilience and wellbeing at 4:00 in the morning when we're not sleeping because we're stressed, or when we've just had a big weight-belt delivered to us like a sudden death, or some bad news.

Our clinical director Dr Emma Woodward says, "If you practise when it's easy, then it's easy when it's hard."

Creatives and Schools meets EnviroSchools

Waitati School appeared in an EnviroSchools article about the wonderful work we are doing with Creatives in Schools. [Here is the link](#)

Update on Next Steps for Creatives in Schools Ceramics Installation



We are working hard behind the scenes to install our project. The site is at the south end of the Estuary Track where the native trees were planted by Waitati School. Many parents will remember planting this themselves. How special is this opportunity? We are waiting on permission from DoC and then we will be moving to install. The proposed opening date is Monday 26th September at 1.30pm. We hope you can join us.



Proposed site

CALENDAR Term 3 2022

[Click here for the online calendar](#)

Week 6

Mon 29 Aug

Kapahaka at 2.10pm - all welcome
3-4pm Why Play Workshop at school

Tue 30 Aug

Deadline for lunch orders by midday

Wed 31 Aug

Tech DNI

Thu 01 Sep

School lunch delivery

Fri 02 Sep

Guitar, ukulele and piano lessons
Otago Cross Country at Kaikorai Valley College
Ara Photography workshop 12.30 - 2.30pm

Week 7

Tue 06 Sep

Deadline for lunch orders by midday

Wed 07 Sep

Tech DNI

Thu 08 Sep

School lunch delivery

Fri 09 Sep

Guitar, ukulele and piano lessons

PTA

**Waitati School PTA
BINGO FUNDRAISING EVENING
Friday 16th September**



**Bottle Donations
& Other Prizes**



Families are asked to donate a **wrapped bottle of ANYTHING** (eg wine, non-alcoholic drink, oils, sauces, vinegars, toiletries.

These will be auctioned during the Bingo evening.

Any other raffle prizes are welcomed too - goods/vouchers.

Please drop off at School Office during this coming week!

Tickets are on sale now!

Purchase from the School Office
or direct from Kirby

Please support this school fundraiser!

Bingo Fundraising evening
Friday 16th September.

Doors open 6.15pm.
Bingo starts 7pm called by 2 Fat Ladies.

At Waitati Community Hall
18+ only.

Waitati SCHOOL

\$15 includes a Bingo Book
Tickets from Kirby or the Waitati School Office
Cash only unless organised prior.

Alcoholic non-alcoholic drinks snacks raffles - cash only.

NOTICES

Blueskin Out of School Care Holiday Programme Exploring our World

Monday

Let's visit France, wear red, blue or white and bring your bike for the Tour de Waitati. We will attempt to build the Eiffel Tower and eat Croissants.

Tuesday

It's a fiesta! We are off to Mexico. Let's eat Nachos and build our own Piñata. We will make our own serapes and Mexican chairs.

Wednesday

G'Day, we are off to visit our friends in Australia. We will have a snag on the BBQ, explore the billabong and do some Aboriginal Dot Painting.

Thursday

It's Highland Games day as we set off to explore Scotland. Today we will also make our own tartan and decorate our own bagpipes.

Friday

Konichiwa Japan. Let's make sushi, learn the art of origami and Japanese Calligraphy.

Note:
We are operating Monday to Friday
3rd to 7th October 2022
7:30/8:30am to 5:30pm
Cost is \$70/60 per day
Bring your lunchbox, hat and a change of clothes for the day.
In order for this to be successful we need your support so book early.

Waitati Gold Honey - For Sale at the Office

Fundraiser for the Bee Club to help supply further equipment.

\$10 for 250g CASH ONLY PLEASE



Blueskin Nurseries & Cafe - School Lunch

Please remember to place your orders by midday on Tuesdays 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 weeks menu: Spaghetti Bolognese, vege lasagne and banana choc-chip muffins.

Next week menu: Cheese burger, vege burger and orange chop-chip muffins.

Blueskin Garden Club Spring Flower Show. Saturday 24th September and Sunday 25th at Waitati Hall.

Entries to hall on Saturday from 10am to 1pm.

Open to the public on Sunday 25th from 10am to prize giving at 3pm. We hope you will enjoy taking part and all children entering will receive a plant at the prize giving.

Preschool - under 5, 5&6 years, 7&8 years, 9&10 years and 11-14 years. Please ensure all work is named, age, school. ie Bill Smith age 6 years, Waitati School.

1. harakeke puti puti, 2. sand saucer 3. imitation stained glass artwork, A4 size, 4. vegetable creation.

A sand saucer is a wet sand filled saucer and should be covered in flowers, foliage etc. Schedules are in the Blueskin News, also at the Blueskin Library, Nursery and store. All exhibits need to be done by the child named.



Thank you to everyone who brought in their spare change for our coin trail today. You raised \$137 for the Cancer Society!

Whānau and Community Online Safety Presentation

19th of October 2023

East Otago Events Centre 203 Main Road, Waikouaiti

A free event for parents and whānau about keeping young people safe online. Netsafe's Relationship & Education Advisor, Paula Wistrand, will be talking about the risks, challenges and opportunities of digital technology, and the practical ways we can all help young people to be safe online. The session will look at how parents/whānau can support and enable children and young people to navigate online opportunities, challenges and complexities.

For further information visit: netsafe.org.nz/parenttoolkit

This event - take note! This is one of the most important events this year.

Organised by the North Otago Schools

5pm for Teachers

6.30pm for Parents - please don't bring children as we will be discussing the dangers of Pornography for children.