



Light the Mind, Fire the Heart, Engage the Whānau

Newsletter 4th November 2022

Kia ora whānau,

Wellbeing

Our annual goal was to continue with our journey in developing a wellbeing framework, evolving the way we support our learners to gain skills to successfully manage themselves in all aspects of learning. Well learners do well.

Thank you for filling out the parent and caregiver survey at Waitati School. Thank you to those who came to the workshop discussion on wellbeing at Waitati School.

There is an overwhelming number of you that feel your children are being well cared for and supported at Waitati School.

95% said almost always / often that teachers cared about your child/ren.

88% said almost always / often that teachers try and understand your child/ren's personal problems.

90% said almost always / often that teachers at Waitati School treat their child/ren with respect.

73% said almost / always teachers at Waitati give your child/ren the help that they need with their school work, 28% said, sometimes

they do this.

51% said almost always / there are often high expectations for student behaviour, 45% sometimes and 3% rarely.

This shows progress in our move towards restorative practice and that we have some work to do here with sharing this approach with you.

If you are able to fill out one more survey to do with re-visioning our school values with the values you have at home, we would be really grateful. The link is [found here](#).

During 2022 we have offered learning to children about social / emotional skills through The Zones of Regulation curriculum. Children are now familiar with the zones. This term we are focusing on a variety of skills, such as strengthening the emotions we can name, friendly classrooms and social skills.

Year 7 and 8 Learning

The group had a fabulous trip to Portobello last week. Master Chef is in full swing. The year 8's will start to write their speeches for our final school hui at the end of term.

We have a wonderful

group of Year 7 and 8's staying for 2023 and we are making exciting plans for the new year.

2023 at Waitati School

Sadly we say goodbye to teachers Elizabeth Rudd and Maria Trotter at the end of this term, as they move to other employment. This is mainly because we are dropping the equivalent of one full-time teacher, down to 4 teachers and myself. We will continue to team teach across our Year 2-8's just like this year. We are seeing significant benefits using this approach to learning. We would love to increase our Year 7-8 roll, so if you know of any families who would be interested in spending their intermediate year at a lovely, secure wee school please contact me.

Teachers for 2023

Haidee MacKenzie - Yr 1-2

Mikaela Wilson - Yr 3-8

Bex Williams - Yr 3-8

Chris Slabbert / Jess Grubb - Yr 3-8

Tara O'Neill - Principal

This week I came across this wonderful New Zealand website [The Thankfulness Project](#). It invites us to start by thinking of three things daily for which we are thankful. It also provides tools to help us on our thankfulness journey and lesson plans for any teachers among us. I love this quote from the Thankfulness Project website.

"When you think about what you do have and what is going well instead of what you don't have and what is going wrong, you will have a happier and more optimistic day."

The Thankfulness Project

What's Happening Around School



The boy with wings puppet show.

We were so lucky to see this production during the Dunedin Arts Festival. Bought to us by Bridget and Roger Sanders of Birdlife Productions, based in Wellington and Nelson NZ. We were joined by Waikouaiti and Pūrākaunui schools.

The look on the children's faces was priceless. This was hands - down the best production I have seen for this age group (under 8 years) for a while.



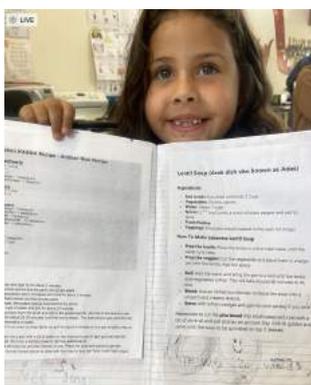
Teachers Only Day - 25th October.

We spent the day discussing our wellbeing work at school. We reviewed a teachers survey showing improved wellbeing. We chose a wellbeing framework for Waitati School - Te Kura Tapa Whā. Have you heard of Te whare Tāpa whā?

More to come. We practiced being well and looking after ourselves. Thank you for supporting us with these teacher only days, they are invaluable.

Survival Skills

It was a rainy day last Friday, but that didn't hold us up. We erected a shelter and set up a fire. After two years of trying, we finally lit the fire using a flint and steel. Everyone enjoyed a delicious sausage and a marshmallow.



Alexia received some Waitati Dollars for excelling at leadership this week.

Cooking with Mel

We all enjoyed nachos this week, so thank you to Mel and her group for these delicious lunches.

Mikaela Wilson received some Waitati Dollars for excelling at leadership in her Passion group this week.





Science

In science, we are learning how to conduct experiments with control and variables. We are also learning to make predictions or hypotheses. We have made oobleck and film canister rockets. We have also learnt how to measure (including length, area, time, weight, and volume) and we're building a rocket as part of the Wonder Challenge.

We're really looking forward to our trip to the museum in a couple of weeks.

Hakinakina

The Hākinakina group traveled up to McKerrow's Pond, just north of Hampden, last Friday. When we got there we met Bill and Andrew from the Lions Club. Bill and Andrew explained the reason we went up to Kayak and sail! We then got the Kayaks and yacht's out. The tamariki were very keen to get in the kayak's and eventually made their way to the small yachts.

At the end of the day, they were all keen to go back and give it another go today.



Carpentry

Hamish, you made the most wonderful truck. A big thank you to Mario, a student teacher, who has come back to Waitati on Fridays to work on a passion project.



Emergency Planning

We observed the national ShakeOut earthquake drill at school last week. Sharing the message with our tamariki about the importance of taking immediate action in case of an earthquake is an essential part of the emergency planning here at school.



The Waitati School Shop

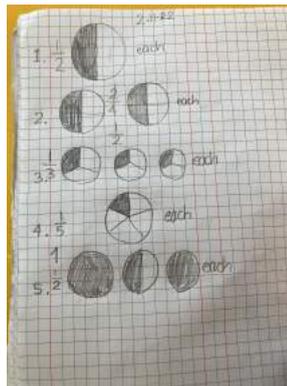
Thanks to our Year 6-8 leaders for helping set up the shop. Our ākonga earn Waitati dollars throughout the week to spend at the shop on Friday lunchtimes. Spend or save that is the question?

Teachers hand out Dollars when they see learners showing our school values - So much fun!

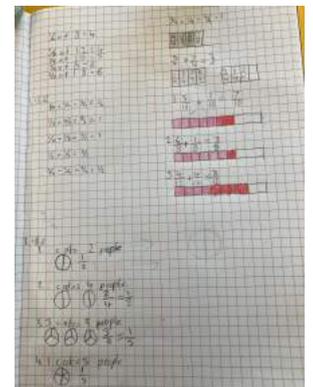
Our learning...

Social Emotional Learning in Huatea

Tamariki have been talking about emotions and how they can change through out the day. We are pretty good at naming emotions now, so we have decided to start finding out what helps us feel calm so we can regulate ourselves when we don't feel calm. Here are the children spending time working on their wellbeing, play doh, exercise on the bars with friends, drawing, writing, listening to music, planting little gardens. We did this in our home room (Years 2-5). The feedback was that it was a great way to start the day. The tuakana 9:00 am.



Huatea Maths we are learning about fractions, sharing and grouping, numerators and denominators which means we need to know our multiplication and division facts.



Tuakana Literacy Buddy Reading with Kapuka - special time together, here are the tuakana showing rangatiratanga.



We have been learning to use onamatepoeia in our writing. Here are some examples of our Acrostic Halloween Poems.

*Howling wolves through the night,
A ghost crashing plates,
Lamas crunching up lollies, fruits burst.
Laughing and exploding pumpkins, boom!
Owls hooting through the night
Wells splashing out water
Eels zapping all the trick or treaters
Exploding walls bang!*



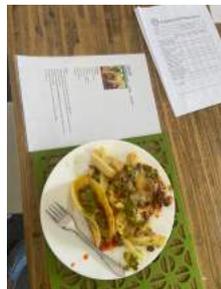
Never again - By Fletcher

Howling ghosts haunting the black night.
Arooo! A werewolf howls!
Lantens softly glow!
Licking and sliping!Snakes softly slither.
Oooo Boo! Children haunt the streets.
Wizzing witches race.
Evil wizards glower.
Eep eep! A frightened mouse squeaks.
Nightmares Frightmares scare. - By Alexia

Netsafe has created the Online Safety Parent Toolkit to get parents and whānau talking about online safety. As young people spend more time online, it's important that parents and whānau can teach their child to have a safe online experience. [This page](#) lets you download a PDF copy of our Online Safety Parent Toolkit to use as and when you need.



Master Chef We've all been enjoying the products of this term's Master Chef. This week we were lucky enough to be judging Elmer's gnocchi, followed by marshmallow crispy cakes and Charlie's loaded tacos - delicious! We're all looking forward to more delicacies next week.



CALENDAR Term 4 2022
[Click here for the online calendar](#)

Week 4		Week 5	
Mon 07 Nov	School Photos	Tues 15 Nov	Deadline for lunch orders by midday
Tues 08 Nov	Deadline for lunch orders by midday	Wed 16 Nov	DNI
Wed 09 Nov	No DNI this week	Thur 17 Nov	School lunch delivery
Thur 10 Nov	School lunch delivery	Fri 18 Nov	Guitar, ukulele and piano lessons
Fri 11 Nov	Guitar, ukulele and piano lessons		Passion Projects
	Passion Projects - science trip		

PTA



Important date for your diary! **PTA AGM Monday 21st November** at 3.10pm in the School Kitchen

All welcome - please come along and meet with us!

We urgently need more parents / caregivers to come along and help support the PTA in its fundraising activities.

You can become as involved as much or as little as you like - join the PTA Committee or provide ideas for fundraisers, give some time to help run our fundraiser activities.

Meetings are usually once a term, held immediately after school in the school kitchen.

The PTA provides funding to support "out of the classroom experiences" and the "nice to haves". This year we have purchased picnic tables, window blinds for Kapuka, chapter books, 5 iPads, provided funding for camps (ski and Kurow) and a Mapounui's class outing.

Upcoming PTA Fundraiser - Waitati School Tea Towel

Our ākonga are busy drawing their self portraits to be printed on our school tea towel. We hope to have the tea towel ready in the next few weeks and will take orders then. This makes a great Christmas gift for family members!

NOTICES



Don't forget to come along to the disco tonight at the hall. Gold coin donation / bring a plate to sell!

Blueskin Nurseries & Cafe - School Lunch - Pizza Pita this week!

Here is the new menu for this term. You should have received a menu in your child's bag. If you need a copy then please ask at the office. Any questions or feedback about these school lunches is welcome!

Please remember to **place**

ORDER	WEEK 4 - 10th November	COST
	Ham and Cheese Pizza pita	\$5.00
	Vegetarian Pizza pita(pb on request)	\$4.50
	Raspberry & White Choc Muffin	\$3.50
	TOTAL MONEY	
ORDER	WEEK 5 - 17th November	COST
	Chunky Fries	\$4.20
	Cheese Toasties	\$3.90
	Chocolate Muffins	\$3.50
	TOTAL MONEY	
ORDER	WEEK 6 - 24th November	COST
	Spagetti Bolognese	\$5.50
	Vegetarian lasanga(gf & df on request)	\$5.50
	Banana Choc chip muffins	\$3.50
	TOTAL MONEY	
ORDER	WEEK 7 - 1st December	COST
	Cheese Burger	\$5.50
	Vegetarian burger	\$5.50
	Orange Chocolate Chip Muffins	\$3.50
	TOTAL MONEY	
ORDER	WEEK 8 - 8th December	COST
	Fish & chips	\$5.50
	Fried Cauliflower & chips	\$5.50
	Blueberry Muffins	\$3.50
	TOTAL MONEY	

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.

The Waitati School honey is selling fast, get yours before it's all gone. All money raised is re-invested into this year's Bee Club.



It's the annual school photos on Monday so make sure you come prepared to have your picture taken.

The photoshoot will start at 9am, so please be on time.

Photos will be available to buy mid-term 4, in-time for Christmas gifts.