



Waikaretu School

Continuously Thrive and Learn

www.waikaretu.school.nz admin@waikaretu.school.nz 09 2333014

Fortnightly Newsletter - Paanui

1448 WAIKARETU VALLEY ROAD

09 233 3014

WWW.WAIKARETU.SCHOOL.NZ

Kia ora koutou,

Welcome back to Term 3! I hope you all had a wonderful school break with your families and are feeling refreshed for another action-packed term ahead. We have a lot of exciting learning and activities lined up, so please keep an eye out for dates and details in our upcoming communications.

Here are a few important updates and highlights to kick off the term:

- Physical Education:** Training for our upcoming Cross Country, focusing on stamina, pacing, and personal goal setting.
- Science:** Exploring Earth Systems, Universe, and Space—delving into how our Earth is formed, rocks and minerals, how humans learn about our planet to make it a better place and how the Earth's resources are used. We will also be exploring stars and other planets.
- Visual Arts:** Getting creative with visual arts projects in preparation for Pet Day 2026.

From Monday to Thursday in Week 4, our students will be participating in the Swim Safe program every morning in Huntly. Delivered through Swimming Waikato and Belgravia Leisure, this fantastic water safety and aquatic education initiative teaches essential survival, swimming, and boating safety skills. It's a crucial program for our kids, so please ensure your tamariki bring their swim gear each morning that week. More information and a consent form will go home soon.

Mark your calendars! We are proud to be hosting our Annual Inter-School Cross Country on Friday, 14th August. This is always a highlight of the school calendar, but running an event of this scale takes a village. To keep this well-oiled machine running smoothly, we need parent marshals and helpers on the day. If you can lend a hand—even for an hour or two—please let the school office know.

A massive THANK YOU to all the parents who turned out for our working bee last weekend! As the saying goes, many hands make light work, and seeing our parents come together to freshen up our school grounds was great. Your commitment to our school community is deeply appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support as we jump headfirst into Term 3. Let's make it a fantastic term!

Ngaa manaakitanga,

Bernie Denton-van Loon
Principal / Tumuaki



Waikaretu School Cross Country

Waikaretu School is hosting the cross country run on Friday the 14th of August.

This is one of our most celebrated annual events that we organise for the Huntly West Rural Schools Cluster. It is also an important fundraiser event for us and we require parent help for marshalling, food cooking/selling and setting up the course. There will be a preperation afternoon at school on Monday the 10th of August at 3:00 pm to set up the course and have a general tidy up. Please let us know if you can assist prior or on the day of the event.

Any questions regarding the set up of the course, please contact Emily Welch on 021 776 486.

A huge thanks to Anna & Tom Mandeno for letting us use their land for the course.



**Happy
Birthday
Nelly
who turns 8
on the 7th of
August**

IMPORTANT DATES

**Tuesday 4th August
Year 7 & 8 Technology Huntly**

**Wednesday 12th August
BOT Meeting @ 5:30 pm**

**10th August - 13th August
SwimSafe Huntly**

**Friday 14th August
Waikaretu School Cross
Country**

**Thursday 27th August
Waikaretu School Speeches
9:15 am**

**Thursday 10th September
Cluster Speeches**

**Thursday 24th September
Last Day Term 3**

**Friday 25th September
Teacher Only Day**

Every Friday we will heat up any food the children bring (pies, sausage rolls, toasted sandwiches etc) for lunch in the pie warmer. Please let them know to give their wrapped (not clingfilm) named food to a teacher in the morning.



Community Notices

SchoolDocs

School Policies Review

All school Boards review their policies throughout the year to ensure legal compliance, improve student safety, and adapt to community needs.

At any time, as a community member, you will be able to have a say on currently reviewed policies by going to: <https://www.schooldocs.co.nz/login> find Waikaretu School in the drop down list, and log in with the following details:

waikaretu
striving

Annual Trivia Night Fundraiser

?

At the Te Akau Waingaro Community Complex
On Friday August 28th
Doors Open @ 6:30pm
7pm Start
Teams can be made on the night

Teams of 6
\$25 per person

Great Auction Items and Raffles

Bring cash for Raffle

Bar Open with Light Supper

Help Support the PONY, TURF and RUGBY CLUBS

Please register your Team
Claire - 0212348540
claire.field@xtra.co.nz
Lynda - 0274760476
tengakinga@gmail.com



WAIKARETU PLAYGROUP

Bring your Tamariki along for a play. Have a chat and coffee and make lasting connections with the other mothers, fathers, or caregivers at the school. Please contact Catherine Hore 021 113 7770

noel leeming

Friends & Family deals are here!

24 July - 6 August 2026

cost* + 5%
storewide (exclusions apply*)

15%[^] OFF
Tech Solutions services offers

Scan this barcode instore
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Offer valid from 24 July - 6 August 2026, while stocks last. *Cost reflects the average cost price of the product including administration and handling costs, and does not include volume related adjustments which may apply. Some of our advertised specials may be at a lower price than this offer but you will receive the best price available on the day for the item(s) you choose. **The advertised discounts are off the previous in store ticketed price. Terms, conditions and exclusions apply. See noelleeming.co.nz/terms

See the last page of our newsletter for our sponsors and their services.

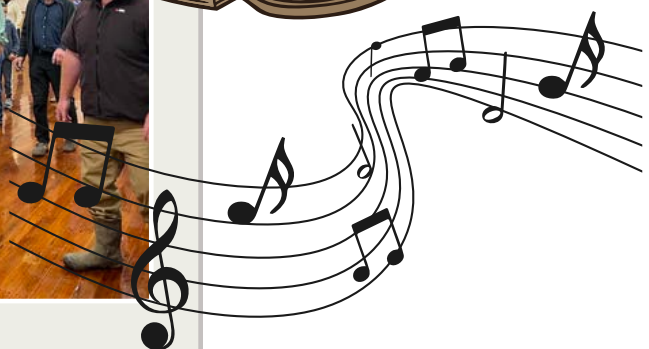
Community Notices Continued

LINE DANCING AT WAIKARETU HALL

The caller and 3 dancers were excellent and there was a lot of laughter. Many people said they would like to do it again and of course the pot luck dinner was great.

The Caller - Louisa whom many know as the manager of the West Waikato coastal Catment Group expressed admiration for the hall and it certainly showed off the sort of community use we want to have there so we are open to suggestions and organisers for future events.

Huge thanks to the Rural Port Waikato Community Board which granted us funds to put on the event.



Attendance Awards & Assembly 3rd July



The top Attendance Awards for term 2 went to Libby, Caeley, Aria, Mason, Margo & Mac; Attendance improves achievement. Well done!

Thank You to our SkoolLoop sponsors

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We said goodbye to the lovely teacher Annabel Glenn who covered Hannah Cassidy's maternity leave for Term 2. We will miss you and thanks for all your amazing teaching!

HOT NEWS, COLD DAYS

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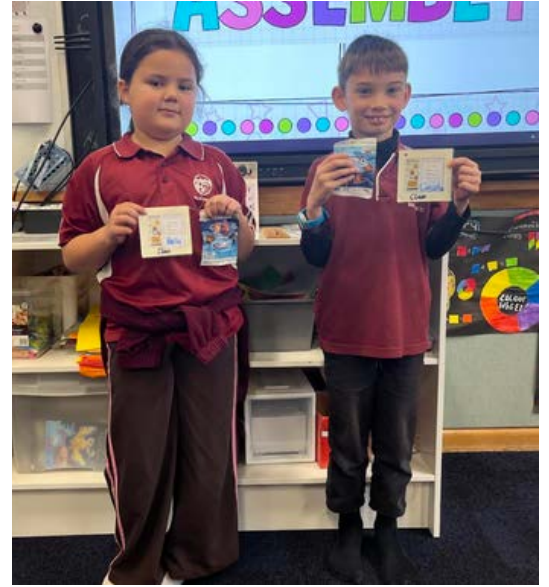
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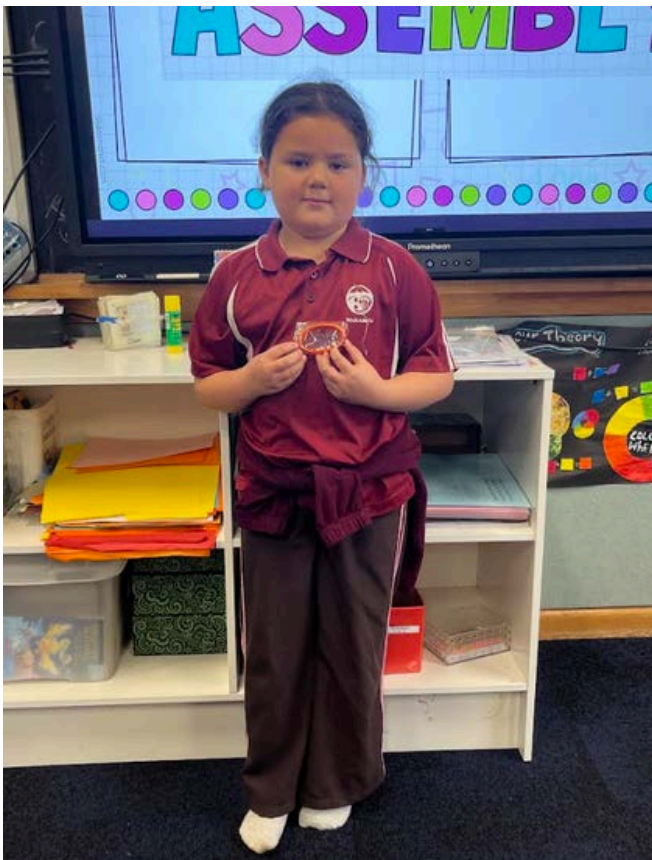
Assembly & Awards 24th July



Will, Ayden, Nelly and Mac received the WAI Way assembly certificates.



The WAI Way prizes went to Nelly and Lincoln.



Nelly received her WAI Way band.

Brave

Courageous

- I try new things
- I can share my ideas
- I stand up for those that don't have a voice

MATARIKI CELEBRATION



On Wednesday the 1st of July we celebrated Matariki with our community at Weraroa Marae.

Thank you to our Kaumatua Russell and Weraroa Marae Board for allowing our tamariki to have the opportunity to celebrate with their whaanau and friends in such a beautiful place.

We are so proud of how well our tamariki performed and thank you to our community for supporting them.



Please support our newsletter sponsors

A BIG Thank You to Ngahua Thompson, our rural mail contractor who support us with the delivery of our school newsletter and so much more.

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nor-west@outlook.com



WAIKARETU, NZ

Mobile: 021 776 486

Emilywelch648@gmail.com

WAIKARETU NEW ZEALAND



TE KARAKA

STATION & LODGE

Open for lunch bookings!

Gift Vouchers available!

Stay@tekarakalodge.co.nz

09 242 9229

Open Wednesday to Sunday

Thank you

Glen Murray

Community Association Inc.

for your continuing support of
Waikaretu School



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