

**Term1, Week 9 – Wednesday 29 March 2017**

Dear families,

As you will now know I will be leaving Waitākiri Primary School at the end of term two to take up the position as Principal of Kowloon Junior School in Hong Kong. This will be a very exciting opportunity and challenge and I am really looking forward to this new phase of my life with my wife Denise. We both like the words of Helen Keller, "*Life is a daring adventure or nothing at all!*" For us this will be a daring adventure, leaving New Zealand to live overseas for the first time in our lives. I feel very privileged to have led Windsor School and Waitākiri Primary School over the 9 years and one term and I certainly look forward to the term ahead.

Waitākiri School is in a very strong position with experienced and passionate staff, a highly skilled and knowledgeable leadership and senior leadership teams and a very focused and supportive Board of Trustees. The ERO report last year was a ringing endorsement of the work done by the whole team since the school was opened. In addition we have the ongoing support of some of the best educational consultants and experts in Australasia with [Pam Hook](#) (Inquiry, Science and SOLO), [Joan Dalton](#) (Learning talk and collaboration) and more recently [Dr Lyn Bird](#) (self-regulation) and Associate Professor [Bobbie Hunter](#) (Maths). In other words the school has the best in professional learning to support our strategic goals and your child's learning. I have every confidence the next principal will take the school from strength to strength and build on the work already done. I know the Board of Trustees will have effective systems and processes in place to ensure the next principal is the best person to lead Waitākiri Primary School to 2020 and beyond.

I consider myself very fortunate to have worked with the Waitākiri team and community since the school began in 2014, together we have created an amazing learning environment.

Please feel free to come up and have a chat to me or to e mail me or the Board of Trustees if you have any questions about the process. In the meantime it is business as usual at Waitākiri!

Kind regards  
Neill O'Reilly, Principal

## **WAITĀKIRI OSCAR HOLIDAY PROGRAMME AVAILABLE NOW**

Tuesday 18th April to Friday 28th April

Juniors years 1-3 & Seniors years 4-8

Activities include Movies, Skating, Chipmunks, Gymnastics,  
Court Theatre and lots more

**Contact Amanda for more details** [amanda.murray@waitakiri.school.nz](mailto:amanda.murray@waitakiri.school.nz)

Bookings close Friday 7th April



## TRAVIS LEARNING HERO MORNING TEA

Congratulations to the Learning Heroes from Travis Studio who had a Learning Hero Morning Tea with Miss Reynolds last week. Pictured are Sam, Brennan, Lucy, Madi, Lily, Cameron, Jai, Tawaka, Quinn, Conor and Matthew.



## PICNIC WITH THE PRINCIPAL

Congratulations to the Learning Heroes who had a picnic with Mr O'Reilly yesterday. Pictured left are Gemma, Grace, Guy, Ryan, Jessica, Lily, Hannah, Tia and Jai.



## USING YOUR DEVICES/I-PADS AT HOME

### Tips for helping your kids at home

- Turn off screens 1-2 hours before bed, as light and stimulation disrupt circadian rhythms and inhibit good sleep patterns
- Moderate screen time - iPad use should be negotiated according to age and maturity.
- Have a screen free day
- Model healthy device use
- Internet use must be supervised - know what your child is looking at. Be aware that some games have chat options. It is best to make sure this is turned off.
- Bedrooms as screen free zones - Cyber bullying, pornography and inappropriate sharing are easier to manage if iPad use takes place in shared family spaces
- Set clear boundaries and formulate a family home use plan
- Be clear regarding expectations and consequences
- Ask your child to show you their learning on their iPad - share and discuss, ask questions.

Charlotte Cottrell, Ōtakaro Studio

## PTA Entertainment Book Fundraiser

2017/2018 Entertainment Book memberships will be available late March / early April. Order online now to secure some great Early Bird bonus offers - <http://www.entbook.co.nz/13f7156>

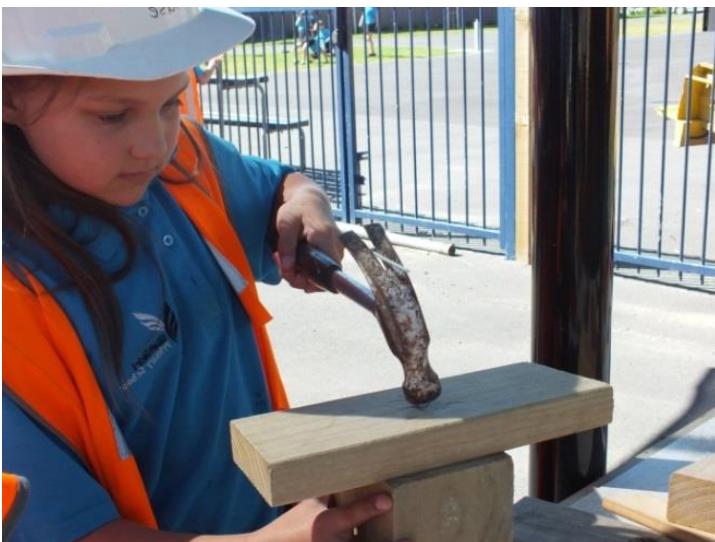
We have a limited number of book memberships available this year, so if you prefer a book get in quick to secure your copy, no limit on digital memberships. Digital membership can be shared with family members in your household on up to two different devices, but only one device can actively redeem offers at any one time.

Thank you for your support.



## LUNCHTIME CLUBS....

There are lots of clubs that run at lunchtime for children to participate in. There is Kapa Haka, Ruru Techies, Chess Club, PokeMonday, Eviro team, Garden Club, Drama, REAL Challenges Club, Rockband, Jump Jam, Junior e-learning, Art Extension, Crochet Club, Blogging and Tinkering with Tools. Pictured below is "Tinkering with Tools" which is held twice a week with Woody and a teacher. Watch out for more lunchtime club photos in the newsletter in the coming weeks.





# SPORTS NEWS

## Touch Rugby

Well done to all our Touch Rugby Teams that played this term. Some super skills were shown out on the field with great team work. A BIG THANK YOU to all the parents who put their hand up to coach and manage the teams. Without you we could not have so many teams playing.

## Year 5/6 Cowles Stadium Basketball

If your child is interested in representing Waitākiri School in the Year 5&6 Cowles Stadium Basketball Competition please read the following details carefully, fill out the permission slip below, detach and return to the **DROP BOX by the MAIN OFFICE by Friday 31 March.** They will need to commit to the team for both terms.

WHEN: Skills clinic (compulsory) date to be confirmed. Games start date to be confirmed.  
**Thursdays** Term 2 and 3  
TIME: 3.30pm-6.00pm. Draw yet to be finalized. Half hour games.  
TRANSPORT: You will be responsible for transporting your own child both to and from **COWLES STADIUM** every week.  
UNIFORM: Basketball uniform. Children will need their own short sports socks and suitable trainers. All long hair is to be tied back please.  
COST: Approx \$30.00. This is depending on numbers and coaches available. Final cost will be confirmed once teams are finalized.

We strongly encourage the wearing of a school uniform and its importance to promote:

- Pride in the school
- 'Managing self' – one of the key competencies in The New Zealand Curriculum and safety.
- In the event of emergencies, children in uniform are easily identifiable and quickly associated with their school.

**Without their sports uniform, children are unable to play representative sport for the school.**

Thank you, Roanne Riordan, Sports Administrator

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### YR 5 & 6 COWLES STADIUM BASKETBALL PERMISSION SLIP

***(please return to the DROP BOX by the MAIN OFFICE by Friday 31 March)***

My child \_\_\_\_\_ of Studio \_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to participate in the **Yr 5 & 6 Cowles Stadium Basketball on Thursday afternoons.**

I am able/unable (**please delete one**) to coach a team (This would involve one practice a week and coaching on the day of play).

I am able/unable (please delete one) to manage a team on the day of play.

I will be responsible for transporting my child both to and from the playing venue each week.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



## Canterbury Duathlon

On Monday of this week 20 of our brave year 5 and 6 students battled the rain and cold conditions to compete in the Canterbury Duathlon. They all did incredibly well considering the weather. They ran and biked, then ran again. Well done, you did our school proud. Pictured right are some of the boys lining up to get their transponders on.



## Touch Rugby Uniforms

All touch uniforms are to be returned, in a washed and clean condition please into the sports uniform box in the CHOICE Room.

## CHILD CANCER REAL Challenge



Thank you to everyone who supported us and Child Cancer last week by guessing how many beads were in the jar. Hannah from Travis Studio won with her guess of 515 beads; there were 525 beads in the jar. We raised \$70.80 for Child Cancer and are donating the money raised and jar of beads to them. Thanks to everyone who had a guess.

From Aoife, Esther, Brooke and Mila

## Te Reo o te Wiki

This term we have been looking at whānau and our mihi. Tamariki have been learning how to say their name (Y0) who their parents are (Y1-2) to describing the members of their family (Y3-6). We have also looked at our pepeha (connections to the land) in particular our maunga (mountain) awa (river) and iwi (tribe). If your child is Māori or born in a different country, it would be awesome if you could help supply them with that information. Here are some pictures of the great mahi (work) they have done. Tumeke tamariki mā!

Years 0-2



Years 3-6





## OPERA AT SCHOOL

The NZ Opera Company performed at school last week to all the students in Wai and Rangi Communities. It was really good because it was funny and entertaining. It was clever the way they changed the set quickly. We thought it was fascinating how they designed the costumes. We liked the way that the four characters sang so expressively. We were so lucky to see "The Mikado" at the Isaac Theatre Royal also. It was amazing. We recommend people to try out going to the Opera because it's a great experience.

By Gemma, Bronte and Natalie, Ruru Studio



## OUT OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT

Over the past weekend of the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of March, Holly of Korimako Studio, and her dad Matt sailed in, and won the Canterbury Sunburst Class Championships.

They won 4 out of the 6 races, and Holly was the youngest sailor in a fleet of mainly adults.







In September my Dad is going to China to trek the Great Wall to raise money for people with Leukemia and Blood Cancer. We would really appreciate it if you came to our yoga night. Yoga is a fun activity to do as it relieves stress and stretches your muscles to keep you fit and healthy. Come along even if you've never tried yoga before.

Grace, Ruru 4, Waitakiri School

Under 16: \$5 donation

Adult: \$10 donation

All donations go to LBC

THIS FRIDAY  
BOOK NOW!

Date: Friday 31st March

Time: 6:00 - 7:30pm

Venue: Waitakiri School Hall 170 Burwood Rd

For more information and to RSVP please contact:  
021 364 766

[tommyolliver@hotmail.com](mailto:tommyolliver@hotmail.com)

[www.facebook.com/pg/tommysgreatwallchallenge](https://www.facebook.com/pg/tommysgreatwallchallenge)

**INSPIRED**  
ADVENTURES

PIC•COLLAGE



# COMMUNITY NOTICES



Do you need some ideas of things to do with the kids over the holidays? Perhaps you're going away and looking for a good playground, walk or cafe that's family friendly? Have a look at what other families have recommended here <http://kidsonboard.co.nz>. Can't find any info on the area you're looking for? Ask other families for their ideas on the Facebook page [www.facebook.com/KidsOnBoardNZ](http://www.facebook.com/KidsOnBoardNZ)

## SURFKIDS

### *Childrens Surfing Programme.*



Learn the skills of Surfing in a fun, safe environment. All equipment provided and professional instruction from Aaron Lock and team. For kids 8 - 14 years.

Sundays 10am to 12pm until 30 April

April Holidays : 18 - 21 April, 24 - 28 April, 10am -12pm

Cost \$30 per day or \$135 for five. Bookings essential.

Venue :Sumner.

Call Aaron on 0800 80 SURF (7873) or register online at [www.surfcoach.co.nz](http://www.surfcoach.co.nz)



