

Term 4, Week 10 – Thursday 15 December 2016

Kia Ora families

Well this is it,

The end of our first year in our new state of the art school is upon us. The first year in our learning studios where collaborative teaching and learning are prominent. So how did we go?

- We received the best possible ERO report with a resultant 4-5 year review date
- We saw positive gains in student well-being and engagement data
- We achieved the highest ever Year 6 achievement rates of 93% overall 'at' or 'above' the national standards (up from 90% in 2015)
- 96% of our Year 6 children are 'at or 'above' in reading!
- We received over 1000 visitors to the school from around NZ and the globe with very positive feedback
- We strengthened our staffing positions, retaining quality staff and improving the quality of teaching at the school
- The hall was completed, and it is stunning
- The new playground will be completed by tomorrow
- An increased number of children took up the many additional optional learning experiences available at school
- We got to the end of the year intact, in high spirits and ready for a break where we don't have to relocate!
- Numerous messages of positive feedback were received from families about school
- Children had more REAL CHOICES including working in the cafe, REAL TV, and increased voice and input from the School Council and the Enviro FERNS
- We achieved our Bronze Enviro schools award
- Children won awards and represented Waitākiri competitions for sports, chess, jump jam, ICAS tests, Rock Band, singing, environmental issues and much more

As always we will be working to do even better in 2017. We want 100% of our children to express positive well-being indicators at school, we want children to be curious and motivated to learn and we will continue to strive for our long term goal of 95% of children at or above the national standards by the time they leave in year 6. We want to strengthen our connections with whanau, families and our community and we are aiming to be a silver enviro-school by the end of 2017! Thank you for all you have done to partner with us to make 2016 such a success. For those of you who will leave Waitākiri School at the end of 2016 for the last time we wish you all the best, for those returning in 2017 we look forward to making next year even better!

Finally, my acknowledgement and thanks to the amazing team at Waitākiri, the staff, the BoT and the PTA. We are so fortunate to have such dedication and professionalism!

Happy Christmas, enjoy the break, be safe, enjoy the special time with your children and be well

Nga mihi
Neill O'Reilly, Principal

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The final board meeting for the year included many reports detailing our learner's results in numeracy and literacy. As a school we set high goals of achievement for our learners throughout their 6 years at Waitākiri, aiming for an end result of leavers finishing having reached their personal full potential.

We are thrilled to announce that overall 93% of our Year 6 leavers are At or Above the National Standard and in reading this result was 96%! This result comes from the joint efforts of the learners themselves, teachers, learning assistants and other support staff and families. Our teachers and learning assistants encourage self-regulated learning where students are aware of targets they are currently meeting and are aware of the next step required. When students themselves know what is expected to meet targets they are better equipped in knowing where they are heading and how they intend on getting there.

In addition we viewed reports on Well Being at school which gave learners the opportunity to voice their thoughts on a variety of subjects about their daily life at school. The school leadership team feels strongly about keeping their finger on the pulse of thoughts and observations made by the learners to ensure the positive hauora of our students. We compared results with the report from March and could see a positive shift in many areas of student well-being. These reports also assist in highlighting areas that our learners collectively identify as needing attention, providing us with next steps for in 2017.

The engagement and mind set of learners clearly brings an improvement in academic results. Simply put, children who feel settled and happy are able to learn more effectively.

The Board is grateful to Neill who works tirelessly to ensure the highest possible standard is maintained in all areas of our school. He is forward thinking and understands the need to stay fully connected with what happens in each studio. He is visible and available and attends to issues as they arise. In Neill's recent appraisal it was noted that he has a broad, rich and deep understanding of educational leadership and how children learn. These capabilities and attributes inspire confidence in our teaching team and students.

The Board would like to thank the leadership team and staff who have produced amazing results this year in all areas of our school. Thank you for embracing the culture and vibe of our school and thank you for the energy you all bring. Your passion, dedication and personal time given is appreciated.

May you all have a well-deserved and peaceful holiday season and summer.

Kind regards

Andrew Shipley (Chair), Steve Sheere, Chrissie Balloch, Dani Thomson & Ben Naylor
Waitākiri Primary School Board of Trustees

CONGRATULATIONS!

Neill O'Reilly, our Principal who graduated yesterday passing with First Class Honours in Masters in Education from the University of Canterbury.

What a fantastic achievement!

Well done from the Board of Trustees, staff and community.



FINAL LEARNING CELEBRATION

On our last day of school tomorrow, Friday 16 December we will hold our final Learning Celebration for the year at 11am. All welcome! School will then finish at 12.30pm.

LOST PROPERTY

There is a lot of lost property, all unnamed in the CHOICE Room lost property box – some non-uniform and lots of lunchboxes! Any unnamed lost property remaining at the end of the term will be used by the school or disposed of.

LEARNING HERO MORNING TEA

Congratulations to the Learning Heroes from Burwood Studio who had morning tea with Mr O'Reilly on Monday. Pictured right are Campbell, Carter, Olivia, April, Sienna, Zoe, Ryan, Ella, Michael, Leejahn, Benny, Reign, Sophie and Caitlin.



Congratulations to the Learning Heroes from Windsor Studio who had morning tea with Mr O'Reilly on Wednesday. Pictured left are Khyler, Ollie, Savannah, Benji, Ella, Kieran, Amelia, Jayden, Evelyn, Sophia, Zoe, Adam, Eli and Isabella.

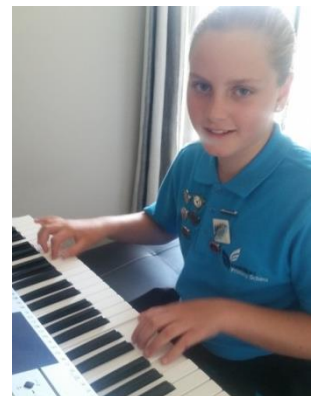
SCHOOL UNIFORM HOLIDAY DELIVERY

Uniform orders received by 12 noon Monday 23 January 2017 in the school holidays will be available for collection at the school office on Tuesday 24 & Wednesday 25 January 2017 from 8.30am – 3.30pm.

If you do not collect your order from the office during this time, your child will bring it home on the first day of school, 31 January 2017.

OUT OF SCHOOL ACHIVEMENT

Congratulations to Leni, pictured right, who passed her Grade 2 keyboard exam on Monday, getting a Distinction with 85% score.



LEAVERS SCHOOL UNIFORM

For those children who are leaving Waitākiri at the end of this year, if you are not wanting to sell your uniform the school would very much appreciate it by way of donation. We often need spare uniform in the sick bay.

We also especially need hats! Anyone who is leaving, if you are not wanting to keep your hat, it would be fantastic if you could please donated it to the school for use when there are school trips, etc on and when children forget their hats. Thank you!

TE REO O TE WIKI

Meri Kirihimete - Merry Xmas

Kia pai tō koutou hararei! – Have a great holiday everyone!



REAL CHALLENGES CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations and well done to all of our students who completed their REAL Challenges during the year. All were presented with an award at the end of year prize giving's.

Travis Year 4 students – completed Rata Challenge

Mia, Mahe, Tia, William, Felix, Elijah, Sophie, Oliver, Kyle, Ben, Gemma, Isaac T, Tahlia, Sasha, Keren, Isaac R, Daisy, Jacob, Jaxon, Mason, Ryan, Nova, Layla, Finn, Ayla, Riley, Austin, Lucas, Takira, Selene, Sarah, Chanelle, Ella-Rose and Charlie.



Otakaro Year 4 students – completed Rata Challenge

Zoe, Bayden, Jorja, Tayla, Rachael, Jake, Sofia, Aoife, Malena, Esther, Alex, Olivia, Brooke, Noah, Mikaere, Lincoln, Tommy, Ollie, Sam, Tyrese, Sienna, Matilda, Jack, Holly, Theo, Yuki, Tristan, Jayden, Meg and Sasha.

Korimako Year 5 students – completed Harekeke Challenge

Tanirau, Hunter, Rosa, Ashley, Adam, Jayden, Molly, Bradley, Tyler, Noah, Caleb, Shelby, Mia, Kyle, Tatum, Jessie, Caleb, Saxon, Ollie, Bradley, Alex, Lucas, Kipri, Akanshi, Annelise, Alex, Caleb, Ben, Darnae, Flynn, Francois, Hunter, Jude, Maki, Koen, Caleb, Emily, Georgiana, Harry, Jake, Lauren, Owen, Samuel, Shayla and Evie.



Ruru Year 5 students – completed Harekeke Challenge

Ella, Laura, Luke, Natalie, Jordan, Bella, Alex, Samantha, Tim, Ethan, Benig, Toma, Hayley, Fraser, Taine, Kieran, Oliver, Kun Woo, Courtney, Thea, Grace, Hayley, Sebastian, Jackson and Olivia.

Korimako Year 6 students – completed Pounamu Challenge

Georgia, Jacob, Saki, Amy, Jessica, Connor M, Livia, Samuel, Renee, Leni, Dominique, Nathan, Olivia, Albie, Payton, Zoe, Meadow, Landon, Aimee, Bayley, Brooke, Brooklyn, Charlie, Ciaran, Dax, Lily, Luke, Maia, Norah, Ben, Blair, Isla, Natalia, Nathan, Alex and Brayden.

Ruru Year 6 students – completed Pounamu Challenge

Gianna, Lavania, Ethan, Belle, Blair, Adam, Jack, Emma T, Emma O, Sophie, Alyssa, Blaine, Sophie, Holly, Harrison, Olivia, Tia, Grace, Sohraya, Laine, Ashton, Tom, Jessica, Abigail, Lexi, Libby, Jonty, William, Tessa, Tommy, Jacob, Amelia and Connor.



Congratulations to all of our Year 6 children who were farewelled in our Year 6 Leavers Celebration last night. It was a fantastic night and the following were awarded:

Year 6 Cup & Award Recipients

Outstanding Girl Leader

Leni S

Outstanding Boy Leader

Gabe T

Principal's Award

Sohraya P

Oliver W

Academic Leader

Tessa S

Saki F

Arts and Cultural Leader

Jessica H

Community Star Award

Lavana T

Top Sports Boy

Tom T

Top Sports Girls

Sophie M

Digital Excellence Award

Connor M



Year 6 Outstanding Achievement Certificate Recipients

Belle, Blair, William, Livia, Kraig, Libby, Jessica, Amelia, Bayley, Olivia, Lexi, Amy, Sophie, Ethan, Jacob, Tia, Payton, Abigail, Tommy and Dax.





TRAVIS INQUIRY

Team Travis have been inquiring into the sustainability of inanga (whitebait) in Christchurch rivers. We raised inanga in a tank in our studio and then released them into the Heathcote River. Four children went to the Christchurch City Council and presented our sustainable actions to protect the inanga numbers. Here is the link <https://www.ccc.govt.nz/the-council/newsline/show/1254>

We were fortunate enough to win a tank full of chocolate fish as Myah, pictured left, successfully guessed the number of chocolate fish in the tank, 354!

REAL CHALLENGE THANK YOU!

Last Thursday we delivered three large boxes full of toys to the Salvation Army to give to children at Christmas. They were really pleased to receive the gifts and sent us a letter to say thanks.

We would like to thank everyone who donated gifts for our REAL Challenge and wish all of you a really happy Christmas.

Ella, Hayley and Thea, Ruru Studio



SCHOOL UNIFORM FOR SALE

Brand new 3 x size 12 polo shirts \$15 each; 1 x size 10 long pants \$15; plus lots of used uniform in different sizes. Please phone Trish for further information on 021 133 8070.

SPORTS NEWS

All sports uniforms are to be returned by Thursday this week please. Return them to the sports uniform box in the CHOICE room. Please ensure they have been washed.

Thank you very much.

Rawhiti Touch

Thank you to all of the coaches and managers this term. All the children who have played have told us how much they have enjoyed playing this term and without you they couldn't play, so once again thank you very much. Pictured right is the Waitakiri Rebels, winners of the Rawhiti year 1/2 touch competition. Unbeaten all season!

Minijammers Basketball

Well done to all of the teams. Thank you to our wonderful coaches. You all do a fantastic job!



WAITĀKIRI SWIMMING SPORTS

FRIDAY 10 FEBRUARY 2017: 9.45am-11.45am (approx.)

@ JELLIE PARK:

**Notice due back by Friday 3 February 2017 (or can
be returned by the end of this week)**



12 December 2016

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Your child has shown an interest in participating in the Waitākiri Swimming Sports. Please carefully check the details below. If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to email me at roanne.riordan@waitakiri.school.nz.

AGE: Age is at 1 January 2017, children must be 9 years or older to participate OR in Year 5 at school in 2017 (no year 4's can enter sorry).

8 year olds ARE NOT ABLE TO QUALIFY FOR CANTERBURY LEVEL

DISTANCE: **50 metres.** Your child must be **ABLE TO CONFIDENTLY swim 50 metres without stopping** in their chosen strokes. For safety reasons and smooth running of the event, please ensure you are accurate with your child's swimming ability.

ENTRIES: Freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke = individual age groups, butterfly = open event (all ages race together). Top two from each race qualify for zones.

WHERE: Jellie Park

WHEN: **Friday 10 Feb 2017**

TIME: 9.45-11.45am (approx.)

TRAN

SPORT: Private vehicles

BRING: 2 towels, togs, drink bottle, suitable food.

HELPERS: Will be required on the day. Please indicate below if you are able to assist.

A confirmation notice with further details will follow. Thank you for your support and co-operation.

Yours sincerely

Roanne Riordan
Sports Co-Ordinator

SWIMMING SPORTS PERMISSION SLIP

(please return to the DROP BOX in the FOYER by **Friday 3 February 2017 OR BY THE END OF THIS WEEK**)

My child _____ in studio _____ D.O.B _____ I/we have discussed the information and I/we give permission for them to participate in the Swimming Sports event. I support their decision in entering the 50 metre events in the following strokes: (please tick)

9 years	9	10 years	10	11 Years	11	OPEN(all ages)	O
Freestyle		Freestyle		Freestyle		Butterfly	
Backstroke		Backstroke		Backstroke			
Breaststroke		Breaststroke		Breaststroke			

I am able to assist on the day: YES/NO (please circle)

I am able to assist with transport on the day: YES/NO (please circle)

Parents name: _____ Mobile: _____

Signed : _____

2017 TERM DATES

Term 1 - Tuesday 31 January to Thursday 13 April

Term 2 - Monday 1 May to Friday 7 July

Term 3 - Monday 24 July to Friday 29 September

Term 4 - Monday 16 October to Friday 15 December finishing at 12.30pm

2017 Public Holidays

(NOTE: Easter & ANZAC Day fall in the school holidays between Terms 1 & 2)

Monday 6 February - Waitangi Day

Monday 5 June - Queens birthday

Monday 23 October - Labour Day

Friday 17 November - Canterbury Anniversary Day

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Your donations don't just save lives; they also significantly improve the life quality of many chronically and terminally ill patients. You can make a real difference! Thank you to all who donate, I am eternally grateful.



'tis the Season for Giving (Blood)

Our mobile team will be at **Burwood Hospital** soon...

at the **Burwood Hospital Chapel**
use Entry 1 on Burwood Rd

Wed 21st Dec 11:30-3:30

New donors welcome!

Download our new app, call us or go onto our website to book your appointment to be a Lifesaver.

Eat & drink plenty before you donate (at least 1.5 litres of water) and please bring your donor card or photo ID.

0800 GIVE BLOOD

0800 448 325
www.nzblood.co.nz

NZBLOOD
Te Itonga Tota O Aotearoa

IMAGINE - WRITE



HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS FROM THE SCHOOL FOR YOUNG WRITERS

MONDAY JANUARY 23
FOR YEAR 4 TO 6

TUESDAY JANUARY 24
FOR YEAR 7 TO 9

Join award-winning authors
James Norcliffe
and Heather McQuillan
and let your imagination loose!

10.00am to 12.00:

Fantastical Beasts

and How to Write Them!

Create your own mythical beast
and write about it with complete
authority. After all it's your
creature creation!

Tutor: Heather McQuillan

12.30 to 2.30:

The Real Reason.

Discover the real reasons behind
everyday occurrences as you let
your imagination expand, erupt
and evolve.

Tutor: James Norcliffe

\$10 per two-hour session
or \$15 for both sessions
(bring your lunch)

Hagley Community College-
J Block off Waller Terrace

Bookings now open:
young.writers@xtra.co.nz

Get active during the holidays!

Mainland Football Outdoor Holiday Programmes

DECEMBER:-

Age: 7-14 year olds.

Dates: 20th, 21st and 22nd December 2016

Times: 9.00am - 3.00pm

Venue: English Park

Cost: \$37.50 per day (\$112.50 for three consecutive days) *10% discount of second child when registering two or more siblings.*

JANUARY:-

Age: 7-14 year olds.

Dates: 25th, 26th and 27th January 2017

Times: 9.00am - 3.00pm

Venue: English Park

Cost: \$37.50 per day (\$112.50 for three consecutive days)

Mainland Futsal Indoor Holiday Programmes

JANUARY:

Age: 6-12 year olds.

Dates: 23rd, 24th and 25th January 2017

Times: 9.00am - 3.00pm

Venue: Pioneer Stadium

Cost: \$37.50 per day (\$112.50 for three consecutive days)

Dental Care over the School Holidays

The Community Dental Service will operate an emergency service over the school holidays. This service is to provide relief of pain only and will not undertake 'routine' treatment. The service will be available each working day from 8:30am until 12:30pm from the Hillmorton Hospital site.

Tuesday, 10th January to Friday, 13th January 2017 (excluding weekends)

Monday, 16th January to Friday, 20th January 2017 (excluding weekends)

Monday, 23rd January to Friday, 27th January 2017 (excluding weekends)

And

Monday, 30th January 2017

This service will operate by appointment only and if we are unable to see your child, alternative options will be given. If your child has dental pain as a result of an accident please contact your dentist in the first instance.

You can phone and make an appointment for the emergency clinic by ringing 0800 846 983.



ST ALBANS SKATE JAM

SATURDAY 21ST JANUARY // 12-3PM //
ST ALBANS PARK, FORFAR STREET

RAIN DATE SUNDAY 22ND JANUARY



BELFAST SKATE JAM

FRIDAY 20TH JANUARY // 12-3PM //
SHELDON PARK

RAIN DATE THURSDAY 26TH JANUARY

Learn to skate with the Skate Skool Team
free gear hire available // best trick competition // free BBQ
facebook.com/skateskool // bethere.co.nz
Proudly supported by the Papanui-Innes Community Board.

Skaten: LINDSAY BAE, Borekless // Photography: JADY BRIDGMAN

