



WAIKŌWHAI
INTERMEDIATE

Waikōwhai Intermediate School

...developing life-long learners...

Issue: 1

Term: 1

2nd February 2024

Greetings, Kia Ora, Fakaalofa lahi atu, Malo e lelei, Talofa lava, Taloha, Kia Orana, Ni Hao, Buenos Dias, Chao, Malo ni Habari, Dobar dan, Bula Vinaka, Apa Khabar.

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Welcome back to the 2024 academic year, I hope you have all enjoyed the holiday time with family and friends.

Our school year has started well at Waikōwhai Intermediate School and I need to acknowledge the work of all of our staff that work hard to make this happen.

Brenda Green and Astrid Day in the office do a superb job with enrolments, uniform and stationery to ensure that these processes run smoothly for teachers, students and families.

Willie loelu and Mitch Hartnett-Newlands do an awesome job with our property and grounds to ensure that our environment is a great place to come to each day. We are continuing the renovation of our bathroom blocks and breakout spaces in our Year 8 classrooms and these are very close to completion. This has been an ongoing task since these rooms were flooded on January 27, 2023 and they have certainly been rebuilt better, with new wall linings, carpet and ceilings in the classrooms, bright, modern and tiled bathroom spaces out the back of the classrooms and new breakout spaces in between the rooms.

Our Associate Principal, Cathy loelu, and Deputy Principal, Leanne Smith, spent many hours in 2023 getting class allocations right for students and teachers and this work continues as new enrolments come in at the start of the year. These processes help students to settle in quickly and get the very best from their time here at Waikōwhai Intermediate.

Our Classroom Teachers and Specialist Teachers also spend a significant amount of time before school starts to make sure their spaces are welcoming to students, and learning programmes are ready from day one, so they can begin to build the routines and relationships that are needed to run a high functioning learning environment, where every child can thrive and achieve to their potential.

We are fortunate to have a great team here at Waikōwhai Intermediate and I would also like to thank you parents and caregivers who play such an important role in this by helping your children to be ready from day one. Teachers, students and parents and caregivers working together leads to the best outcomes for your child. If you need to contact the school for any reason, please use email as the first point of initial contact. My email is dking@waikohai.school.nz - most school emails follow a similar pattern with just the surname of the teacher, without the first initial in front. These can be found on our school website.

Our fortnightly newsletter is our primary source of information for current families. Through your child's Google account you can also access their class site, WaiGoogle and the Daily Notices. While these will still be in the process of being set up for 2024 over the next couple of weeks, please take a moment to look at these with your child. Our school website is being refreshed for the start of Term 2 and serves as a window to new and prospective students, but does have a notices section on the front page and other general school information. In a situation where more urgent communication is needed with the community we would push a text notification to families. To ensure you receive the relevant communication please make sure you keep your email address up to date for notices, and also your mobile phone number.

Kind regards,

David King
Principal

Waitangi Day 6th February

Just a reminder that Tuesday 6th February is a public holiday and school will be closed. Monday 5th of February is a **normal school day**.



Immunisation Forms

Next week, immunisations forms along with a letter from the ADHB will be sent home with your child. Please fill in the form either giving consent or not giving consent and ask your child to return them to your teacher.

Waifest - Thursday 4 April, 4.00pm - 7.30pm

Waifest is a community event when we invite our families and local primary schools into school to enjoy cultural performances on stage and some food. We also use this opportunity to share learning from our classrooms in core curriculum areas, our specialist subjects and some extracurricular activities so parents and the community have a better understanding of the learning that happens at Waikōwhai Intermediate.

This event acts as our only major fundraiser and proceeds will go towards supporting all our children to attend Year 7 Camp and Year 8 Activity Week in Term 4. If you have any donations that would be suitable for luxury hampers that we will raffle, or run a business that could make a donation for a raffle or auction, please bring them to the office, or get in touch with Cathy Ioelu ioelu@wai-int.school.nz

Mathematics at Waikōwhai Intermediate

The Ministry of Education is three years into a six-year programme to refresh the New Zealand curriculum, with the expectation that all schools and kura deliver the refreshed curriculum by the start of 2027. Mathematics & statistics, and English learning areas, however, are on a tighter timeframe and need to have implemented the refreshed curriculum by the 2025 school year.

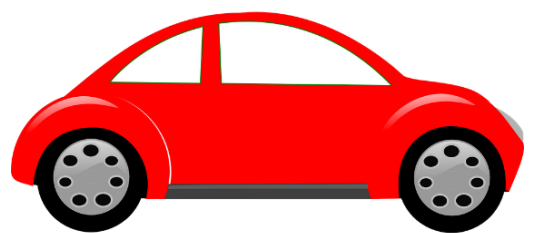
At Waikōwhai Intermediate, we're excited to be embracing not only the content concepts of the new mathematics & statistics learning areas, but also the shifts in pedagogical practice. Guided by Julia Crawford of Cognition Education, the new practice challenges teachers to build their programme from tasks that are rich, relevant, and attainable to *all* students, no matter the entry point of each student. From the initial exploration, the teachers will run workshops that align with the 'big ideas' of the problem to support those who may have gaps in their knowledge.

The aim of this pedagogical shift is to engage students in their learning, differently: to promote problem solving and perseverance to tasks that will lift all students' achievement. Forms of reporting are still a point of discussion, (for the MoE and for Waikōwhai), but with the Benchmark Reports heading home in week six, we will ensure there is clarity around the communication of this.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate in contacting Jenni Rodan: rodan@wai-int.school.nz

Drop off and Pick up

WaterCare continue to do significant works around our school community and this will continue through Term 1. Please create a plan with your child about where you will pick up and drop them off. The best place for this is 300 metres or more away from the school gate, this eases congestion and makes the front of our school safer for everyone. At the back of the school is Noton Road and the Eden Roskill Cricket Club car park, this is also a good place for pick up and drop off. Please respect the yellow lines outside the front of school, these mean no stopping at all times, this is for the safety of our students. Auckland Transport do support us with this and do ticket cars on the yellow lines from time to time.



Summer weather

February is very likely to continue to be very hot and sunny. At school we have filtered drinking fountains that have bottle fillers on the side, so please provide your child with a drink bottle for school. Please also provide them with a hat, a school bucket hat is available from the Uniform Shop, but we also allow a plain black or navy cap, that is a black or navy cap with no other markings. These can be purchased cheaply from The Warehouse, or other retailers.

Sunblock is available in classrooms, but please also provide your child with some so that they can take responsibility for themselves. Roll on sunblock is a good option as it is less likely to spill and will last longer.



Three Way Conferences

On Wednesday 13 March and Thursday 14 March we have Three-Way Conferences. Our Three-Way Conferences are an important time for parents and caregivers to sit alongside their child's classroom teacher with their child to discuss their learning. We know that when parents / caregivers, children and teachers are all working alongside each other we get the best results for our children. Information on how to book for Three Way Conferences will be in an upcoming Newsletter.

Benchmark Reports

These very brief reports are from the snapshot of learning from the start of the year, and represent where your child's teacher has observed that your child is working within the New Zealand Curriculum. We do these as a starting point for teaching and learning and to communicate with parents where we see that starting point being. This helps us to identify areas of strength and other areas for improvement. Overwhelmingly these are in alignment with what our primary colleagues have shared with us. Where there are differences with reported achievement in primary school, we are happy to discuss these with you as there can be a variety of reasons. These reports are issued to families prior to Three Way Conferences.

Term 1 dates

There is a School Calendar on our website where you can access dates for school events. The most important ones for families for Term 1 are listed below.

Term 1 start date	Tuesday 30 th Januray
Year 8 Beach Education	The week of Monday 12 February
Three Way Conferences	Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 March
Good Friday	Friday 29 March, School Closed
Easter Monday	Monday 1 April, School Closed
Easter Tuesday	Tuesday 2 April, School Closed
Waifest	Thursday 4 April
Last Day of Term 1	Friday 12 April, School Closes 2pm

Chromebooks at Waikōwhai

At the start of the school year every student is assigned a Chromebook that will stay in their classrooms. As a school we have some Chromebook expectations which your child's teacher will go over with them and every student will sign a Chromebook Contract before they start using a device. Below is a copy of our classroom Chromebook contract so you are aware of what it involves.





Waikōwhai Chromebook Contract

Chromebooks at Waikōwhai are a privilege, we need to look after these expensive tools. Please read our user guidelines below and sign the contract showing you understand our Chromebook expectations.

- I will show maanakitanga when using my device, emails – I will not use my Google account to bully, harass, or threaten other students or individuals.
- I will respect and protect my own privacy and the privacy of others (including taking and using images of others).
- I will only use my assigned accounts and not share my password.
- I will report any damage or issues to a teacher immediately.
- I will take responsibility for looking after my device.
- I will not use my Chromebook or Google account inappropriately.
- I understand the school owns and has control over my device and my Google account.

I, _____, have read the Chromebook rules and guidelines for Waikōwhai Intermediate School. I understand them and will follow them. I understand that if I do not follow these guidelines, I will have consequences.

Student Name _____

Student Signature _____

Date _____

Future Future

Future Future is Auckland's first music festival to be held along a cycle route! On Saturday 3rd February from 12-6pm, 3km of bike path that weaves through beautiful green spaces between Harbutt Reserve in Mt Albert to Alan Wood Reserve nr Mt Roskill will host live music, a sustainable marketplace, free workshops for kids, a bike mechanic, and kai village for culinary cravings! The festival is family-friendly and free to attend. The location is accessible by several bike routes, many off-road, and there is free secure valet bike parking at the festival provided by Bike Auckland.



A vibrant pink and purple poster for the 'Future Future' music festival. The central focus is a stylized, abstract face composed of various colors like purple, blue, red, and white, with large, expressive eyes. In the top left corner, a blue hexagonal badge contains the word 'free' in white. On the right side, the title 'Future Future' is written vertically in a large, white, serif font. Below the face, the date and time 'Saturday 3rd February 12:00pm - 6:00pm' are displayed in a white, sans-serif font. At the bottom left, there are logos for 'IT.', 'AT', and the New Zealand national emblem. To the right of these logos, the text 'A FREE MUSIC FESTIVAL BEST ENJOYED BY BIKE' is written in a white, sans-serif font.

free

Future Future

Saturday 3rd February
12:00pm - 6:00pm

IT. AT  A FREE MUSIC FESTIVAL
BEST ENJOYED BY BIKE