



WAIKOWHAI
INTERMEDIATE

Waikowhai Intermediate School

...developing life-long learners...

Issue: 8

Term: 2

10th June 2022

Greetings, Kia Ora, Fakalofa 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

Waikōwhai Intermediate is a very busy place, which is fantastic for our children and learners. It is a full team of staff that is required to offer the opportunities to our students both inside and outside the classroom. A critical part of this team is our support staff.

Thursday 9th June was Support Staff Day when we acknowledge all our staff that are not qualified teachers that help our school run so smoothly. This includes our wonderful office staff, Brenda Green at reception and Astrid Day as our Finance Manager, our property staff, Willie loelu our Property Manager and Mitch Hartnett Grounds support, as well as a wonderful and diverse team of Teacher Aides, who support children in class with their learning, but also in the playground during break times. They all make an enormous difference to our school, from the moment you walk in the front door, to the fantastic building and grounds work, to supporting and creating the positive day-to day experiences for our learners. They are a critical part of the team, and greatly appreciated. Thank you to all of our support staff, Waikōwhai Intermediate would not be the great place that it is to come to every day without you.

Ngā mihi nui,

David King
Principal

Winter Bugs

The Ministry of Health is working with the Ministry of Education and schools to help support the health and well-being of our wider community. With our international borders opening up, there is the expectation that we will have more illness around this coming winter. To help with this, the most important thing you can do is to keep your child at home if they are unwell. If they have a vomiting or diarrhoea bug, they should be symptom free for 48 hours before returning to school. Another important step is to ensure your family is up to date with its immunisations, including immunisation for measles.

At school we still have the vast majority of students and staff wearing masks when indoors. Please continue to provide your child with a mask for use at school. We are also ensuring each room has good ventilation and the Board of Trustees has made the decision to purchase Air Purifiers for all indoor spaces. This was based on advice received, an examination of the information available and also with the pragmatic view that if an air purifier in its lifetime prevents one day of sickness for a teacher, then it will pay for itself in terms of the money that the school does not need to outlay for a relief teacher for that classroom.

We will continue to send children home that are unwell. I have two children myself and understand the inconvenience and stress that this can cause in a household, but for the health of the wider community, it is important that anyone who is unwell, remains at home. Thank you in advance for your support here.

We will also continue to encourage hand washing and hand sanitiser use at school. All our bathrooms have hot water, soap, paper towels and hand sanitiser available and each class room has hand sanitiser available too.

Three Way Conferences

These are taking place on Wednesday 6th July from 12.15 - 6pm and Thursday 7th July from 2.15pm - 6pm. To make a booking with your child's classroom teacher please use the link and code below. Please come through the reception area when you arrive for your booking. However, if you would prefer not to have a face to face meeting, it is possible to book an online meeting through the booking website as well.

Website: www.schoolinterviews.co.nz

Code:gurqu

Pooja Bhikha our teacher in Room 6 is on leave for the last week of term and will conduct her conferences a week earlier. Families from Room 6 will receive a letter with details and a different code to make their bookings.

School will close at the earlier time of 12 noon on Wednesday 6 July and 2pm on Thursday 7th and Friday the 9th July. The KiwiCoach Bus to Mangere Bridge will come at the earlier time. Auckland Transport buses, including the 568 and 511 will not change their timetable for us and children will need to make alternative arrangements.

BoT elections

Triennial Board of Trustees elections will be held in September. This is an opportunity for you to support the school and have a role in its governance. If you are interested in this, please contact our current Presiding Member Ross Phillips ross.phillips@pathways.co.nz or myself at dking@wai-int.school.nz

Open Night and Morning at Waikōwhai Intermediate

Please pass on to any prospective new families and students to Waikowhai Intermediate for 2023 that we have an **Open Night on Thursday 28th July from 6.30pm to 8pm**. This is an opportunity for families to come into our school, meet our Senior Leaders, see and hear some information, ask some questions and have a quick tour around if the weather allows.

Our **Open Morning is on Thursday 4th August from 9.15am to 11.15am**, and is a chance for families to have a tour around the school in a small group with a couple of our Student Councillors, to get a feel for our school on a normal school day. All information about enrolment to Waikōwhai Intermediate is on our school website.

High School enrolment

Year 8 families should now have had the time to visit schools, gather information and make some choices about the next stage in schooling. Please access school's websites to ensure that you have all the necessary information regarding enrolment. While Auckland Schools will accept out of zone enrolments in many cases, these must be in on time, deadlines will be published on school websites.

Opportunities from the Daily Notices in Week 6

Intermediate is a special time in schooling and a great time for students to show Māia (courage, bravery) and put their name forward for different activities and events. We are always as inclusive as we can be as a school. However, due to the nature of being a busy school, and the practicalities of running programmes, some groups do need to limit their numbers. If your child misses out on a group, please encourage them to try out and participate in other groups in the school. There are over 20 different groups with a variety of different foci that are in the Daily Notices this week that children can be involved in, they are:



Roopu event (Mathex), Table tennis, Wai Runners, Knitting Club, 10 minutes of Mindfulness in the Library, Kapa Haka, Travelwise Team event planning, Student Council, Bridge Builder Training, Librarians, Central Auckland Specialist School Liaisons, Boys and Girls Rugby, Book Club, Cultural Groups for Waifest, School Rock Band, EPro8, Girls and Boys Hockey, Robotics.

Your child will know what these events are, and which they may like to be involved in.

Matariki reminder

A reminder that Matariki is a public holiday this year and school will be closed. This is being celebrated on Friday 24 June.



Mount Roskill Grammar School

Open Day – Tuesday 14 June 3:30–7pm

Excellence, together

TŪMANAKOTANGA

