



WAIKOWHAI
INTERMEDIATE

Waikowhai Intermediate School

...developing life-long learners...

Issue 1

Term 1

11th February 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

We have had two, very successful, short weeks to start our 2022 Academic Year. It has been great to have averaged 92% attendance for this time, so we can settle in, meet the children and set routines.

The year ahead will obviously bring some challenges with the Omicron variant in the community. We think it is important to share with you key information around what is happening at school, and the plan going forward.

As I shared in a previous letter, we have re-worked our timetable to avoid class groups mixing as much as possible while indoors. We have also had over 99% of our children wearing masks, and all our classrooms are well ventilated. A reminder please to provide your child with a mask, and a spare one for their bag, just in case of breakage etc.

Listening to Public Health announcements, it seems there will be a time when we have positive cases at school as the current Omicron variant continues to spread in the community. When this happens we work with the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Health if necessary, and we share all the information in our situation with them. We then determine who Close Contacts are and send them a template letter so they are aware of their need to isolate. This letter contains very clear instructions about how long to isolate for, and when to get tested.

After a period of isolation and negative test results, families will receive notification that their period of isolation is over and they can return to school. **Families need to send this notification to the school before returning their child to school.**

We continue to follow all Public Health guidelines. As the Omicron variant continues to spread, some of these guidelines have changed, and will continue to change. The Ministry of Education is doing a good job of passing this information onto schools, so we can manage our environments as safely as possible, while maintaining as little disruption to learning and school activities as possible.

Should your child need to isolate, please communicate this with the school. Teachers have been sharing with children their class learning sites, which is where children will be going when they need to isolate so that there is continuity in their learning. If a period of isolation extends, please be in touch with the school, so that your child's learning needs can continue to be met.

There will be great times ahead at Waikowhai Intermediate in 2022, clearly there will also be challenges. From experience we know that this journey is best taken together, with staff and teachers, families and students all part of the solution that get the best outcomes for students.

Please continue to use email as your first point of contact with the school, your child's teacher, or with one of the School Leadership team. Emails are on our school website.

Ngā mihi nui

David King
Principal

Three Way Conferences

Key dates can be found on our School Calendar accessed through our website <https://www.wai-int.school.nz/> This term on Wednesday 16 March and Thursday 17 March we will have Three Way Conferences. This is where students and teachers will meet with parents / caregivers and share what we are seeing from the initial snapshot of learning at the start of the year and the pathway forward. These are likely to be held through Google Meets, something we have done successfully in the past. More details about these will follow in a future Newsletter.

School Staff 2022

There have been a few small changes to the team for 2022. Mr James Robertson has won a Deputy Principal position at Glenavon School, we wish him all the best for this next step in his career. Matua Victor Peach has moved on from our school, to work at a state integrated school. Mr Mick Pentz has relocated with his family to Australia.

So we have Miss Adriana Urlich in Room 3, Mr Caleb Faleolo in Rm 13 and Miss Pooja Bhika in Room 6, joining the team to replace them. We also have two new Teacher Aides to support us, Mr Aaron Tahu and Mr Unaloto Hala'ufia. We are very excited about these appointments and the strengths they bring to Waikowhai Intermediate. Please see the Staff Organisation page for full details of staff for 2022.

Care in the community

Families self-isolating who need extra support can call the COVID Welfare Phone Line on 0800 512 337, it is open seven days a week. MSD will connect callers with someone – they may be from a local community organisation, a government agency or marae-based services or support that iwi have established. Or please use the links below.

- [Isolation and care](#)
- [Getting extra support if you have COVID-19 or are self-isolating](#)

Planning for our Community

The link below is for the Puketāpapa Integrated Area Plan, which is open now for feedback. Our local Puketāpapa Board would love some feedback, as there are some significant developments in our area and this is a great opportunity to get a plan that fits our community. It is basically about what our neighbourhoods will look like, what we will need to support the increased housing (and population!) that is coming partly from Kainga Ora developments, but also from others like the Fletchers work in the quarry in Three Kings. How will we help people to move around the area, make sure there are enough schools, connections to services within and outside our community like tertiary education and jobs, have enough sports fields and parks, and so on.

Please do spread the word, as the more input from locals the better the final plan will be:

<https://akhaveyoursay.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/area-plan-for-parts-of-puketapapa-and-albert-edon-local-boards>

Waikowhai Staff 2022

Leadership			
Principal	David King	Deputy Principal	Leanne Smith
Associate Principal	Cathy loelu		
Release Teachers			
Part time(2 days)	Amy Nicholls		
Support Staff			

Teacher Aide	Charmaine Wallace	Teacher Aide	Neeta Damania
Teacher Aide	Sue Sumner	Teacher Aide	Aaron Tahu
Teacher Aide	Cyan Muna	Teacher Aide	Jaybour Leaga-Mini
Teacher Aide	Glenda Tan	Teacher Aide	Unaloto Hala'ufia
Teacher Aide	Cooper Hutchinson	Property Manager	Tootoo Ioelu
Finance	Astrid Day	School Counselor (4 days)	Kirsten Malcolm
Reception	Brenda Green		
Specialist			
Performing Arts	Joanna Toloa	Design Technology	Sacha de Graaf
Visual Art	Rachael Botica Team Leader	Food Technology	Rhonda Moir
Languages / ESOL	Julie Collard	Performing Arts	James Ioelu
Design Technology	Ian Cole		
Year Eight		Year Seven	
Room 1	Celina Baker	Room 9	Charlotte Berry
Room 2	Thanh Hoang Team Leader	Room 10	Sheryl Kumar
Room 3	Adriana Urlich	Room 11	Yvonne Poliko
Room 4	Wesley Leaga-Mini	Room 12	Karen Power Team Leader
Room 5	Chelsea Sigley	Room 13	Caleb Faleolo
Room 6	Pooja Bhika	Room 14	Jenni Rodan Team Leader
Room 7	Timena Muna Team Leader	Room 15	Andy Swan