

# Waihi School Newsletter



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Waihi Working Bee

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Pyne House : through the lens  
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## Weeks Ahead...

### Term Four 2024

#### WEEK FIVE

Mon 11 Nov

Y4-8 Exam Week

*Production photo session (full cast involved)*

Thu 14 Nov

*EXEAT weekend starts at the end of the school day*

Fri 15 Nov

*EXEAT – no school today / Pyne House closed*

#### WEEK SIX

Mon 18 Nov

*EXEAT – Teacher Only Day / no school today*

*Pyne House open from 5:00pm*

Tue 19 Nov

*Waihi Athletics Day*

*Wanaka Community Visit: 6.00pm – 8.00pm @ Bistro Gentil*

Thu 21 Nov

*Year 8 Independent Schools Dance (Christchurch)*

Fri 22 Nov

*Full Dress Rehearsal for Y8 Production*

#### WEEK SEVEN

Mon 25 Nov –

*Year 8 Production - 7.00pm*

Wed 27 Nov

Thu 28 Nov

*Year 8 Production Gala Night – 6.00pm*

Tue 26 Nov

*SCPSSA Athletics Day (reserve date is 28 Nov)*

Fri 29 Nov

*Leavers Lunch followed by Leavers Service*

Sat 30 Nov

*Year 8 Leavers Weekend after sport*

## TERM 4 EXEAT WEEKEND

*Our Term 4 exeat weekend starts at the conclusion of the school day on Thursday 14 November. School recommences at 8:30m on Tuesday 19 November, boarders return from 5:00pm on Monday 18 November.*

### PLEASE NOTE:

*no school on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November** or **Monday 18 November 2024***

**Wednesday 13 November  
2024**

# From the Headmaster's Desk

Dear Parents

We are over half-way through our final term of 2024. The first half of term has flown by and once again Waihians have thrown themselves into everything with gusto.

With all the busyness of Waihi, I was talking to a group of children this morning about ensuring they find time to 'slow down' and be kind to themselves as well as to others and to just enjoy the moment. Often when I ask children to give me ideas about staying physically fit they have lots of fantastic answers, but when I ask them how they could stay mentally fit, the responses dry up somewhat. It is important it is for our physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing to take time out from time-to-time and to slow down.

At Chapel I also enjoy sharing with the students some thoughts of one of my favourite childhood characters, Winnie-the-Pooh, who was something of an expert when it came to taking things easy. He was quite the philosopher on the subject to – *"People say nothing is impossible, but I do nothing every day."* Said Pooh.

I hope that when we get to our long exeat weekend in a couple of days, you all find time to slow down with your sons and daughters and appreciate all the wonderful things we have around us that make life so very special.

Kindest regards

Allan Short

## Headmaster's Thought for the Week

*"What I like doing best is Nothing."*

*"How do you do Nothing," asked Pooh after he had wondered for a long time.*

*"Well, it's when people call out at you just as you're going off to do it, 'What are you going to do, Christopher Robin?' and you say, 'Oh, Nothing,' and then you go and do it.*

*It means just going along, listening to all the things you can't hear, and not bothering."*

*"Oh!" said Pooh"*

A.A. Milne (Winnie-the-Pooh)

## Planning for 2025

Our new 2025 staff member, Anne-Maree Reith, will be joining the current staff at our teacher only day at the end of the exeat weekend, Monday 18 November 2024, at which time we will be discussing our planning for the 2025 school year. Over the next couple of weeks your child may come home and mention that staff have been discussing next year's class groups, or boarding arrangements with them. Indeed, they may be asked to indicate some friends they might like to be placed with next year. This is because we are starting to consider the new class lists for 2025.

All staff are involved, the current teachers at each year level may put together the first drafts for the subsequent year levels as these teachers know the individual children better than anyone. As in other years, a good deal of time and energy will be spent with this process.

Many factors are considered when making decisions about the composition of the class such as: boarders/day/gender balance, academic ability, specific learning needs, personalities and friendship groups (there are no promises and in fact best friends don't always make the best work partners!). Staff use their professional judgment and knowledge of the children when making such choices.

Parents occasionally approach the school and ask for us to 'arrange' a specific teacher or group of friends for their child next year. The answer to such a request is invariably a polite "no". As you can appreciate it would be impossible to do this for all families, and unfair to do it for just a few. However, there are often important factors to consider that we may not be aware of, and so if you have any specific comments you would like us to consider at this time, please put something in writing and email it to Mr Short [headmaster@waihi.school.nz](mailto:headmaster@waihi.school.nz) over the next two weeks.

**SAVE THE DATE :**

**SATURDAY 23  
NOVEMBER 2024**



**PLEASE COME AND HELP FOR A FEW HOURS IF YOU CAN AS WE TRY AND COMPLETE SOME JOBS AROUND OUR WONDERFUL SCHOOL GROUNDS AND ORCHARD....MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW.**

**Wednesday 13 November  
2024**

# WAIHI NOTICES

Upcoming Events | Information | Updates

## Message from our Boarding House and Grounds teams

A couple of friendly reminders for the Waihi community. For reasons surrounding the safety and welfare of the children and staff please can you:

- ☑ ensure you park vehicles on the patio at the back of Pyne House and walk to where you need to go from there. By all means park on the grass around the tennis courts when the car park is full.
- ☑ if you bring a dog on the school site please ensure they are on a lead / monitored. We have had a couple of unfortunate incidents these last couple of weeks around dog mess.

## RETURN OF TROPHIES / CUPS

Calling for all Athletics, Awards Assembly and Prize giving trophies to be engraved, cleaned, and returned to school.



Athletics cups were due back on **Friday 18 October 2024.**

All Prize giving cups please by **Friday 22 November 2024.**



**Wednesday 13 November  
2024**

# WAIHI : CLASSROOM

## Sharing Our Learning : Class 6 TW

6 TW has been working on their descriptive story telling. The class was given a picture of a haunted house, Chucky, Professor McGonagall, and a shark.

The aim of the game is to: **Tell me it is a \_\_\_\_\_, without telling me it is a \_\_\_\_\_.**

There were particular words they were not allowed to use for each picture. For example, they could not use the words shark, sea, ocean or fish when describing the shark.



Pip walked forward leaves crunching under her feet. The air was peircingly quiet. The massive structure towered over her, making her look like a tiny ant. She walked out of the tawny thorns and placed her left hand on the peeling paint of the door. The door swung open pip jumped, the smell of old abandoned furniture lingered in the air. She crawled toward the old staircase, making the floorboards benethe her creak. Pip thought that this was the start of every horror movie. Pip got up the stairs and looked around seeming if shes not the only one walking around these walls. The doors and walls of the house were old and faded some floorboards were missing and all the windows were broken. A sweaty hand wrapped over pip mouth.

**-Neve Johnson**



t looked at me through those bloodshot eyes. As the uneasy feeling of fear creeps into me. His orange, messy hair tells me not to mess with him. The long stiches that curves around his face sends shivers up my spine. His mutilated face and clothes makes my heart miss a beat. His spine chilling eyes makes me feel that I've just watched someone die. My brother's never used this thing, he claimed that his eyes would follow him wherever he walked in the basement. "I'm not scared of you," I say. And that's when I see his little smile expan a twitch.

**-William Johnston**



When I into my transfiguration classroom there was only one person an adult. Her piercing green eyes were looking straight at me. I got a shock of her being a witch even though I went to hogwarts. Her expression was telling me that I was going to get into detention. Her face with wrinkles was making me feel weird and uneasy. The green robe she was wearing stretched across the floor. The pointy hat was straight up no wrinkles. The brotch was what I kept staring at then I changed me gaze to her lips cause I heard a noise. That noise was DETENTION!!

**-Adele Overcomer**



Splash the warm salty water surrounds me. The red chum swirls everywhere as it covers me like a swarm of bees. I see a shadow weave through the kelp brushes. Water flows along my flippers as I see the king of the seven seas. A great white with sharp teeth. He fought the battle ships that came for treasure. The rows of razors sent a muffled scream throughout my mask fogging it up like a stained glass window. His dorsal fins carving quick through the thin water. The sand sprayed the scally guppies to busy to notice the great white. He snarled at the flounders in his way. The ink of a octopus sent him chasing the poor creature as he was camouflaged out of site. The great white made its way back to me. The greyness of his skin reflected on the sand floor. My tank clutters as he gets closer. clatter. Ping. Pong. His jaw widened in happiness like I was a present. The boat rocked up in down above me. The tour guide yelled "quick on the boat! he's never been this curious! Get out of the water!" I scrambled for the surface. My wetsuit weighed me down. Chomp. I once had two legs. Now I have one. The last thing I saw before I was dragged away was the tour guides face absorbed in horror.

**-Ben Dale**

# WAIHI : CLASSROOM

## Sharing Our Learning : Year 7s Science Roadshow

On Friday 8 November 2024 the Year 7s visited the Science Roadshow in Methven. What an amazing experience this was – Harriet and Sophie both volunteered to help with the demonstrations. Harriet was exploring thermal imaging and how a camera can pick up the infra-red rays of her hands, which is inhibited when she wore gloves. Sophie bravely volunteered to have slime poured on her – it was oobleck, and was safe as when a force is applied to this non-Newtonian liquid it becomes a solid and did not come out of the bowl!

Hands on exhibits involved trying to cut a puzzle cake into eleven pieces, looking at the difference between AC and DC current, exploring the amount of sugars and fats in food, investigation road friction and the effect on the speed of toy cars and being spun around in a chair holding onto weights moving arms in and out to see how that affected the motion, as well as many other interactive stands.

Thank you to Science Roadshow and Mount Hutt College for hosting this event.



# Celebrating our Waihians

## SOLO BEGINNER CHANTER COMPETITION

**Monday 28 October 2024**

Florence Black and Hunter Mackenzie both competed in the Solo Beginner Chanter competition of the South Canterbury Pipe Band Championships on Labour Day. Their first time doing so.

Florence finished 4<sup>th</sup> equal, and Hunter second.

A great effort from them both, taking on a new challenge and nailing it.

Both families would like to extend their gratitude to Willie McArthur for his support and tutoring.

Florence has recently started practising with the Ashburton Pipe Band, and is looking forward to the progression to pipes.



# Celebrating our Waihians

CLASH OF THE COLLEGES : ASHBURTON A&P SHOW

Friday 1 November 2024



Y8 TEAM: Otto Acland, George Brown, Sophie Clouston, Amelia Hoets, Zoe Innes, Poppy Mawle, George Neal, Samuel Westgarth



Wednesday 13 November  
2024

# Celebrating our Waihians

HIGHLAND DANCE COMPETITION : 'GET TO THE POINT'

**Saturday 9 November 2024**

This past weekend the 'Get to the Point' event in Pleasant Point featured a wonderful Highland Dance competition where Annabel Shearer and Pip Neal took part and had a fantastic day.

Both girls achieved impressive results, with numerous successful performances between them. A highlight of the day was Pip winning "Most Points Under 12", while Annabel won the "Local Highland Fling".

Adding to the excitement, some of the boarders stopped by to cheer them on, making the day even more special for Annabel and Pip. It was inspiring to see them shine and feel supported by familiar faces.



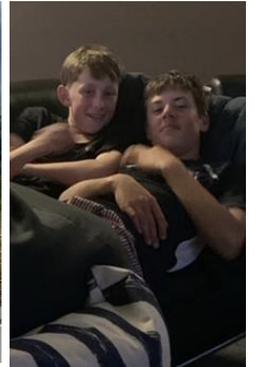
**Wednesday 13 November  
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# PYNE HOUSE

Through the lens of the camera... capturing some boarder activities



Harry won a Science prize at Point in the Park



Wednesday 13 November  
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