

Waihi School Newsletter



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Weeks Ahead...

Term Three 2024

WEEK FOUR

Sat 17 August

Duets Fundraising Evening

WEEK FIVE

Mon 19 August

Chess Power Regionals at Waihi

St George's arrive for billeting

Tue 20 August

St George's fixture (hockey, football, netball)

Elgregoe Show AM

Wed 21 August

St George's depart

Huntley arrive for billeting

Thu 22 August

Huntley fixture (hockey, football, rugby, netball)

Fri 23 August

Huntley School depart

Waihi Family Ski Day

WEEK SIX

Mon 26 August –

Sun 1 September

Mid Term Break – no school this week

Sunday 1 September

Fathers' Day

Boarders in from 5:00pm

R E M I N D E R

Our Mid Term Break in Term Three is in Week 6, being:

Saturday 24 August 2024 – Sunday 1 September 2024

Please note, school is closed for tuition through this time.

From the Headmaster's Desk

Dear Parents

Last week we welcomed the team from the Education Review Office (ERO) to Waihi School. The visit was part of the normal cycle of reviews by ERO of schools in New Zealand. Our two visitors saw all aspects of the school, during the day and with boarders after school. They even took a keen interest in the results of the Canterbury Chess Championships as the students arrived back last Tuesday!

Although the report will not be published for a few months the team gave verbal feedback to the Leadership team and Board prior to their departure. They were able to offer us a great outside perspective on the school.

Independent School ERO reviews are unlike State School reviews. The reports they write are not evaluative in any way on teaching and learning but are assurance statements regarding the school meeting the standards for registration as a private school in NZ in various areas.

In their verbal feedback to the Board, they described the Waihi curriculum as broad and rich. They noted the wide range of opportunities the students received in cultural areas; drama, music, clubs as well as sport and Outdoor Education in addition to literacy; maths and science. They said that the curriculum is 'lived' (i.e. what we say we are doing we really do it).

They noted that staff had high expectations of the students and that the Board and leadership team had high expectations of the staff. They discussed that in the classroom the students were happy, settled and engaged with learning. They related a couple of small interactions they observed which showed how well teachers know our students. They discussed how actively involved students were in all aspects of the school, and how blessed they are to have the grounds and facilities available to them.

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From the Headmaster's Desk [continued]

The contribution of our non-teaching staff was commented upon, and they could see what an important role office staff, kitchen staff, matrons, groundsman played in the lives of our tamariki. They spent time in the boarding house during the evening and were glowing about the pastoral care and the food!

Grace Moore and Ethan Box were their tour guides, and they were fine ambassadors for Waihi.

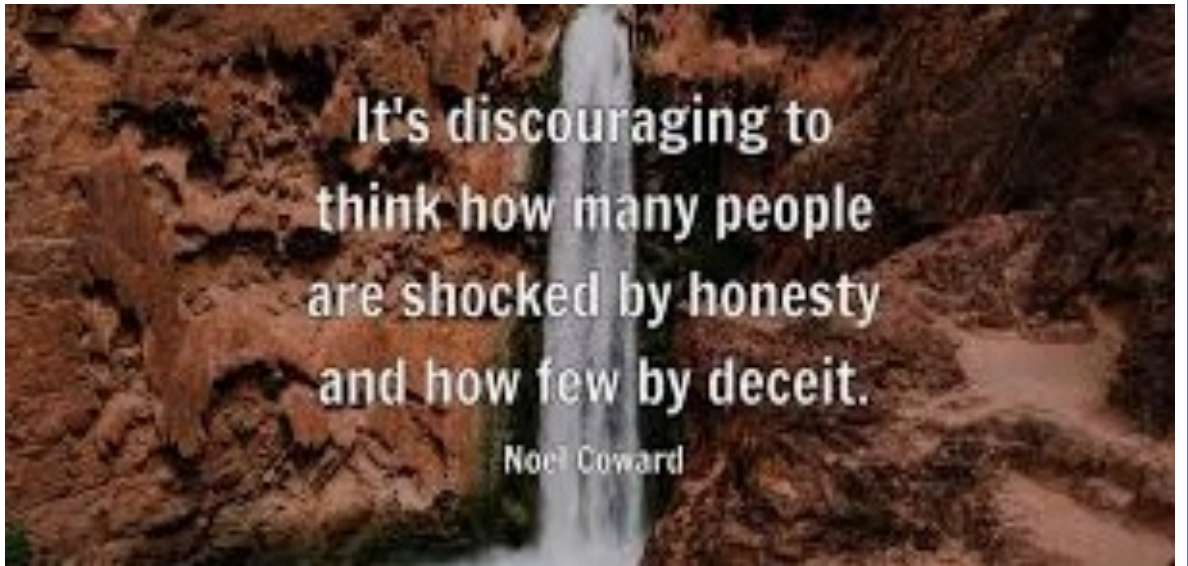
Overall, both reviewers wanted me to thank the staff and the students for a great three days at Waihi. They said everyone at the school was open, relaxed and welcoming. They wanted me to pass this on and to tell everyone just how much they had enjoyed the strong school culture and getting to know just what was happening behind the hedge!

Kind regards

Allan Short

Headmaster

Headmaster's Thought for the Week



It's discouraging to
think how many people
are shocked by honesty
and how few by deceit.

Noel Coward

W A I H I W A H O O

Acknowledgement | Appreciation | Kudos

EMAIL RECEIVED FROM A MEDBURY FAMILY

Well done!

Yesterday we received an email from a Medbury mother about two of our students who had just billeted overnight with her family. This is what she had to say:

"Last night I had the opportunity to host two of the politest, well-mannered boys from your 1st XV, Jake and George. They were both able to hold an interesting mature conversation and brought with them a huge lot of fun and laughter..."

Both these wonderful lads are an absolute credit to your school, and I hope Medbury and Waihi can continue this fantastic tradition of exchanges."

Jake McFarlane and George Neal were the young men in question, and it was a lovely email to receive. I would also say that I received a few 'in person' compliments from both Medbury and St. Margaret families yesterday too, parents mentioned the kindness and consideration our children displayed to both each other and their host families.

These actions are a simple reminder of a recent newsletter's 'Thought for the Week' from the Dalai Lama;

"Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible."

W A I H I N O T I C E S

Upcoming Events | Information | Updates

CHESS POWER REGIONALS @ WAIHI

Monday 19 August 2024

For the 38 Waihians who are participating in the Chess Power Regionals being held here at the Waihi School Hall on Monday 19 August 2024, could all students please come to school wearing their Number 1s uniform please.

Good luck to you all!!

W A I H I N O T I C E S

Upcoming Events | Information | Updates

Upcoming Community Visits

TIMARU

DATE: Wed 23 October 2024

TIME: 6:00pm – 8:00pm

VENUE: Hector Blacks

ASHBURTON

DATE: Thu 24 October 2024

TIME: 6:00pm – 8:00pm

VENUE: The Fine Lion

WANAKA

DATE: Tue 19 November 2024

TIME: 6:00pm – 8:00pm

VENUE: Bistro Gentil

Everyone welcome. Whether you are a past, current or future parent, we would love to see you when we are visiting your local area.

This is an informal gathering – we would love to discuss with you how we can best nurture success in your child.

Please email your interest to:
executive@waihi.school.nz

These events are being hosted by
Christ's College, St Margaret's College
and Waihi School.

Founders Day / Grandparents Day

This year we are celebrating our eleventh annual Grandparents' Day.

Our special afternoon is being held on **Thursday 5 September** starting at **1.00pm**, exactly 117 years to the day since our Founder Joseph Orford opened the doors of Waihi to its first three boys.

It is hoped that all grandparents will receive an invitation to the afternoon over the next week or so from their grandchildren. Should there be any trouble with New Zealand Post, or Telecom, or indeed from slack grandchildren, please can you ensure that all grandparents know that they are invited and are more than welcome to attend!

This is always a wonderful afternoon both for our children and grandparents and we hope to see as many visitors as possible on the day.



Friday 16 August 2024

W A I H I B O A R D

Communication | Information | Updates

W A I H I S C H O O L T R U S T B O A R D Parent Representative Election

Dear Waihi parents,

Thank you to all the candidates and parents who participated in the recent Waihi Trust Board Parent election. It was encouraging to see the number of candidates willing to step up and put themselves forward.

We are pleased to announce Charlotte Steetskamp as the successful candidate, and we are looking forward to her joining our Board.

Thank you all once again for your participation and support.

Warm regards

Mike Tayler
Board Chair

F R I D A Y C L U B : L E G O



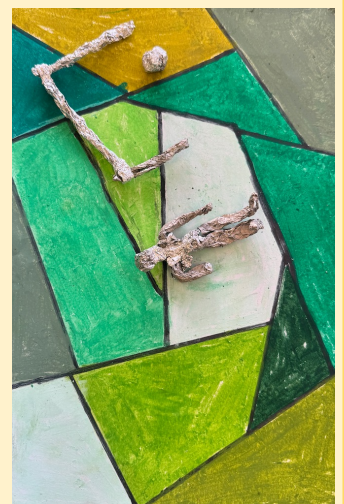
Friday 16 August 2024

WAIHI : CLASSROOM

Sharing Our Learning | Information

JuniorBW and 6NW joined together to create artwork based on our focus on The Olympics.

It was great to see students from both classes working alongside each other and encouraging creativity. It truly showed the Olympic Values of Excellence, Respect, and Friendship.



W A I H I : S T E M

Sharing Our Learning | Information

Our first 2 weeks in Stem have just flown by - it has been great to see the students back at school and really engaged in our topics.

The junior classes have been exploring the topic of sound and how this travels - we then made our own music instruments and took these to our music lesson with Mr and Mrs Bradley to perform.

Seniors have been exploring Newton's three laws of motion and testing out Galileo's hypothesis:- if objects are both dropped from the same height they will hit the ground first - this is only true when there is no air causing air resistance. We calculated our speed and determine who was the fastest runner as well.

In Science Badge Club students are busy working away on their topics to gain their badges - some of the challenges are shown including making a bird feeder and recording the birds who visit and constructing a bridge out of Lego to hold 500grams. Fantastic work!



WAIHI MUSIC

Upcoming Events | Information | Updates

STRICTLY JUMP JAM

Saturday 10 August 2024

Last Saturday, Mr and Mrs Bradley, along with Miss Geary, led a team of 21 students to compete in the Strictly Jump Jam competition in Christchurch.

Every team member gave their best effort, and although we did not secure a top 3 place this time, we walked away with something even more meaningful—a special Excellence in Sportsmanship award.

Waihi was the only team to receive this award which highlights the character of our students. The judges noted a kind gesture by our team, which stood out amongst the rest of the competitors. This is a reflection of the respectful culture we foster at Waihi. We could not be more proud of how our team represented our school, both on and off the stage.

We all had an absolutely fantastic afternoon, and of course, no trip to Christchurch would be complete without the compulsory stop at Rolleston Macca's on the way home! It was the perfect way to top off a fun-filled day.

A huge thank you to the parents who helped with transport and showing your support in the audience as you cheered on the team.

Bring on Strictly Jump Jam 2025!!

- Mr & Mrs Bradley



For all music or itinerant enquiries, please email music@waihi.school.nz

Friday 16 August 2024

CELEBRATING OUR WAIHIANS

CHESS CANTERBURY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Tuesday 6 August 2024

On Tuesday 6 August 2024 eleven students travelled to Te Hapua, Halswell, Christchurch to compete in the Canterbury Individual School Championships. The Christchurch chess scene is very active as was evident from the large number of competitors on the day. Everyone played five matches against a variety of individuals in a 'Swiss' competition (this means each round you play someone on similar number of points). It was also the first experience for some of playing in a competition with chess clocks, the time pressure adding another dimension to the games.

The Year 8 players, Otto Acland, Nathan Andrew, Harry Blackman, James Currie, Oscar Elliotte, James Gorrie, Carter Horsley, Ryder Hughes, Leo Jackson and Bentley Roughan, put in very commendable performances, with everyone scoring some draws and wins.

Performance of the day however went to our only junior competing, Fox Mosen. Despite a shock loss in Round Three he bounced back to finish with 4/5 and first place in the Year 6 competition. The last time Waihi had a Canterbury Chess Individual Champion was back in 2018, awesome job Fox!

There will be several social and competitive tournaments in term three and four for our children to play in. The next event is the Chess Power Regional Event, hosted at Waihi on 19 August. We already have 39 Waihians signed up to participate...it promises to be a fantastic day of chess.

Thank you to Mr Brighthouse for accompanying the players to Christchurch as I was tied up hosting the Education Review Office (ERO) team here at Waihi. Mr Brighthouse said that Waihi's great sportsmanship and attitude was commented upon by numerous people on the day, well done everyone.

Mr Short



CELEBRATING OUR WAIHIANS

WAIHI SCIENCE FAIR 2024

Massive congratulations to our place-getters of the Waihi Science Fair. These Waihians were acknowledged in our school assembly this morning:

1 st place	Katie Rollinson
2 nd place	Olivia Copland and Charlotte Rigarslford
3 rd place	Charlie Dwyer and Samuel Watson

Runners up:

Angus Whillans
Jack France and Max McLauchlan
Rosie Bell and Maggie McGregor

HIGHLAND DANCERS

Waihi's Highland dancers have been busy dancing across Canterbury over the past few months. Florence, Philippa and Annabel all successfully sat their Grade 2 examinations in May.

NZ Highland Dancing Championships were held in Ashburton over the July holidays with Philippa and Florence competing for the first time in the U12 classes. Tough few days of competition but Philippa was pleased to come home with two Very Highly Commended's and a Highly Commended in the Sword, Highland Reel and Fling.

Florence had great success in a recent Christchurch competition coming home with a 1st in her Sailors class and some 2nd's & 3rds as well. Florence is also working towards her Grade 3 examination in September, so we wish her well for that.

Philippa's most recent achievements in Christchurch competitions have included U11 Canterbury Championship Sailors in June and U11 Canterbury Championship Highland Fling in August. Both girls are looking forward to Temuka and Waimate competitions coming up in the next few weekends.

