

Waihi School Newsletter



In this issue:

Weeks Ahead...

From the Headmaster's Desk

Staff Updates

Waihi Notices :
Events, Information, Updates

Waihi Classroom:
Sharing, Information, Updates

Celebrating Our Waihians:

Sandford Science
Science Badges
Chess Power Regionals

Weeks Ahead...

Term Three 2024

WEEK TEN

Thu 26 September 2025 New Students Day at Waihi
End of Term Three for all Year 4-7 students

SCHOOL HOLIDAY BREAK

Fri 27 September Pyne House hires
- Tue 1 October

Tue 1 October –
Thu 3 October School Holiday programme

WEEK ONE

Mon 14 October First day of Term Four 2024

WEEK TWO

Tue 22 October Whole School, Cultural, Sporting photographs
Wed 23 October Timaru Community Visit
Thu 24 October Ashburton Community Visit

FIRST DAY OF TERM 4 2024

Term commences on **Monday 14 October 2024**,
with boarders returning to Pyne House from 4:00pm
on **Sunday 13 October 2024** to set up cubes, etc.

2025 SCHOOL TERM / HOLIDAY DATES

Next year's school term and holiday dates are on page 5 of this newsletter

Wednesday 25 September 2024

From the Headmaster's Desk

Dear Parents

It is that time of year again when we metaphorically 'strap ourselves in' for the frenetic rollercoaster ride that is Term Four. As you will see from the calendar, which will be posted on the school website, next term is extremely busy.

However as we look towards the end of another school year, I would like to acknowledge our Year 8 students. I have told them that their job is to squeeze every last drop out of their final eight weeks of school and for them, with all they have to look forward to it, it really will be over before they have time to notice. I hope they have time to take the odd moment to be mindful over their final weeks of primary school; to stop, to think and to just 'be' in the moment.

The class of 2024 are an exceptional group of young Waihians who have grown into fine leaders and role models for the younger children. I wish them every success on the next stage of their educational journey and trust that they will continue to follow their passions and dreams. I am excited to see what the future holds for them.

I wish you all a lovely holiday break with your tamariki and I look forward to catching up with you all at the various events taking place over Term Four!

Kind regards

Allan Short

Headmaster

Headmaster's Thought - Māori Language Week whakatauki

“Whāia te mātauranga hei orange mō koutou
- Seek after learning for the sake of your wellbeing.”

STAFF UPDATES

We are farewelling...

Mrs Trish Cameron

Trish Cameron has informed me of her decision to step back from full-time teaching at the end of the year. Trish and her family have recently purchased a larger farm and as such Trish will be helping run this. They are however still local, and Trish is keen to retain her Waihi links by assisting with relief teaching, and so the staff and children will still, I'm sure, see Mrs Cameron around Waihi on a regular basis.



Ms Bek Worner

Bek Worner is also moving on as her family will be relocating to the North Island this summer, to Feilding near Palmerston North.

There will be opportunities to say "goodbyes" and "thank yous" in more depth at the end of the year, but I would like to say now how much I have appreciated not only the dedication and commitment of both Trish and Bek but also their great attitude and loyalty to Waihi. We wish Trish and Bek every success for their future.

We are recruiting...

Interviews are currently underway for replacement staff, and I hope to have full details of the 2025 staff team in our next newsletter.

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

Upcoming Events | Information | Updates

Whole School Photographs

Tuesday 22 October 2024

All Whole School, Cultural, Leadership,
Summer and Winter sports team photos
will be taken in Week 2 of Term 4 2024.

All children to be in their **number one uniform,**
with clean shoes for this school day.

Formal Uniform (Number Ones)

Boys: Blazer, white shirt, tie, dark grey shorts, long grey socks,
black leather shoes

Girls: Blazer, white long-sleeve blouse, tie, winter tartan skirt,
long navy socks or tights, black leather shoes,
tartan scrunchie/hair band

Team photos will be taken with children in their relevant sport uniforms –
please ensure they have these kits with them to change into,
including the correct socks for each of their sporting codes.

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If you do not wish to order any (or all) of these additional photographs  
which your child will be appearing in (cost of \$17 each),  
please email Kat on [executive@waihi.school.nz](mailto:executive@waihi.school.nz) to advise  
prior to this photo session.

This will assist with logistics of ensuring we only supply the 'wanted'  
photographs and try to avoid any return of unwanted photos.

# W A I H I   N O T I C E S

Upcoming Events   |   Information   |   Updates

## Waihi School Trust Board : Term Dates 2025

### Term 1      Monday 27th January – Friday 11th April (11 Weeks)

|                  |                                               |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| Y8 Leaders Day:  | Sat 25 Jan 2025                               |
| Boarders' Camp:  | Sat 25 – Mon 27 Jan 2025                      |
| Waitangi Day:    | Thu 6 Feb 2025                                |
| Exeat Weekend 1: | Fri 21(Swimming Sports) – Mon 24 Feb          |
| ExeatWeekend2:   | Fri 21 – Mon 24 Mar (Parent Teacher meetings) |

2 weeks holiday (includes ANZAC Day)

\* Staff Professional Learning Thu 23 and Fri 24 Jan 2025

### Term 2      Tuesday 29th April - Friday 27th June (8 Weeks 5/3 + Half Term)

|                  |                                              |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Half Term:       | Fri 30 May (Waihi Cross-Country) – Mon 9 Jun |
| King's Birthday: | Mon 2 Jun (During Half Term)                 |
| Matariki:        | Fri 20 Jun 2025                              |

2 weeks holiday

\* Staff Professional Learning Mon 28 Apr

### Term 3      Tuesday 15th July – Friday 19th September (9 Weeks 5/4 + Half Term)

|            |                                            |
|------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Half Term: | Fri 15 (Waihi Family Ski Day) – Mon 25 Aug |
|------------|--------------------------------------------|

2 weeks holiday

\* Staff Professional Learning Mon 14 Jul

### Term 4      Monday 6th October – Saturday 6th December (9 Weeks)

|                |                        |
|----------------|------------------------|
| Labour Day:    | Mon 27 Oct             |
| Exeat Weekend: | Fri 7 Nov – Mon 10 Nov |

\* Staff Professional Learning Mon 10 Nov

#### Note:

Waitangi Day and Labour Day are all public holidays within term time.

School is closed for day students these days. Boarders have a compulsory activity day on 6th February (Waitangi Day) and Pyne House will be open for any boarders who request it on Labour Day holiday.

## Year 8 Visit to South Pacific Sera Laboratories

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September the Year 8s had a visit to South Pacific Sera Laboratories in Timaru. The lab specialises in producing animal vaccines and animal blood products. Students were able to view the clean rooms and see the manufacturing process.

Pupils learnt about germs and how we can prevent becoming sick from them. Hands on demonstrations involved using 'Glo paint' to see how clean and well we washed our hands. The 'Glo paint' glows in ultraviolet light showing the spots that were missed with washing. Bacteria agar plates were then passed around to the students showing the types and amount of bacteria growing from different swabs taken around the lab.

A demonstration showed us how tricky it is to put on the clean room garments of gown, mask and eye protection. The aim was not to touch the outside of the garment to avoid cross- contamination when handling the sterile vaccines. Ethan, Grace and Leo then had a go at trying to put the protective clothing on.

The finale of the trip involved a demonstration of the drone produced by 'Aeronavics', based at the labs. It was impressive to see, and we also had a tour of the workshops to see the drones being assembled.

A huge thank you to Serra Laboratories  
for hosting Waihi School.





# WAIHI : CLASSROOM

Sharing Our Learning | Art Curriculum

## Art Examples : 6 TW



Ed Sheeran by **Tom Thatcher**



Olivia Rodrigo by **Annabel Maw**



Zach Bryan by **William Johnston**



Dua Lipa by **Adele Overcomer**



Megan Moroney by **Neve Johnson**

# CELEBRATING OUR WAIHIANS

## SANDFORD SCIENCE FAIR Tuesday 6 August 2024

Each year the Year 7s undertake a science investigation of their choosing to produce a science board which is then entered into the Waihi Science Fair. Students choose whether to work on this individually or in partners.

The project allows students to research a topic of interest to them, formulate a question and then to plan and conduct an experiment to prove or disprove a hypothesis that they have made on their subject.

Key skills of researching supporting material, conducting a fair test and identifying variables as well as accurately recording results and analysing and extrapolating data enable students to experience firsthand the skills of being a scientist and communicating their findings to a wider audience.

In our Waihi Science Fair 2024, congratulations go to - **1st place** Katie Rollinson, **2nd** Olivia Copland and Charlotte Rigarslsford, **3rd** Sam Watson and Charlie Dwyer, and highly commended Angus Whillians, Jack France, and Max McLauchlan, and Rosie Bell and Maggie McGregor.

The first three placing from the Waihi Science Fair, along with two year 8 students who chose to complete science fair projects of Harry Blackman and James Gorrie were then entered into the Sandford Science Fair at Timaru and were then judged against entries from other schools. A huge congratulations goes to Charlie Dwyer and Samuel Watson who were awarded bronze at the Sandford Science Fair 2024.

Their project involved investigating 'What type of firewood (beech, pine and blue gum) burns the hottest and longest?'. Blue gum was found to burn the longest and the pine the hottest. The conclusion was that hard wood is generally a good wood for burning in overnight fires and soft woods like pine are excellent for giving maximum heat quickly.

This year for 2024 the science fair projects were displayed in the science lab for Grandparents Day and enabled students to show and discuss with their grandparents and visitors their projects.

All the Year 7s are to be acknowledged for their dedication and hard work and effort in producing science boards this year.

Well done.





# CELEBRATING OUR WAIHIANS

## SCIENCE BADGES

Congratulations to the following students for being awarded:

### Science Investigation Badge

Harry Blackman

James Gorrie

### Zoology Badge

George Austin

### Advanced Science Explorer

Archie Kershaw

Oscar McLauchlan

### Science Explorer

Harry Ewing-Metcalf

Oscar Murphy

Clara Wright

## CHESS POWER REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

On Monday 19th August thirty six Waihi students participated in the Timaru/Oamaru Chess Power Regional Tournament hosted at Waihi .

Waihi secured entry to the National finals teams event for both Junior (Y1-6) and Intermediate (Y7/8) competitions and, in addition, six individuals gained an invitation to the 'Champions Trophy' event for top individuals – these competitions take place over the weekend of 26<sup>th</sup> / 27<sup>th</sup> October in Wellington.

Fox Mosen went one better than his silver medal last year winning the Junior event with a perfect score of 7/7. William Johnston gaining third place with 5/7. Harry Blackman was second in the Intermediate/Senior Event with 6/7 just half a point behind the winner from Geraldine High School. Carter Horsley, James Gorrie and Nathan Andrew were in a tie for third on 5½/7. Bentley Roughan finished tied for sixth place on 5/7 and due to his result in another Chess Power event in Rotorua, also gained qualification for the National Finals.

Congratulations to everyone who competed on the day.