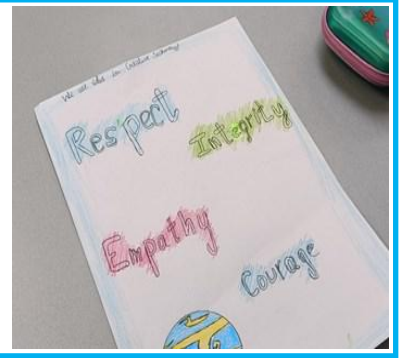




Respect ~ Integrity ~ Courage ~ Empathy



113 Becroft Drive, Forrest Hill, North Shore City 0620 Phone 09 410 7805
 School Email: wairauint@wairau.school.nz Board Email: boardchair@wairau.school.nz
www.wairau.school.nz Wairau Intermediate - Official

Dear Parents / Caregivers

Kia ora, Talofa, Malo e lelei, Kia orana, Fakalofa lahi Atu, Taloha Ni, Ni sa bula, 你好, Namaste, 안녕하세요, Hola, اَلْسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ.

As March approaches, it's wonderful to enjoy this summer weather. It's hard to believe that autumn is just around the corner. With the benefits that this settled weather brings; it was heart-warming to see so many students enjoying sports on our school field.

Zone days are well underway, and the softball students have certainly made the most of being outdoors both yesterday and today. A big thank you to Miss Cadness, Mr Pilkington, and our parent helpers for making both days a success. Our school van was put to good use, and the students represented our school with pride, showing both a competitive spirit and excellent sportsmanship.

When we talk to the students about our school values—Manaakitanga (Respect), Pono (Integrity), Kaha (Courage), and Aroha (Empathy)—we often make connections to our school houses: Manawa (Heart), Whakaaro (Mind), Wairau (Spirit), and Aroha (Caring).

These school houses remind us of the importance of nurturing our students' growth academically, socially, emotionally, and physically. This holistic approach to learning allows students at Wairau to demonstrate true Wairua—the spirit of being a good citizen.

Over the past few weeks, students have been exploring our school values, reflecting on what these values look like in practice.

At Wairau, our motto is *Nurturing Our Future*, and our vision is to *Nurture an Inclusive Community* that inspires excellence and pride. An updated version of our strategic plan, along with our vision, can be found on our school website www.wairau.school.nz. We will continue to refer to this throughout the school year.

With that in mind, we are proud to celebrate our end-of-year data for 2024. 77% of students are achieving at or above expectations in reading, 73% in writing, and 78% in mathematics—well above the statistics being presented by Government. We have much to celebrate, with many students making accelerated progress—more than one year's progress for one year of teaching. These are some real highlights: When we break down the data by gender, we see that boys and girls are achieving between 80% and 87% at or above expectations in reading, writing, and/or mathematics.

It is our intention to continue to improve outcomes for all learners. We have a fabulous team of teachers, who are invested in making a difference. We value the partnerships we have with you as this enhances the progress your child makes. As many of you work, we know that meeting face to face is rare at Intermediate. This is often how it should be as we seek to instill independence. However, do continue to reach out by email or phone call so that we can continue on this educational journey together.

Wairau Wero 2025!

We are thrilled to announce that tomorrow, Friday, 28th February, marks the launch of our Wairau Wero (Challenge) FUNdraising event for 2025!



Today, you will receive an email with more details, and a letter will be coming home tomorrow. To get involved, please head to <https://wairauwero.raiseit.co.nz> to sign up and create a fundraising profile for your child(ren).

What's the goal? We are raising funds to purchase digital signage and resources for our school. This exciting new signage will replace our current, outdated notice-board and will allow us to better communicate with our students, families, and the wider community.

Why Digital Signage? As participation in sports, cultural events, and extracurricular activities continues to grow, we need an effective way to showcase and celebrate these achievements. The digital signage will also be a great way to share important notices and updates. We believe it will have a positive impact on all current and future students.

Exciting Prizes and More! We've partnered with Go Raise It to manage our fundraising platform, and there are some amazing spot prizes available for those who participate. You can find more details about these prizes on the fundraising website and in the email and letter coming your way.

Our Goal – Let's Beat the Last Fundraiser! In our previous fundraiser (2023/2024), your generous support helped us purchase the school van. This year, we aim to raise even more – over \$12,000 – to make our digital signage dream a reality!

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to making this the best FUNdraiser yet!



Technology and Arts Education

At Wairau Intermediate, we have a proud tradition of delivering high-quality technology and arts education. Our modern, purpose-built classrooms are designed to support hands-on, practical learning experiences that engage and inspire students.

With a team of highly experienced and specialised teachers, we provide expert instruction across a range of technology and arts disciplines. Our focus is on fostering creativity, problem-solving, and technical skills, ensuring every student has a successful and rewarding learning journey. Technology subjects include:

Food Technology - The focus is on cooking healthy food and learning life-long skills with a combination of active demonstrations and practical cooking lessons in the specially designed kitchens. They will learn fundamental kitchen skills, how to use specific equipment such as knives, ovens, fry pans, microwaves and be prepared to make delicious meals for you to enjoy.



Hard Materials—Wood Technology - Students will have opportunities to create their own projects following a design brief and work plan. They will explore and work with a range of materials and equipment such as wood, acrylic sheet, electrical components, and various hand tools, a laser engraver is available for students to utilise for their projects.



Hard Materials—Metal Technology - Students will have the opportunity to develop different skills using a variety of tools to cut, shape, manipulate and weld different types of metal. They will be able to learn spray paint techniques, problem solving and creativity. They will learn to use equipment such as sanders, pliers, drills, tinsnips and hammers.



Creative Technology - Creative technology focuses on thinking skills, creativity and imagination, introducing the language of technology and business. Creative technology utilises the library and books as a knowledge source and is a 'device free' zone to encourage learners to use their own brain and thought processes.



Visual Arts — Students will have the opportunity to develop their creativity and artistic skills through hands-on exploration. They will learn how to make and create original artworks using a variety of materials and techniques. With guidance and support, students will experiment with both 2D and 3D art forms, developing their understanding of artistic processes while expressing their own ideas and creativity.



Music - Students learn how to play tuned percussion, ukulele, keyboard and bucket drums, and work towards performing as part of an ensemble. They explore orchestral instruments, taonga pūoro, different genres, and the fundamentals of reading music.



Board Elections 2025

Board Elections will be held later in the year. If you wish to see how a Board is run, we encourage you to come along to the second Board of Trustee Meeting held this term in our staffroom on **Tuesday, 25 March—6:00-8:30pm**. If you plan to attend please email:

boardchair@wairau.school.nz in the first instance.

Instant Noodles

Due to health and safety concerns, we wish to discourage students bringing unprepared noodle packets/containers to school as staff are not always available to supervise students adding boiling water to them. It is preferred these are premade at home and placed in a sealed container and they bring their own fork.

Spray Deodorant and Perfume

Spray deodorant and perfume are not required for school, especially as a number of children have asthma and allergies, whereas roll-on deodorant are allowed.

Bike Hub—Forrest Hill

Bike Hubs – a FREE local space to help you get your bike serviced for some safe cycling, offering basic bike repairs, refurbished bike sales, advice, training and more. A not-for-profit community project staffed by professionals and volunteers where you can learn how to maintain your bike.

Our local Bike Hub can be found at the Greville Reserve beside the football pitch on East Coast Road, every Thursday to Sunday, 10.00am to 2pm.



Block 2 - Zoo Trip Date Change

Block 2 have had a date change to their zoo trip. Please note the updated date is now **Friday, 2 April**. A permission slip will be sent home closer to the time.

Absentee Process

If your child is not in class at the time the roll is called by the teacher they are marked with a ? - question mark. Our office administration team, who check the electronic roll, are required to send those students (?) parents an alert text. We require a response by text or phone call as to whether your student is at school or not and the reason why if they are absent. The alert text is not intended to cause any panic for parents/caregivers, it is a safety measure. You are welcome to phone the office and our staff will make a follow up call to the teacher to check your child is now in the classroom if that is the concern, or please submit an absence via the usual channels of Skool Loop, our website or phone message (Please speak clearly).

Breakfast Club

Our "BREAKFAST CLUB" is held every Monday morning from 8.00am-8.30am in the Food Technology room. Students are provided with Weetbix and milk. Everyone is welcome.

Yolanda East
Principal

FRIDAY COUNSELLOR

WE ARE LUCKY ENOUGH TO HAVE A TRAINING COUNSELLOR (THROUGH MASSEY UNIVERSITY) ON FRIDAY'S AT WAIRAU THIS YEAR. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HAVING YOUR CHILD ATTEND SOME/ANY SESSIONS PLEASE CONTACT LIBBY
libbyb@wairau.school.nz
OR GIVE THE SCHOOL A CALL TO SPEAK TO HER MORE ABOUT THIS.

STUDENTS WILL ALSO HAVE THE OPTION TO SELF REFER IF THEY FEEL THEY WOULD LIKE TO BOOK A SESSION WITH OUR COUNSELLOR, MARGARET .

NZ OPERA

Preparations for [La bohème](#) are now under-way! As part of our casting, we will be assembling a small, children's chorus of unbroken voices. Children between the ages of 8-14 years are invited to apply to audition. Auckland auditions are:

Tāmaki Makaurau | Auckland

Saturday 15th March | 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Venue: NZ Opera Studio

5/69 St Georges Bay Road, Parnell



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TIME	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY
3.30 - 4.00pm	Year 1-3 S&D	Year 1-3 S&D
4.00 - 4.30pm	Year 5-8 Debate Beginner	Year 4-6 S&D
4.30 - 5.00pm		Year 7-10 PS
5.00 - 5.30pm	Year 6-8 Debate Foundation	Year 5-6 PS
5.30pm - 6.00pm		Year 7-8 S&D
6.00pm - 6.30pm	Year 9-13 PS Senior Class	Year 9-13 PS Senior Class

PS = Public Speaking
S&D = Speech and Drama

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO FIND OUT MORE

tenfeettall.co.nz ☎ +64 02 7333 7385 ✉ admin@tenfeettall.co.nz

Important Dates

2025 Term Dates:

Term 1	3 Feb—11 Apr
Term 2	28 Apr—27 June
Term 3	14 Jul—19 Sept
Term 4	6 Oct—16 Dec

Sports

NH Softball Girls	27 Feb
NH Cricket Boys	6 Mar
NH Triathlon	7 Mar
NH Swimming	11 Mar
NH Tennis Boys	17 Mar
NH Tennis Girls	18 Mar
NH Orienteering	20 Mar
NH Cricket Girls	25 Mar
NH Futsal Boys	1 Apr
NH Futsal Girls	3 Apr
Shore to Shore Run	6 Apr

Other

24 Feb —31 Mar	Fundraiser
Block 1 Zoo Trip	—14 Mar
Block 2 Zoo Trip	— 4 Apr
Block 3 Zoo Trip	—21 Mar

Board of Trustee Meetings Term 1 2025

To be held in the Staffroom:
Tuesday, 25 March—6:00-8:30pm

Teacher Only Days 2025

Friday 30 May

Easter Public Holidays

18 April	Good Friday
21 April	Easter Monday

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