Newsletter Number 7 2025
23 May 2025

Wairau Intermediate

NURTURING OUR FUTURE

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, اَلسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ .

As we approach the middle of Term 2, it continues to be heartening to see our students established in school routines, engaging deeply with their learning, and embracing the many opportunities on offer across the school. The energy around the classrooms, playgrounds, and specialist spaces is a reminder of the vibrant and inclusive culture we are so proud of here at Wairau Intermediate.

As we move through the term, we're excited about the learning ahead, and the continued focus on student wellbeing, progress, and connection. If you haven't yet downloaded the free Skool Loop app to your phones, I encourage you to do so. There you can access school newsletters, updates and our school calendar to help stay abreast of key events on the horizon.

Thank you for your ongoing support - it truly takes a village to raise a child, and we're grateful to be on this journey together.

Celebrating Student Innovation – Inventionator Success!

Last week, three teams of outstanding students represented our school in the Inventionator programme - and what a fantastic effort they put in! Their hard work, ideas and ways they navigated the online Inventionator Portal was truly impressive.
Through their collaborations across the week, these students demonstrated that they could collaborate and create innovative solutions to everyday problems. They worked hard as a team, maintaining focus as they enthusiastically developed their ideas while navigating new technology in the Inventionator portal. They were a pleasure to observe and work alongside. They can be incredibly proud of their winning results.

Overall 1st Place Winner: Plant Pal
Congratulations to Dania A, Ben R, and Binu E.

Best Description Category: Dream Pulse
Well done to Ben B, Charley R, and Jack G.

Best Delivery Category: Trash to Treasure
Lithium R, part of a collaborative project with two other schools.

Congratulations Inventionators!

Curriculum – Assessment and Reporting

In our last newsletter I informed you of a parent portal launched by the Government. This is an online resource designed to support families to play their part in their child's learning.

Education is a partnership of what happens in the classroom and what happens at home. Parents, caregivers, and whānau play an important role in supporting their child's learning and development. The new webspace is designed to make it easier for parents, caregivers, and whānau to access clear and up-to-date information on the school curriculum, assessment practices, and ways they can complement their child's learning.

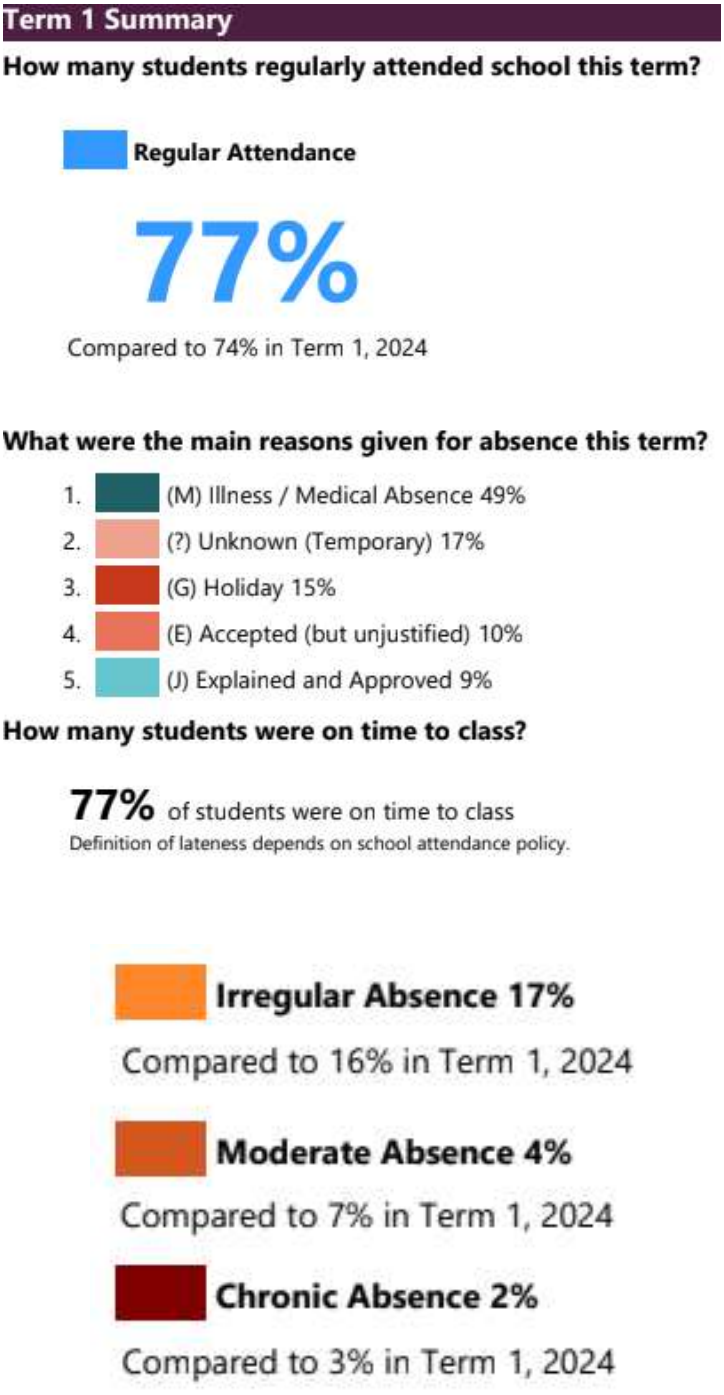
More detailed information can be accessed via this link: Parent Portal

You are the Missing Piece - The Importance of Regular Attendance

At a recent school assembly, I shared a story about a student named Manaia, who discovered that each day at school is like a piece of a learning puzzle. When students miss school, they miss out on more than just lessons - they miss the chance to grow, connect with others, and succeed as part of the team.

The message was clear:
Every student matters. Every day counts.
When students are not here, *they are the missing piece*.

Whakataukī:
"Mā te huruhuru ka rere te manu – With feathers, a bird can fly." Every school day adds a feather that helps our tamariki soar.



Lockdown Practice and Procedures

As guardians of Wairau (Kaitiaki) an important part of our role as teachers and leaders is to provide a caring and nurturing environment where health and safety process and practices are strong. As kaitiaki, we review these processes so that we are familiar with what we need to do especially in an emergency. Therefore, as part of emergency response processes, we carried out a lockdown practice on Wednesday this week 12.00 and 12.30pm.

Throughout the year, we work closely with Clint Robinson from "All About People". He oversees both our trial evacuation and lockdown practices.
In a practice lockdown we will not use all channels of communication. We will only contact you by email and Skool Loop. During a practice all areas of the school will be locked. Therefore, if you call or visit during a practice, we will not be able to assist you until the lockdown is over.

In a real lockdown we plan to do the following:

1. Send a text, alerting you to check emails for updates
2. Inform you via Skool Loop that we are in lockdown
3. Keep you updated as new information comes to light at regular intervals (depending on the length of the lockdown) by email
4. Ask that you do not phone the office or come onsite as we need to keep the lines open and the vicinity of the school clear for emergency services
5. Inform you when the lockdown is over by text, then email.
6. Direct you regarding the process for collecting your child from school or whether we can continue with the rest of the school day.
7. After the lockdown is over (later that day or evening) send more information to you regarding the event that led to the lockdown.

Our priority as kaitiaki is to the put the safety of our students first. While we know, in a real event this will be a worrying time for you, we will need your understanding and patience if we are not in contact for a while. Our communication with you will be dictated by the nature of the event as in a real lockdown we often have to take our direction from the police who will also work closely with us. We will endeavour to reassure you throughout the lockdown via email at regular intervals.

Support Staff Change

This week, we say a heartfelt goodbye to Angela Kelly, our dedicated School Secretary. Angela has been a valued and trusted member of the Wairau team, and her contribution to our school community has been greatly appreciated. She will be deeply missed by staff, students, and whānau alike.

As Angela relocates to Taupō, we wish her all the best for this exciting new chapter. We know she will make many wonderful memories with her whānau, and we look forward to hearing about her new adventures.

At the same time, we are pleased to welcome Rui Stewart to our team. Rui brings a wealth of experience in administrative roles, and we are confident her transition will be smooth. We know our community will extend a warm Wairau welcome as she settles into her new role as School Secretary.

Student Learning Conferences – Week 9

Mark your calendars! Our Student Learning Conferences will be held on **Wednesday, 25 June (Week 9).** Over the comings weeks teachers will be assessing your child's progress with a view to making informed judgements about their mid-year progress which will follow in a school report. This is a valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress and next steps in learning. Information on how to book your time slot will be sent home next week.

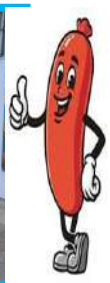
Book Week Success!

Book Week was a huge success full of reading enjoyment opportunities. Thank you to all our wonderful families and students who helped prepare and serve a refreshing breakfast. It was great to see you. Not to mention the book sales ! A big thank you to our own Miss Janet Conway of 1/4 who lead the event.

Pink Shirt Day

We've been busy at Wairau! Pink Shirt Day was another high level participation event by both staff and students.

Bullying has **no** place at Wairau Intermediate. It is completely at odds with two of our school values of ***Respect*** and ***Integrity*** and it takes ***Courage*** to stand up against bullying and ***Empathy*** to support those affected.



The Pink Shirt Day Sausage Sizzle was enjoyed by many!

Squash Zone Day

Ben G, Yireh K. and Joowon K. demonstrated their squash skills and swift movements last week at the North Harbour Squash Zone Day and can be very proud of their efforts. Great work boys!

Global Gateway Student—Jane Legge

It has been a privilege to have Jane Legge over from Indiana for eight weeks working alongside art students in our visual arts department. She leaves us today and we wish her all the very best in her teaching career.

Pasifika Fono Evening - Reminder

Please note the Pasifika Fono Evening will be taking place on the new date of **Wednesday 28 May 2025 - 6:30-8:00pm in the library.**

Westlake Boys High School - Annual Information Evening

Westlake Boys High School will be hosting their Annual Information Evening on **Thursday, 24 July 2025**. There is no need to register for this event; it is open to all students and their families, who wish to explore what WBHS has to offer, in relation to secondary school enrolment decisions. The evening will begin with school tours led by our Year 13 Prefects from **6:00 PM to 7:15 PM**, followed by a formal address from our Headmaster and musical performances from our premier groups. They are excited to showcase what their school has to offer and hope you will join them for this exciting evening at Westlake – www.westlake.school.nz.

Westlake Boys High School
Te Kura Tuarua o Ngā Taitamatāne o Ururoto

Yolanda East
Principal

Important Dates

2025 Term Dates:

Term 2	28 Apr - 27 June
Term 3	14 Jul - 19 Sept
Term 4	6 Oct - 17 Dec

Sports

26 May	**Yr7 Girls Football Zone Day**
27 May	**Yr8 Girls Football Zone Day**
5 June	**Water Polo Zone Day**

Other

28 May	**Pasifika Fono Evening**
29 May	**Immunisation Programme**
4 June	**Immunisation Catchup Date**

Board of Trustee Meetings Term 2 2025

To be held in the Staffroom:

Tuesday, 17 June - 6:00-9:00pm

Teacher Only Days 2025

Friday	**30 May**
Monday	**14 July**
Monday	**6 October**

Public Holidays

2 Jun	**King's Birthday**
20 Jun	**Matariki**
27 Oct	**Labour Day**

Wairau Intermediate
NURTURING OUR FUTURE

would like to

INVITE OUR PACIFIC ISLAND FAMILIES

to a

TALANOA

WEDNESDAY 28 MAY

6.30PM-8.30PM

LEARN MORE ABOUT WAIRAU AND GET TO KNOW OTHERS IN OUR COMMUNITY BY CONNECTING OVER KAI. LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.

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School Library & Food Tech Room

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triciao@wairau.school.nz

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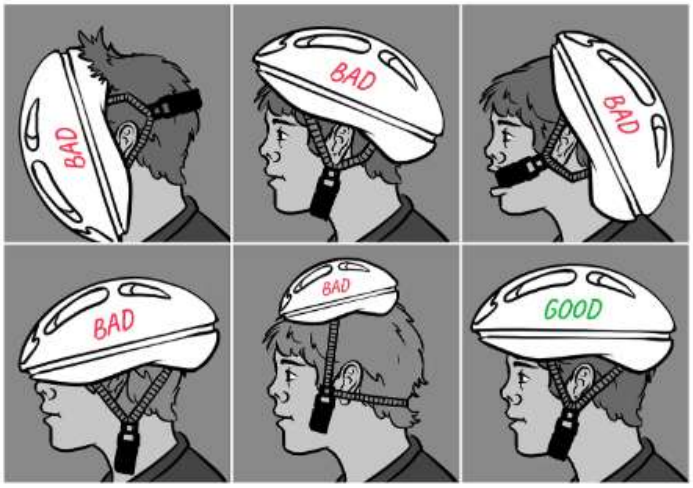
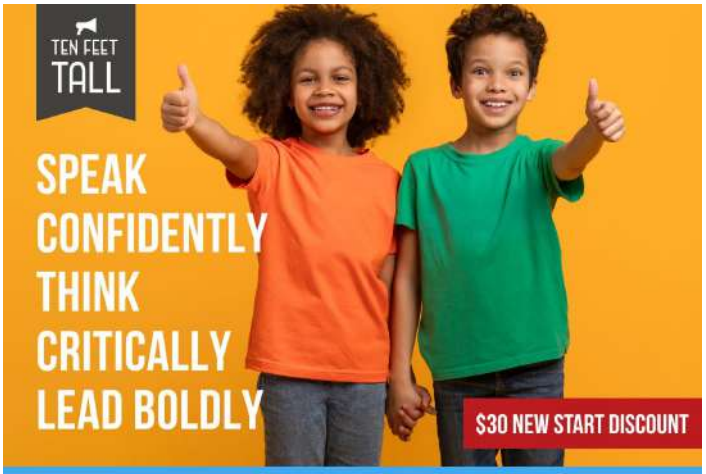


TEN FEET TALL



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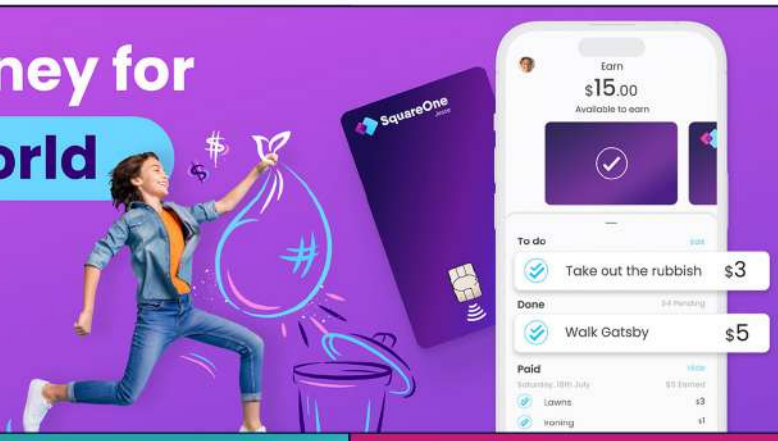

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