Wairau Intermediate
NURTURING OUR FUTURE

Respect ~ Integrity ~ Courage ~ Empathy

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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, ٱلسَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ .

It has been a positive and settled start to Term 2, with students re-engaging in their learning and classrooms full of energy, focus, and enthusiasm. Thank you for the ongoing support you provide from home - it makes a real difference to the way our students begin each term.

Last week, we were pleased to host a visit from the Education Review Office (ERO). The review was affirming and positive, reflecting the effective leadership, strong learning culture, high expectations, and inclusive practices that underpin life at Wairau Intermediate. We look forward to sharing with you more detailed feedback once their summary report has been finalised.

2025 Triennial Board Elections

Every three years, state and state-integrated school communities elect their Parent and Staff Representatives to help govern their schools. The date range for the 2025 Triennial Board Elections has been confirmed as **3–19 September 2025, with the recommended election date being Wednesday, 10 September.**

As a school, it is our responsibility to keep you, our community, informed about the Board Elections. We encourage anyone interested in standing for the Board to understand the election process and key dates, so you can consider putting yourself forward.

All Board meetings are public, and whānau are warmly invited to attend should they wish to learn more or get involved.

To find out more about becoming a Board Member, please visit:
schoolboardelections.org.nz/become-a-board-member

Fair Play Code

At Wairau Intermediate, we believe sport is not just about competition, it's also about character, teamwork, and respect. Our 'Fair Play Code' is in place to ensure all students experience positive, inclusive sporting opportunities where effort, improvement, and fair participation are valued just as highly as winning. This helps build resilience, integrity, and sportsmanship in our learners, both on and off the field.

The 'Fair Play Code' also applies to parents, coaches, and managers. Their role in modelling respectful behaviour, supporting all players, and reinforcing positive attitudes from the sidelines is vital. Together, we create an environment where every player feels safe, supported, and proud to represent their school, while learning the lifelong values that sport can teach.

As the whakataukī reminds us: "Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini – My strength is not as an individual, but as a collective. "By upholding this code together, we ensure sport remains a source of pride, unity, and growth for everyone involved.

Our Fair Play Code is attached within this newsletter.

FAIR PLAY

Parent Portal - Update from Erica Stanford (Minister of Education)

Erica Stanford is delighted to announce the launch of a new Parent Portal – 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 can be accessed here

Update Regarding Kindo

We wish to inform you that from the beginning of this term, we will no longer be using Kindo as our online payment system. While convenient, the cost of nearly 4% per transaction is passed on to you, our parent community. Our payment systems of online banking and Eftpos are more cost-effective and fairer for families. Please check your Kindo accounts and clear any outstanding payments as soon as possible.

Student Leave in Term Time

A reminder about school attendance: It is important that students are present every day unless genuinely unwell. We strongly discourage families from taking holidays during term time. Please be aware of the following if you are requesting leave for travel:

- Teachers will not provide schoolwork during this period. However, we encourage your child to maintain a daily journal and continue to engage in regular reading.
- The school is not responsible for any lost learning resulting from this absence.
- If your travel plans change or are extended, please inform the school immediately to prevent your child from being removed from the school roll.
- Leave longer than 20 days may result in your child having to re-enrol and be placed in a different class on your return.
- While this leave may be approved for administrative purposes, your child's absence may still be recorded as a concern, as absences totalling five to nine days can result in attendance falling below 91%, which is classified as "irregular attendance" under Ministry of Education guidelines.

Let's continue working together to ensure our students are present, engaged, and thriving in their learning.

Teacher Only Days

Additional Teacher Only Days this year have been approved as follows:

- Monday 14 July 2025
- Monday 6 October 2025

Book Week is Underway!

This week our school is hosting a Book Week to promote the love of Reading. During this week we have a Scholastic Book Fair, a community Reading Breakfast and today a Fancy Dress Up Day (as a favourite character). There have been daily trivia, reading challenges and lots of prizes.

Book Fair - Our school library has transformed into a pop-up bookshop, offering a selection of engaging and affordable books for all reading levels. Book buying will be available during the lunch period throughout this week. Every book that is purchased at the fair directly goes towards raising money for our school library.

Who is Your Favourite Character? - Today students arrived dressed as their favourite story character. There will be prizes awarded for best dressed. Photos will be added to our Facebook page.

Reading Breakfast - To end the week, tomorrow on Friday, 9 May parents and families are invited into our school hall from 7:30 - 8:30am. This is an opportunity for parents and community members to visit the fair, and spend time together reading over breakfast.

Thank you for supporting our young readers, and this initiative at our school.

NZL Baseball (12U) - Owen K

Owen and his team have earned the right to represent New Zealand again in the Baseball Little League Asia Pacific Qualifier for his age group. The country that wins this tournament will earn the right to represent this region in the USA for the "World Series." This is an amazing accomplishment for Owen, who has worked hard to achieve this and to represent New Zealand on the world stage again, this time being one of the leaders of the team. The tournament takes place in South Korea later this term.

As this is a user pay model, Owen has the task of fundraising to get himself there. A "Give a Litte" page has been created for anyone willing and able to help Owen on his road to South Korea would be greatly appreciated. Any funds raised will help him to cover expenses, including travel, uniform, accommodation and training to attend the tournament. Please find the QR code here:

http://givealittle.co.nz/

Support Owen's Journey to South Korea for the Little League Qualifier!

Owen's final 12U Little League tournament! Help him lead his team in South Korea & represent NZ. Every bit of support counts!

Free Immunisations Reminder

Year 7 Boostrix vaccine (Tdap). This vaccine is a booster of tenanus, diptheria and whooping cough (pertussis). Most children received these immunisations as pre-schoolers.

Year 8 Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine. This is a New Zealand schedule vaccine that is recommended to be given at 12 years of age. Students need two doses with a month gap between dose 1 and 2.

Thank you to those families who have completed and returned their child's immunisation forms however, there are still an amount outstanding. Te Whatu Ora - Health New Zealand have asked us to remind families who have not returned their forms to please do so promptly, whether declining (reason is not required) or accepting. If no form is received, their Registered Nurses are required to follow up with families via phone.

Immunisations will be held in the school hall on **Thursday, 29 May.** If students are absent on this date a catch up date of **Wednesday, 4 June** has been confirmed.

If you would like more information on this important immunisation programme, please go to **School Immunisations**.

North Harbour U12 Waterpolo - Harper R

The North Harbour U12 Sharks Waterpolo team participated in a 3 day tournament in Tauranga over the school holidays. Playing against teams from around the North Island, Harper R alongside her team mates managed to bring home a bronze medal. Congratulations for an amazing effort!

Pink Shirt Day

Next week is Bully-Free New Zealand Week – an important opportunity for us at Wairau Intermediate to affirm our commitment to a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment for all.

On **Friday 16 May** we will acknowledge and support **Pink Shirt Day**!

Pink Shirt Day is about celebrating diversity, spreading kindness, and promoting inclusiveness to help stop bullying. It's a day where Aotearoa stands together to create safe, respectful communities for everyone - regardless of gender identity, sexuality, culture, ability, or background. Led by the Mental Health Foundation since 2012, the kaupapa encourages us to ***Kōrero Mai, Kōrero Atu, Mauri Tū, Mauri Ora – Speak Up, Stand Together, Stop Bullying!***

You can learn more about the pink skirt day kaupapa here .

This opportunity reminds us that preventing bullying is a shared responsibility. As a school community, we need a common understanding of what bullying truly is.

Bullying is deliberate, repeated behaviour that causes physical or emotional harm. At its core, bullying is about power when someone, or a group, seeks to control or dominate others.

Bullying has **no** place at Wairau Intermediate. It is hurtful, harmful, and 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.

When our students live our school values, they celebrate diversity, include others, and build positive relationships. That's what makes our school a place where everyone can thrive.

Values also come from the home. We encourage you to talk regularly with your child about what bullying looks like, both in person and online. Please help us by having open conversations about how they treat others and how they are being treated in return. Monitor their online interactions and reach out to your child's teacher, one of our Deputy Principals, or myself if you ever have concerns.

Together, we can stop bullying *before* it starts and ensure Wairau remains a bully-free school where all tamariki feel safe and valued.

PhotoLife Photos

A reminder that class and individual photos will be taken on **Tuesday 20 May 2025.**

Pasifika Fono Evening - Change of Date

Please note the Pasifika Fono Evening will be taking place on the new date of **Tuesday 27 May 2025 - 6:30-8:00pm in the library.**

Change of Career? ….Teaching?

The Teachers' Institute are hosting an information evening for 2026 potential teacher trainees. The evening will include the chance to hear from some of their current students about their experiences so far, as well as the TTI team explaining the application process and some detail about the programme. Any queries regarding admissions can be sent to: anita@teachersinstitute.org.nz.

Important Dates

2025 Term Dates:

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

Sports

8 May	**Yr8 Netball Grading**
13 May	**Yr7 Boys Football Zone Day**
15 May	**Yr8 Boys Football Zone Day**
26 May	**Yr7 Girls Football Zone Day**
27 May	**Yr8 Girls Football Zone Day**

Other

Fri 16 May	**PINK SHIRT DAY**
Tues 20 May	**PhotoLife Class Photos**
Tues 27 May	**Pasifika Fono Evening**

Board of Trustee Meetings Term 2 2025

To be held in the Staffroom:

Tuesday, 20 May - 6:00-9:00pm
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**

Yolanda East
Principal

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Friday 2nd May 3:30-4:40pm
Friday 16th May 3:30-4:40pm
Friday 30th May 3:30-4:40pm

John Ilott Charitable Trust

The Fair Play Code for Players

Good sport is about “positive attitude”. Play your part - play fair. To the best of your ability you will:

- Play by the rules
- Never argue with an official
- Work hard to do your best at all times
- Be a good sport and recognise good players and good plays by all involved
- Remember to thank your coach, the officials, the opposition and supporters
- Help others in your team when you can
- Avoid putting people down or bullying them
- Give it your full effort

The Fair Play Code for Teachers / Coaches / Managers / Scorers

Good sport is about “positive attitude”. As a coach you set the standards. Play your part to help make each game a success - play fair. To the best of your ability you will:

- Set personal behaviour standards for yourself and those you coach to follow
- Give each player the same amount of your attention and time
- Provide every player with the same opportunities to play the game
- Encourage respect for the opposition and officials. Never argue with the referee, encourage cheating or make excuses for losing
- Always be positive. Never shout at or ridicule players
- Respect players' efforts regardless of whether they have won or Iost
- Keep winning and losing in perspective with personal challenge and enjoyment
- Give it your full effort

The Fair Play Code for Parents and Supporters

Good sport Is about “positive attitude”. You can set the right tone and help make the game a success. Play your part - play fair. To the best of your ability you will:

- Encourage your child, and other people's children, in their efforts in sport
- Insist that your child plays within the rules and by the principles of fair play
- Make an effort to understand the rules (modified) of the game
- Respect your child's efforts regardless of whether they have won or lost
- Display self-control on the sideline
- Always be positive. Never shout at or ridicule players
- Support good play and applaud good performance from all competitors
- Show your appreciation to people who volunteer their time so your child can play
- Remember that your child plays sport for their reasons, not yours. Never place undue pressure on your child to play or perform
- Be a positive role model for your child
- Give it your full effort

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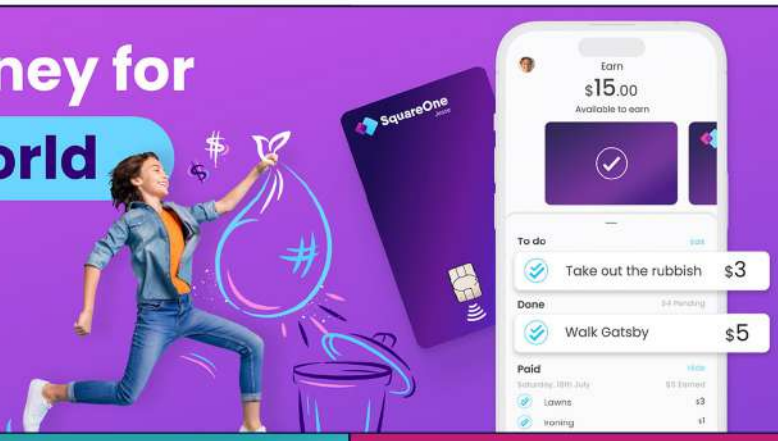

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