Newsletter Number 9 2025
19 June 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, السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكُمْ .

Mānawatia a Matariki

This year Matariki is on, Friday 20 June (this is a public holiday - school will be closed).
Traditionally, Matariki was used to determine the coming season's crop. A warmer season, and therefore a more productive crop yield, was indicated by how bright the stars were. It was a time to be thankful for, and to cook and eat the last season's crops.

In mid-winter, when Matariki appears on the Eastern horizon in the morning, the Matariki ceremony takes place. This is commonly known as 'whāngai i te hautapu', meaning to offer food to the stars. Matariki calls us to cluster together to celebrate our world, our people and our home by remembering our loved ones, celebrating who we are today and who we hope to be in the future. Like many cultural celebrations, this is a time to reflect on the past year, celebrate the present, and plan for the year ahead.

The period of Matariki is about all of us - the people of Aotearoa New Zealand. As a school, it is a time for us to cherish those within our school community - our fellow board members, school staff and whānau. This karakia honours the rising of Matariki and celebrates the new year.

Mānawa maiea te putanga o Matariki
Mānawa maiea te ariki o te rangi
Mānawa maiea te Mātahi o te Tau.
Whano, whano
Haramai te toki ata huakirangi
Haumi e
Hui e
Tāiki e!

Celebrate the rising of Matariki
Celebrate the lord of the skies
Celebrate the new year
Unite, unite
And bring forth the dawn
Together in union
We are one!

At school this week, teachers planned a range of cultural activities to celebrate this important time of year. Activities included poi making, story-telling and learning about the significance of the stars and traditional kite making.

On Wednesday this week our Kapa Haka students participated at the Te Huinga Matariki o te Kāhui Ako o Pupuke Matariki Festival. This event was a highlight of our school calendar and provided an opportunity to showcase our Kapa Haka students.

Thank you to Matua Darius, Whaea Tracey, Miss Cadness (DP) and participating students, who together made this such a special and heart-warming occasion.

Whether celebrating over the weekend with family and close friends, sharing a meal or hākari (feast), travelling home or to special places where you can be together, venturing out in search of the best viewing spot for Matariki or attending the Matariki events organised in your area - we hope you enjoy connecting and being together.

Mānawatia a Matariki! (to honour, acknowledge, and welcome in Matariki)

Mauri ora!
Stay well!

Matariki Festival

Celebrate Matariki with the Mairangi Arts Centre during their annual Matariki exhibition. This long time tradition brings local schools and community organisations together to collaborate and learn what Matariki is all about!

This year **Wairau Intermediate** are one of five schools contributing student artworks to this exhibition, along with Campbells Bay School, Northcross Intermediate, Murrays Bay Intermediate and St Johns School.

The following students will be showcasing their work:
Oneli D, Owen K, Pamila S, Esan S, Gabriel T, Bethany T, Yewon K, Cynthia S, Imogen W, Jordan W, Kyle S, Lucy W, Anita V G, Yeeum J, Olivia C, Chenxi S, Angel L, April J, Enoch I and Ben B.

The opening ceremony is on **Saturday 28 June** at 12pm. Please mark your calendars!

Technology Fees

A reminder that our Technology/Specialist Fees of $100 per student were due in Term 1. We understand that some families are finding finances difficult in the current economy, therefore we are happy for you to make smaller contributions towards this sum on a regular basis. Please email our finance secretary at vav@wairau.school.nz if you wish to proceed with this option.

Board Elections 2026

Board elections will be held in September 2025. If you wish to see how a Board is run, we encourage you to come along to our next Board meeting held next term in our staffroom on the following date:

⇒ Tuesday 5 August

If you plan to attend, please email:
boardchair@wairau.school.nz

Student Learning Conferences

This is a reminder for those of you we haven't seen in a while, that we sincerely hope we will meet the majority of you at our mid-year learning conferences - Tuesday 24 June (3/10) and Wednesday 25 June (all other home room classes and tech / specialist teachers).

This will provide an opportunity for you to ask questions about your child's mid-year report while also talking to your child's teacher about their next steps and ways in which you can support their learning at home.

We encourage you to please also book a time to meet with the technology / specialist teacher that your child has been taught by so far this year.

If you haven't yet booked a conference time, please refer to the letter attached with a reminder about how to do this.

Mid-Year reports will be sent home by email on Monday 23 June. Please look out for these in your inbox.

While the Government is gradually introducing phases instead of curriculum levels, you will see that currently your child's report is still reporting against level 4 of the New Zealand curriculum.

Keeping Students Safe Online

This is a timely reminder that we partner with Linewise, to add additional layers of protection while your child is online at school. This enables us to successfully monitor when the students are using their school accounts positively. Students have access to their school accounts between 8.30 am and 7.30pm at night. We ask that you are also proactive in monitoring safe use when your students are on the internet.

If you haven't done so already, we encourage you to download the free App "Qustodio", as this will give you visibility of how your child engages online on their learning device. Use the link below to create your Qustodio account through our Online Safety Hub, and help manage your child's learning device.
https://wairau.onlinesafetyhub.nz/parent/home

Information to support internet safety can also be found at: https://netsafe.org.nz/parenttoolkit/

As parents / caregivers, we ask for your support in:

- Creating safe, digital habits and online safety
- Encouraging your child/children to talk face to face rather than behind a screen
- Encouraging your child/children to discuss their online experiences both positive and negative

If you require support and assistance in dealing with digital safety, you may find the following support useful: www.parentingplace.nz There are useful courses and parenting talks to support whānau to deal with the range of issues our emerging adolescents face.

https://netsafe.org.nz/ also provides useful information for parents with regards to keeping children safe online.

Spotlight on Sport

Water Polo 2025 – Time to Celebrate!

Orcas

End of Term 2 winners!

2026 Zone Day

Charley R, Yireh K, Ethan W and Olivia R, who play as part of the Orcas water polo team, came first in their grade at the Winter Water Polo Festival!

Megladons

First in their division at Zone Day!

Cross-Country

We are very proud of all students who participated and tried their best on Monday 16 June at Cross-Country Day! The results are as follows:

Yr7 Girls	1st	Chloe H
	2nd	Rylee F
	3rd	Ella S
Yr7 Boys	1st	Riley B
	2nd	Jack K
	3rd	Alex S
Yr8 Girls	1st	Brooke H
	2nd	Olivia C
	3rd	Lucy D
Yr8 Boys	1st	Muhammad N
	2nd	Nate H
	3rd	Preston S-L

The House winner of the day was **AROHA**!

House Captains and Student Leaders representing Wairau as marshals on Tuesday 17 June at the primary school's Cross-Country Super Cluster event held at Sunnynook Park.

Netball North Harbour - Student Selection

Netball North Harbour has advised that **Olivia R.** has been selected for the Year 8 Player Development Programme (PDP) for 2025. With 105 Year 8 players trialling, Olivia made the final selection out of 37 players in the programme, very admirable achievement. Well done Olivia!

Olivia is also pictured with fellow Orcas water polo players, who participated in the recent water polo festival.

Chess Zone Day

We were delighted with the amount of interest in the Chess Zone Day competition this year - we entered 10 teams!

Sarah H. receiving a certificate at the Chess Zone Day prize -giving presentation on Friday 13 June at the at Northcote Intermediate. Sarah was one of the few girls attending on the day, making this another commendable achievement by one of our students. Well done Sarah!

Seussical the Musical

We are delighted to share that **Hayden F.** will be in the upcoming musical, *SEUSSICAL. A Dr Seuss musical!*, performing as Jojo (see flyer at the end of this newsletter).

ABOUT THE SHOW:
Imagine all that you know from a Dr Seuss book - now imagine it singing and dancing on stage! Seussical, based on the immortal works of Dr Seuss, brings to life the beloved Dr Seuss characters and their stories. Bright, bold, and bursting with heart, Seussical is a musical adventure like no other.
Recommended for ages 3+

Kiri Te Kanawa Theatre, Aotea Centre

Friday 27 June, 7pm
Saturday 28 June, 1.30pm and 7pm
Sunday 29 June, 1.30pm

Tickets from Ticketmaster, click here

Term 2 - Principal Values Recipients

Manaakitanga - Respect
Dimath W, Qasim K, Joel U M
Pono - Integrity
Jiselle T, Oneli D, Origin-Stylez S-W
Kaha - Courage
Maddox L, Charlie L, Riley B
Aroha - Empathy
Nathaniel K, Clariska B, Hannah P

Yolanda East
Principal

Important Dates

2025 Term Dates:
Term 3 14 Jul - 19 Sept
Term 4 6 Oct - 17 Dec

Sports
24 June **Table Tennis Zone Day**

Mid-Year Learning Conferences
24 June **Room 3/10 only**
25 June **Homeroom classes and Technology/Specialist teachers**

Board of Trustee Meeting in Term 3 2025
To be held in the Staffroom:
Tuesday 5 August from 6.00-9.00pm

Teacher Only Days 2025
Monday 14 July
Monday 6 October

Public Holidays
20 Jun **Matariki**
27 Oct **Labour Day**

Travelling overseas soon?

You must do a New Zealand Traveller Declaration when you come back

TravellerDeclaration.govt.nz

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

New Zealand Traveller Declaration | Whakapuakanga Tangata Haere ki Aotearoa

WAIRAU INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL
2025 Mid-Year Learning Conferences

Book School Interviews Online

Our mid-year learning conferences will be held on **TUESDAY 24 JUNE (3/10 only) AND WEDNESDAY 25 JUNE between 1:00pm and 7:30pm (all other classes and specialist teachers)**

These learning conferences **take place in your child's classroom** and have a focus on student learning. All conferences are timetabled for **10 minutes** duration. However, **please arrive at your child's classroom 10 minutes prior to your scheduled time so that your child can share their classroom environment with you. Interviews with technology teachers are also available. Please ensure you only book interviews with the specialist teachers who have taught your child so far this year. These teachers are only available on Wednesday 25 June.**

It is essential that your child also attends the conference as they will be sharing with you aspects of their work that they are proud of, where they could make improvements and where their successes have been. Their homeroom teacher will be present to support your child through the process. You will receive your child's school report prior to the conferences and will therefore be able to ask any questions you may have relating to the report.

Opportunities to talk with your child's homeroom teacher on a more personal level are always available. Please email your child's teacher if you have other concerns or questions you would like to discuss before the scheduled conferences.

To book your learning conference, go to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code in your browser, and enter the event code **yvt7h**. Then follow these three simple steps:

First enter your name, your student's name, and your email address.

On the next page, choose the block, then the teacher you want to see from the list. If you would also like to see a specialist teacher, you can Add another teacher for [student] **and choose the block, then teacher from the list.**

Then you will see a timetable showing when your chosen teacher is available. Simply click on the time that suits you.

When you have finished, your learning conference timetable will be emailed to you. You can return to the site and enter the event code **yvt7h** again to change or cancel your booking. If you do not have internet access, please phone the school office on 09 410 7805 and they will be able to make a booking for you.

Tuition in Academic Writing

Enrolling Now for Term 3
Limited Places Available

Group Classes

Online after-school tuition (one-hour lesson)
Small groups (maximum of 4 students)
Groups: Years 5 & 6, Years 7 & 8
(For fluent speakers of English)

One-to-One Lessons

One-to-one online after-school tuition (one-hour lesson)
Years 5-10
(For fluent speakers of English or ESOL students)

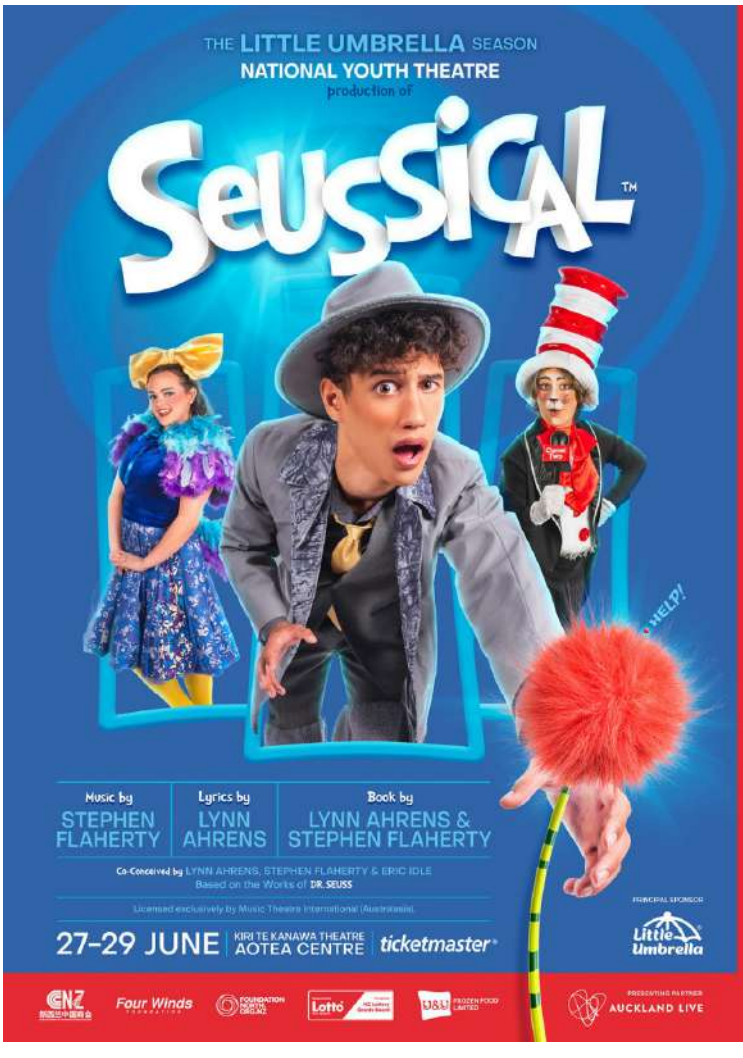
Master the fundamentals of academic writing:

- Scholarly voice
- Academic vocabulary
- Complex sentence structures
- Punctuation
- Structuring writing
- Building the fundamental skills required for the NCEA Literacy Co-Requisite (Writing Assessment)
- Building confidence in writing

Allie Rankine:

Qualified & Registered New Zealand Teacher
with over 35 years of experience.

Contact: EnglishWithAllie.teacher@gmail.com



Starring Your Wairau Intermediate School Student

Hayden Fish as JOJO

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***Booking & Credit Card fees additional**

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- Mini Games
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- Meet new friends

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- Time (9:00 AM - 3:00 PM)
- Team Games
- Combine Circuit
- Skills and Drills
- Mini Games
- New Sports
- Meet new friends

July Holidays
Week One Mon - Thu
30TH JUNE - 3RD JULY 2025
9AM-3PM

More Information

www.squadholidayprogramme.com

@squadhpnz

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Have questions?
Contact Sarah: 027 368 1633

READY TO SIGN UP?
SCAN THE QR CODE!

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SHAPE THE FUTURE OF SUNNYNOOK, TŌTARA VALE & FORREST HILL
YOU'RE INVITED:
COMMUNITY POTLUCK DINNER
Come along to our community pot-luck dinner, where you'll get a chance to connect with your neighbours and hear a bit about the community plan for recovery in Sunnynook, Tōtara Vale and Forrest Hill.
Sunday 22 June 2025
6.30pm
Sunnynook Community Centre
SCAN HERE
Learn about the project & access great resources around recovery.
SUNNYNOOK COMMUNITY CENTRE
Contact: grace@communitythink.nz
https://sunnynook.thinkport.nz

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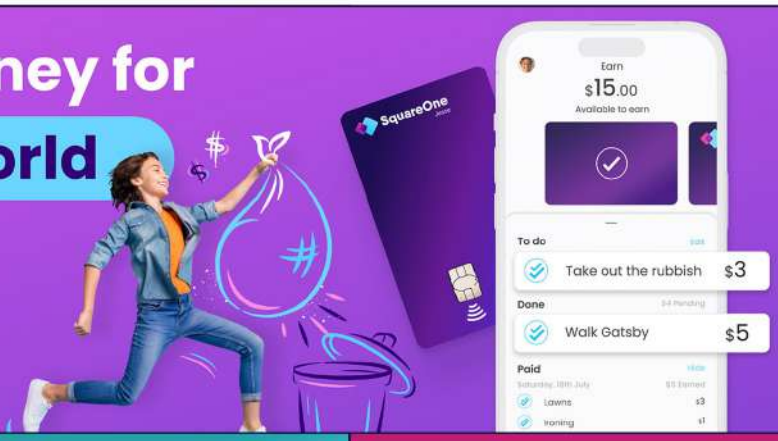

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