Newsletter Number 18 2025

17 December 2025

Wairau Intermediate School

Respect | MANAAKITANGA · Integrity | PONO · Courage | KAHA · Empathy | AROHA

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School Email: wairauint@wairau.school.nz Board Email: boardchair@wairau.school.nz
Website: www.wairau.school.nz www.facebook.com/wairauint

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

As 2025 draws to an end, I would like to take this further opportunity to thank everyone: students, teachers, support staff, admin, property staff and the Board, for the support I have been given throughout my five years as Principal at Wairau Intermediate. You all contribute to making our unique school the wonderful place it is.

As we head into Christmas and the summer holiday, here are some final reminders and information alongside all acknowledgements of our outstanding award recipients.

Outstanding Academic Achievement
- Chenxi Song
- Katarina Zhang
- Maria Nistor
- Jack Greenwood
- Oneli Dissanayake
- Jihoo Lee
- Olivia Cho

Outstanding Sports Achievement
- Owen Keen
- Ben McClintock Gibbons
- Diamond Pelenaise Vakaloa
- Olivia Rice
- Lincoln Richmond
- Charley Roberts

Outstanding Achievement in Technology
- Eli McIvor
- Anita Van Greunen

Outstanding Achievement in the Arts x2
- Katarina Zhang
- Shruti Senthil Arumugam

Kapa Haka Kaitiaki Awards
- Ben McClintock Gibbons
- Raquel Giles

Outstanding Citizenship Award
- Hayden Fish
- Olivia Cho
- Clariska Barnard

Outstanding Leadership Award
- Baran Esmail
- Zara Rahim
- Jack Greenwood

2026 Term 1 Commencement Date

The first full day of term for all students will be Wednesday 4 February 2025 commencing at 8.45am. Year 7 students and any new Year 8 students will attend on Tuesday 3 February for 15 minute Meet the Teacher interviews. We will be emailing families in mid-January with information on how to make bookings for these.

Mihi Whakatau

On Thursday 5 February at 10.00am we have a mihi whakatau to welcome new students and staff members to our school. Parents are welcome to attend.

Please remember Friday 6 February is Waitangi Day. All term dates are available on our school website: www.wairau.school.nz/news-information/

Contractors Onsite

During the school holiday we will have multiple contractors onsite who will commence scheduled property projects. For health and safety the school is not a safe place in which to cut through or play during the summer break.

School Office Reopening

The school office will reopen on Thursday 29 January 2026 from 9.00am. New enrolments can be accepted at that time.

End of Year Reports

School reports will be emailed to parents today, Wednesday 17 December.

Stationery Information

Stationery packs can be purchased from Paper Plus for the 2026 school year. We hope that you will purchase your stationery from them in support of local businesses. The stationery list can be found on our school website: www.wairau.school.nz/enrolment/

For Year 8 students, items can be purchased separately if a whole new pack is not required. Students must have their stationery requirements with them on Wednesday 4 February. This will support a successful and smooth start to the term.

paperplus Sunnynook

Teacher Only Days 2026

With the roll out of the new curriculum, you may have heard that the Government have allowed schools to schedule teacher only days for professional learning and development to assist with the implementation of these changes. To also enable us to include these days throughout the school year, we will not be **finishing** our school year until the **16 December 2026**.

Unfortunately owing to facilitators schedules we have not always been able to tag these to a weekend. Therefore, please add the following dates to your calendar in advance so that you can put plans in place ahead of time.

⇒ **Wednesday 4 March 2026** – Structured Literacy PLD Day 1
⇒ **Monday 30 March 2026** – Structured Literacy PLD Day 2
⇒ **Friday 24 April 2026** – Structured Literacy PLD Day 3

These days are important because they provide dedicated time for teachers to focus on tasks that benefit student learning, such as professional development, curriculum planning, preparation for new assessments and the implementation of curriculum changes.

As always, we appreciate your support and understanding.

NZ Uniforms

Our school uniform supplier, NZ Uniforms, are closing at 1pm on Wednesday 24 December for the festive season and their store will reopen at 9am on Monday 5 January **for students new to the school next year**.

The NZ Uniforms store is located at 19a Douglas Alexander Parade, Rosedale.

Store hours: Monday to Friday 9am-5pm
Saturday 9am-4pm
Phone: 09 477 6300
Email: albany@nzuniforms.com
Online order: https://wairauinterm.nzuniforms.com/

Water Polo Results

On Tuesday 9 December our water polo teams competed in their finals with skill and determination. We are incredibly proud of their achievements this year.

The Orcas came second in their division. They fought incredibly hard trying for the win, the effort was clear for everyone there! After leading the first quarter 2-1, the second quarter ended being tied up at 2-2, then it was goal for goal to make it 3-3! Unfortunately, first place wasn't meant to be, and we didn't get the win, but wow the kids were amazing!!

Most Improved Player - Orcas
- Lachlan K

Most Valuable Player - Orcas
- Charley R

Most Valuable Player - Development Squad Team
- Charley R

The Megladons played with similar spirit. They have had another successful semester. They placed 5th in their division.

Most Improved Player - Megladons
- Caleb B

Most Valuable Player - Megladons
- Harper R

Orcas

Megladons

Celebrating a Milestone: Our New Electronic School Sign!

We are thrilled to announce that our brand-new electronic school sign is finally complete and fully operational! This magnificent installation is a direct result of the incredible success of our "Wairau Wero" fundraiser earlier this year. To every family, student, and community member who participated, thank you. Your generous donations turned this ambitious goal into a reality, and we encourage you to take a look as you drive past.

This sign is a fantastic new asset for Wairau School. It will significantly enhance our ability to communicate key messages efficiently, share important updates, and celebrate the wonderful achievements and successes of our students. A special thank you goes to Nissim Cohen from Polycomp Digital Signs Auckland for bringing the sign to fruition.

Please enjoy reading the updated announcements and seeing our school spirit shine!

Block 3 Mural

The students in Block 3 have been busy designing, creating and painting the wonderful new mural recently hung outside Block 3. Fantastic job!!!!!

Farewell Year 8 Students

It is with mixed emotions that we farewell our Year 8 students and any Year 7s who will not be returning next year. We hope they enjoy reading through the pages of our 2025 Year Book which we hope goes some way to serve as a memory of all that they have achieved this year.

I wish you all a restful summer break and a merry Christmas as you enjoy time with family and friends. Stay safe and well everyone. We look forward to a settled and exciting new year.

Ngā mihi nui,

Yolanda East
Principal / Tumuaki

Important Dates

2026

Term 1: 3 February – 2 April
Term 2: 20 April – 3 July
Term 3: 20 July – 25 September
Term 4: 12 October – 16 December

3 Feb **Meet the Teacher Interviews**
4 Feb **FIRST DAY back for all students**

Keeping your mind sharp

Over the summer holidays, make sure you keep your brain moving! We encourage you to help your child to maintain a journal and continue to engage in regular reading. Try these ideas!

MARLBOROUGH PARK

YOUTHTOWN
SINCE 1932

YOUTH HUB

»PROGRAMME«

Introducing the next best hang-out spot for our youth!

If you are aged 11-18 years old & want a space to connect, cook, create & unwind after school...

WE HAVE THE SPACE FOR YOU!

WE'RE OPEN: Every Tuesday & Thursday - 3PM - 6PM
LOCATION: Marlborough Park Youth Hall - 13 Chartwell Avenue
COST: No cost - this is a FREE programme for our rangatahi

READY TO SIGN UP?
SCAN THE QR CODE!

Have questions?
Contact Sarah: 027 368 1633

EPIC HOLIDAY WORKSHOP

IS YOUR CHILD OR TEEN INTERESTED IN TECHNOLOGY?

JANUARY 2026

For beginner & advanced coders
Ages 9&10, 11&12, 13&14, 15 to adult
Fun, Free & Educational!

Sign up at codingnz.com/holidays

NORTH SHORE

youth music

2026 APPLICATIONS OPEN NOW

To apply or to find out more information about the above groups, visit our website or find us on Facebook

www.nsym.org.nz

MUSIC LESSONS AT SCHOOL!

music education centre

Specialist music tuition for a range of instruments including Piano, Guitar, Drums and more!

IT'S CONVENIENT!

Give your child the opportunity to enjoy **music lessons right at their school!** Our individualised lessons are **fun, educational**, and designed to **develop their skills.**

Learning music supports your child's growth by developing:

confidence · creativity · concentration · and so much more!

Scan the QR code for more info

SCAN ME

0800 89 39 39
Or call us!

TEN FEET TALL

HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

INTRO TO PUBLIC SPEAKING & DEBATE

Join us for a dynamic, skill-building day of debating, speaking and fun! Free 8.30am drop off.

EACH DAY INCLUDES:

- Fun activities and exercises to build skills
- Opportunities to develop creativity
- Team Performances
- Hands-on confidence building
- Screen-free, high-energy fun!

WHY PARENTS CHOOSE US:

- Small groups
- Device free
- Experienced, first-aid certified coaches
- Programmes that builds real-world life skills
- We don't share photos of students online or in our social media
- Affordable pricing
- Safe, supportive, and fun!

"My child absolutely loved every day – and came home more confident!"

SCAN THE QR CODE TO BOOK - HURRY LIMITED SPACES!

tenfeettall.co.nz

TEN FEET TALL

HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

LEARNING TO LEAD

A fun, creative space for senior students to shine!

Build Important leadership skills for life. Free 8.30am drop off.

EACH DAY INCLUDES:

- Fun activities and exercises to build leadership skills
- Opportunities to develop speaking confidence
- Team Challenges
- Hands-on confidence building
- Screen-free, high-energy fun!

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THRILL ZONE ESCAPE QUEST

HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

SUMMER BOOKINGS OPEN!

THRILLZONE | ESCAPE QUEST

WHAT WE OFFER

WE OFFER A RANGE OF TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN INDOOR AND OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE - ALL RUN AND SUPERVISED BY OUR TRAINED STAFF MEMBERS!

The Holiday Programme includes:

- Escape Game
- State-of-the-art Virtual Reality Experiences
- Tactical Laser Tag
- Race Car Simulators
- and more engaging Holiday Programme Activities

One Price thats includes all the Fun! - No extra charges!

15th of December - 30th of January

www.thrillzone.co.nz | 09 486 0773

TP3 BASKETBALL LIMITED

Summer Basketball Camps

Join us this summer at our high-energy basketball camp for players of all levels where you can train like champions!
Whether you're looking to improve your fundamentals or take your game to the next level in a fun enviroment this camps for you!

$50 per day

$100 2 day camp

$150 3 day camp

Camp One
Monday 8th- 9th December
9am-2pm
Rosmini College

Camp Two
Thursday 11th-12th December
9am-2pm
Rosmini College

Camp Three
Thursday 18th-19th December
9am-2pm
Rosmini College

Camp Four
Monday 19th-21st January
9am-2pm
Rosmini College

For all enquires and registration
email:
admin@tp3basketball.co.nz

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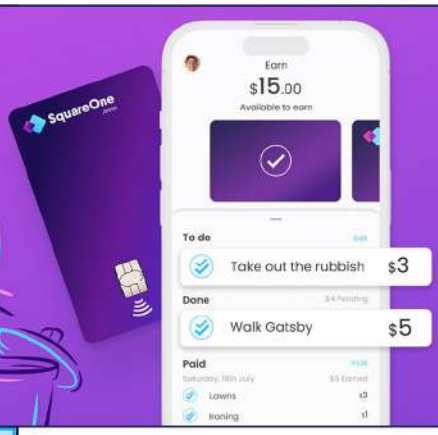

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Free Trial Mid-May Each Year

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With our individually tailored Kumon maths and English programmes, your child will develop a strong academic foundation that will nurture their learning for life.

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Standard home loan vs. smart home loan?

If you're looking for a smarter way to manage your mortgage, Jo, your local Mortgage Mentor, is here to help.
Book a free chat today!

Jo Staines
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m 021 896 030
e jo.staines@nzhl.co.nz

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