Newsletter Number 17 2025
4 December 2025

Wairau Intermediate School

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

113 Becroft Drive, Forrest Hill, Auckland 0620 Phone: 09 410 7805
School Email: wairauint@wairau.school.nz Board Email: boardchair@wairau.school.nz
Website: www.wairau.school.nz www.facebook.com/wairauint

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 .

A Heartfelt Reflection and Thank You

As we approach the final days of Term 4, I want to take this opportunity to extend my deepest gratitude to our entire school community. This year has been defined by incredible endeavour from our students, whose hard work, curiosity, and resilience we have been so proud to witness.

End-of-Year Reports: A Reflection of Endeavour and Standards

To our families: thank you. The success of our students is a direct reflection of the dedication and support you provide at home. We are immensely grateful for the trust you place in us to nurture your children's potential and for sharing your most precious gifts with our school. Every achievement, big or small, has been made possible through our strong partnership.

You will see this commitment and effort clearly reflected in the upcoming end-of-year reports. Academic results are important to us. However, please note that we are still reporting against the National Curriculum levels.

Currently our Year 7 and 8 students are expected to be operating within Level 4 of the curriculum. The report indicates their progress toward, within, or beyond this key developmental standard.

The reports are also designed to showcase more than just grades; they specifically highlight the learning behaviours and general capabilities your child has developed. These are the direct result of their personal endeavour this year. Look for comments concerning:

- Organisation and persistence
- Collaboration and independence
- Application of learned skills
- Overall effort in each subject

Reports will be emailed to parents on the last day of term.

Looking Ahead: Phase Three Reporting in the New Year

As we plan for next year, please be advised that our school will be transitioning to "Phase Three" (Year 7/8) reporting. This shift means that future reports will focus on where students are making progress against specific year-level descriptors, offering a more detailed view of their learning journey relative to their peers.

Further, comprehensive information regarding the changes to "Phase Three" reporting will be shared with the community early in the new academic year.

We are privileged to guide your children and celebrate the unique contributions they make every day. We wish everyone a strong, successful, and joyful finish to the school year!

Get Ready for an Interstellar Evening!

We are delighted to invite our Year 8 students to their special Social Evening, "A Night Under the Stars," on Thursday 11 November, from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. This supervised event provides a safe and fun environment for students to socialise, enjoy music, a light supper and celebrate their accomplishments this year.

Ticket information and permission slips have been sent home. The cost is $5 per student, and we kindly ask that you return the permission slips and payment promptly to ensure your child can attend what promises to be a memorable night with their peers. Please ensure arrangements are made for timely drop-off and collection from the school hall.

Mobile phones are to be left at home. If a student needs to contact their parent, they can do so at the school office.

Sporting Highlights

Athletics

Bethany W. following her first competition with the Takapuna Amateur Athletic & Harrier Club, at the CNW Athletics Relay competition, with her 3 bronze medals for 4x100m and 4x200m relays, and long jump.

Incredible work Bethany!

Last week Alex T. competed in the Shot put at the AAIMS Auckland Athletic Championships 2025, proudly representing Wairau School. While the results were not as hoped, Alex demonstrated a positive attitude and took great pride in representing his school.

Beach Volleyball Zone Day

The weather almost torpedoed beach volleyball week, but in the end our students were able to compete on Thursday 20 and Friday 21 November. What an awesome couple of days. The girls' teams finished 5th place and 1st place in the division, taking home the gold! The boys' teams also finished 5th place and 1st place with the gold! Well done everyone - your determination was all worth it and we are very proud of you all.

Kapa Haka Rōpū Excels at Onepoto Festival

On Friday 21 November, our Wairau kapa haka rōpū proudly represented our kura at the annual Onepoto Festival.

We commend the group for their exceptional performance, which was a testament to their year-long hard work and dedication. Our tauira delivered a polished, moving performance that showcased not only their skill but also their deep respect for te ao Māori. Beyond their talent, the students demonstrated exemplary behaviour, making us incredibly proud.

The event beautifully highlighted the whanaungatanga (kinship) between Wairau Intermediate and one of our local feeder schools, Sunnynook Primary. Students from both schools supported each other, culminating in a powerful haka tautoko (support haka) after each performance.

Ka rawe tamariki! Your passion and effort set a high standard. A huge thank you to Matua Darius and Tracey for their dedication and expertise in making this such a successful event for our ākonga.

Audrey Cadness
Tumuaki Tuarua

Prizegiving and Graduation Ceremony

Celebrate success with us! This is a timely reminder that our prizegiving and graduation is scheduled for Wednesday 17 December, at 9.15am. Join us as we honour our high achievers and officially send off our graduating students. It's a key event for the whole school community to reflect on the year's triumphs. Please be seated by 9.15am to ensure you don't miss the beginning of this important celebration!

Students go home after this event. The school bus will pick up at approximately 12.00pm.

Ngā mihi nui,

Yolanda East
Principal / Tumuaki

Important Dates

Term 4
7 Oct - 17 Dec

17 Dec **Last day of school 12pm finish**

EOTC (Education Outside the Classroom)
Mangere Mountain Trips
9 Dec **Block 1 rooms 1/0 & 1/3**
RESCHEDULED from 5 Dec to 9 Dec

Sport
8 Dec **Surfing & Beach Education Day**

Events
10 Dec **School Picnic - Long Bay**
11 Dec **Year 8 End of Year Social 7pm**
17 Dec **Graduation Prizegiving 9.15am**

kimi haeata
back our future

NZEI TE RIU ROA

Let's seek a new dawn in education

All tamariki in Aotearoa deserve an inclusive, engaging education which meets their needs.

However, cuts to school lunches, te reo Māori programmes, attacks on the quality of early childhood education and the scrapping of pay equity claims makes it clear this Government does not value the work of education professionals nor our children's learning.

The system is heading in the wrong direction. Educators are struggling and tamariki are being left behind.

As educators, whānau and community, we are calling on the Government to back our future. This means:

Tamariki need a teacher aide in every classroom
Fund a teacher aide in every class in Budget 2026.

Value educators fairly and ensure their work is secure
Attract – and retain – the best people to educate our tamariki, by delivering fair pay to all educators, making work secure and restoring pay equity.

Uphold te Tiriti o Waitangi in education
Protect te reo as a taonga for our tamariki by reinstating funding for te reo Māori learning for education professionals.

Defend quality early childhood education
Make early childhood education accessible, affordable, culturally appropriate and high quality for all tamariki, by retaining 100% qualified teachers and pay parity, and by improving teacher: child ratios.

Kimi haeata means seek the dawn, and we're seeking a new dawn in education. Back our future!

SIGN THE PETITION

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

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

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
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- 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

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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

Public transport services for 2026

Kia ora,

With the end of the school year approaching, we want to reach out to schools and parents with information about public transport in readiness for 2026.

The beginning of the school year, from the second week of February through until Easter, see a sharp increase in demand on Auckland's roads and public transport as schools and universities commence and people return to work from summer holidays. There will be more people than usual on the roads and using public transport services, especially during peak hours.

Each year, Auckland Transport reviews the performance of the network from February to April of the previous year, including school bus services and other popular services. We have already reached out to schools across Auckland asking for roll changes to plan ahead.

Here are three things parents and students can do to help ease the impact on school journeys during this busy time:

- **Ensure student's HOP cards are topped up.** Children ages 5 to 15 are eligible for a child concession giving them 40% off travel by bus, train or ferry when using their registered AT HOP card. For information on how to set up concessions search 'AT HOP card' online.
- **Encourage students to tag on and off each school bus trip.** It is important that everyone tags onboard so we can get accurate information about how many students are onboard each bus. This information is used to make informed adjustments to school bus timetables and bus sizes.
- **Plan ahead for the busy season.** If school buses are not an option for students, they can use urban bus services. You can use AT Journey Planner to find the service that will work best for them. Please know that public transport services will be busier than usual, so it's important to allow enough time for them to arrive early to get their bus, train or ferry in case there are queues.

If you have any questions about public transport services, you can call **09 366 6400** or email **info@at.govt.nz**.

Have a great end of the year and summer break,

Auckland Transport

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

Over the school 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!

MY Holiday JOURNAL

1. WHO DID YOU SPEND YOUR DAY WITH TODAY?
2. HOW DID YOU TRAVEL TO YOUR HOLIDAY DESTINATION?
3. DESCRIBE WHERE YOU ARE STAYING.
4. WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO WEAR ON HOLIDAY?
5. DESCRIBE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING YOU SAW TODAY.
6. WHAT FOOD HAVE YOU LIKED?
7. WHAT HAVE YOU READ TODAY?
8. WHAT HAS SURPRISED YOU MOST ABOUT YOUR HOLIDAY?
9. WHAT IS THE WEATHER LIKE?
10. WHERE WAS YOUR FAVOURITE PLACE TO BE THIS HOLIDAY?
11. WHAT NEW FACT HAVE YOU LEARNT?
12. WHAT MADE YOU LAUGH TODAY?
13. WHAT DID YOU DO OUTSIDE TODAY?
14. WHAT SONG REMINDS YOU OF THIS HOLIDAY?

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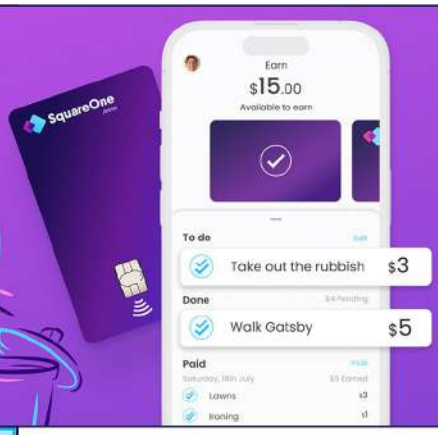

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With our individually tailored Kumon maths and English programmes, your child will develop a strong academic foundation that will nurture their learning for life.

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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.
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e jo.staines@nzhl.co.nz

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