WAIRAU INTERMEDIATE
NEWSLETTER

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 .

Nau mai, hoki mai ki te Wāhanga Tuatoru! A very warm welcome back to Term 3!

I hope you and your whānau have enjoyed a restful break and that you are seeing your child/children return with a renewed sense of energy and excitement.

As Principal of Wairau Intermediate, my passion for leading this forward-moving school grows stronger each term. Every day, my deepest drive is to serve this community and make a lasting, positive difference in the lives of our tamariki. True leadership isn't about standing out in front; it is about leading courageously in order to lift others up so that we can grow together.

In my leadership role, I am deeply guided by the principles of Tūrangatira - a Māori concept of educational leadership that translates beautifully into our English-medium context as purposeful, collaborative chieftainship. While our day-to-day focus is always centered firmly on our four school values (Manaakitanga, Pono, Kaha, and Empathy), Tūrangatira enriches how we live those values. Specifically, we use the principles of manaakitanga (unconditional care and hospitality) and whanaungatanga (strong, deliberate relationships) to ensure we are constantly reviewing, changing course when required, and staying responsive. We constantly strive to echo our school vision of "Nurturing an inclusive community that inspires excellence and pride" - a community where every student, whānau, and staff member feels a deep sense of belonging. We see this shared leadership in action across our school when:

- **Our students** step up as role models, showing integrity and taking ownership of their learning.
- **Our staff** design innovative spaces that challenge our young people to think critically and creatively.
- **Our whānau** partner with us, providing the strong foundation that allows our students to thrive.

We are a school that does not stand still. This term, we continue our relentless pursuit to inspire excellence and build a culture of absolute pride. By weaving our unique strengths together, we ensure our tamariki are equipped with the confidence and resilience to navigate an ever-changing world.

Block 2 Shade Canopy Upgrade

It was wonderful to return to school this week and see the newly installed shade canopy attached to Block 2. On behalf of the Wairau School Board of Trustees, I would like to thank Helen Whitcombe (Funding Connection) for working behind the scenes to apply for funding to make this happen. In addition, our heartfelt thanks go to our funders: New Zealand Community Trust (NZCT), Milestone Foundation, Aotearoa Gaming Trust AGT) and The Lion Foundation for their generous funding contributions that brought this to fruition. This upgrade will ensure all students benefit equally while also providing a safe, usable space for our wider community.

Community Consultation – Strategic Planning 2027 and Beyond

As part of this ongoing partnership and our commitment to constantly review and stay responsive, we need your voice. Therefore our community survey remains open. Please take a few minutes to complete our Community Survey by clicking on this link: Strategic Planning Community Survey. Alternatively you can use this QR code:

Your feedback directly shapes the direction of Wairau Intermediate, ensuring we continue to grow together. Completion of the survey allows you to also enter our $50 fuel voucher prize draw.

Highlights for the Term ahead

- Thursday 23 July – Matariki Newmarket – Intellihub – Kapa Haka Performance
- Friday 24 July – Kapa Haka Perform at Westlake Boys High School 6.55pm (access between 6.25-7.15pm)
- Tuesday 28 July – Welcome to Target Road, Year 6 Transition Day
- Wednesday 29 July – Welcome to Sunnynook Primary, Year 6 Transition Day
- Wednesday 29 July – Netball Zone Day
- Friday 31 July – School Cross County (whānau welcome to attend)
- Monday 3 August – Cook Island Language Week
- Tuesday 4 August – Cross Country Zone Day
- Friday 14 August – Sports camp payments due
- Monday 17 August – Tongan Language Week
- Tuesday 18 August – Girls Basket Ball Zone Day
- Wednesday 19 August – Rehu Tai Speech Competition
- Thursday 20 August – Boys Basket Ball Zone Day
- Thursday 20 August – Auckland Mathex Competition
- Wednesday 26 August – Gymnastics Zone Day
- Friday 28 August – Daffodil Day – Wear Yellow and Gold Coin Donation
- Monday 31 August – Friday 4 September – Year 8 Sports Camp
- Friday 11 September – Spellathon Day (information to follow)
- Monday 14 September – Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori Language Week
- Tuesday 15 September – Photolife Team Photos
- Wednesday 23 September – Girls Volley Ball Zone day
- Thursday 24 September – Boys Volley Ball Zone day
- Friday 25 September – Dancing Like the Stars 12.00pm
- Friday 25 September – End of Term three

Open Days / Evening For 2027 Enrolments

Enrolments for the 2027 school year are now open. Information regarding the enrolment process for next year can be found on our school website: www.wairau.school.nz/enrolment

Parents/caregivers of new Year 7 and 8 students for 2027 are invited to come along to visit our school on our Open Days being held on Tuesday, 4 August and Wednesday, 5 August between the hours of 9.00am and 3.00pm.

During this time, parents/caregivers will observe our culture of excellence. It will provide the opportunity to witness dynamic, high-impact learning first hand, seeing exactly how our innovative and creative environment inspires our students to thrive.

Throughout the day, during school hours, individual/group tours of the school will be conducted by the school Principal and Deputy Principals, and no appointment will be necessary.

An Open Evening will be held on Wednesday, 5 August from 7.00-8.30pm commencing in the school hall.

Teachers and current pupils will be on hand to explain how the school functions, answer questions and show you around. If you have a Year 6 child who will be enrolling with us next year, we encourage you to attend our Open Evening or to pass this information on to anyone who is intending to enrol for next year.

Enrolment Interviews

Year 6 enrolment interviews will be conducted with the Principal and Deputy Principals from 9.00am - 4.30pm between Monday, 10 August and Friday, 21 August.
To book an interview, go to: www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code in your browser and enter the event code **3wtry**

Fantastic Attendance Results!

Last term, our regular attendance reached 82%, surpassing the government's 2030 target of 80%. This milestone reflects the incredible dedication and engagement of our students. Thank you for your continued support in prioritising your child's education.

Staying Healthy This Winter

As we head into the winter season, we do expect an increase in illnesses. While consistent attendance is vital, your child's health comes first. Please keep them home if they are unwell to help prevent the spread of bugs and remember to notify the school office as soon as possible if they will be absent.

To keep our kura healthy, we will continue to focus on thorough hand hygiene and sanitising throughout the term.

Thank you for your ongoing partnership, your energy, and your trust. Let's make Term 3 another powerful and successful chapter in your child's and our school's journey.

Spotlight on Sport

The Rowan Brown watepolo tournament saw the North Harbour Seahorse in a very tight and competitive A grade league this year, losing one game against Marist to face them once again in a nail biting final. With under a minute on the clock Marist scored the winning goal with Harbour collecting Silver this year, losing 2 to 3. Harbour will be back stronger to claim the gold in the Hamilton Olympic Hopefuls later this year! Well done to Harper for representing your province - Silver is an amazing achievement.

Warm regards,

Yolanda East
Principal
Wairau Intermediate School

Check this out!

Complement your child's school experience with music lessons! Piano, guitar, and drums lessons available at school - helping students build confidence, creativity, and lifelong skills.

M.A.C. Matariki Art Exhibition

The Mairangi Arts Centre are holding their annual Matariki Art Exhibition between 18 July - 8 August. A number of our students will be showcasing their art work, so please head down to 20 Hastings Road, Mairangi Bay sometime to check it out.