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 .

Caring for Our Ship as We Navigate Term 3

Imagine a ship leaving the safety of the harbour. Week 1 is the excitement of untying the ropes; Week 2 is clearing the harbour walls. But Week 3 is where the ship reaches the open water.

Out on the open water, the shore fades, and the journey is fully underway. Success no longer relies on the initial thrill of setting sail. It depends on steady daily effort, teamwork, and keeping a firm hand on the wheel.

And, just like any crew at sea, how we look after our ship determines how well we travel. If a crew lets clutter build up, neglects their workspace, or treats their vessel with carelessness, the journey becomes harder for everyone. The same is true right here at Wairau Intermediate. Our school grounds, classrooms, and shared spaces are our waka. When we take pride in our environment - picking up rubbish, taking care of equipment, and respecting our physical spaces, we create a place where everyone can thrive.

This week, as our tamariki navigate their learning goals, sports, and arts, we are challenging them to show Kaitiakitanga (guardianship) and Manaakitanga (respect) for our school surroundings. A tidy, well-cared-for environment reflects a proud, focused crew.

Updates from the Board

Investing in Our School Environment

The Board and I are deeply committed to ensuring our students have learning spaces that are functional, modern, and inspiring. This ongoing investment requires strategic budget planning and vital support from external funders to bring our vision to life.

In our last newsletter, we were delighted to announce the installation of a new shade canopy for Block 2. Alongside this, our fundraising efforts have allowed us to renovate our lunchroom (thanks to our Term 1 Raise It fundraiser). It has now been freshly painted with brand-new bench tops installed. We are now moving into the next phase of purchasing suitable lunchroom equipment.

Additionally, our partnership with Helen Whitcombe at Funding Connection has secured grants for:

- A new sound system (soon to be installed in our school hall)
- 45 Chromebooks to support digital learning across the school
- 6 commercial TVs for our classrooms

Looking ahead, we also have funding applications in the pipeline for a new shade canopy in Block 3, new astro turf for our sports courts, and refreshed seating for our school hall.

With these exciting additions, we are asking that students help us to care for our school environment together!

Year 6 Transition Visits

Over the past two weeks, we were thrilled to welcome Year 6 students from Sunnynook, Target Road and Forrest Hill Primary Schools.

Visiting students tasted a day in the life of a Year 7 student, exploring exciting hands-on lessons in our technology department. We were impressed by their enthusiasm and energy. We look forward to welcoming many of them to our school family next year.

Be sure to check out photos from their visits on our official Facebook page!

2027 Enrolments

Enrolments are open for next year! Enrolment forms, our prospectus, information regarding enrolment interviews and specialist opportunities can be found on our website under Enrolments www.wairau.school.nz.

While in zone applications will be given priority, and despite exciting roll growth, we are in the position of being able to take out of zone applications for the 2027 school year. With all that Wairau has to offer we would like to take you and your child on this exciting journey with us. We look forward to seeing your child enrol at our school. If you have any questions about the enrolment process, please call 09 410 7805 for more information.

Cross Country

Last Friday we held our school cross country. In true Auckland fashion the weather was all over the place, which made for some wet and muddy conditions - the kids didn't seem to mind!

Results were as follows:

Year 7 Girls
1st - Nethu W.
2nd - Ari C.
3rd - Jane J.

Year 7 Boys
1st - Aly S.
2nd - Stephan W.
3rd - Boo M.

Year 8 Girls
1st - Rylee F.
2nd - Ekam R.
3rd - Chloe J.

Year 8 Boys
1st - Riley B.
2nd - Jack K.
3rd - Filip G.

School Uniform Reminders

Students are expected to wear full school uniform to school. We have noticed a number of students are coming to school in slides which are no allowed. After the cross country we have allowed students to have a uniform pass where needed as we appreciate their shoes are still drying from this event. If they need a pass, they need to see Miss Brown or Miss Cadness when they arrive at school.

Students must not wear make-up, false eyelashes or nail polish to school. If we see this, they will be asked to come to the office to remove this.

Only jewellery of cultural significance is allowed and/or a watch. Long hair must be tied back. We appreciate your assistance with these messages at home.

Winter Beanies For Sale

This week we launched the sale of our winter beanies. We are trialing the sale of 50 and if popular we will order more. They cost $6.00 each and are being sold on a first come first served basis at our school office. We are asking students to write their name inside their beanie so if misplaced it can returned to its owner.

Asian Hui

We invite our Asian community to join us for a special evening to connect, meet one another, and engage with our school community.

Date: Thursday, 20 August

Time: 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Location: Block 2 (Room 2/7)

Refreshments: Light snacks, tea, coffee, and juice will be provided

Who can attend?
All parents and caregivers are welcome. Students are also encouraged to attend when accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

What to expect:
This gathering is a chance to:

- Meet other families in our school community.
- Learn more about our school.
- Ask questions and share feedback on how we can continue to enhance teaching and learning for your children.

We look forward to welcoming you! See the attached flyer for further details.

Community Survey

A special thank you goes to the 67 parents/caregivers who have found the time to complete our community survey. Your voice is important to us and will assist in shaping the future direction of our school.

This survey closes on Friday, 14 August. Complete it by then for a chance to win a $50 fuel voucher!

Click on this link: Community Survey 2026 or you can use this QR code:

Cyber Safety

The Ministry of Education has created a page with advice and links to useful resources for parents who are wondering how to support their children online. It provides tools to learn how to behave online and how to recognise behaviour that is not okay. It covers a range of online topics for young people and teenagers.
www.education.govt.nz/parents-and-caregivers/schools-year-0-13/digital-technology/keeping-students-safe-online

Gates and Security

In response to community feedback from last year, we have repurposed older gates from the front of the school to increase security at the rear grounds opposite Sunnynook Park. To ensure easy access for students, the pedestrian gate has been fitted with a lift latch.

If you are visiting the school during the day, entry is via one of the 3 pedestrian gates at the front of the school - one on either side of the main office building and one to the right of the top vehicle gate. Please press the bell and come to the office. When exiting, press the release button on your right before you get to the gate.

News and Events

Check the Sports tab on our website to view upcoming events and event details. Sports events are announced in advance during school assemblies and daily notices, along with details for initial sign-up meetings. Students will also bring home a notice detailing the date, venue, and cost.

Cook Islands Māori Language Week

This week is Cook Islands Māori Language Week and the theme for 2026 is "Me kite koe i te tuatua i to'ou reo tupuna, e turanga rangatira tena nō'ou no te uki amuri atu" - With our language as our foundation, we will embrace the future.

At our school assembly today we were delighted with performances from our Pasifika dance group. We loved their energy, dance skill and passion. Thank you to Miss Sinisa, Miss Fesili and Phoenix for bringing Cook Islands Māori Language Week to life!

Important Dates

Term Dates	
Term 3 Term 4	20 Jul - 25 Sep 12 Oct - 16 Dec
Sport	
Tuesday, 18 August Thursday, 20 August Wednesday, 26 August	Girls Basketball Zone Day Boys Basketball Zone Gymnastics Zone Day
Events and Other	
10 - 21 August Wednesday, 19 August Thursday, 20 August	Enrolment Interviews Rehu Tai Competition Auckland Mathex Competiton

Warm regards,

Yolanda East
Principal
Wairau Intermediate School

Free business and personal accounts, ready in minutes.

emerge

Proud sponsors of the Wairau Intermediate Sports Camp 2026

Check this out!

Asian Hui

YOU'RE INVITED..

We warmly invite our asian students and parent community to join us for an evening of connection, culture and community.

THURSDAY 20 AUGUST | 6PM–7.30PM | BLOCK 2, ROOM 2/7

Everyone is welcome! RSVP to our office.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Wairau Intermediate
NURTURING OUR FUTURE

"whangaia ka tupu ka puawai"
That which is nurtured, blossoms and grows

M.A.C. Matariki Art Exhibition

Last chance to check out the annual Matariki Art Exhibition at The Mairangi Arts Centre before it closes on 8 August. A number of our students are showcasing their art work, so please head down to 20 Hastings Road, Mairangi Bay.

Check this out!

TERM 3

ORDER SUSHI LUNCH

LIMITED TIME ONLY

TERM ORDER

ORDER FOR THE WHOLE TERM

SAVE 10%!

Plan ahead and save time and $$$!

SUSHIDAY EVERY FRIDAY

CONVENIENT
Set & forget for the whole term!

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Save 10% off with term orders!

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WESTLAKE MUSIC 2026

GALA WEEK

OUR FINEST SHOWCASES OF THE YEAR!

CHORAL

04 August | 7:30 PM

Westlake Girls High School Events Centre

TICKETS

Double concert passes available online only via WGHS website

INSTRUMENTAL

07 August | 7:00 PM

Westlake Boys High School Auditorium

2027 STARTS NOW.

START YOUR WESTLAKE STORY ON THE WATER.

Coming to Westlake Boys High School in 2027?
Before your first day, join other Year 8s for a fun afternoon on the water and discover one of Westlake's most successful sports.

- *ZERO EXPERIENCE NEEDED*
- *MEET YOUR NEW MATES*
- *TRY SOMETHING EPIC*
- *GET OUT ON THE WATER IN A BOAT!*

LOCATION:
North Shore Rowing Club, Lake Pupuke

HAVE A GO DAYS:
7 & 21 August after school
29 & 30 September holiday camp

YOUR WESTLAKE ADVENTURE STARTS HERE.

REGISTER NOW