



Waitoki School NEWSLETTER



TERM 4

8 DECEMBER 2025



Year 7/8 WPC - Vector Wero



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www.waitoki.school.nz



Waitoki School

Adaptive, curious,
creative lifelong
learners.



Grit
Ownership
Aroha
Teamwork

Tēnā koutou whānau,

And just like that, we have reached the last few days of the school year and I can't believe how quickly the year has flown by. However, it is not over yet as we still have a few celebrations happening before the end of the year. On **Thursday 11th December** we are holding a special **morning tea** from 10am to thank everyone who has supported Waitoki School throughout the year. We hope you can make it. **Christmas in the Country** is on **Friday 12th December** from 4.30pm. This informal end of year community gathering is an opportunity to share some Christmas songs with whānau and for our older students to hone their entrepreneur skills by running a market stall. Class performances will begin at 6pm.



Whole school prize giving is on **Monday 15th December** from **8.45am** and I am looking forward to celebrating student successes. The **Y8 graduation Ceremony** is on the same day from **6pm** and we will celebrate our oldest learners who are moving on to college. We will also acknowledge our Y6 tamariki who are completing their primary school years.

On **Monday 15th December** your child will be bringing home their **end of year report** outlining their progress and achievement, along with a letter informing you of their class teacher for 2026, instructions for ordering stationery and your child's attendance report for 2025. Students will have the opportunity to meet their new teacher and classmates on **Monday 15th December** after prize giving. Parents will also be given the chance to connect with their child's new teachers on **Tuesday 3rd February**. Appointments can be made through Skool Loop and more information about the booking process will follow in January.

We were pleased to see a positive shift in our student achievement data in reading, writing and maths. Analysis of the reading data indicated that 83.7% of all students are achieving either at or above the expected level for a child of their age. This is higher than the national target for 80% of students to be achieving at the expected level. It was particularly pleasing to see a rise in the number of students achieving above the expected level in reading, which rose from 29% to 32.6%. Student progress and achievement in mathematics was also pleasing with 77% students achieving at or above the expected level in mathematics.

An improvement in student's writing data was also noted. A comparison between mid year and end of year writing data showed an increase from 64% of students working either at or above the expected level to 68.4%, a positive shift of 4.4%. The focus will be to continue to increase student achievement in writing during 2026 and to meet the government target of 80% of all learners achieving at the expected level by 2030.

We have almost completed our 2026 class placements. This is a complex jigsaw puzzle that takes us a long time to organise because of the large number of factors that we take into consideration. We respectfully ask that you please trust our robust process and allow time for your child's placement to work before requesting changes. Please see below for the classroom organisation for 2026.

We will be saying a few sad farewells next week. Taylor Dunn is moving to Hobsonville Primary and Shea Lethaby will no longer be relieving for us as she is taking up a full-time position at Albany. We wish you both good luck at your new schools. Deb White and Suzy Fury's fixed term contracts have come to an end but we will still see Suzy next year in a relieving capacity. Deb, AKA our boomerang teacher, will no doubt bounce back to Waitoki! Our final farewell of the year is to Karina Selfe. Kat has been away throughout 2025 on leave without pay so that she could spend more quality time with her family. She has enjoyed her year out so much that she has resigned from her full-time position. However, it is not goodbye, as we will also still see Kat next year at Waitoki as a relief teacher.

For those of you that I don't see before the term ends, I hope you have a very Merry Christmas and enjoy time with your families. I look forward to welcoming you back to Waitoki next year!

Ngā mihi nui
Jules McCourt

Important Information:

Term dates 2025:

Term 4—Mon 6th October 2025—Tues 16th December 2025

Term Dates 2026:

Term 1: 3rd February to 2 April 2026.

Term 2: 20 April to 3 July 2026.

Term 3: 20 July to 25 Sept 2026.

Term 4: 12 October to 15th December 2026.

Upcoming events to add to your diary:

9 December: Piano Concert in hall.

11 December: Helpers Morning Tea at 10am.

12 December: Christmas in the Country 4.30pm to 7pm.

15 December: Prizegiving: 8.45am.

15 December: Year 8 Graduation: 6pm to 8pm.

16 December: Term ends at 12pm.

3 February: Family Connection Meetings

4 February: All students attending



Classroom Organisation 2026

Teacher	Rūma	Year Level in 2026
Scott Hillman	Rūma Tekau(10)	Y6, Y7 & Y8 composite class
Seann Ashley	Rūma Iwa (9)	Y6
Becky Minton & Trudes Green (M,T,W,Th afternoon only)	Rūma Waru (8)	Y4 & Y5 composite class
Briar Porter (M,T,W,Th) & Julie Atkinson (Fridays)	Rūma Whitu (7)	Y3 & Y4 composite class
Sharon Hartley	Rūma Ono (6)	NE & Y1 composite class
Makayla Lawson	Rūma Rima (5)	Y1
Serena Bateman (M,T,W,Th) & Trudes Green (Fridays)	Rūma Whā (4)	Y2
	Rūma Toru (3)	Piano, Guitar & Thinking caps
Becky Minton	Rūma Rua (2)	Y3 -Y8 Maths Acceleration - Afternoons only
Mim Rushworth	Rūma Tahi (1)	Y0-6 Structured Literacy - Mornings only

Ice block Day Freezy Thursdays:

Just a reminder that each Thursday we will be holding Ice block day.

Children can purchase either \$2 or \$1 ice blocks. Save yourself time and pre-purchase ice blocks at the office! You can either pay by eftpos or direct credit. Otherwise, children can bring cash on the day.



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INFORMATION & NEWS

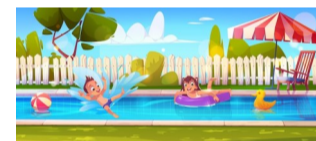


Enrolments for 2026

Have you recently moved into the **Waitoki School** zone and have a child due to start school in 2026? or have a sibling of a child already attending school turning 5 in 2026?
Please contact the school office to arrange a school tour with the principal, Jules McCourt and pick up an enrolment pack.
Please contact the school office for further information.
Phone 09 420 5244 or email: admin@waitoki.school.nz

School Pool Keys:

The days are getting warmer and our wonderful school pool is now open.



We still have a few **Pool Keys** available to hire for school families and community members.

The official Pool Opening dates for this season will be: **Friday 7th November until Sunday 19th April 2026.**

If you would like to Hire a Key for the 2025/2026 season please see Skool loop or your email for the information and form. Or come into the office to speak with Sarah or Jessica. We are happy to help!

Christmas in the Country

4.30 - 7 PM
Friday 12th December, 2025
Waitoki School

Join us for our annual Waitoki Christmas event.
It's a seasonal splash of holiday cheer and festive fun under the warm, golden sun!

COME ALONG FOR...

- Class Christmas items
- A family picnic
- Student run stalls
- Sausage sizzle
- Boujee Berries (Food Truck)
- Visit from the big man himself... Santa!



STEM

SCIENCE • TECHNOLOGY • ENGINEERING • MATHEMATICS



Hobby Horse Competition



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COMMUNITY NEWS

 **Travelling overseas in the school holidays?**

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

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Sundays
Dec 7th 1-4
Dec 14th, 21st 10-1

Developed by Rangitikeia Local Board

hot shots tennis



Win an AO experience

Win a once in a lifetime Australian Open 2026 Experience, including the chance to perform the coin toss on the iconic Rod Laver Arena!

Register for a Chance to Win!



The Star of Christmas: WIN a \$1000 Prezzy Card


This Christmas morning on Newstalk ZB – it's The Star of Christmas singing competition on The Crazy Kiwi Christmas Kids Show! The grand prize? A \$1000 Prezzy Card!

If you can sing and are under 13, email a recording of yourself singing a Christmas carol to christmas@newstalkzb.co.nz before the 16th December.

If you're selected as one of our three grand-finalists, you'll join us live on Christmas morning for a Christmas carol sing-off. One singer will ultimately be crowned our Star of Christmas.

*Please note, this year, the competition is open to individual singers only. To qualify, entrants must be under the age of 13 and be available to join us live on air (via phone) on Christmas morning.

If you have any further questions, feel free to contact producer Sam via email (christmas@newstalkzb.co.nz) or call Sam directly on 020 4000 6246.



BRING ON SUMMER

FRIDAY NIGHT SKILLS & SOFTBALL CRICKET GAMES FOR AGES 5-9
SATURDAY MORNING HARBALL CRICKET AGES 9+



AGES 5 & UP
REGISTER NOW

HIBISCUS COAST CRICKET
hibiscuscricket.co.nz



GREAT XMAS GIFT

COASTIE KIDS SUMMER FESTIVAL
DEC 25 - MAR 1

OVER \$8K IN PRIZES

Fishing Comp, Sandcastle Comp, Beach clean-up, Colouring Comp, Give-it-a-go days, Goody Bags and so much more

AGES 2-15 **COMPETITIONS FUN & PRIZES**

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coastiekids.org

Proudly hosted by  Kaitiaki Kindergartens Whangaparāoa

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Teens & Adults (Monday) 5:00
Teens & Adults (Thursday) 6:00
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