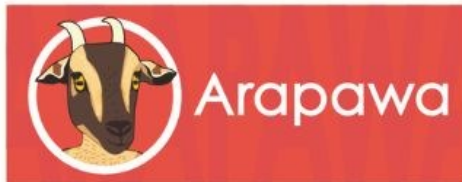


WAITOKI SCHOOL

Adaptive, curious and creative lifelong learners



GOAT VALUES Grit, Ownership, Aroha, Teamwork

NEWSLETTER TERM 3

11 AUGUST 2026



WAITOKI

SCHOOL

1119 Kahikatea Flat Road
Waitoki, Auckland
09 420 5244
admin@waitoki.school.nz
www.waitoki.school.nz

**TOUGH GUY AND GAL
CHALLENGE**
EXTREME OFF ROAD RUNNING EVENT

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Tēnā koutou whānau,

It has been a big couple of weeks on the sports field. Well done to all the tamariki who represented us at the Kaipara Schools cluster cross-country event on Monday 3rd August, as well as those who qualified for the upcoming **North West Cross Country event on Tuesday 18th August**.

We also had a fantastic turnout for the **Tough Guy & Gal Challenge** on Monday 10th August. Our students embraced the mud, gave it everything and had plenty of fun in the process. Many thanks to all the staff and whānau who transported kids to all of these events - we could not take part without your support.

Best of luck to all the Year 3–6 students representing Waitoki School at the **Kaipara Primary Schools Rippa Rugby Tournament** this Thursday, 13 August 2026! Go out there, play hard, work as a team, and most importantly, have an amazing time on the field! Go Waitoki! 🏈 🏈

This week, our attention turns to **Maths**. Becky Minton has put together a range of engaging activities to get the kids thinking mathematically and having fun with numbers as part of **Maths Week**. Best of luck to our tamariki heading off to represent Waitoki at the **Mathex Competition** at Kaipara College on **Tuesday 18th August**.

Home project details for **Ag Day** were shared with you last week and the details are included in this newsletter also. These projects are a brilliant way to ensure we are inclusive and that every child can get involved and showcase their talents, even if raising an animal is not an option for you and your family.

Thank you to everyone who has completed the **Health Education Statement Survey** so far. Under NZ law (Section 91 of the Education and Training Act 2020), primary schools consult with their community every two years on the health curriculum. Our Health Education Statement provides a one-page overview of how we deliver these concepts at Waitoki, primarily through our schoolwide GOAT values programme, the Zones of Regulation, and the Positive Puberty lessons delivered by Nest to our older students. If you have not filled out the survey yet, we would appreciate your time and input. **Survey Link:** [Health Education Statement Survey 2026](#)

We are holding a **Y7 & Y8 information evening on Thursday 27th August at 6:00pm** in Rūma Tekau, Scott Hillman's classroom. Come and hear from our students and staff about our Y7 & Y8 programme and learn what makes Waitoki School unique and a great choice for your child's intermediate years. Everyone is welcome.

Our next school assembly is at **1:05pm on Friday 28th August**. As always, tea and coffee will be ready, so drop in, grab a cuppa, and help us celebrate our tamariki.

Ngā mihi nui,
Jules McCourt



Welcome To Waitoki School:

We are so excited to welcome our new families to our kura! Please give a warm Waitoki welcome if you see any of our new students and parents.

Our new students are :

Rūma Ono: Bodie Reay and Rūma Wha: Noah Twiehaus



Term dates 2026:

Term 3—Mon 20 July 2026 to Fri 25 September 2026

Term 4—Mon 12th October 2026 to Tues 15th December 2026

Upcoming events to add to your diary:

10 Aug:	Junior Tough Guy and Gal Challenge.
13 Aug:	Rippa Rugby Tournament Y3-6
18 Aug:	North West Cross Country Y7/8
18 Aug:	Kaipara Mathex Competition at Kaipara College.
26 Aug:	Board Meeting: 6pm
28 Aug:	Auckland Champs Cross Country
28 Aug:	Daffodil Day - Wear Yellow & Gold Coin Donation
28 Aug:	School Assembly 1.05pm
3 Sept:	Fathers Day Celebrations
7 Sept:	Production Week
19 Sept:	Kaipara Kapa Haka Festival@ Kaipara College
23 Sept:	Kaipara Schools Cluster Speech Competition
25 Sept:	End of Term 3



Enrolments for 2027



The Waitoki School Board invites applications from parents who wish to enrol their children at Waitoki School for 2027.

Enrolment at the school is governed by an enrolment scheme, details of which are available from the Waitoki School office.

The deadline for receipt of applications for out-of-zone places is 3pm on Wednesday 14th October 2026. Application forms are available from the school website or by emailing admin@waitoki.school.nz

Parents of students who live within the home zone should also apply by this date to assist the school to plan appropriately for next year.

The board has determined that 50 places are likely to be available for out-of-zone students in 2027. The exact number of places will depend on the number of applications received from students who live within the school's home zone.

If the number of out-of-zone applications exceeds the number of places available, students will be selected by ballot. If a ballot is required, it will be held on Wednesday 21st October 2026.

Parents will be informed of the outcome of the ballot within three school days of the ballot being held.

Kaipara Inter schools cross country Results:

Well done to all our Cross Country runners .The highest placing students in year 5-8 will now be representing Waitoki in the North West Cross Country on 18 August.

Year 6

Emily Mason, Arlo Thomas. Finlay McDowell, Nathan Bateman

Year 8

Tasman Scott

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AG Day Information :

AG Day and Country Fair are just around the corner and will soon be here - **Saturday 31 October 2026** is the date for your calendar.

Animal and Home Project Expectations:

Children who are not raising an animal for Ag Day are expected to complete at least one home project as part of their Ag Day involvement.

Children are welcome to complete more than one home project if they wish. Children who are raising an animal are also welcome to take part in the home projects; however, they are not required to do so, as raising and caring for an animal is their Ag Day project.

We encourage all children to choose a project that interests them and enjoy the process of creating something they can be proud of.

Our home projects are designed to encourage children to use their creativity, develop new skills, and take pride in something they have planned, created, grown, or made themselves.

Whether it is caring for birds through a handmade feeder, nurturing a sunflower from a tiny seed, creating a delicious country bake, or building a miniature country scene, each project celebrates the many different parts of life in our Waitoki community.

The projects this year are:

Option one: Construction Project: Bird Bath or Feeder Challenge

Option two: Growing Project Sunflower Challenge **

Option Three: Baking Project: Country Baking Challenge

Option four: Creative Project: Diorama Project.

Please see the attachment for full details.

****The seeds for the Sunflower Challenge are now available to collect from the school office.**



Important Home Project Dates:

Completed home projects and photo journals (where required) must be brought to the hall on:

Thursday 29th October 2026

Please ensure all entries are clearly labelled with:

- Child's name, Year level, Class

Baking entries are the exception and should be brought fresh to the school hall on judging day.

Entries will be judged on: **Friday 30th October 2026**

All projects will then be displayed in the hall for families and visitors to enjoy on: **Saturday 31st October 2026 – Ag Day**

We can't wait to see the wonderful creations, gardens, baking, and displays our children produce as they celebrate Waitoki Country Life!

Lamb/Calf/Goat

We are so excited to open the Lamb & Goat Daycare for another year!

If you are planning on rearing an animal for Ag day this year, please head to skool loop forms and complete the animal registration.

It is important that you read the rules attached to the form and explain the rules to your child. This is very important for the health and safety of your child's own lamb or goat, and also the other students' animals using the daycare.

By signing the form you understand that the school is providing a contained area, shelter and supervision of feeding but cannot be held responsible for the general health of your animal.

Please remember that your new animal must be born between the 1st of July and 15th September 2026, if you would like more information about any aspect of AG day, please email Serena Bateman or contact the school office.

Serena Bateman and Briar Porter
Ag Day Coordinators



Home Project Information:



HOME PROJECTS INFORMATION

All children at Waitoki School are expected to enter into at least one of the following competitions or rear an animal. Those who choose to rear an animal can also partake in the following.

OPTION ONE: Waitoki Country Life Construction Project: Bird Bath or Feeder Challenge

This year's construction challenge invites you to design and create a bird feeder or bird bath that would be welcomed in a Waitoki backyard, garden, or farm environment. Your creation should provide a safe and useful place for birds to visit while showing creativity, care, and appreciation for the wildlife that shares our country environment.

Success Criteria:

- Create a bird feeder or bird bath using natural, recycled, or repurposed materials.
- Your bird feeder or bird bath must:
 - Be designed and constructed by the child (with adult support where needed).
 - Be suitable for outdoor use.
 - Be strong enough to hold bird food or water.
 - Be able to be safely transported to school.
- Include a photo journal showing your design and construction process.

Photo Journal Criteria:

- Your photo journal should include a record of your planning and building process:
 - A photo of your design or plan before you begin.
 - Photos showing your construction process.
 - A photo of your completed bird feeder or bird bath.

A clear explanation of:

- What you created and why you chose this design.
- How your creation helps birds in your local environment.
- What materials you used and why you chose them.
- Any challenges you faced and how you solved them.

Show your project over time:

- Include at least 4 photos from start to finish.
- Add short captions explaining what is happening in each photo.

Your photo journal may be printed on A4 paper, scrapbooked, or created digitally and printed.

Judging Criteria:

- Judges will be looking for:
 - Creativity and design
 - Quality and strength of construction
 - Practicality and usefulness
 - Connection to the Waitoki Country Life theme
 - Effort and explanation in the photo journal



This year our Construction Project will be kindly judged and sponsored by Burnings Silverdale



HOME PROJECTS INFORMATION

All children at Waitoki School are expected to enter into at least one of the following competitions or rear an animal. Those who choose to rear an animal can also partake in the following.

OPTION THREE: Waitoki Country Life Baking Project: Country Baking Challenge

This year's baking challenge celebrates the delicious homemade treats that are often shared with family, friends, and neighbours in country communities. Your challenge is to create a favourite country-style bake that represents the warmth and traditions of Waitoki Country Life.

Success Criteria:

- Bake one country-inspired item at home.
- Your baking must:
 - Be made by the child (with adult support where needed)
 - Be presented neatly and ready for judging.
- Include a photo journal showing your baking process.

Ideas could include:

- Biscuits, cakes, muffins, slices, scones or a family favourite recipe.

Photo Journal Criteria:

- Your photo journal should include a record of your baking process:
 - A photo of your planning or recipe choice.
 - Photos showing the baking process.
 - A photo of your finished creation.

Include:

- What you baked and why you chose it.
- The ingredients you used.
- How your bake connects to the Country Life theme.
- Any challenges or highlights from your baking experience.

Show your baking journey:

- Include at least 4 photos from start to finish.
- Add short captions explaining each stage.

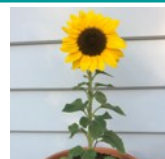
Your photo journal may be printed on A4 paper or created digitally and printed.

Judging Criteria:

- Judges will be looking for:
 - Taste and texture
 - Presentation and visual appeal
 - Creativity and connection to the Country Life theme
 - Effort shown in the baking process and photo journal



This year our Baking Project will be kindly judged and sponsored by Donna Wallace from Gather and Graze.



HOME PROJECTS INFORMATION

All children at Waitoki School are expected to enter into at least one of the following competitions or rear an animal. Those who choose to rear an animal can also partake in the following.

OPTION TWO: Waitoki Country Life Growing Project: Sunflower Challenge

This year's Ag Day growing challenge invites you to grow your very own sunflower and celebrate the joy of watching something small grow into something amazing. You will plant your sunflower seed at home, care for it, and bring your best sunflower to Ag Day to be judged.

Success Criteria:

- Grow a sunflower from seed at home.
- Your sunflower must:
 - Be grown and cared for by the child.
 - Be planted in a suitable pot or container.
 - Be healthy and well cared for.
- Include a photo journal showing your sunflower's growth journey.

Photo Journal Criteria:

- Your photo journal should include a record of your sunflower's growth:
 - A photo of planting your seed.
 - Photos showing your sunflower as it grows.
 - A final photo of your sunflower ready for Ag Day.

Include captions explaining:

- What is happening in each photo.
- How you cared for your sunflower (watering, positioning, protecting it from pests, etc.).
- Changes you noticed as your sunflower grew.
- Any challenges or successes you experienced.

Show your sunflower journey over time:

- Include at least 6 photos from planting to Ag Day.
- Include a short reflection explaining what you learned about growing plants.

Your photo journal may be printed on A4 paper, scrapbooked, or created digitally and printed.

Judging Criteria:

- Judges will be looking for:
 - Health and appearance of the sunflower
 - Evidence of care and effort
 - Presentation of the sunflower and pot
 - Knowledge about growing plants
 - Photo journal showing progress and learning



This year our Growing Project will be kindly judged and sponsored by Pete's Landscaping



HOME PROJECTS INFORMATION

All children at Waitoki School are expected to enter into at least one of the following competitions or rear an animal. Those who choose to rear an animal can also partake in the following.

OPTION FOUR: Waitoki Country Life Creative Project: Diorama Challenge

This year's creative challenge invites you to create a miniature scene that captures your favourite part of Waitoki Country Life. Your diorama could show a place, moment, or story inspired by the country environment around us. Use your imagination to bring a small world to life!

Your diorama could include:

- A farm scene
- A country garden
- Native bush
- A river or stream
- A rural landscape
- Animals in their natural environment
- A special place in the Waitoki community
- An imagined country scene

Success Criteria:

- Create a country-themed diorama using a shoe box.

Your diorama must:

- Show creativity and imagination.
- Include details that bring your scene to life.
- Use a range of materials (natural, recycled, or craft materials).
- Be able to be safely transported to school.
- Be clearly labelled with your name, year level, and class.

Judging Criteria:

- Judges will be looking for:
 - Creativity and imagination
 - Detail and design
 - Use of materials
 - Connection to the Waitoki Country Life theme
 - Effort and presentation



This year our Creative Project will be kindly judged and sponsored by Belinda and Amy from Capture Photography.

Fundraising Committee Country Fair Update :

The country fair Fundraising committee are looking for some superstar helpers to donate their time on country fair day to help make the fair a success. (31 October 2026).

We need help with

- prep for the food stalls (day before 30 October)
- set up for the fair 9-11am
- supervising games 11-2pm
- running food stalls and school led stalls 11-2pm
- pack down from 2pm

If you can help for the day, a shift or an hour we would love to have you as part of the country fair team!

Please email admin@waitoki.school.nz with your availability or come and see Sarah at the office.

Otherwise, catch one of the committee members around school and let us know you can help.

This year at country fair we will be running a second hand toy and book stall as part of our fundraising efforts.

We would love donations of good quality second hand toys no longer played with or books that would like a second chance to be loved.

Toys and books can be dropped to the school office anytime in school hours.

Thanks so much for supporting country fair!

Kali, Riccole, Stacey, Robin, Natalie, Mel, Lacey, Taylor, Hannah and Keah.

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Project Update from Auckland Transport:

Improving safety and accessibility on Kahikatea Flat Road, Waitoki

In November 2025, we shared the proposal to install a footpath along the northern side of Kahikatea Flat Road near the Waitoki Road intersection. Following your feedback, we've revised the design. The updated design will still provide a much-needed footpath connection, while also responding to concerns raised during engagement about parking. The revised design includes:

- a new footpath connecting the bus stop on the northern side of Kahikatea Flat Road to the existing footpath near the Waitoki Road intersection
- 15 angled carparks with a four-hour time limit
- Installing a zebra crossing where the current refuge island crossing point is (outside 1089 Kahikatea Flat Road)
- No stopping at all times (broken yellow lines) near the intersection, bus stop and crossing to make it drivers and pedestrians to see each other.

We are proposing that these changes are delivered in October 2026, pending approvals.

snap FITNESS-24-7

SPS SIGNPOST SIGNS

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THE MUSIC OF BRIDGERTON

STRING QUARTET - VOCAL SOLOIST

ABOUT VALORIE LAFAYE
With over 20 years of singing and performance experience, Valorie Lafaye is delighted to share her passion for music with audiences.

Her recent performance credits include La Traviata with NZO, performances with Bach Musica, and the Anime Live concert at Holy Trinity Cathedral.

A versatile performer with a love of both classical and contemporary repertoire, she is passionate about creating memorable musical experiences and considers the stage her second home. She is thrilled to be part of this evening's celebration of the timeless elegance and romance inspired by Bridgerton.

"The thing I love about Bridgerton and the its soundtrack is the reimagining of an era long gone. Their use of popular music set to strings gives the show and the music new life. It's what music is all about. Music is an art, and art means something different to everyone, and the joy I get from being able to reimagine and perform these songs is immense. I look forward to our concert of Warkworth Town Hall!"

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- ✓ Confidence-building approach

- ✓ Support aligned with the NZ curriculum
- ✓ Helping students from "I can't do maths" to "I've got this!"

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