

Waitoki School NEWSLETTER

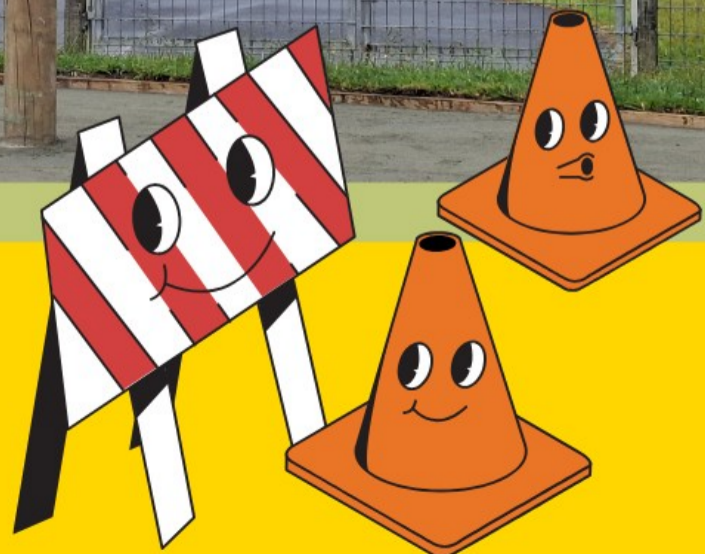


TERM 1

17 MARCH 2026

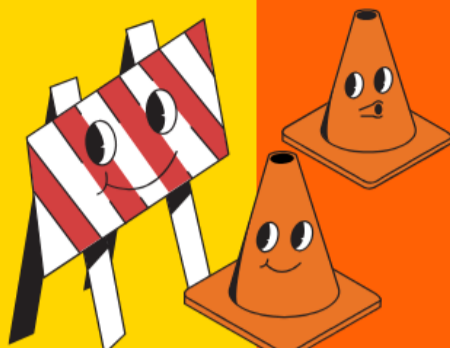


1119 Kahikatea Flat Road
Waitoki, Auckland
09 420 5244
admin@waitoki.school.nz
www.waitoki.school.nz



Waitoki School

Adaptive, curious,
creative lifelong
learners.



Grit
Ownership
Aroha
Teamwork

Tēnā koutou Whānau,

Congratulations to all the swimmers who represented Waitoki at cluster swimming sports, which were held at Kaipara College on **Monday 9th March**. We are proud of you all. Well done to Theo, Raoul and Erin who qualified for the **North West** cluster event on **Monday 23rd March** - Good luck and represent Waitoki School with pride!

It has been exciting watching **Playground creations** working on our playground enhancements. They have made great progress and look on target to finish by **Monday 23rd March**. In the meantime, parts of the playground are still fenced off so if you are on the school grounds over the next few days, please keep clear of the construction area for safety reasons. It will be worth it when it is finished.

This week on **Wednesday 18th March** our nine school leaders will be attending the **GRIP leadership conference** in Browns Bay. This is a one-day, interactive event held annually across New Zealand to equip primary, Intermediate, and secondary students with practical leadership skills. It focuses on actionable, school-based strategies rather than just theoretical concepts. Through workshops, games, and discussions with students from other schools, participants learn to build a clear vision and execute events which will help to foster a positive school culture.

Our **Year 5 & 6 students** are gearing up for the **Kaipara Schools Summer Sports Day** on **Monday 23rd March**. This fun, non-competitive event features mixed-school teams rotating through 40-minute sessions of T-Ball, Kickball, Non-stop Cricket, Scatterball, 3 Bat, and Long Ball. This is a fun active day that fosters inter-school connection. Our tamariki are looking forward to a great day of sportsmanship! The **Year 7 & 8** summer sports day will be held on **Monday 30th March**. Parents are welcome to go along and watch their children take part.

The **William Pike Challenge** (WPC) is a year-long youth development programme designed primarily for intermediate-aged students (Years 7/8). It encourages participants to step outside their comfort zones, build resilience, and develop 21st-century skills like leadership and teamwork. The programme is structured around three core aspects: completing five outdoor physical activities of at least two hours, dedicating 20 hours to community service, and mastering a new passion project. The students keep an ongoing reflective journal to record their experiences. This year all the students in **Y6, Y7 & Y8** will be taking part and their first "challenge" will be at **Action Ninja World** on **Wednesday 25th March**.

Waitoki School is hosting an end of term **Easter celebration** on **Wednesday 1st April**. The event features a Junior and Senior School Easter rock decorating competition in the morning, which is being sponsored and judged by **Karen Asquith** from **Bayleys**. This will be followed by a fun **Easter Rock Hunt**, starting at **1:30pm**. Parents are invited to come along and join in the fun during the rock hunt in the afternoon.

Our next **school assembly** will be on **Friday 27th March** at **1.10pm** in the school hall. We would love you to join us and help us to celebrate our student successes. You are most welcome to make yourself a hot drink while you wait.

Ngā mihi nui
Jules McCourt



Term dates 2026:

Term 1—Tues 3rd February 2026 to Thurs 2 April 2026

Term 2—Mon 20th April 2026 to Fri 3 July 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:

18 March :	GRIP leadership conference— Student Leaders.
23 March:	North West Cluster Swimming sports.
23 March:	Y5 & Y6 Summer Sports (Rautawhiri Park)
24 March:	Save Day: Y5 & Y6 Summer Sports (Rautawhiri Park)
26 March:	Senior Camp Parent Meeting: 2.30pm – Rūma Tekau
30 March:	Y7& Y8 Summer Sports (Rautawhiri Park)
31 March:	Save Day: Y7& Y8 Summer Sports (Rautawhiri Park)
1 April:	School Easter Event
2 April:	Term 1 ends.

Easter Rock Decorating Competition & Family Rock Hunt

We are excited to be holding a fun Easter Rock Decorating Competition followed by a Family Easter Rock Hunt!



Children are invited to decorate a rock from home with an Easter picture or cheerful Easter-themed words. Some ideas might include Easter eggs, bunnies, chicks, flowers, or messages like "Happy Easter" or "Egg-citing!". Use paint, markers, or any creative materials to make your rock bright and fun. All decorated rocks will be entered into a competition judged by Karen from Bayleys Real Estate. There will be Junior and Senior categories, with prizes up for grabs in each group. After judging, all of the decorated rocks will be hidden around the school for a Family Easter Rock Hunt! Families are warmly invited to join us for the hunt and enjoy the fun together.

At the end of the event, all children will receive a chocolate Easter egg, and they will be able to take their decorated rocks home. We look forward to seeing everyone's creativity and enjoying a fun afternoon together!

🐣 EASTER ROCK DECORATING COMPETITION & FAMILY ROCK HUNT! 🐣

Get creative at home and decorate a rock with an Easter picture or cheerful message (think eggs, bunnies, chicks, flowers, or "Happy Easter!").

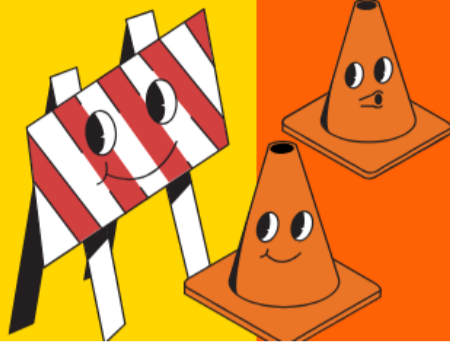
Bring your decorated rock to school on the morning of **Wednesday 1st April** to be entered into our Easter Rock Competition, judged by Karen from Bayleys Real Estate. There will be Junior and Senior categories with prizes up for grabs!

Join us at **1:30pm** for a Family Easter Rock Hunt around the school grounds, where all the rocks will be hidden for families to find together.

🍫 Every child will receive a chocolate Easter egg, and children can take their rocks home afterwards.

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School News and Reminders:

Welcome:

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 student is Jack Driscoll.



Summer Sports

Summer sports inter school sports are coming up:

23 March: Y5 & Y6 Summer Sports (Rautawhiri Park)

30 March: Y7 & Y8 Summer Sports (Rautawhiri Park)

Please see the notice issued on Skool Loop and complete your consent forms to enable your child your attend.



Toys Please :

Ruma Ono is looking for any unwanted army toys - men, tanks, planes etc.
If you have any we would really appreciate some.
Please drop to Mrs Hartley.
Thank you.



Freezy Fridays:

Every Friday lunchtime, during Term 1, the Teachers are selling ice blocks . The money raised will be used to subsidise Education outside the classroom (EOTC) programmes. There will be two options: \$1 ice blocks or \$2 ice blocks, with different flavours available. Your child can either bring coins on the day, or you can prepay for the term at the office.



No hat, no play:

Please ensure that your child brings a clearly labelled hat each day to school so that they can play outside.



Car Park:

Please do not allow your children to cross the road by themselves, please collect them from the school site.

Please do not park under the notice board as this restricts the bus drivers view when he is pulling out of the school.

Thankyou for keeping our students safe.

Disabled Parking Spaces:

Please do not park in the disabled parking spaces in the carpark unless you have a permit. We have parents who need to use the spaces at pick up/drop off time. Thank you.

Congratulations

We love to celebrate our tamariki's achievements! If your child has done something awesome outside of school, please let us know by emailing : admin@waitoki.school.nz



2026 Kaipara Schools Swimming Sports Results:



Last Monday we had 20 Year 5 - 8 tamariki head off to Kaipara College to represent Waitoki in the Kaipara Schools Swimming Sports.

They gave it their all and showed lots of grit and bravery - tu meke Waitoki!

A huge thank you to our amazing whānau for their support, we appreciate your mahi!

Special congratulations to our finalists for their outstanding results.

Well done to Theo, Raoul and Erin who qualified for the North West cluster event on Monday 23rd March - Good luck and represent Waitoki School with pride!

Ka rawe, team! We're so proud of you all!

RESULTS:

YEAR 5

Medley Boys—Emile Ashley	4th
Medley Boys—Owen Whiting	5th

YEAR 6

Medley Boys—Finlay McDowell	5th
Medley Boys—Nathan Bateman	7th
Breast stroke Boys—Finlay McDowell	7th
Back stroke Boys—Finlay McDowell	4th
Back Stroke Boys—Arlo Ashley	7th
Medley Girls—Erin Hefer	3rd
Medley Girls—Zoe Kopa	7th
Freestyle Girls— Leāmanaia Naisali	6th
Breast stroke Girls—Erin Hefer	3rd

YEAR 7

Medley Girls—Leni Coogan	6th
Back stroke Girls—Leni Coogan	5th

YEAR 8

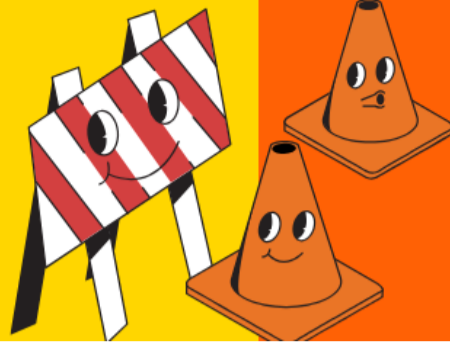
Medley Boys—Theo McDowell	3rd
Medley Boys—Raoul Sparke	5th
Breast Stroke Boys—Theo McDowell	5th
Breast Stroke Boys—Raoul Sparke	7th
Back Stroke Boys—Theo McDowell	4th
Butterfly Boys— Theo McDowell	1st
Butterfly Boys— Raoul Sparke	3rd

FINALIST

Freestyle Boys—Theo McDowell	4th
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Important Information:



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

EZ Lunch—Sushi update:

Just a quick update regarding the Sushi 4U service. Due to the current fuel supply situation, Sushi4U has had to temporarily pause their Thursday deliveries to Waitoki School until further notice.

However, they are still able to continue supplying your Wednesday service as usual. They have asked me to pass on their apologies for any inconvenience, and they hope to resume Thursday deliveries once the fuel situation becomes more stable. I will keep you updated if anything changes.



Garden to Table :

Our Garden to Table programme has begun and we would love your support. We have a basket in the office for fruit and vegetable donations. Our amazing Linda can freeze any donated produce for upcoming cooking in our Garden to Table recipes as this is a great way to make use of everything throughout the year and to minimise food wastage. We can also make good use of any seedlings you may like to donate. Please do not pick the fruit from the school garden fruit trees as we use this fruit for our garden to table programme .

Any support is greatly appreciated. Thank you.



Thankyou to PAK'nSAVE

We want to extend a massive thank you to our local **PAK'nSAVE** for their incredibly kind donation of a \$100 Gift Card. Our school pantry was looking a bit empty, but thanks to this generosity, we've been able to stock up on all the essential basics.

Our students are already busy putting these ingredients to good use as part of our **Garden to Table** programme, whipping up some delicious new recipes. Be sure to check out the photos of our young chefs in action on the 'Garden to Table' wall next time you're visiting the school. We are so grateful for the ongoing support from our community partners like PAK'n-SAVE that help make these hands-on learning experiences possible!"



FREE

Easter Family Night

26th March 2026

Bunnings Silverdale

Activities and fun for the whole family

05:00pm – 07:00pm

Come along and join in the Easter Fun. there will be sausage sizzle, DIY, games prizes and more. Along with a visit from the Easter Bunny.

Don't miss out, register now!

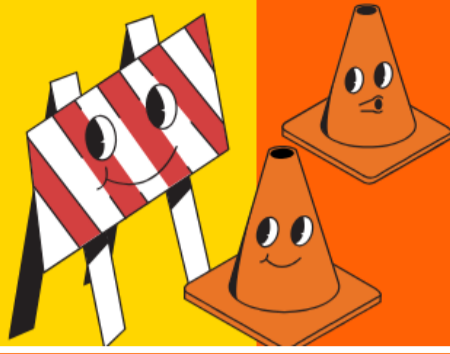
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Community Page:

Kids DIY Workshops – Fun, Free & Hands-On!



Join the fun at a FREE DIY workshop and build your skills. Plus, earn a stamp in your DIY Passport and unlock surprise rewards at key milestones.

February	March	April	May
7th - 8th, 14th - 15th 21st - 22nd, 28th - 1st Mar	Sat 14th	Sat 11th	Sat 9th
June	July	August	September
Sat 13th	Sat 11th	Sat 8th	Sat 12th
October	November	December	Scan QR code to book
Sat 10th	Sat 14th	Sat 12th	

Don't miss out. Spots released monthly and fill fast!
Scan & Book your spot today

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Registrations close **29 March**, or while spaces are available.
Teams are filling fast!

Season runs May 9 to August 29. Saturday morning Game Day.

Step 1 - pre register online:
silverdalerugby.co.nz/juniors/2026-junior-rugby-registration

Step 2 - complete your registration in person, check website for dates

For questions please email - juniorrugby@silverdalerugby.co.nz

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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

FOR A **SOUTH KAIPARA FC U10 & U11 MIXED TEAM** TO COMPETE IN **JUNIOR COMPETITION THIS YEAR**

Kia ora,
South Kaipara Football Club really needs your help we now opening expressions of interest for our U10 and U11 teams for the upcoming winter football season, and we would love to invite students from your school to get involved.

Eligibility:
U10: Players who have turned 10, or will turn 10, during 2026
U11: Players who have turned 11, or will turn 11, during 2026

If your child is interested in playing, please email me at trevor@southkaiparafc.co.nz as soon as possible, as registrations are closing very soon.

Season Details:
Training: Held midweek @Rautawhiri Park time:TBC
Games: Home or away each Saturday
Season Dates: Approximately 2 May – 6 September
Cost: \$90 for the season

Thank you for your support, and we look forward to welcoming new players for an exciting season ahead.
Trevor Hubbard South Kaipara Football Club

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 - Online, at home, local venue
- FOR ALL LEARNERS
 - Extension
 - Building a new hobby
 - Developing confidence & skills
- HIGH & COMPLEX NEEDS SUPPORT
 - IF and carer support funding accepted

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AUCKLAND YOUTH ORCHESTRA PRESENTS

Symphonic Tales

Dvořák – Othello Overture
Fauré – Masques et Bergamasques Suite
Tchaikovsky – Variations on a Rococo Theme
cello: Howard Lu
Tchaikovsky – Romeo and Juliet Fantasy Overture

Sun. 22 March, 2:30pm
Helensville War Memorial Hall

Adult: \$27, Senior \$20, Student/Child \$10
Book at Humanitix
Door Sales if seats available

ayo.org.nz

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- Structure of words
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Years 3-6

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