WAITOKI SCHOOL

Adaptive, curious and creative lifelong learners

Arapawa | Alpine | Kiko | Nubian

GOAT VALUES Grit, Ownership, Aroha, Teamwork

NEWSLETTER TERM 3

22 SEPTEMBER 2026

PROJECT PLANET

WAITOKI SCHOOL

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

WAITOKI SCHOOL

Adaptive, curious and creative lifelong learners

Tēnā koutou whānau,

The past fortnight has been particularly busy with several major calendar events taking place. Our **whole school production**, **Project Planet**, was such a fantastic achievement and I could not have been prouder of our tamariki. The students all put in significant effort during preparations, and it was wonderful to see them perform on stage so skillfully across the matinee and evening shows. All the teachers and support staff collaborated to manage set design, costuming, vocals, rehearsals, sound, lighting, production promotion and ticket sales, creating an opportunity for our learners to perform on stage with such confidence. It was a fabulous collective effort by the team. Special thanks must go to Seann Ashley for his oversight of the whole production and to Mim Rushworth for her hard work with the vocals.

Hot on the heels of the school production, our **Senior Kapa Haka group** represented us with pride at the Kaipara Kapa Haka Festival held at Kaipara College last Saturday, demonstrating great commitment and skill under Mr A's guidance. Their performance was outstanding and I was blown away by the power in their voices. A big thank you to Seann for all his hard mahi with the Kapa Haka group - they were amazing.





And if production and Kapa Haka were not enough, our senior students presented their speeches at the **Waitoki School Speech competition** last Monday in the lead up to hosting the **Kaipara Inter-School Speech competition** on **Wednesday 23rd September.** Good luck to Erin Hefer (Y6) and Theo McDowell (Y8) who are representing Waitoki at the Inter School competition.

As **Term 3** draws to a close, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been a very busy but successful term at Waitoki School. Looking back over the past ten weeks, our students have had a wide range of academic, sporting, cultural, and community opportunities. From our **Matariki celebrations** and **three-way conferences** at the start of term, to **Father's Day**, **Maths Week**, **Mathex**, and multiple sporting events including **school cross-country**, **Kaipara cluster cross-country**, **North West cross-country**, and the **Tough Guy & Gal Challenge**. Last week we marked **Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori** with learning experiences and activities across all classrooms. Throughout the term our tamariki have consistently demonstrated our **GOAT values** when taking part in all of these events.

I would like to extend my thanks to all our staff for their dedication, to our fundraising team for their ongoing hard work, and to parents and whānau who have supported our events through transportation, attendance, as well as contributing to community consultation. It takes a village to raise a child and we know we could not do what we do without you.

I am pleased to confirm that the school **fencing project,** which began earlier this term, will be completed by the end of the school holidays. Many thanks for your cooperation and patience while these works were taking place. Managing drop-off and pick-up routines in a busy staff carpark can be challenging so we greatly appreciate your ongoing support in adhering to traffic expectations. Your understanding and help with this has ensured the area remained safe and efficient for everyone.

Looking ahead to **Term 4,** we have another busy term planned as we head towards the end of the school year. Preparations are already well underway for our **Ag Day** and **Country Fair** on **Saturday 31st October**, which promises to be a major highlight for our school and wider community.

I hope you all have a safe, restful, and enjoyable break with your children and we look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed and raring to go for **Term 4** on **Monday 12th October**.

Ngā mihi nui,
Jules McCourt



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

Term Dates 2027:

Term 1: Tuesday 2 February 2027 to Friday 9 April 2027.
2nd February : Individual Family Connection Meetings.
3rd February : All students learning in class.
Term 2: Tuesday 22 April 2027 to Friday 2 July 2027.
Term 3: Monday 19 July 2027 to Friday 24 September 2027.
Term 4: Monday 11 October 2027 to Thursday 16 Dec 2027.

Upcoming events to add to your diary:

23 Sept:	Kaipara Schools Cluster Speech Competition at Waitoki
23 Sept:	Board Meeting: 6pm
25 Sept:	End of Term 3
12 October:	Term 4 starts
14 October:	Deadline for 2027 Out of Zone applications.
26 October:	School Closed Labour Day
27 October:	Whole School Athletics—Sinclair Park
28 October:	Save day for Athletics
31 October:	AG Day and Country Fair
2nd to 4th Nov:	School Photos
4 November:	Board Meeting: 6pm
9 November:	Kaipara Athletics— Rautawhiri Park

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 Rima: Evie Bishop
Rūma Whitu : Leigha Bishop



Yummy Stickers:

We will shortly be sending off all of our Yummy Stickers to get some new sports equipment for the school. Please send in all your stickers that you have been collecting for us, if you need collection pages you can get them from the office.

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.
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.



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!

<u>Lamb/Calf/Goat</u>
If you are planning on rearing an animal for Ag day this year, please head to skool loop forms and complete the animal registration.
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





School Events :

WAITOKI SCHOOL

Enrolments for 2027

The Waitoki School Board invites applications from parents who wish to enrol their children at Waitoki School for 2027.
Out of Zone enrolment at the school is governed by an enrolment scheme, details of which are available from the Waitoki School office.

Deadline for Out of Zone Applications
3:00 PM 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.

Allocation & Ballot Process

- **Places Available:** The board has determined that 50 places are likely to be available for out-of-zone students in 2027. The exact number of places depends on home zone registrations.
- **Ballot Selection:** If the number of out-of-zone applications exceeds available places, selection will be conducted by ballot.
- **Ballot Date:** If required, the ballot will be held on **Wednesday 21st October 2026**.
- **Notification:** Parents will be informed of the outcome within three school days of the ballot being held.

Would you like to visit the school?
Call **09 420 5244** or email admin@waitoki.school.nz
to book a personal tour with the Principal.
Discover more at: www.waitoki.school.nz

WAITOKI SCHOOL

ATHLETICS DAY NOTICE

DATE: Tuesday, 27 October 2026

SAVE DAY: Wednesday, 28 October 2026 (Weather Backup)

LOCATION: Sinclair Park, Peak Road, Kaukapakapa

TRANSPORT: Travelling together by bus (Entire school participating)

SESSION TIMES

SENIOR SCHOOL	JUNIOR SCHOOL
(Full Day)	(Half Day)
8:40 am - 2:15 pm	9:40 am - 12:15 pm

ACTION REQUIRED: PERMISSION SLIP

Please complete and sign the permission slip via FORMS

in the Skool Loop app by Friday, 16 October 2026.

Thank you for your support!

<u>Library books</u>
If you have any overdue library books from last term, please endeavour to return these soon, so that other children can enjoy them.
Thank you



Fundraising and Community Page:

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!

WAITOKI SCHOOL RAFFLE

Help Support Our School Fundraiser!

Over the school holidays, every family is being asked to help sell a booklet of 10 raffle tickets to support our school.

 Ticket Price: $5 each

 Due Date: First week of Term 4

 Where to Return: School Office (along with cash or via EFTPOS payment)

 Where is the Money Going?

All proceeds from this Country Fair fundraiser go directly toward expanding our school's resources:

 STEAM Robotics Equipment (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, & Maths)

 Upgraded Play Spaces

 New Outdoor Sound System

 Earn Herd Points! • 2 Herd Points for every single ticket sold. • 20 Herd Points for completing your first booklet. • 30 Herd Points for every additional completed booklet! (Pick up at office)

 Note: If you cannot sell your booklet, please return it to the school office so another family can take it.

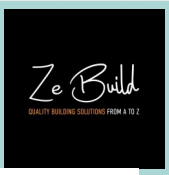
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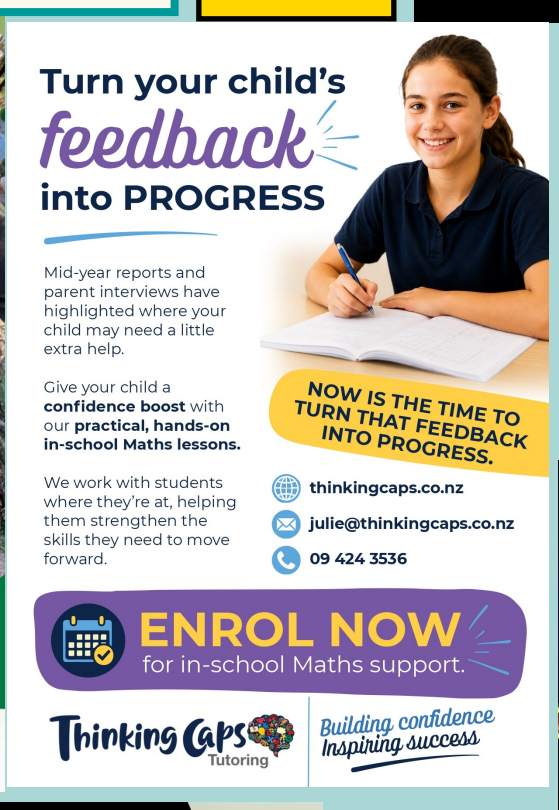






























Community Page:

Should I keep my child home from school or childcare?

Going to school and childcare supports your child's learning, confidence and wellbeing. But when they're not feeling well or their usual self, it can be hard to tell if they should attend. Use this guide to help you make the right decision.

Should my child stay home today?

Usually ok to attend:

- ✓ Mild cough
- ✓ Running nose
- ✓ Mild headache
- ✓ No fever
- ✓ Eating and drinking normally

If mild symptoms become worse or more frequent, keep your child at home and seek health advice.

Keep them home if they have:

- × A fever
- × Vomiting or diarrhoea
- × A sore throat that requires pain relief
- × Wheezing, coughing a lot or difficulty breathing
- × School sores (impetigo) or other potentially infectious sores that are uncovered and untreated
- × Untreated scabies
- × They are too sick to learn and need time to rest and recover
- × Been asked to stay home by a healthcare provider or your local public health service

Seeking health advice

Trust your instinct, if you are worried about your child's health contact your doctor or usual healthcare provider. You can also call **Healthline** for free anytime on **0800 611 116**.

In an emergency, call **111**.

For more information scan the QR code or visit healthnz.govt.nz and search **school guidance**.

Health New Zealand
Te Whatu Ora

This resource is available from healthed.govt.nz or your local Authorised Provider. August 2026. **HE7040**

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