

Waitoki School NEWSLETTER



TERM 1

31 MARCH 2026



KAIPARA SUMMER SPORTS



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Waitoki, Auckland
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admin@waitoki.school.nz
www.waitoki.school.nz



Waitoki School

Adaptive, curious,
creative lifelong
learners.



Grit
Ownership
Aroha
Teamwork

Tēnā koutou Whānau,

Term 1 ends on Thursday 2nd April and I cannot believe how quickly it has flown by. It has been a short but busy one with many highlights. Learning has centred on the social science curriculum, exploring civics and society. Our student leaders embraced new challenges at the GRIP leadership conference and learners in Y6, Y7 & Y8 have begun the William Pike Challenge. On the sporting front, students have represented us with pride at cluster swimming and the Helensville Show.

The school environment has been transformed by our recent playground enhancements. The rotonet has been a particularly popular addition and it has been great to watch our tamariki having so much fun on it. Further work is scheduled to take place over the Easter break under the cargo net to make it a safer place to play.

Teachers explicitly teach our **GOAT (GRIT, Ownership, Aroha & respect and Teamwork) values** and each term they focus on one value, unpacking what it means with tamariki. This term the focus has been on demonstrating **GRIT**. Part of the learning included that setbacks are a normal part of life. The Year 6 - 8 students at Waitoki School recently proved this when their William Pike Challenge trip to Action Ninja World was unfortunately postponed. Initially, many felt the grit gap, experiencing frustration and disappointment similar to how athletes like Hayden Wilde might feel after a major setback. However, they chose to demonstrate **GRIT, Growth, Resilience, Integrity, and Tenacity** by shifting their focus. Instead of dwelling on the pit of disappointment, they demonstrated resilience and a growth mindset as they turned their despondency into a positive.

Term 2 begins on **Monday 20th April** and the learning focus during the first week will focus on ANZAC day, which is on Saturday 25th April. This year Waitoki School will be holding a special **ANZAC assembly** on **Friday 24th April** at **8.45am** and you are most welcome to join us as we reflect on the past. For the remainder of Term 2, alongside reading, writing and maths, **science** will be the major inquiry learning focus. Learners will be focussing on biological science, including organism diversity, body systems and ecosystems. To support learning, we have a trip to Auckland Zoo planned in June for the younger classes. Preparations will also begin for our whole school production, **Project Planet**, which will complement their environmental learning during Term 2. Although the production performances will not be until Week 8, Term 3, preparation will take place throughout Term 2 and 3.

Term 2 is also when our Y6, Y7 & Y8 students are heading to **Shakespear Lodge** from **29 April to 1 May 2026** for school camp. Shakespear Lodge is located in a pest-free park at the end of the Whangaparoa Peninsula. The programme involves eight instructor-led water-based and land based activities. The water-based sessions include guided sea kayaking, coasteering along the rocky shoreline, sailing 16ft catamarans, and raft building. Land-based activities consist of mountain boarding, archery, bush survival skills, and rock climbing, featuring bouldering and top-rope climbing. Two of the activities will contribute towards their William Pike Challenge. Students will also participate in daily group duties, such as dining room sweeping and waste management. They are going to have a fantastic time as well as the opportunity to operate outside their comfort zone.

I hope you enjoy the Easter break with your families and I look forward to welcoming you back to Waitoki in Term 2.

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:

- 1 April:** Whole School Summer Sports: 10.40am—12.05pm
- 1 April:** School Easter Event: 1.30pm
- 2 April:** Term 1 ends
- 20 April:** Term 2 Starts
- 21 April:** Action Ninja World—Y6-8
- 24 April:** Anzac Assembly: 8.45am – All welcome
- 27 April:** School Closed: Anzac Day
- 29 April:** Senior Camp at Shakespear Lodge
- 4 May:** Road Safety Week



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.

Easter Rock Decorating Competition & Family Rock Hunt :

Wednesday 1st April at 1.30pm

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 treat, 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!



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School News and Reminders:

Medical updates:

This is just a reminder to please let the office team know if your child requires any medicine on either a once off or regular basis. This includes asthma inhalers, strepsils etc. We ask that children do not keep any medication in their school bags, and ensure it is kept in the sick bay. Forms are available for you to fill in to let us know how to look after your child and for authority for us to administer the medication.



Freezy Fridays: (Thursday this week)

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.



Gas network excavation works March 2026:

We have received notification from Vector that gas pipeline excavation works are scheduled to take place close to Waitoki School between **Monday 30th March to Thursday 2nd April**. There will be a "stop/go" sign in operation between **10am - 4pm**. This will impact on afternoon pick ups in particular and will cause additional congestion around the school car park area.

To help keep all our tamariki safe, please;

- * Follow the direction of the car park arrows.
- * Don't park on the yellow lines.
- * Don't block the car park exit by the notice board - the bus cannot safely leave the school grounds if cars are parked there.
- * Don't allow your child to cross the road or car park without a adult supervision. This is particularly important as we anticipate traffic queues backed up outside the school gates.

Reminder: Cellphones and Other Personal Digital Devices:

Our approach to cellphones and other personal digital devices supports student engagement and achievement. Personal digital devices include cell phones, and other devices such as laptops, tablets, and smartwatches. Devices that are part of a school-approved Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) programme have separate conditions for use. To comply with government regulations, we ensure students do not use personal devices during school hours, including break times. **All students who have cell phones must hand them in at the school office when they arrive at school each morning.**

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



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.



School Pool:

The school pool will remain open until the end of the school holiday. A notice will be issued in Term 2 with details of pool key returns and bond refunds.

Enjoy your last summer swims.



Toys Please :

Ruma Ono is looking for any unwanted small toy cars - hotwheels size.

If you have any we would really appreciate some. Please drop to Mrs Hartley.

Thank you.



Yummy Stickers

Don't forget to collect your yummy stickers which earn us points to purchase sports equipment at the end of the year. The office have collection pages for the stickers.



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Community Page:

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



**KIDS
DIY**



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 - 31st 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



HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

An unplugged, confidence-building, nature-rich holiday your kids will love

Tues 7th | Thurs 9th
Tues 14th | Thurs 16th | Fri 17th
April

4-10yr olds
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Enrol for Term 2

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Coding, robotics, 3d design, science, engineering, Minecraft + more
- BOOKED ON YOUR SCHEDULE
During school, after-school
Online, at home, local venue
- FOR ALL LEARNERS
Extension
Building a new hobby
Developing confidence & skills
- HIGH & COMPLEX NEEDS SUPPORT
If and/or other support funding accepted

BRAINPLAY.CO.NZ

Parkour

TIME: 10 TO 11AM
LOCATION: WATERLOO RESERVE, MILLEDALE



FB: @rodneycommunity
www.rodneycommunity.org.nz

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY:
Rodney Local Board
Contact Community Facilitator:
jess@rodneycommunity.org.nz

TERM 2 RIP 'N' RIDE ACADEMY

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

11 WEEKS | 20TH APR - 4TH JULY

Pick a day that works for you! Available Times:
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri
5:00PM - 6:30PM
Saturday
10:00AM - 11:30AM

Non-Members: \$770
Members: 15% OFF

0800 SNOWPLANET | www.snowplanet.co.nz
See our website for more information

MOVIE AT THE HOT SPRINGS

KAIPĀTIKI HOT SPRINGS
SAT 11 APRIL 2026; EVENT STARTS 6PM



NO ALCOHOL
Family event

Movie time
DISCOUNTED POOL TICKETS FROM 6PM - \$13 ADULTS, \$7 CHILDREN. MOVIE STARTS APPROX 7.30PM. CAFE OPEN. WĪHĀNAU WELCOME TO BRING PICNIC.

150 PARKHURST RD, PARAKAI, KAIPĀTIKI RESERVE

FUN DAY

SUNDAY 17TH MAY 8:30AM
BRUCE PULMAN PARK, WALTERS ROAD, TAKANINI

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY BARFOOT & THOMPSON

SCIENCE FAIR 2026

Open to all Kahui Ako o Kaipara Year 0-10 Students

Categories:
Biology
Chemistry
Physics
Earth and Space

Open to the public from 3.30pm
Prizegiving 5pm
Te Rito - Kaipara College

THURSDAY 19 NOVEMBER



**PAK GIVES
BACK**

Circus Holiday Programme

2 DAY WORKSHOP
7 & 8 APRIL
9 & 10 APRIL

TIME: 10AM - 2PM
WAITOKI HALL

SIGN UP NOW:

Run away with the circus these school holidays and learn fun, confidence and coordination boosting skills for FREE!

Bring lunch, a drink bottle and comfortable clothing that is easy to move in. Programs are aimed at 8-13yrs.

Waitoki Hall - 1095 Kahikatea Flat Road
Workshop #1: Tues 7 & Weds 8 April 10am - 2pm
Workshop #2: Thurs 9 & Fri 10 April 10am - 2pm

- No experience needed
- Safe & supportive
- Spaces are limited - register now!

FREE THANKS TO:
Circus Kumarani
Rodney Local Board

www.rodneycommunity.org.nz

KUMON

Your child can strengthen essential maths and English skills with Kumon. Contact your local Kumon centre to secure your child's place in the May Free Trial!

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Accelerate Confidence and Communication Skills
Enrol in February to be in the draw to win one of ten April Holiday programs with a bestie

* Pform.nz classes provide the most fun of our son's week*

There is a Pform venue at Wainui School on Thursdays!

It's the perfect activity to join with school friends and get the most from this unique and fun learning experience. Free Trials available for a limited time

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Beginner classes - Mon / Thurs
Junior class 8-12yrs (Thurs) 4:30
Teens & Adults (Monday) 5:00
Teens & Adults (Thursday) 6:00

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- Sentence structure

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Years 3-6

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We get it!


Enrolling for Term 1 2026

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Years 2 - 6

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