



WAIKOWHAI
INTERMEDIATE

Waikowhai Intermediate School

...developing life-long learners...

Issue 8

Term 3

24th July 2020

Greetings, Kia Ora, Fakalofa lahi atu, Malo e lelei, Talofa lava, Taloha, Kia Orana, Ni Hao, Buenos Dias, Chao, Malo ni Habari, Dobar dan, Bula Vinaka, Apa Khabar.

Dear Parents and Caregivers

We have had a very positive start to Term 3 and it has been great to see various groups already engaged, following and developing their interests in a variety of extra-curricular activities.

We have a group of students who are working towards production, a team training for Boys Netball, our rugby children training, robotics teams practising for weekend events and our choir practising alongside our Kapa Haka and a dance group for performances to our local Year 6 Students when we invite them to Waikowhai Intermediate in preparation for next year.

Among other busy groups in the school, we also had a group of students planting trees by a waterway on a farm in Helensville, as part of the Auckland Council's Trees for Survival Programme that seeks to improve our city's waterways.



These are just some of the activities happening at Waikowhai Intermediate, and it is student's engagement in these activities that makes intermediate school such a great time in children's schooling. It has been a pleasure to get back to these activities after a break in these in Term 2.

Please read on to hear about other events and news at school.

Kind regards,

David King
Principal

Property update

Our new Property Manager, Willie Ioelu, has been busy at school working on a number of projects. During Term 2 we completed a project to put air conditioning units into every working space in the school. Going into the colder months, and then during the hot summer months, this will be greatly appreciated and make a huge difference to children's learning as they work in a temperature controlled environment.

Also in the late planning stages is a project to put an artificial playing turf on the grass area next to our Food Technology Block. We are extremely fortunate to have Keith Hay Park next to the school and using these grounds makes our school's outdoor green space environment second to none. However, in the wetter months we lose the use of this area as council closes the grounds. With the new turf area, we will now have a superb outdoor environment to use for our children 12 months a year.

We are also part way through a project to create an outdoor learning space from Rooms 13 to Room 16. This will include a wider deck, covered veranda and new joinery so that all classrooms can access this space through wide sliding doors. After the current work on Room 13 is complete at the end of Week 2 this term, the project will be completed in the holiday periods so as to provide minimal disruption to classes.

Reports home

In Newsletters last term I shared with you our changed reporting cycle due to COVID-19. Last term you received a Mid-Year Report on Attitude and Engagement, and at the end of Week 7 in Term 3 all students will receive a report with Academic Grades and a General Comment. The change was due to a shortened Term 2, and limited time for testing and reporting after children's return to school.

Our Deputy Principal, Leanne Smith, has been in touch with our three main High Schools that we contribute to, Onehunga High School, Mount Roskill Grammar and Lynfield College. She has informed them of this change and they have assured us that this will in no way affect the enrolment process. For all Out of Zone Enrolments, a ballot system is in place, so decisions here are also not reliant on a Mid-Year Academic Report. For all students applying for scholarships, we are happy to write a testimonial for students as we usually would, and these schools commonly send us a form to fill in asking for the child's most up to date academic information.

For any questions about these processes, please be in touch with Leanne Smith the Deputy Principal, or David King the Principal.

Waikowhai Intermediate Open Evening/Day for 2021 enrolment

Please pass onto friends and families that on Thursday 6th August from 6.30pm is our Open Evening in the school hall for prospective 2021 families. This is an opportunity for parents, and their children if they wish, to come in and meet our Senior Leadership Team, hear about the school and ask any questions that they may have.

Thursday 13th August is our Open Day from 9.20am to 11.20am. This is the opportunity for parents / caregivers and children to come in and see our school operating on a normal school day. We will coordinate small tour groups in the reception area and families will be led round by our Student Councillors and then have the opportunity to talk more with our Leadership Team at the end of the tour. Out of Zone Applications are closing at 4pm on Wednesday 2nd September with a ballot on Wednesday 9th September if needed. In Zone Applications need to be submitted by Friday 25th September.



For our Year 8 Cohort, now is the time to engage with the transition to high school and make enquiries through the school's website or ask your child to bring home the hard copy information. These are available from Mr Hoang in Room 2.

LAST DAD STANDING



Is your Dad a master of the Dad joke? Are his gags so bad they're actually good? TVNZ are launching a hilarious (and utterly ridiculous) new family show called "Last Dad Standing". So if you're a Dad, or know a Dad, this is your opportunity. "Last Dad Standing" is a Dad's joke competition for TVNZ 2. Join in the family fun and apply:

tvnz.co.nz/lastdadstanding

Dads need to be free to film either first or second weekend of August 2020 in Auckland so get your application in as soon as possible!

Safety at the school gate

As wet and cold winter weather comes, inevitably our school gates get busier with cars. Please try and avoid picking up your child on Richardson Road close to the school's front gates, as this is a very busy place with 6 buses arriving within a 15-minute period. Please organise a pick up place with your child that is at least 300 metres away from the front gate, or use the Cricket Club Carpark at the back of the school.



Chesspower Tournament



On Tuesday July 21st, 9 students represented Waikowhai Intermediate at the Chesspower Tournament at Mt Roskill Intermediate. Jimi (their coach) was super proud of their awesome sportsmanship, high skill level and fabulous attitude displayed throughout the day. A big thank you to the parents who provided transport and support on the day. The Team tied with Mt Roskill Intermediate right up to the end but were beaten in the last round. The Team were Alex Howes, Haydn Kemp, Isaiah Tan, Hamish Thompson, Hayden Carpendale, Kelly Chen, Joshua Epream, Allie O'Callaghan, and Chloe Yao.

A group of approximately 15 students in school uniforms are walking in a line outdoors, smiling for a photo. They are wearing light blue shirts and dark skirts or trousers. In the background, there is a modern school building with large windows and a tree. A logo featuring a phoenix and the word "SURSUM" is visible in the top right corner of the image.

Mount Roskill Grammar School
Open Day, Wednesday 29 July, 4pm-7pm
Principal's address in the Hall 4pm & 6pm
Excellence, together
TŪMANAKOTANGA

ICAS Exams

Each year the University of New South Wales offers tests in several curriculum areas. Although Waikowhai Intermediate School is not an overly enthusiastic supporter of these tests, due to their generic rather than prescriptive nature, we do offer the tests to our students as they provide an experience of examination like conditions, such as working to time pressures, concentration for an extended period and exam techniques.



Each subject will be open for a 5-day sitting window - from Monday to Friday (see dates below).

Please complete the slip and return it along with the relevant payment to school before 31st July.

My child/ren _____

Room/s _____

Would like to participate in the following ICAS Competitions (please tick)

Digital Technologies	24 th August	\$16.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Science	17 th August	\$16.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spelling Bee	31 st August	\$16.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
English	24 th August	\$16.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mathematics	31 st August	\$16.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

Amount enclosed \$ _____

Parent Signature _____