



Linking the past, building the future

## Waituna Creek Kura Newsletter #2

**Monday 14th February 2022**

Kia Ora Koutou, we have had a wonderful start to 2022 at Waituna Creek. I am enjoying being back with the students and hearing about their holidays. The first week had some new ventures for me. One of these was riding along with Colin, our new bus driver, to support him learning the route and to circumnavigate any issues arising. It was great to see where the students live and to see parts of our fabulous Waituna community that I haven't been to yet. We both appreciate your patience with this and ask that the students stand by their gateway safely but clearly visible to the approaching bus. Younger children will need parental assistance to cross the road and close the bus door so if this is the case please ensure you are at the stop before the bus is due. We have put in place an action plan for if the ford is impassable. To help us with this, it would be great if when you are crossing the ford and it is flooding could you please contact the school by phone or email me ([principal@waitunacreek.school.nz](mailto:principal@waitunacreek.school.nz)) so I can go and check it out. This will allow me to notify the bus company and parents that we are using the flooded ford plan and some of the students will be arriving later than usual.

If your child, who normally travels on the bus, has a regular after school activity please let Rachel know which afternoons they will not be on the bus. However, for one off situations could you ring and leave a message by 2.30pm so we don't put them on the bus and they will be waiting for your arrival.

With the Covid protocols lessening the contact the parents have with the classroom environment I have asked Moragh and Rochelle to post photos of the students' work as often as possible. I, of course, will be posting on Thursday and Friday when I am in Ruru. We also are using the windows facing the road to display work for you to see as you drop off and pick up students. We all appreciate how much you support us and we are trying to think of new ways to maintain the close relationship the community has with the school.

Teacher's emails:

Bronwyn Lawrie [principal@waitunacreek.school.nz](mailto:principal@waitunacreek.school.nz)

Moragh Sutherland [msutherland@waitunacreek.school.nz](mailto:msutherland@waitunacreek.school.nz)

Rochelle Macmillan [rmacmillian@waitunacreek.school.nz](mailto:rmacmillian@waitunacreek.school.nz)

Office email:

Rachel O'Donnell [office@waitunacreek.school.nz](mailto:office@waitunacreek.school.nz)

Swimming is this week and if you wish to pick your child up from the pools we will be leaving at 2.30pm. Please let us know in the morning by phone if you will be picking up your child to help with organisation. You will need to come into the pool area so we can fill in the roll correctly and you will need your vaccine pass to do this.

Bronwyn Lawrie  
Acting Principal



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## Updating School Records and Digital Device and Internet Agreement Form

Forms will be coming home today with the information the school currently holds for your child's emergency contact and medical information. It is important that we have the most up to date records at all times so that there are no delays in the event that we may need to contact you. Please check the form, make any changes if required, and return to school as soon as possible (if there are no changes please indicate so and also return the form to school so that we can confirm that the information has been checked).

We are also updating our Digital Device and Internet Agreement Forms. Please discuss this with your child and if you have not already signed one this year please sign and return to school as soon as possible.

## Spare Clothing at School

Occasionally after playtime/lunchtime, depending on the weather and environment, occasionally a change of clothes is required. Spare clothes in childrens school bags can be helpful if you think your child is likely to need it.

We usually keep a small supply of spare clothing at school which over time has depleted. If anybody has a spare pair of track pants or shorts that their child no longer wears please drop them into the office so that we can replenish our spare clothing cupboard. Many thanks.




**Our School App**

- Events
- Cancellations
- Notices
- Newsletters
- Permission Slips
- Instant notifications
- Absentees

**Simple free download:**  
In Google play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose our school once installed.



### Here's some tips to ensure you receive notices and push notifications

- When you download the Skool Loop App you will be asked if you would like notifications please **tap yes**. Some devices don't ask this question and automatically tick yes for you. This can be changed in your settings
- If your notifications are turned off in your device settings, some phones apply that to all apps when downloading. In the phone settings please make sure your notifications are turned on
- Check your App Store or Google Play regularly for any outstanding updates
- There are 2 different notices school will send out: **push notification** (banner and ding) or a **notice** (visual alert only)
- You will only receive a push notification if you are not using the app at the time
- If your volume is off you will not hear an alert
- You will see a visual alert if a **notice** has been posted. You will not hear a ding
- You will only hear a ding if the school sends a **push notification**.



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### Policies and Procedures - SchoolDocs

The policies that are being reviewed in Term 1 are:-

- Health and Safety Management
- Emergency, Disaster and Crisis Management

We invite parents/caregivers to visit the site at

<https://waitunacreek.schooldocs.co.nz/>

and participate in reviews. Our username is "waitunacreek" and password "school7978".

If any help is required please contact the school office.



### Waimate Miniball Year 7&8

#### Representative Trials to play in the South Canterbury Competition

Trials to be held on Wednesday 16th February from 3.30pm to 4.30pm at the Waimate Events Centre.

The teams will play in the South Canterbury Competition in Timaru on a Monday night starting on 7th March to the 30th May. (No games in the holidays). Anyone over the age of 12 years 3 months will require to provide their vaccine pass to enter the Events Centre. We ask that there are no spectators at the trials.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Nicole on 027 5719625.



## IMPORTANT DATES

Some of these dates are subject to change. Keep an eye out on skool loop notices, calendar and emails.

Term 1	
Mon 14th - Wed 16th February	Swimming at Norman Kirk Pool (1:15pm - 2:30pm)
Tuesday 15th February	Subway
Tuesday 22nd February	Board of Trustee Meeting - 7:30pm
Friday 25th February	Bookclubs Due
Tuesday 1st March	Subway
Monday 7th March	School Photos -9am
Tuesday 15th March	Subway
Tuesday 29th March	Subway
Tuesday 5th April	Board of Trustee Meeting - 7:30pm
Tuesday 12th April	Subway
Thursday 14th April	End of Term 1



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## CLASSROOM NEWS

### RURU

Ruru have been exceptionally busy over the past two weeks establishing class routines and welcoming each other back. We have been finding out what everyone got up to during the holidays, and talking about how we can keep safe in the sun. We loved our visit with Harold on Friday and talked about how to be a good friend. We could already give him lots of ideas on how to look after each other - Harold was so impressed!!

Everyone is heading down to the town pool for swimming for the first three days this week, so keep your fingers crossed for some lovely sunshine and warm weather.



### PIWAKAWAKA

It has been an amazing two weeks in Piwakawaka reconnecting with the 'old campaigners' and getting to know some new faces. We have spent our time learning some new routines - and getting back into some old ones! The children very kindly helped look after my summer holiday project 'Angus the Hedgehog' while I got ready to set him free on his big wild adventure. The children also enjoyed a visit with Harold the Giraffe in the Life Education Caravan. This week we are looking forward to swimming down at the Waimate pool and getting into reading, writing and maths groups. Over the coming weeks we will also be diving into our topic focus for the term - This is Our Place, which will focus on the science and social sciences curriculum. While we continue to navigate through what teaching and learning looks like under the COVID traffic light system, please email me [msutherland@waitunacreek.school.nz](mailto:msutherland@waitunacreek.school.nz) if you have any questions or queries about goings on in the school or classroom.

