



Linking the past, building the future

# Waituna Creek Kura

## Newsletter #5

**Monday 28th March 2022**

Kia Ora,

With three weeks left our first term is whizzing by. Please note that the last day of the term, Thursday 14th April is a Teachers Only Day. The teachers and I will be planning for the rest of the year.

With the latest announcements from our Prime Minister we will be having an assembly at 2.15 on Wednesday 13th April and everyone is invited. If we manage to break the 200 limit we will move outside. Do remember if we are inside all visitors, teachers and students Year 4 and above will be wearing masks.

Miniball will start the first week back of Term 2. We will send out more information as soon as it is to hand to enable you to register an interest if your child wishes to play. Of course, this could all change at a moment's notice depending on COVID issues but hopefully we will be able to enjoy the winter term watching Waituna Creek students play miniball.

There will not be any Subway lunches tomorrow due to staffing shortages in Oamaru.

As the summer season of sports closes could you please let Rachel know in the Office if you wish to change the standing arrangements for your children after school. As I have said before, the arrangements you have made with us at the beginning of the year are strictly adhered to and if there is to be any change we need to hear from the parents of the child concerned. This is part of our Health and Safety policies and I am sure you will wish to be assured that when your child/ren are at Waituna Creek they are kept safe at all times. It is also a courtesy to the other parents in our community who are waiting for the bus to arrive, while the teachers are phoning parents to find out if the child is being picked up or is on the bus. This can cause a major delay to the bus leaving, not to mention grumpy children who are stuck on the bus waiting. We can not take the word of a child for changes to transportation.

It will be a good time at the beginning of Term 2 to come into the office in the first week to let Rachel adjust the bus roll/pick up list for winter sports as I know many of the Waituna students are involved in hockey, rugby, soccer and miniball.

A reminder also that any last minute changes to bus instructions conveyed after 12:30pm should be left on the school answerphone (not via email). Thank you.

Bronwyn

### **Board of Trustee Parent Representative**

At the end of last year Kelly Smith resigned as a parent representative on the Board of Trustees. We thank Kelly for her valuable contribution to the Board over the past few years.

The process of filling the casual vacancy for a board of trustee parent representative by selection has now been completed. We thank Bryce Caird for expressing an interest in filling the role, and confirm that Bryce will now officially fill the vacancy.

Tri-annual Board of Trustee elections will be held in September this year. Please do not hesitate to contact the school or any board member if you would like to know more about becoming a Board of Trustee member.



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# CLASSROOM NEWS

## RURU

Last week Ruru used metre rulers to gauge how far 1 metre is. We have measured things and places inside the classroom and also outside. We are beginning to get our eye in and no longer race to the biggest thing we see to measure. Rurus have been looking at the characteristics of the different seasons and how they are caused by the Earth's tilt. We will also be learning their names in Te Reo.

We are keeping a daily weather calendar till the end of the term to help us be aware of the world around us and to observe nature in action.

Rochelle and Bronwyn.





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# CLASSROOM NEWS

## PIWAKAWAKA

Despite the 'change of season' coughs and colds causing lots of absences in Piwakawaka, we have had a fairly busy two weeks. The children have written some lovely poetry about the Autumn season showcasing their descriptive language skills. They have begun a paper mache art project and they have been doing some super mathematics! Next week we will excitedly start reading our new Connectors Series of non fiction reading titles that were purchased recently by our PTA. These readers will be an awesome addition to the reading programme and allow the children to develop their critical reading and thinking skills using themes that the children can more readily relate to.

### *Autumn Poem*

*The wind surfs across the grass.  
The leaves dance off the trees.  
Drizzle tiptoes on the grass.  
The wind whistles across the sky.  
The stars blink down at us.*

*Millie Wilce*



### **Hello from the P.T.A.!**

Welcome back to the new year. The PTA usually meets twice a term to discuss and plan events within our school community and fundraising events. It has been a tricky couple of years but we hope to plan a lot of fun things for our school community for 2022.

The committee members are Keri Moore, Julianna Love, Laura Snoxell, Jude Sleigh, Rochelle Matthews, Rachel Moore, Sophie Mirams and Sara Rossiter. Please get in touch with one of the ladies if you are interested in coming along to a meeting and seeing what we do. We also have a Facebook page so follow along on that. We hope to meet some of the new families and catch up with the old also. Any ideas or offers of help are always appreciated.

Keri Moore  
0273203003  
keribowen86@hotmail.com



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# IMPORTANT DATES

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

Term 1	
Tuesday 29th March	Subway - Cancelled
Tuesday 5th April	Board of Trustee Meeting - 7:30 pm
Wednesday 6th April	School Photo Orders Due
Wednesday 6th April	P.T.A. Meeting - 7:30 pm Kereru Room
Tuesday 12th April	Subway
Wednesday 13th April	School Assembly - 2:15pm
Thursday 14th April	End of Term 1 - Teachers Only Day
Term 2	
Monday 2nd May	Start of Term 2



## 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.



## Flying Dusters

Home Services Ltd

Locally owned & operated

Paula Cooney - 0272 183 660

flyingdusters2019@gmail.com

## Let's play!

TERM 1 RESTRUCTION PLAYGROUND

Let's play to grow stronger and fitter bodies, and smarter and happier minds.

The new playground at Caroline Bay can inspire everyone to play together, exercise more, in a fun, challenging, safer, inclusive outdoor play space.

Ministry of Health recommends we all meet at least one hour of moderate to vigorous activity a day

only 7%

5-17 YEAR OLDS exercise at least 1 hr a day



**Talker Tubes**



**Lighthouse**



**Obstacle Race**



**Ika Tuma (Eel)**



**Shipwreck**

**FUN INCLUSIVE CHALLENGING MEANINGFUL**

*"Let's play... to reduce injuries by improving co-ordination, balance, positional awareness and flexibility."*

Ngina Giddens, Occupational Therapist

*"Let's play... to move and learn all of those social skills which develop our children into whole, confident people."*

Lee King, Child Development Specialist

*"Let's play... to strengthen relationships with adults, youth and children and to build their 'toolbox' of life skills."*

Catherine Reilly, Early Childhood Home Visitor

*"Let's play... to better know ourselves by connecting to our local stories of the past and better understand where we come from and what has shaped the same around us."*

Early Learning, Waikato Museum South Canterbury Museum

*"Let's play... outside to improve our mental and physical health, especially as a fit heart and muscles can help someone who does become unwell with a respiratory virus, recover better."*

Kelly Swartz, Recreation & Leisure Services, Physical Health Canterbury 2019

*"Let's play... with caring trusted adults to develop our children's social and emotional skills, and help them take risks that are school friendly and developmentally appropriate."*

Amy Patterson, OT, Reader at Otago Centre

*"Let's play... to develop our sensations, fine and motor gross coordination, eye to hand or foot coordination, balance, muscle strength and cardiovascular fitness."*

Diana Jordan, Occupational Therapist South Canterbury 2019

Help us raise the last \$200,000 by April to be construction ready by August

**DONATE** [cplay.co.nz](http://cplay.co.nz)

Your donation can make an important impact in our community