



TE WAOTU SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

24 March 2026

Our vision:

To build confident and resilient life-long learners.

Our mission (how we will achieve our vision):

Teachers will empower students to be active learners who work in partnership with the teacher.

Teachers will ensure students know what they are learning, when they have been successful and where they are going to next.

Self and peer assessment is a routine step in the learning process.

Success criteria are most effective when great examples of work are used to show what quality looks like.

Teachers will use the learning progressions in the curriculum in order to confidently work with a diverse range of students.

The school recognises the influence of the home and will endeavour to build and nurture learning focussed partnerships with parents and whanau.

Our values:

Kindness,
respect, honesty,
responsibility, courage.

Our houses:

Haszard, Simmonds, Barnett,
Rongowhitiao

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Kia ora koutou

Please take the time during Easter and the school holiday break to enjoy the final run of the golden autumn weather. I look forward to hearing all the exciting news of Easter and holiday break time together with families and friends!

I am excited to share that I will be attending the prestigious Asia-Pacific Professional Leadership Development Conference in Singapore during the upcoming term break. This is considered one of the world's leading educational events, celebrated in the region bringing together over 12,000 delegates from 1000 organisations and 37 countries. It is a fantastic opportunity to learn from world leading educationalists, and I look forward to sharing my feedback with you all.

Following this conference, I will be overseas for the first three weeks of Term 2. Sandra Hamilton will be Acting Principal with capable support from Sarah Topping. I know you will support them with this additional leadership responsibility.

AstroTurf

I am also excited to share the news of the AstroTurf project coming together for installation on the top concrete/asphalt court during the April School Holidays. This has been many months in the planning with the Board of Trustees and Game On Turf - please see our design below! I can't wait to see our students and wider community use this exciting space.

Supporting attendance

Thank you for being supportive as we strive towards reaching the Ministry of Education's goal of 80% of students attending school 90% of the time. We are currently above this target with 83% for term 1! Keep supporting us to achieve and exceed these targets! We appreciate the prompt responses when checking student absences.

If you see me at the gate or around the school please stop in for a chat, my door is always open to discuss any thoughts you may have regarding your child!

Whakatauki - Mauri tū mauri ora

An active soul is a healthy soul

MiCamp Lake Taupō

Camp this year was very exciting and fun. There were heaps of activities for our groups including, bubble soccer, water slide, a burma trail and many other fun activities. For leisure time we had loads of equipment such as, Eds alley, ga ga ball, a lullaby swing, and rock climbing wall.

This camp was an experience many of us will never forget. By Lauren Petersen



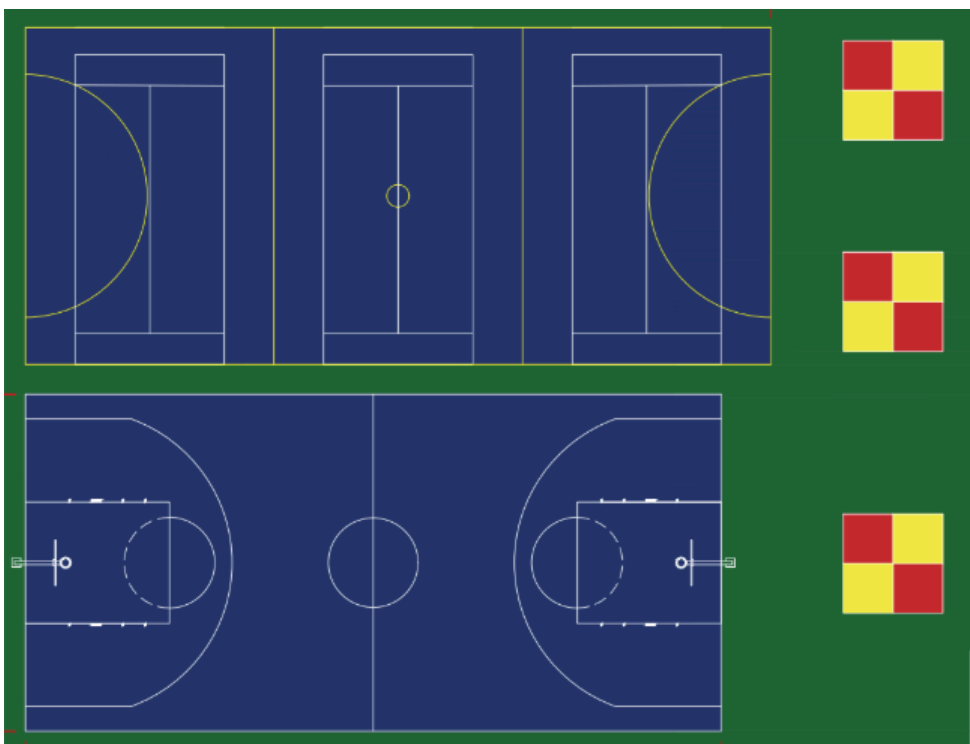
Year 7 & 8 Leadership Day

Our Year 7 and 8 students recently enjoyed an amazing day with Paula DeWar from WILLSS. Paula spent the day focused on developing essential leadership skills and fostering strong teamwork among our seniors. It was a fantastic opportunity for our students to grow, and we are excited to see them step into new leadership roles and responsibilities around the school throughout the year.



Astro Turf - Top Courts

The AstroTurf project will be started & completed in the upcoming school break - here is our design below! We are also looking at adding Basketball and Netball Hoops. More to follow!



Kickstart - Home school partnership

A huge thank you to the families who joined Kirsty Hand for our Kickstart sessions! It was wonderful to see parents and children learning alongside one another. These sessions are designed to give parents practical skills in reading, writing, and maths that perfectly match what we are doing in the classroom. By using the same strategies at home and school, we can give our students the very best support.



Welcome back Inge Wilbers & Acknowledgement of Anne Beal

We are pleased to welcome Inge Wilbers back to our teaching team at the start of Term 2 as she returns from parental leave. Inge has been missed, and we know our students and families are eager to see her back in the classroom. We know you will all join us in giving her a very warm "welcome back" as she settles back into school life! Anne Beal has been excellent covering classes over the last two terms, thank you Anne! She will move back into her across school release teacher role from term 2 onwards.

Putaruru Swim Club

It has been a fantastic season for our students at the Putaruru Swim Club! We've seen some incredible results recently, not just during club nights, but also across school and interschool swimming competitions. Swimming is such a vital skill in our community, and it is wonderful to see our students' hard work in the water paying off. While the season is wrapping up for now, the club will be back in action this November once the Putaruru Pools reopen. Congratulations to all our swimmers on a successful season!

Liam Canada - Awesome Swimming Skills

Luke Barbour - Awesome Swimming Skills

Sophie Beaven - Awesome Swimming Skills, Most improved girl - Junior

Orla Percy - Awesome Swimming Skills

Talia Harris - Awesome Swimming Skills

George Langford - Awesome Swimming Skills

Maeve Petersen - Awesome Swimming Skills

Hannah Hunt - Awesome Swimming Skills

Tommie Barbour - Awesome Swimming Skills

Brandon Filius - 10 lengths at long distance, 3rd 8yr old boys Club Champs and 3rd 8yr old boys Club points

Jack Mardell - 32 lengths at long distance, Runner up 8yr old boys Club Champs and Runner up 8yr old boys Club points

Tim de Zeeuw - 150 lengths at long distance, Winner 8yr old boys Club Champs and Winner 8yr old boys Club points, 8 records broken, MOST POINTS BOY JUNIOR

Reuben Harris - 100 lengths at long distance, 3rd 9yr old boys Club Champs and 3rd 9yr old boys Club points

Caitlin Beaven - Winner 8yr old Girls Club Champs

Anna Mardell - 100 lengths at long distance, 4th 10yr old girls Club Champs and 4th 10yr old girls Club points, Most improved Girl - Lengths

Lydia Harris - 130 lengths at long distance, 4th 10yr old girls Club Champs and 5th 10yr old girls Club points

Amelia Petersen - 6th 9yr old Girls Club Champs

Tuki DeVorms - 122 lengths at long distance, Runner up 10yr old boys Club Champs and 3rd 10yr old boys Club points, Most improved boy - Lengths

Lauren Petersen - 3rd 11yr old Girls Club Champs

Logan Beaven - 4th 10yr old Boys Club Champs

George Petersen - 5th 10 yr old Boys Club Champs

Mick de Zeeuw - 186 lengths at long distance, Winner 11yr old boys Club Champs and Winner 11yr old boys Club points, 10 records broken, MOST POINTS BOY SENIOR, MOST POINTS BOY and MOST POINTS OVERALL

COMING UP EVENTS!

- 25 and 26 March - Parent interviews
- 30 March - Pumpkin Day
- 3 April End of term Assembly

Ignite Music



Year 1-2 are encouraged to try the *Ignite the Beatz* programme which has been designed specifically for them. Each term the student gets to try two new instruments. At the end of the programme, the students would have had a good feel for a variety of instruments, and this should give them an indication of which particular instrument they would like to continue with.

Music lessons use the following link to register interest: <https://www.ignitearts.co.nz/registration/>

NOHO ORA MAI

Sandra, Sarah Topping, Kirsty, Sarah Du Toit, Hildegard, Haylie, Andrea, Jessica Forkert, Anne Beal, and Michael

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