



DEVELOPING LEARNERS FOR LIFE

30 NOVEMBER 2020

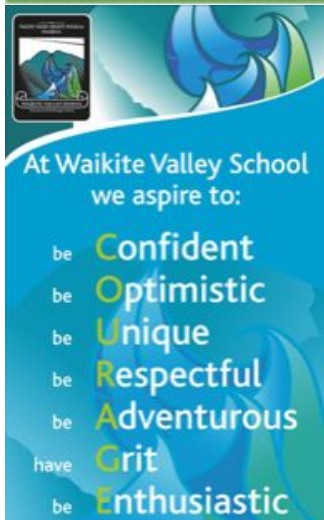


Waikite Valley School

1090 Waikite Valley Road, RD 1, Rotorua 3077 Tel 021 294 9633

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We are: **Confident, Optimistic, Unique, Respectful, Adventurous, have Grit, Enthusiastic**



The Heads-up for the week ahead.....

MONDAY - PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES 4-6.30PM

TUESDAY - TEACHER ONLY DAY-PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES 8.30-5PM

WEDNESDAY - BOARD MEETING 6.30PM

THURSDAY - PTA family picnic & fun afternoon: 1-3pm (ALL WELCOME :))
- SCHOOL PRIZEGIVING & END OF YEAR SHARING ASSEMBLY
6pm start (every student expected to attend with whanau)

FRIDAY - Year 7/8 First Lego League teams leaving for Akl (2 day tournament on Sat/Sun) 2 teams of 8 students competing! Good luck!

UPCOMING DATES:

Start date for 2021 - Tuesday 2nd February 2021

PLEASE RETURN ALL P.E UNIFORMS & TROPHIES TO THE OFFICE ASAP.

ALL OUTSTANDING INVOICES TO BE SETTLED BY THIS FRIDAY PLEASE 📢

POOL KEYS - these are available to be hired for \$50 - can be used the whole season. You must come into the office to collect and sign a pool use agreement. 🏊

SCHOOL PRIZEGIVING - END OF YEAR ASSEMBLY FOR WHOLE SCHOOL! On Thursday 3rd December we are holding the end of year assembly for the school. This starts at 6pm and each class shares an item, the whole school takes part in a kapa haka performance (led by Matua Grant Hohepa), the school cups & trophies are awarded, our Year 8 students present their farewell speeches and every student is given a gift. There will be a light supper with tea and coffee afterwards.

AN INTRODUCTION TO OUR NEW TEACHER FOR 2021 - MRS SHANDY BURNS:



Kia ora koutou,

My name is Shandy Burns and I have been given the privilege of becoming a part of your Waikite Valley whānau, as a teacher starting in 2021.

I grew up in the country and have a passion for supporting children to grow and reach their full potential in all areas of life. I have two children of my own, Ellie 6, and Harlo 2, so I understand the expectations and wishes of a parent and the importance of building strong partnerships between school and home. I am very excited about joining you next

year, so if you see me around please come and say hi and introduce yourself! Take care, I look forward to meeting you all soon. Ngā mihi nui, Shandy.

Shandy will be attending our Thursday evening assembly/prizegiving - please introduce yourself (particularly if you have a child in her class in 2021) and welcome her into our school community. Shandy's children will be attending our school and kindergarten next year also.

SURVEY FEEDBACK

1. What do you hope does not change:

- Leadership roles x 2
- Rewarding students who show the school values
- Outside of school opportunities (Eg. Tough Guy/Gal, sports days) x 2
- High standards/expectations
- Pod 1 - Learning through play, their own space x 4
- Unique country school environment, warm & welcoming atmosphere x 3
- Friendly, approachable, excellent staff x 4
- After school care
- Maths Club x 2
- Facebook notices/ excellent communication/ informative x 3
- No uniform
- Stimulating environment
- Teacher engagement/relationship with kids x 4
- Kids readiness to participate in the interesting learning activities
- Excellent confidence building and focus on growth mindset x 2
- Swimming lessons
- School Values and their integration into school culture x 3
- Sharing assemblies
- Teachers genuinely listen to parent concerns and make changes accordingly
- Quality of care for each child and the kids are the main focus
- Mr Topp's work on digital fluency and digital citizenship



2. What would you like to see change:

- Better care of school grounds - respect for property, children taking more pride in their school (eg. clothing, sports equipment) x 7
- Smaller class numbers - this ensures children do not get overlooked x 4
- Same teachers Mon-Fri x 2
- Better communication around student incidents
- Finding out your child is behind with only days of school left for the year
- More sports options or more PE time during school x 3
- More parental inclusion
- Better and earlier communication
- Increase in external visits from education providers (eg. Scion, agricultural consultants)
- Encourage kids to wear sunscreen more
- Bus run / changes to buses x 2
- Would like a school uniform
- More singing in Maori and English
- Home time = family time: so NO homework
- Day excursion for all year levels - fun, adventurous outings (1-8)
- Upgrade playground

3. What can we do to have your children stay to Year 8:

- Same programs as other intermediates/continue with technology (eg. woodwork, cooking, sewing) x 6
- Having a good number of students in the intermediate class (over 10) x 3
- Male role model/teacher x 2
- Senior curriculum leading into high school subjects/preparation for high school x 3
- Student led/interest based projects x 2
- Visits to high school
- Celebrate things other than sport
- Stricter behaviour management
- Interactions with same age group at neighbouring schools
- Children travelling to town for technology - see other schools and more resources
- Continue with things as they are
- Continued emphasis on inclusiveness x 2

4. Most important things you would like to see the children learn:

- Respect for others and property/treating people with kindness x 8
- Enthusiasm for learning - wide knowledge base x 4
- Students encouraged to take opportunities x 3
- Good understanding of basics (e.g maths, times tables, grammar, writing, punctuation etc.) x 3
- Self-monitoring/ self-management x 3
- Resilience/Grit x 3
- Problem solving
- Independence/confidence/ courage x 7
- How to be the best version of themselves/uniqueness x 5
- Sportsmanship, friendship & fun
- Financial savviness
- Integrity of character
- Collaboration / Team work

5. Other ideas:

- More written homework
- Teacher aides working throughout the school
- Programmes for top students - not just bottom
- I would not change a thing - I won't be changing schools
- Extra-curricular activities available - especially in the arts and music

*The teachers have worked through the responses and we have already put some plans in place for 2021 to address the most common themes. We have advertised for a groundsperson/caretaker with an additional 5 hours a week (15 total) to help with keeping school buildings/gardens tidy. The information will also be shared at the Board of Trustees meeting on Wednesday this week so we can implement future planning (eg. charter targets) at a governance level that meets the aspirations of our community. **A HUGE thank you** to the whanau who were able to complete our survey and provide this wonderful feed-forward information to make our school the best it can be.*

GRADUATION LUNCH - YEAR 8'S

On Thursday 26 November the Year 8's celebrated their time at Waikite Valley School and were catered for by the Year 7 students. Their whanau attended to awhi their teachers over the years and reflect on the time spent in our school. Over 30 people attended the lunch, which had a thanksgiving theme. This has become an annual tradition which also provides an opportunity for the class to showcase their food technology skills acquired.



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