



DEVELOPING LEARNERS FOR LIFE

9 FEBRUARY, 2021



Waikite Valley School

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

www.waikitevalley.school.nz office@waikitevalley.school.nz

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

At Waikite Valley School we aspire to:

- be **Confident**
- be **Optimistic**
- be **Unique**
- be **Respectful**
- be **Adventurous**
- have **Grit**
- be **Enthusiastic**

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

- **Lunch Orders** - Only Murphy's Mince Pies & sausage rolls available at the moment. From Thursday, all lunch orders are fully up and running with Matthew Hornby and Kelly Teague as our Lunch monitors for 2021.
- **After School Care** continues this term (3-5pm) with Alice Kissick supervising - no charge due to a generous grant from the One Foundation
- **School hours** resume at 9am-3pm 9 (Morning Tea 11-11.45am/ Lunch 1.15-2pm)



SCHOOL P.E. Uniforms - these will be issued this week with the understanding that they will be washed and cared for over the year. We will ask to have them returned after our last sports event for 2021. If the sizing is not correct, please let the office know. :)

SCHOOL LEADERS 2021



HOUSE CAPTAINS:

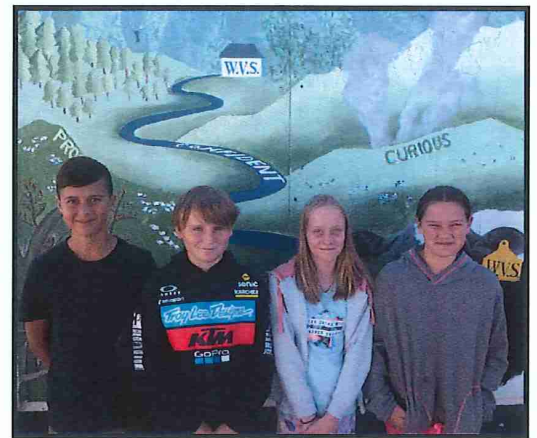
Whaoa - Matthew Hornby, Kataraina Alexander, Abby Morrissey
Tahu - Lachlan Woulfe, Bayden Moyes

HEAD BOY: Leion Brown

DEPUTY HEAD BOY: Daniel Hornby

HEAD GIRL: Kelly Teague

DEPUTY HEAD GIRL: Harriet Topp



NEW STUDENTS TO OUR KURA - NAU MAI, HAERE MAI



GPA: Kadin Martin

POD 1: Amy Schweizer & Hunter Martin

Rm 4: Skylah Gilmore

Rm 2: Ellie Burns

Rm 3: Tamara Aislable



We have been fortunate to have been approved a \$9000 grant from the Grassroots Trust to fund a new Lawnmower and Mulch kit for the school.

CLASSROOM LETTERS - TERM 1: These are included in your newsletter. Please read through and if you have any questions have them ready for the teachers at the meeting evenings or make a time to see them sooner (via Facebook page or ClassDojo messages). There will be more information about the school wide kaupapa - Climate Justice - in upcoming newsletters.

PTA MEETING: There is a PTA meeting on Tuesday 16th February at 7pm in the Supper Hall area of the Community Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend and we would be happy to see new faces turn up :)

Teresa Topp (PRINCIPAL) - mob: 027 634 4744
E: principal@waikitevalley.school.nz

UPCOMING DATES:

Tues 16th February - PTA meeting in the Community Supper Hall 7pm (ALL WELCOME)

Wed 17th February - Board of Trustees meeting (6.30pm - in the school staffroom)

Mon 22nd-Fri 26th February - Swim Magic tutoring in our school pool (Year 3-8)

Tues 23rd-Thurs 25 February - Parent/Teacher goal setting meetings (Evenings)

Mon 1st March - Waikite Valley School Swimming Sports

Fri 5th March - Rural Cluster Schools Swimming Sports: Kaharoa School

Mon 15 March - Parents/Community Te Reo Workshop with Harata Day (held in our school library, free) 5.30-6.30pm

Waikite Valley School Contacts:

Principal (Teresa Topp) - 027 634 4744

Office (Kelly Curtis) - 021 294 9633

Board of Trustees Chairperson - Shelley Schnuriger 333 2248

Parents-Teachers Association Chairperson - Alana Mead 027 530 2868

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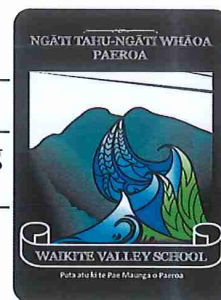
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WAIKITE VALLEY SCHOOL CHARTER SUMMARY - 2021



Waikite Valley School – Developing Learners for Life

The school in partnership with the community aims to develop the person for life, using high quality learning opportunities pitched to individual needs



At Waikite Valley School we aspire to:
be Confident, Optimistic, Unique, Respectful, Adventurous, have Grit and Enthusiasm.

We call these our **C.O.U.R.A.G.E.** values.

We believe all students at Waikite Valley School will learn best when:

- 👍 They are equipped with the foundation learning skills of numeracy and literacy.
- 👍 They are actively involved in goal setting and are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning.
- 👍 Their beliefs, opinions and ideas are valued.
- 👍 They are in a safe, caring and positive environment.
- 👍 They are provided with, and involved in powerful, authentic and cooperative inquiry learning experiences that cater to a wide range of learning styles.
- 👍 They experience success.
- 👍 They are encouraged to think deeply, reflect on their learning and to take risks.
- 👍 They are in a stimulating supportive environment where their efforts are proudly celebrated and valued.
- 👍 They are challenged to be the best they can be.
- 👍 There is a strong partnership between home and school that incorporates the shared values of the school.
- 👍 All students have the ability to learn and have a right to an inclusive education.

Consistent with our vision, we will reflect cultural diversity through a variety of activities such as Kapa Haka, ka hikitia, Pet Days, Sports days, learning songs and improving our knowledge of Te Reo.

The Unique position of the Maori Culture

- ❖ We understand, value and appreciate the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi.
- ❖ This is enhanced through incorporating Te Reo Maori and Tikanga Maori through a school wide Ka Hikitia programme. Classes will move between cultural learning experiences such as Te Reo, Kapahaka, learning stories about our local area, Maori art and waiata.
- ❖ Our school houses reflect our local iwi – Tahu & Whaoa.
- ❖ We attend our local marae (Ohaaki) when hui are being held to create a tie to our local tangata whenua.
- ❖ Our current school logo was developed with ongoing consultation with local iwi (ngati tahu-ngati whaoa). The school logo image ties in strongly with the local geography and tangata whenua.

We have worked strategically over the past 5 years to incorporate Tikanga Maori into the school's curriculum. Responsibility has been taken to integrate the principles of Ka Hikitia across all learning experiences and school operations, in addition to weekly school wide Ka Hikitia sessions.

In 2021 the school will facilitate an evening course for B.O.T. and community members to learn some basic te reo, tikanga and geography of our whenua. This is being held termly by Harata Day and we are hoping it will conclude with a trip to the local marae (Ohaaki) in Term 4.

Students' Learning	All students are able to access the New Zealand Curriculum as evidenced by progress and achievement in relation to the National Standards.
Student Engagement	Students are given a high degree of student agency, through strategically crafted approaches by the teachers. This ensures a high level of engagement and self-motivation, aimed at developing learners for life.
School Organisation and Structures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 👍 We have five well-resourced classrooms catering for Years 0-8. 👍 We have 7 experienced, vibrant and high quality teaching staff and 1 provisionally registered teacher who is a welcome and exciting new contributor to the team. We have wonderful, rural students who embrace their learning. 👍 The school welcomes all students and endeavors to provide the best environment to suit the individual requirements of each child. 👍 The principal is involved in up-to-date training and consultations to ensure the school curriculum, strategic planning and management is current. 👍 The school has extensive grounds with excellent facilities including a library, large all-weather astro turf, swimming pool, playground and extensive playing fields. The school is well resourced with computers, laptops, data projectors, interactive screens, visualizers, tough digital cameras, ipad minis and i-pads. 👍 The ethnic makeup of the school is 35%Maori, 1% Pasifika and 65% NZ and Other European students. 👍 A school wide Ka Hikitia programme is in its eleventh successful year. We are grateful for the excellent tuition and support of Matua Grant Hohepa. 👍 There is a high level of importance placed on the Enviroschools Philosophies and we have been a spray-free, organic environment with a working food forest (including vegetables, fruit trees, nut trees, herbs and companion plants) since 2016.

Strategic Section

Key Improvement Strategies to Achieve Strategic Vision			
Property	Targets	Learning & Teaching	Targets
<p>Upgrade Room 4 and the GPA classroom, creating school-wide Innovative Learning environments that are insulated and well lit. Once these classes are upgraded a full exterior paint of the school buildings will be done.</p> <p>Convert the old Boiler room to a double garage to house the school van, lawnmower and school bikes.</p> <p>Improve school frontage - car park, drop off area and bus turnaround.</p>	<p>By the end of 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All learning spaces are dynamic, colourful, engaging modern learning environments • There is effective, safe and efficient storage for the school vehicles • The front of the school is improved for safety, looks clean, tidy and inviting • The exterior of all buildings has been repaired and repainted 	<p>All students will have the opportunity to achieve success across all subject areas.</p> <p>School staff set high academic expectations.</p> <p>Our local curriculum is accessible and engaging for diverse learners and relevant to our context.</p> <p>Mindfulness and wellbeing are practised in all classrooms daily.</p>	<p>By the end of 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students will participate in a musical production - either performing or working behind the scenes • At least 90% achieving within or above their expected curriculum level in reading, writing and maths • Students can describe and model mindfulness strategies, as well as explain the purpose of these strategies
Student Roll	Targets	Community Engagement	Targets
<p>Values education (C.O.U.R.A.G.E.) is a strong underpinning of our school wide philosophy.</p> <p>Kindy transition is managed strategically, with a good relationship fostered between the junior class and the kindy.</p>	<p>By the end of 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students have enjoyed a safe and happy year at school • Continue initiatives designed for roll growth and maintenance (after school care etc.). Keep requesting community input as to how to better serve our community needs. 	<p>Community Consultation is genuine and feeds into planning. Teacher reporting is relevant, accessible and meaningful to school whanau.</p> <p>A range of communication avenues are utilised - Facebook, website, email, messenger, text, phone, ClassDojo, School Newsletter, etc.</p>	<p>By the end of 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home-School partnerships are strong with engagement in school surveys and attendance at meetings • Whanau are communicated with efficiently & effectively • Parents/Caregivers are welcome into school at all times

Kia ora Whanau

The tamariki and I are well settled into our new learning space in Pod 1. We are very fortunate to be able to use the sandpit to aid our learning – such a great resource.

Learning is in full force with readers coming home Monday to Thursday – I enjoy seeing your comments about your child's reading. Most of the children have already written a story or two, as well as handwriting and some maths too.

We are super lucky to have Kate Stubbs as our teacher aide every day from 9am – 11am. She is working with small groups of children and is a super asset to Pod 1.

We are continuing to enhance our learning with learning through play this enables the children to have more direction in their learning and explore their urges to play.

We are swimming daily from 10.15 to 11am with our swimming demonstration on Monday 1st March. Our library session is weekly on a Wednesday afternoon, the children need to return the books each week to be able to get more books out.

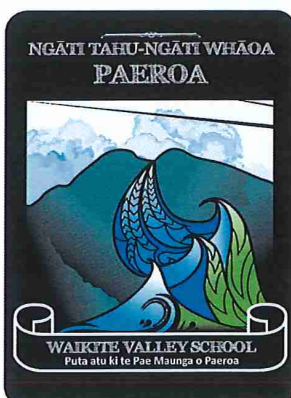
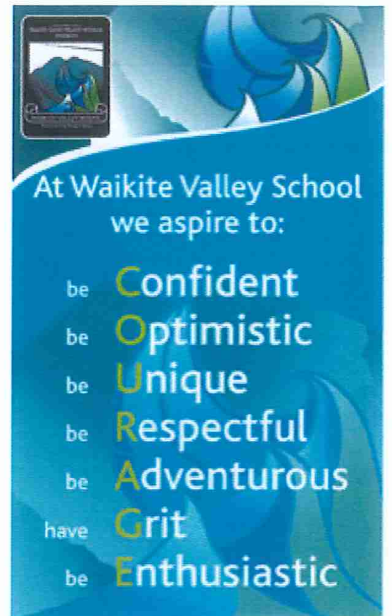
Our school wide Inquiry for Term 1 is Climate Justice, Pod 1's focus will be looking at the choices we make and how they can affect our environment.

Looking forward we are running the Reading Together workshops beginning in Week 6, these will be weekly in the early evening with kai and child care provided. It is an interactive workshop focussing on some skills and strategies to help you and your child's reading be a fantastic positive experience.

If you need to contact me for any reason you can text 0272820641, use messenger or email me lisad@waikitevalley.school.nz or pop in before 8.50am or after 3pm.

I am so excited to be working with your whanau and tamariki throughout 2021.

Nga mihi Lisa Dinning



Welcome to Term 1

It's been great to hear everyone's exciting holiday stories and to meet our new Room 2. We are very excited to get stuck into a new year of learning and having fun!

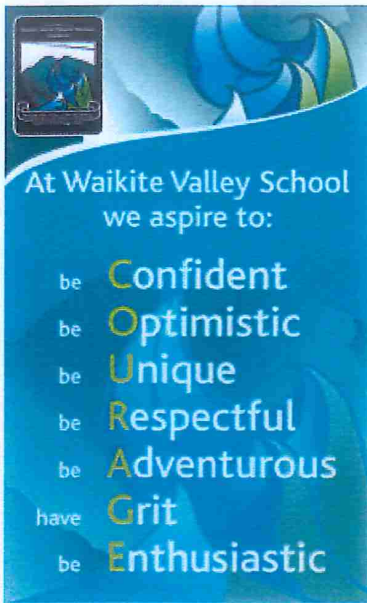
WHATS ON THIS TERM?

- Our topic this term is Climate Justice. Each week we are going to be looking at a different area such as water, air and plastics and how these have affected the environment and especially the community. Our writing is going to link into this.
- In maths we have started the term recapping and extending our numeracy skills as well as learning about statistics and how to graph and gather information to display. We are learning about the days of the week and months of the year and are practising our numbers in Reo.
- Readers will continue to come home daily Monday-Wednesday. On a Thursday and Friday you can expect your child to have an activity related to a reading, writing or spelling skill they are learning. Monday is our library day.
- We will be heading to the pool every day so please remember togs and towels. SwimMagic will be visiting Week 4 to do extra instruction with our class and swimming sports will take place in Week 5.
- Term 1 is a sunsafe term so all kids need to wear their sun hats every time they are outside.
- We will be using Classdojo to share any notices, photos or class communication this year. If you haven't joined yet or need help working the app please come and see Mrs Hunter and she will help you out.



If you have any questions we can be contacted on dojo
or email.

sheenah@waikitevalley.school.nz siant@waikitevalley.school.nz



Kia Ora Room 3 whānau,

Welcome to Room 3. It was great to spend the first week getting to know one another and setting up our classroom space. Here are a few important things to note for Term 1:

- Swimming- we will be swimming every afternoon from 2-2.30pm so children will need to bring their togs and a towel each day.

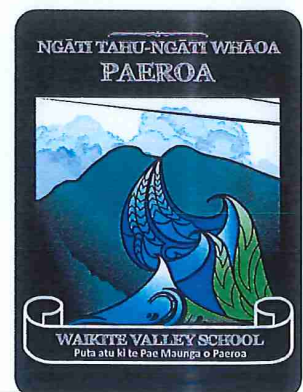
- Library- we are lucky enough to have Kate Stubbs working with us each day between 11.45 and 1.15 so we will use this time on a Thursday to visit the Library, choose

books and have these issued to your child, to bring home to read. Children are able to take out 2 books to bring home in their book bags. These will need to be returned before they can get new books the following week. There are a few children with books still to be returned from 2020, so I will send a note home with those children this week as they will need to return these before they can get new books issued.

- Parent/Teacher goal setting meetings are on from 23rd- 25th of February (week 4).
- Swimming sports is on the 1st March. Come along and watch the fun!

I will be using ClassDojo to communicate important dates, message whānau, and share our amazing work from Room 3. If you have any queries please don't hesitate to come on in and see me, message me via ClassDojo or email shandyb@waikitevalley.school.nz.

Ngā mihi,
Shandy Burns

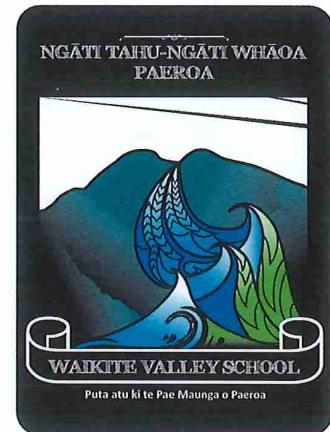


Tuesday 9th February 2021

Kia ora whanau

Welcome to Room 4 for 2021. We are excited to be starting the year with a nice small class; great opportunities for learning.

Once again Ms Bowman and myself are sharing the teaching. I will be in front of the class on Monday to Wednesday. On Thursdays I will be at school but working with maths across the school. Ms Bowman will be in Room 4 on Thursday and Friday.



We are continuing with daily 'Mindfulness', and will be incorporating Te Reo into our learning. Ms Bowman readily admits she will be learning, the latter, alongside the tamariki and is looking forward to the challenge.

Once again I will be taking numeracy with the class in maths time, and Ms Bowman is focusing on the other strands, including measurement and geometry. She will begin with statistics, where the kids will explore the statistical enquiry cycle, which involves gathering, displaying and interpreting data.

This year I will be taking spelling lessons with the class, at least for this term. Ms Bowman will complement this learning with writing and editing practise within a number of genres.

Our reading programme involves each of us taking primary responsibility for two groups and working intensively with them on our days. On the other days the children will have independent work to complete. The teacher will still monitor their work, and Mrs Curtis will also be in the class to assist. Great adult to child ratio!!!

Our inquiry is "Climate Justice" and we are starting by identifying the place that we affiliate with the most (it may or may not be in New Zealand). We will explore our turangawaewae (place to stand) and what makes it very special to us. Then we will look at what we can do to take care of this special place.



Every day we will be swimming, leading up to our school and cluster swimming sports.

Also this term we will be trialling a return to fortnightly Home Learning sheets; a number of you requested this during Term 4 last year. While home learning isn't compulsory, we urge you to encourage your child/ren to participate as so much of what they are asked to do reinforces their school learning. The children are going to dedicate one of the Literacy books in their stationary to Home Learning. They will be reminded to take them home and return them to school at the end of the two weeks.

Finally, we would like to use a Room 4 "Closed FaceBook" group to communicate with whanau this year. Although almost all our parents are on the Class Dojo, we are aware that a small proportion read the posts. FaceBook seems to be a more effective way to reach people. We will set this up this week and then invite you to search for Waikite Valley Room

4 and ask to be a member. Hopefully we can get 100% buy in.

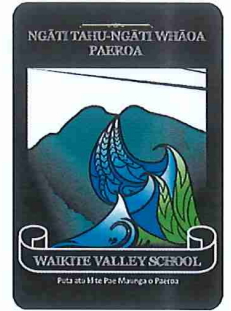
Please feel free to contact either of us if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child/ren's learning.

Kind regards

Sheryl Pearson
Lorraine Bowman

GPA 2021 Term 1

Welcome to Term 1 in GPA. We have had a fantastic first week, which has planted a real positive feel to the year.



This year I will be using a private facebook group named "GPA Waikite Valley School." If you're not already a member, please search for this group and ask to join. This has been a very effective way to communicate with parents for the last 2 years. If you do not want to join our Facebook group, I completely understand and I will be sure to still maintain clear communication with you through other means. Please let me know if you are uncomfortable with your child being posted on our class Facebook page, or if you are not interested in joining the page.

I have asked that all students have and use a diary for their everyday events, recording reading and any other activities to help keep their week organized. I have asked that they keep this in their book bag along with a book to read. I will check diaries every Friday and give house points to those who are using it. This is an excellent way to promote their self-organisation, as well as prepare them for future study and work. I also ask that the students have their togs with them everyday until the pool is closed.

For the core curriculum areas we will be covering the following:

Reading this term we will be mostly articles and research relating to our Inquiry topic/kaupapa as well as keeping track of their own personal reading.

In **writing**, we will review the mechanics of writing and practice them when writing formal letters.

Maths we will be looking at measurement and our **Physical Education** will be focused on swimming, as well as softball and baseball.

We will begin our **daily mindfulness program**, and boost our **Te Reo** knowledge specifically with our pepeha, greetings and items around the classroom.

Our topic study/kaupapa this term will be learning about Climate Justice and will have a strong **social studies** focus, closely linked with our reading and writing tasks.

The **technology** topic this term is cooking. This will be a 2 hour session once a week based in the Community Hall kitchen and supper room, if you would like to help with this or have skills/passion in the kitchen, please let me know.

We also will be doing our 'Apprentice Challenge'. This is where the students are split up into teams and given a challenge to complete and be judged on. This has been a very successful cross curricular and practical challenge that continues to be very motivating for the students.

We are looking forward to another great year. If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to get in touch with me, through either Private Message on Facebook or my mobile 0273518012.

Kind regards
Andy Topp