

DEVELOPING LEARNERS FOR LIFE

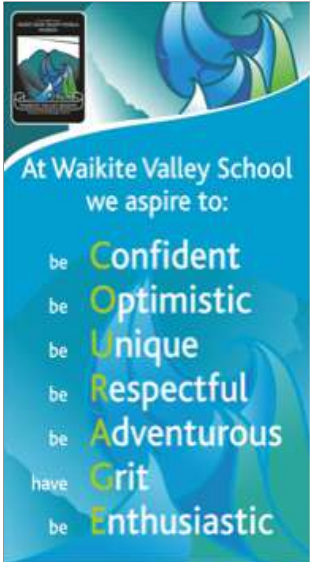
23 MAY 2022

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



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

- **Friday 27 May** - Intermediate Hockey starts
- **Saturday 28 May** - Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 hockey starts

Upcoming Dates....

- **Wednesday 1 June** - Waikite Valley School Cross Country
- **Mon 6 - Fri 10 June** - Hilary Outdoors 4x Yr 8 students
- **Monday 6 June** - **Queen's Birthday observed**
- **Friday 24 June** - **Matariki observed**
- **END OF SCHOOL YEAR 2022** - Friday 9th December

Kia Ora Koutou Whānau,

CROSS COUNTRY - next Wednesday (1st June)



Next Wednesday (weather permitting) we will be running our school cross country event.

All students take part in this event. The students will run a course (they have trained on) in their age and gender group. Their age is taken at the first day of this term (2nd May).

We will start at 11 am with the 5 year olds, and continue through each age group up to the 12+ year olds. The entire event will take a couple of hours. We hold this event across the road from school on the Schnuriger farm. It is optional for the children to wear footwear when running, but they are required to wear appropriate running gear (this can be their school PE uniform).

If they are 8 years and older and finish in a good time, they may be put into our Cluster Cross Country team to compete with other schools. The intention of our Cross Country is to encourage grit, confidence and courage - as well as promote physical fitness and adventure in the outdoors! Please encourage an optimistic and enthusiastic approach to this - every child who takes part should experience a real sense of achievement.

Teresa Topp (Tumuaki/Principal) M: 027634 4744 E: principal@waikitevalley.school.nz

Waikite Valley School - Developing Learners for Life

ENVIRONMENTAL CLASSROOM & FOOD FOREST



By our playground we have a working food forest that provides seasonal food for our students and is a living resource for all of us to learn from and enjoy. The lessons the food forest can provide are numerous, practical & some taste great! We support growing a living soil that promotes biodiversity above & below the ground. We encourage the students to spend time in the forest. This is also connected to our native bush area that we hope to improve so the transition between the two is better.

The idea of a Waikite Valley School Food Forest began around 2016 with the first fruit trees selected by students and planted in the winter of 2017. We have added mulch, a seeding of herbal ley from Koanga and some Tagasaste (Tree Lucern). We have also added sections of large concrete pipe as planters and some for crawling through and playing on.

We promote and teach propagation, from our row of River Peaches grown from seed, to taking cuttings and grafting. We have a large compost area & were just donated a huge amount of mulch. With the arrival of our brand new outdoor environmental classroom we will be able to spend more time gaining the benefits of our environment.

Another aspect of the food forest we are currently developing is the connection to Maori gardening practices and beliefs, and Maara kai. This includes the connections of the atua and natural cycles to our forest and Maramataka (lunar calendar). Our Matariki kaupapa this term has developed this thinking across all classes.

The Waikite Valley Food Forest is an asset for our school and community that will continue to improve with age. It has countless learning opportunities that include our connection to nature, food & our wellbeing. Our school has been sprayfree for over 5 years now - which is also a positive for the food produced, soil health & the entire ecosystem of the school.

If you would like to support our forest, please contact: andyt@waikitevalley.school.nz



VALUES AWARDS - TERM 2, WEEK 4



Pod 1 - Zoe Sluiter & Logan Birch



Grit



Rm 2 - Isabelle Elliston & Baylee Salmon



Rm 3 - Harrison Scholte & Emma Fisker



Rm 4 - Dakota France & Jonathan Haskins



G.P.A. - Peter Teague & Kadin Martin

Unique



Waikite Valley Hot Pools 50th Celebrations

When: Sunday 3rd July

Where: Waikite Valley Golf Club

Time: 11am - 2pm

Cost: \$20 per person

Register at: www.hotpools.co.nz



Waikite Valley School Contacts:

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Parents-Teachers Association Chairperson - Crystal Carroll ph. 021 175 0487

Board of Trustees Chairperson - Mike France ph. 021 684 393

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Carolyn Morris
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