

## Diary Dates

### Coming up . . .

- Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> February **Kawakawa students home** from Odyssey
- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February **Waitangi Day Holiday – SCHOOL CLOSED**
- Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February **Teacher Only Day –SCHOOL CLOSED**
- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February **school accounts 1<sup>st</sup> instalment due**
- Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February **Year 7's to Technology**
- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February **BoT/Council meeting 7 pm high school**



### School closed for Waitangi Day and Teacher Only Day NEXT WEEK



A reminder that the school will be closed next Monday 8<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February to observe Waitangi Day and for a teacher only day following that.

## This Week

### Welcome back

*By Ava Szabo – Principal*

Kia ora whānau and Happy New Year and welcome back to school. I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas break whether you travelled away or enjoyed a staycation.

This year we started our school year differently, celebrating our transitioning ākonga across all areas of the school by holding a mihi whakatau to welcome them into their new environments. We look forward to continuing this special tradition each year to celebrate the journey our ākonga make as they transition into a new environment. We are happy to receive any feedback you may have on our mihi whakatau this morning.

We farewelled our Kawakawa ākonga this morning as they left for their Odyssey at Makahika; have a great time and we look forward to seeing you back next week.

I am very happy to announce that we are fully staffed for 2021 and would like to acknowledge the following staff:

**Hamish Buddle** – is our new High School Deputy Principal. Many of you will remember Hamish who taught PE a few years ago. Hamish joins us from Wellington East Girls where he was head of Outdoor Education. Welcome back Hamish.

**Belinda Rodrigues** – is our new teacher in Tawhai class. Belinda is an experienced Montessori teacher returning from Australia where she has taught at a Melbourne Montessori School since 2014. Prior to this she taught in Totara class. Welcome back!

**Anna Freeman** - is a registered teacher and moves into Tōtara class from Rātā class to work alongside Joel while undertaking her 9–12 Montessori teacher training.

**Annette McRae** – is our new Drama teacher. Many of you will know Annette who is currently team teaching with Joel in Tōtara class. Annette has a performing arts background and is very experienced in this area. Annette will continue to work in Tōtara class on Mondays and Fridays alongside Joel and Anna.

**Fran Kingston** – is our new assistant in Rātā working with Carolyn. Many of you already know Fran as a reliever in Kauri class. We are very excited to offer her this position.

**Ingrid Peke** - is our new teacher in Kōwhai class working with Amy. Ingrid is an experienced teacher who has worked in a variety of ECE settings.

**Renee White** – In recognition of the importance of nurturing wellbeing within the school, Renee will be extending her role from the 9-12 classes to now also include our high school students. She is trained to work alongside children building trusting relationships, so they feel comfortable to share and talk with her. This will involve discussing friendship breakdowns, restorative justice, dealing with anger and understanding and looking after the students' holistic wellbeing (te whare tapa wha).

**Sharon Darby** – takes on the role of Marketing and Communications Administrator from week four. Congratulations on your new adventure at Wa Ora.

**Dannielle King** – is our new Office Administrator. She joins us from playgroup and is a parent so has an in-depth knowledge of the school. Welcome Dannielle.

I am excited to begin our new year and I look forward to catching up with you all as the term progresses.

## Term 1 school accounts

## School Accounts

Preschool invoices and area school donations requests have been emailed to families already and activities contributions will be emailed out soon. You can pay by internet, cash, cheque or eftpos (savings/cheque) at the office.

Instalment dates are as follows:

Instal 1: due Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February.

Instal 2: due Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

Instal 3: due Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March.

Further information containing account numbers and payment options, is included in the attached 'Accounts Information Letter'.

### Before/after school care bookings

Please let Dannielle in the office know if you would like to book your child into before and/or after school care for a regular booking (same time/day, etc.). Please advise her of days by either emailing [office@waora.school.nz](mailto:office@waora.school.nz) or using the school app. Please note that if you have a regular booking but your child will NOT be attending for some reason, you MUST let the office know, as this affects staffing levels at BSC/ASC.

### Absences, late and appointments

## Reporting Absences



If your child is going to be away sick or on holiday, or has an appointment in school time, you must notify our school office. You can do this via the school app, by texting 029 770 4286, by emailing [office@waora.school.nz](mailto:office@waora.school.nz) or by leaving a message on the absences answer phone 567 2377 before 8.30 am. If your child is away sick for more than one day, you must advise the office EACH day they are away. Also if you are picking up early or dropping off late, you must call at or text the office when your child is leaving/back.

### Working bee letters

Keep an eye out for your letter detailing the date of your rostered 2021 working bee which the office will email to all school families in the next few days.

## Term 1 dates

Term 1 is 11 weeks long this term and the last day is Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April. The whole school is closed on the following days this term:

Waitangi Day – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February

Teacher Only Day – Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February

Good Friday – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April

Easter Monday – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> April

Easter Tuesday – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> April

### Who does what in admin/support



Please talk / email directly with:

**Dannielle** [office@waora.school.nz](mailto:office@waora.school.nz) for

- notifying of late/sick/holidays/appointments
- afterschool care
- general enquiries

**Donna** [donna@waora.school.nz](mailto:donna@waora.school.nz) for

- any financial questions / subsidies
- changes to preschool afternoon arrangements
- Monday–Friday 8 am–12 noon

**Emma** [emmaschrader@waora.school.nz](mailto:emmaschrader@waora.school.nz)

- for new enrolments/transitions

**Jo** [joanne@waora.school.nz](mailto:joanne@waora.school.nz) for

- appointments to see Ava

**Relda/Sharon** [sharon@waora.school.nz](mailto:sharon@waora.school.nz)

for

- passwords for school website
- Wā Ora newsletter inclusions
- Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays

**Hayley** [hayley@waora.school.nz](mailto:hayley@waora.school.nz) for

- BoT meeting minutes

### School photos

School photos will be happening on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. Information will be emailed shortly regarding the order process, which will again be done online.

### Please name all clothing and stationery

# name it

The start of the new year is a good time to name all items of clothing and stationery. Doing this also assists us to return named items to their rightful owners.

## Term 1 reminder



Remember to pack your child's sun hat for school this term. During the summer terms 1 and 4 all students must wear a sunhat with an appropriate sized brim if outdoors. Also please remember to apply sunscreen to your preschooler before school.

### 10-minute parking bays out front of school

The car parking spaces in front of the preschool and main school office now have a 10-minute limit on them during our busy drop off and pick up times. These spaces will be most suitable for those whānau who are dropping off/picking up preschoolers and primary students and for those with short errands at the office. We appreciate your ongoing assistance with parking considerately and safely in our neighbourhood.

### Preschool lunch assistant sought

We are seeking a parent who would like to work in our preschool providing lunch time cover in the classroom between 12–1 pm. For further information about the job, please contact Preschool DP, Anna McLean.

### Parent calendar on school app and website

Calendar	
	Kawakawa Leave for Odyssey Mon, Feb 1, All day
	First day of term 1—Whole school Mon, Feb 1, All day
	Kawakawa Return from Odyssey Sat, Feb 6, All day
	Waitangi Day observed Mon, Feb 8, All day
	Teacher Only Day – No School Tue, Feb 9, All day
	1st instalment school accounts due Wed, Feb 10, All day
	Year 7s to Technology @ Avalon Intermediate

To keep up-to-date with when things are happening for your ākonga at school, please check in regularly with the calendar on our school app. This is kept current and dates are added/changed as we are made aware.