



WADESTOWN SCHOOL

Community Newsletter No 14

Principal: Amanda Frater

Website: www.wadestown.school.nz

Friday 27 August 2021

Kia ora koutou,

I am writing to you from a very different desk this morning and in a house that is eerily quiet in comparison to Wadestown School.

Each morning I begin my day composing an email to our staff. It is a part of the day that I really enjoy, and it is one of the ways we are all keeping connected with each other. I include in this communication the most up-to-date information from the Ministry of Education. Currently, Principals and School Leaders receive this information on a daily basis from the Secretary of Education. This information informs all our decision making and often helps to guide our next steps.

I am also keeping in touch with various other schools, through attendance at the MoE Principals' zoom meetings and through our Cluster and Kāhui Ako Principal groups. I am regularly reminded about the generosity of other Principals who willingly share what approaches they are taking to support their students and communities. The way that colleagues pull together in situations like this is simply fantastic!

I had a zoom meeting with our local cluster Principals yesterday morning, and it was reassuring to learn that within our own contexts, we are all working in a similar way. We are all now waiting for this afternoon's announcement to better understand what things will look like into the future.

The Senior Leadership Team and I have been busy planning for Level 3, and in particular the "school bubbles". However, knowing that the Delta variant is a different strain to what we have previously experienced, we are expecting that things could look different to how they did last time. We did three cuts of it before deciding to put it one side and wait until we have the information we need to move forward. As always, I will keep you updated as soon as I have more information at hand.

The teachers continue to impress me with their flexibility and willingness to assist the students. Please get in touch with them if you have any questions or need some guidance around any of the distance learning. The teachers are meeting in their teams on a daily basis to discuss and plan for their students. I know that they are really cherishing the time with their classes on google meet as well. There have been some lovely stories of older siblings accompanying younger students in their class meetings.

Thank you also to those of you who continue to send and share in the work that your children are doing at home. Your support of our students is outstanding, and we could not achieve distance learning without this parental support. Every one of us is in a different situation, but the staff understand that being at home with children while also working is not straightforward and does present real challenges.

As always, I am here if you need any assistance so please do not hesitate to make contact with me.

I continue to think of you all in your bubbles.
Stay safe and take care,

Ngā mihi,

Amanda Frater

Tumuaki/Principal

amandaf@wadestown.school.nz

Upcoming Teacher Only Day - next Monday 30 August

As you will be aware, Monday 30 August was always set down for our Term 3 Teacher Only Day. The Teachers and I will continue with this day as planned. Students will not be required to do schoolwork on this day. Teachers will be back online, running normal distance learning from Tuesday onwards.

Devices for Distance Learning

Thank you for responding to our parent survey last week. That information helped us to pack and deliver almost 30 devices out to students. We were pleased at how quickly we could mobilise these devices.

A huge thank you to the staff who helped assist me in this process. It was a slick operation and one that we could quickly complete because of the systems that were put in place last year by Ian Hastie and the team.

If you are experiencing any issues with any of the school provided devices, please make contact with your classroom teacher in the first instance.

Level 3 - Students Who Need to Return To School

The second part of our parent survey allowed us to identify how many students will need to return under Level 3. With the information we have, we have included these children in our planning. Closer to the time, those families who have students returning at Level 3 will receive further information about how this will look.

As you may well remember in Level 3 students will be grouped into family bubbles. We know that we have bubbles at both Weld and Rose Streets.

I am hugely grateful to our teachers for making themselves available to come back to school during Level 3. Given the restrictions that will be in place, not all teachers will return. Normal distance learning programmes will continue as well the class meetings.

Feedback on Distance Learning

If you have any questions or feedback about your child's experiences with distance learning please be in touch so we can work together to iron out any issues and/or celebrate and acknowledge how well this is working for you and your child.

We appreciate your feedback and always strive to do our best for the students. Please email me directly with any comments you would like to share.

Google Meet Guidelines

Please remind your child of the importance of engaging in these sessions, as regularly as they can. We know that social connections are especially helpful at this time.

The following guidelines are helpful in thinking about online classroom protocols:

- Be attentive; eyes on the screen
- Listen to the speaker
- Teacher only screen sharing

We discourage students using the "chat" function while on these sessions and ask that they refrain from typing messages during these sessions.

I am aware of a few instances where students have been inviting other students to join their class meetings. Again, we ask that students refrain from this as this time is specifically designed for teachers to engage with their own students.

CCTV Installation

Following the incident, a couple of weeks ago where we discovered an unknown person on school grounds, I advised that we were reviewing our procedures and systems. One of the key actions following that review has been the installation of security/CCTV cameras in some areas of school.

These cameras will capture footage of all persons, including students, who pass through areas in which cameras are located. It is important to note that the cameras are on the exterior of buildings only and not inside.

We have put up signs near each CCTV camera and at main entry points to the School to notify people that cameras are operating. We will also put up a privacy notice about the cameras in the school office at Rose Street.

PTA Fundraiser: Good Change Reusable Bamboo Towels

Extension out to Friday 3 September

If you have not already taken a look at the current PTA fundraiser, I encourage you to do so. We have managed to extend this for a further week to allow families time to purchase these. I have it on my 'to do list' to order some today!

I am especially pleased that this fundraiser supports the findings of our Environmental Team who identified that paper towel use at school was some of our biggest waste.

Thank you to Andrea Davidson from the PTA for coordinating this fundraiser and for organising this extension of time.

Postponements Due to Level 4 - Photos and ICAS Exams

As you will understand some events have been impacted by the recent shift to Level 4. Our school photos and the upcoming ICAS maths exams are two such events.

We are working with the appropriate people to reschedule these events and will let you know as soon as we are provided with alternative dates.

Level 4 - All School Grounds Are Closed; Inclusive Of Playgrounds

A big thank you for taking the lockdown seriously and doing what we have been asked – we have seen before that staying at home will break the chain of transmission. It is even more important that we all follow the health advice knowing that the Delta variant is very contagious.

Please remember that the school, playground and school grounds remain closed at Alert Level 4.

You can also let people know that if they are concerned that someone is not following the rules, they can report it to the [Covid Compliance Centre website](#). This includes people not complying with:

- Alert Level restrictions
- managed isolation requirements.

The Compliance Center will work to ensure that everyone is clear about how the restrictions apply.

A Message from Our Kelly Sports, Sports Coordinator

Kia Ora from the Kelly Sports Whānau

We hope you are safe and sound at home in your bubble!

Unfortunately, as you are aware, at Alert Level 4 (and 3) we aren't able to provide our programmes in person, so while we remain in Lockdown our team of coaches have created some fun videos outlining some games kids can do at home. The below Youtube channel link is packed with sports games, craft activities, and fundamental skills activities for all ages. The games have a focus on activities kids can do with limited, to no equipment, meaning anyone can have a go and stay active in the safety of their home environment.

Thank you for allowing us to be part of your school community this year, we look forward to getting back to normal when restrictions are lifted!

Our Youtube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbkWM57i1i2UPNvkFvOqN0Q>

2021 Term Dates

Please note some of these dates in Term could easily change so they are not set in concrete

Monday, 30 August	NZEI – Teacher Only Day
Wednesday, 8 September	Board of Trustees Meeting 7.00 pm. Maybe an online meeting
Thursday, 9 September	School Community Newsletter is published
Rāhina - Rāmere, 13 – 17 Mahuru	Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori
Tuesday, 14 September	WZ Hockey Yr 5 - 8
Thursday, 16 September	Postponement date: WZ Hockey Yr 5 - 8
Friday, 17 September	DanceSplash Performance 7.30 pm at Michael Fowler Centre
Thursday, 23 September	Interzone Swimming Yr 4- 8
Saturday, 25 September	School Working Bee
Thursday, 30 September	Inter-Regional Cross Country

Community Notices

Disclaimer: Please note that the inclusion of these notices does not necessarily imply endorsement by Wadestown School.



Following last week's rapid move into a national COVID Level 4 lockdown, we are devastated that this meant cancelling our Annual Street Appeal for Wellington Regional Children's Hospital - for the second year in a row.

We are extremely grateful to the hundreds of incredible volunteers who were poised to gift us their time and take to the streets rattling a bucket on our behalf.

Our Annual Street Appeal is a key event in our fundraising calendar, raising crucial funds for the children's hospital every year. Proceeds go towards all the extra items that the stretched health dollar does not cover, whether that's resources for the play specialists, chair-beds so that worried parents, can sleep next to their sick child; or extra medical equipment.

This year funding was being put towards the new multimillion-dollar children's hospital. Funds raised would have gone towards all the furniture and fittings, as well as medical and therapeutic equipment, along with all the creative elements of this exciting and much needed new facility.



We are very grateful to the thousands of you who have gifted before. Not being able to run a Street Appeal for two years leaves a huge hole in our anticipated fundraising income. If you can spare a little more in light of these difficult and unprecedented circumstances, we'd be very grateful for your support.



To make a donation please go to:

[Wellington Hospitals Foundation - Donate Page](#)



Wellington Free Ambulance – Onesie Day APPEAL

We hope you and all the students are keeping safe in Alert Level 4, and we want to remind you that **Wellington Free Ambulance is here for you.**



Covid-19 has cancelled our annual Onesie Day Street Collection for 2 years running. Every year hundreds of Wellingtonians volunteer their time on Onesie Day to collect donations. This year our goal was to purchase a much needed new Ambulance.

We have moved our Onesie Day appeal purely online, but we are facing a \$100,000 shortfall without a face to face street collection. We need your help to ensure a brand new ambulance for the Greater Wellington and Wairarapa communities.

Did you know there are 500,000 people in Wellington, Kāpiti and Wairarapa? If just 85,000 people text ONESIE to 3181 to donate \$3, that would be an incredible \$255,000!

Help raise
\$250,000
for your Onesie Day Ambulance



ONESIE DAY

2-4 SEPT

Text ONESIE to 3181 to donate \$3
Donate and sign up to fundraise at onesieday.co.nz



**WELLINGTON
FREE AMBULANCE**
kia ora te tangata



*Texts cost \$3. Please ask bill payer first. Texts are not included in any text bundle agreement.

Cancer Society – Daffodil Day Appeal



Walking Stars Wellington 2021

Saturday 20 November, 2021

Waitangi Park, Te Aro

Join Walking Stars and be part of our brightest night walk! Walking Stars is a night-time half marathon and 12km walk right through the heart of Wellington's city centre. The event brings people together in a fun, vibrant environment to raise vital funds in support of local people living with cancer.

Every day, 71 New Zealanders are diagnosed with cancer. By fundraising through Walking Stars, you can support local people living with cancer.



Go to <https://walkingstars.org.nz/>

A background image showing a family (a man, a woman, and a child) gathered around a desk, looking at a laptop screen. The scene is dimly lit, suggesting a home learning environment.

Healthier home learning.

A free webinar series supporting New Zealand families

www.linewize.io/homelearningNZ

Linewize
BY FAMILY ZONE

For students, parents & whānau

Healthier home learning.

A free webinar series supporting New Zealand families

Join NZ's leading cyber safety experts, Linewize by Family Zone, for a webinar series to help families with the pressures of learning from home in lockdown.

PARENTS & WHĀNAU

Thursday 2 September @ 7 pm

Safety & Sanity

Learn strategies to support young people learning online from home, and tips for keeping harmony in a busy household during lockdown.

STUDENTS, PARENTS & WHĀNAU

Thursday 7 September @ 7 pm

Assessments & Attention

Learn ways to keep focused and safe while studying for exams during home learning.

PARENTS & WHĀNAU

Thursday 9 September @ 7 pm

Health & Haura

Learn about the wellbeing challenges for young people while learning at home and how to help address those challenges.

To find out more about these sessions or to register, head to
www.linewize.io/homelearningNZ

Register here

HELP KIWIS BREATHE EASIER...



STEP UP

this September



Step 1

Sign up as a team or an individual and set an active challenge for the month of September



Step 2

Rally the support of your friends, family and colleagues and shoot to the top of our Better Breathing leaderboard!



Step 3

Post your updates on your personalised Better Breathing Dashboard, raise funds and win some awesome prizes!

Win awesome prizes from local businesses...



Rinnai



Sign up today at www.breathebetterseptember.co.nz