



# WADESTOWN SCHOOL

## Community Newsletter No 18

Principal: Amanda Frater

Website: [www.wadestown.school.nz](http://www.wadestown.school.nz)

Thursday 4 November 2021

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Kia ora koutou,

I have to admit that it is a good feeling to be sitting in the warmth of my office today after a day at the Year 4 to 8 students at Nairnville Park yesterday bracing the elements. This job is unlike any other in that regard, a school event one day and then back to the office the next.

Athletics Day, like many other events to date, had to be adapted to meet the requirements of Delta Level 2. I keep reflecting on the benefits of this new norm and yesterday it was that our Year 8 students very capably took on the roles at the Athletics Day that have traditionally been taken on by our parent helpers. Don't get me wrong, we always seek parental help at such events, but as we continue to navigate this environment, we have to be flexible and look at new ways of doing things. These students were hugely generous in assisting with the running of this event and I would like to acknowledge and thank them all for their work in supporting this event.

We were also discussing as a staff this morning how great it was to have additional school personnel at the Athletics event yesterday. A huge thank you to Tani, Helen and Fraser for jumping in and assisting with the running of events. How many schools have their caretaker pitching in to assist with the long jump?!

Athletics Day was a wonderful demonstration of our students' ability to get involved and to push themselves to achieve their own 'personal best'. Days such as these always have their own element of challenge and it was fantastic to observe this in action. We have some outstanding athletes and competitors and I always enjoy watching the effort they put into each event.

A huge thank you to those parents who were in attendance and who supported from the sidelines to comply with the Covid Guidelines. And of course to Cathrine, for her organisation of this event.

We have also had the school photographers onsite this week so things have been busy. Our Pohutukawa teachers and students started us off and were wonderful role models to the rest of the school.

I hope this finds you all well at your ends.

Nga mihi nui

**Amanda Frater**

### **Forest Lakes Camp**

Thank you to Amy and her Rimu team for the very successful camp at Forest Lakes for our Year 5 and 6 students. This year's Rimu Camp was planned for twice and I need to acknowledge the additional time and effort that Team Leader, Amy Maddock took to ensure that this camp could go ahead under the current Level 2 guidelines.

I had a day up there and was hugely impressed by the students' attitudes and their willingness to give new challenges and experiences a decent go.

I would also like to extend my thanks to Robyn and Cathrine for their attendance at camp and to all the wonderful parent helpers who gave up their time to attend. I know that there was a mixture of seasoned camp parent helpers as well as some parents who attended a Wadestown School Camp for the very first time. I trust that you have all now recovered from your time at camp.



## **Communications Review**

We continue to look at the way we communicate with the community. This is a big piece of work and one that will take some further planning and thought.

Currently, we are looking at small changes, one at a time. This is not always straightforward in nature and so we ask for your patience as we continue to seek improvements through the trialling of new approaches.

Included below are two such changes:

### **Emergency Notifications:**

We have removed Twitter as an emergency notification channel for two reasons; one is due to security reasons and due to the difficulty parents are experiencing when they attempt to log on.

These will now come through etap - email and text messages.

This is also a timely reminder to double check that the school has the most up-to-date information on hand - be it your correct email address, phone number or emergency contacts.

### **New Newsletter Format:**

Like the Board have with their newsletter, we have moved to a format that we believe is more 'user friendly' for reading on cell phones.

We are aware that for a small number of parents with hotmail and yahoo email addresses, our school emails might not be supported by these older platforms. We have resolved this issue for some parents and would like to assist others in doing the same.

A reminder too, that the newsletter will go to your nominated email address and that is the email address in which you need to open the attachment.

As we continue to iron out a few issues, please let Lynda know if you are experiencing issues.

[lynda@wadestown.school.nz](mailto:lynda@wadestown.school.nz)

## **Vaccination - Parent Helpers**

You will likely be aware that as of 15 November the requirements for schools will change. This will have an impact on parents who wish to volunteer as parent helpers at school events. I have included the most up to date information from the Ministry of Education in regards to this.

Please make yourself familiar with this information and know that from 15 November onwards, parents and all other people who are onsite at school, will be required to have had their first vaccination and we will be asking you to provide evidence of this fact. Please do not be offended by this.

As at **11.59pm on Monday 25 October** the COVID-19 Public Health Response Order for Mandatory Vaccinations for Education came into effect.

[Find the COVID-19 Public Health Response \(Vaccinations\) Amendment Order \(No 3\) 2021 here.](#)

## **What the requirements are and who they apply to**

Everyone who works for a school or kura who may have contact with children or students or will be present at a time when children and students are also present must have had **a first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine by 15 November and be fully vaccinated by 1 January 2022.**

From 1 January 2022, schools and kura must only allow those that are fully vaccinated to provide onsite services.

This includes:

- principals
- teachers
- relief teachers and casual staff
- administration staff
- caretakers and cleaners
- contractors and other tradespeople
- service managers
- caregivers and other staff.

It also includes unpaid workers, such as volunteers and any members of the community who are regularly on site during a time when children and students may be present. Throughout this guidance we have used the term staff member to refer to paid staff members, unpaid workers, volunteers, contractors and other workers at your school or kura.

The vaccination requirements apply wherever in person schooling occurs, such as on the school or early learning service site, but also at school camps, swimming pools, museums, or where other education outside the classroom (EOTC) programmes take place. This means that both school staff and volunteers who are involved in EOTC should have had a first vaccination by 15 November and be fully vaccinated by 1 January 2022.

The vaccination requirements **do not apply** to those who are performing services remotely, or who are onsite only when children and students are not present (such as a contractor who is performing maintenance during the weekend or over a term break). The requirements also do not apply to people who are visiting your school or kura, such as for a learning conference or a parent, whānau and community evening.

## **Reo-a-thon**

A huge thanks to our community for their support of this event. We are continuing to tally up the final total and will publish this shortly. We have the capability to take in final donations over the upcoming days. Please either post your labelled envelope in the letterbox in the office foyer or transfer it via internet banking.

We are also looking forward to announcing the winning house and presenting for the very first time, our newly donated patu.

## Transitioning Students for 2022

Planning is well underway to provide additional transitioning support for all our students ahead of 2022. We are introducing a "Meet your Class for 2022" towards the end of the term and this will provide students with an opportunity to meet their class before the end of the 2021 term.

More information will be provided closer to the time, but from personal experience, I believe that this will assist our students to more easily transition as they move through the school.

Ngā mihi nui,

**Amanda Frater**

Principal

Wadestown School

[amandaf@wadestown.school.nz](mailto:amandaf@wadestown.school.nz)

## SPCA DONATIONS

As you know Wadestown School is making a big push for environmental conservation!



What better place to start than with our local SPCA?

Wadestown School is asking if you could please donate any unopened cans of pet food, and get your child to bring them into the office at school. The box for donations will be located in the foyer at the top of the office stairs.

This kind donation will be presented to the SPCA and will benefit so many starving animals in need.

Every donation helps!

**Zoe Winfield**

Room 13

## 2021 Term Dates

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

<b>Monday, 8 November</b>	Yr 0, 1 & 2 Trip to ASB Sports Centre
<b>Tuesday, 9 November</b>	PTA Meeting 7.00 pm Weld Street
<b>Friday, 12 November</b>	Yr 5 & 6 Orange Day Virtual Celebration at School - Shared Lunch
<b>Saturday, 13 November</b>	<b><i>School Working Bee at Weld Street - POSTPONED</i></b>

<b>Thursday, 18 November</b>	School Community Newsletter published
<b>Wednesday, 1 December</b>	Pre-Enrolment Information Morning at Weld Street
<b>Wednesday, 1 December</b>	Yr 8 (and some Yr 7) Immunisations - Morning
<b>Thursday, 2 December</b>	School Community Newsletter published
<b>Monday, 6 December</b>	Yr 4 Zoo Overnight Stay
<b>Tuesday, 7 December</b>	Regional Athletics in Masterton - TBC
<b>Tuesday, 7 December</b>	PTA Meeting 7.00 pm Weld Street
<b>Thursday, 9 December</b>	Postponement Date: Regional Athletics in Masterton - TBC
<b>Friday, 10 December</b>	Yr 8 Leavers Dinner - Evening
<b>Monday - Wednesday, 13 - 15 December</b>	Yr 7 & 8 EOTC Activities - More details later
<b>Thursday, 16 December</b>	Prize Giving Assembly (students only TBC)
<b>Friday, 17 December</b>	Last day of Term 4 – School Closes around 12.00 – 12.30 pm