Wadestown School

Newsletter - Panui

Term 2 Week 10, 2026

Thursday 25 June

Te Whakatipu me to Honohono Hei Ākonga
Growing and Connecting as Learners

Te Whakatipu me to Honohono Hei Akonga: Growing and Connecting as Learners

Kia ora, Kia orana, Ni Hao, Hola, Namaste, Hallo, Bonjour, Talofa and greetings to you all.

We hope you have been keeping warm and dry on this rather wet day. As we enter into the winter months, with more rain expected, it is timely to remind families and parents of the need for greater care at drop off and pick up times. There have been a number of incidents in which teachers and parents have witnessed and reported both driver and pedestrian behaviours of concern.

In particular, we are starting to notice a higher volume of parents making unsafe decisions about the places they are dropping their children off and also the number of parents who are selecting to cross the road without using the Road Patrol crossing.

As we begin to enter into the final week of this term, students and teachers are preparing for the Three Way Conferences at the beginning of the week, with our Matariki celebrations at the end of the week. We are looking forward to coming together as a school community once more. If you have not joined us for this celebration before, we urge you to come along.

Particular to this year's 2026 Matariki Celebrations, there is no koha required for kai as this has been generously donated by our two wonderful sponsors; Alice O'Styke (Tommy's Real Estate) and Coffee Supreme. So, please rug up warmly and join us as we celebrate the beginning of the Māori New Year.

Ngā mihi nui,

Amanda Frater
Principal/Tumuaki

Issuing of Mid-Year Reports - Tomorrow

Mid-Year Reports will be sent out electronically tomorrow afternoon, before 3:00pm.

I would like to thank our teachers for the work that they have undertaken to write these reports. It is evident to me that our teachers know our learners well and have a good grasp of what they can do and what their ‘next learning steps’ are.

End-of-Term Three Way Conferences - Week 11

Our Three Way Conferences are happening next week on Monday 29 June and Tuesday 30 June. This is an opportunity for teachers, parents and students to work together, in partnership, to discuss student progress and ‘next steps’.

This year you will see that the reports also include a section that outlines how parents and whānau can help their child at home.

Thank you - Library Volunteers

I would like to acknowledge and thank Emma Marriott and Sussie Chin who have recently volunteered their time in the Rose Street Library. With their assistance a large number of new books and card games have been processed for our students to enjoy.

If you might also have a few hours available to assist us in the Library, please email me. Currently they are meeting on a Thursday morning from 8:30 am onwards.



Artwork from Tōtara Iti - Year 3 and 4

Room 6 have been making Matariki goals to celebrate the upcoming Māori New Year.



Room 5 have been looking at the colour wheel and used collage to create their colour wheel umbrella art.



Matariki mā Puanga Wholeschool Celebration

The preparations for our wholeschool Matariki celebrations are well underway and we are looking forward to seeing you all next **Thursday 2 July at 7:00 am,** to celebrate Matariki mā Puanga.

This year's theme is *an expression of unity, inclusion, and shared heritage, acting as an open invitation for all people and cultures across New Zealand to come together and celebrate the Māori New Year*.

Coming together as a school community embraces this expression and theme.

Please note that this is **an all weather event.** If wet we will meet in the Rose Street Hall, if dry we will meet on the bottom courts in front of the Kōwhai classrooms at Rose Street.

There will be:

- Kai (food) and hot drinks thanks to the generosity of Tommy's Real Estate and Supreme. A big shout out to our PTA committee who have organised all of this.
- Activities and games and performances to watch.
- A whānau kete (a family basket) to write a wish for the New Year ahead.

These will then be taken to Te Papa on Friday 10 July along with all the tamariki's (children's) wishes for the year ahead. In keeping with tradition, these wishes will then be fed to their *Ahi Kā (burning fires)*.

Attached is a run sheet for the morning and the shared waiata (song) we will be singing as a whole community on the morning of our Matariki Celebrations.

Run Sheet: Matariki Kaitahi Programme

Songs for our celebration: Whānau Matariki mā Punaga waiata

We encourage families to learn these together ahead of Thursday.

Come with your keep cup and warm clothes.

We look forward to seeing you all then.
Mānawatia a Matariki mā Puanga - Mel Beirne

The Catch

In Tōtara Nui, we have been focusing on ‘Writing to Entertain’. We watched a video called ‘The Catch’ and then spent a number of weeks rewriting the story, with a focus on our descriptive language. We are now rewriting them to include different characters and settings, so watch this space for part 2!



The Catch

Whilst the blazing sun burned my skin, I waited impatiently for a fish to come. Just as I was about to give up, I felt a light tug on my fishing pole. “Yay! Finally a fish!” I thought. Then I pulled it up, realising it was… just a tiny fish. My whole face crumpled. Sadly, I walked over to my fish basket, staring at my lonely fish. Suddenly, I heard a rustling coming from the bushes.
(Mia S)

As stealthy as a wolf, I crept towards the sound. I slowly pushed away the leaves and caught eyes with a small fox’s angry fierce eyes. I crept innocently towards the fox and slowly but carefully cut the vine it was stuck in. As I freed him, he jumped off me and galloped away toward the fish, my one and only catch, and ran into the tall, rocky mountains. I quickly ran at him in anger. I didn’t stop chasing him because I knew I needed food for dinner.
(Lachie)

Swiftly the fox darted away!Grr!I chased him up a hill and through a grey rocky part of the forest.Then he went right into a dark labyrinth of thorns! For a while I wondered if I should go in but then I realised that if I didn't want to get fired I needed to get that fish. I crawl through the spiky vines but then ouch! My pants got caught on a vine. A little bit later I spot the cheeky fox running into an old mossy log so I sprint to the other end to block him but he jumps out from a hole on the top! Quickly he runs and jumps over a large over hanging vine so I swing on it and do a roly poly.Annoyingly the fox runs up a mountain so I race to follow him. About halfway up my leaf hat falls off but I keep going anyway then at the top I spot the fox and he chucks my only fish down the mountain! Splash!
(Pippa)

The fox, a very smug creature, was now standing next to the ginormous lake, he lifted his head and just threw my fish away. Confused, I tilted my head sideways, then I saw the most wonderful sight ever. I lifted my head up in awe as a big fish leaped out of the water, I looked into the water and saw hundreds of tiny fish swimming around the crystal clear water.

The fox nudged me as if trying to tell me something,I looked at him angrily and then realized he was the one who had brought me here. He disappeared into the bushes and came back out a second later with a stick in his mouth. I tied it on my line and casted it into the water and caught the big fish that I saw earlier. I trudged home happily thinking about what my family would say about my catch. That night when I was in bed I think I saw the fox disappearing into the night.
(Oscar H)

News from the PTA



School Calendar

Please note that changes to these dates are possible and that some events will be confirmed closer to the time. These dates are correct as at publication of this newsletter. For the online calendar, please click HERE.

Upcoming events for the next fortnight:

Fri 26 June	Mid Year Reports issued
Mon 29 June	Parent Teacher Conferences - Day 1
Tue 30 June	Parent Teacher Conferences - Day 2 Regional Cross Country
Wed 1 July	Tōtari Nui - Water Safety lessons
Thur 2 July	Wholeschool Matariki Celebration
Fri 3 July	Last Day of Term 2

ICAS dates

Fri 7 August	Writing exam
Fri 14 August	English exam
Fri 21 August	Science exam
Fri 28 August	Mathematics exam

Important Dates for Term 3

Mon 20 July	First Day of Term 3
Thur 23 July	Primary Schools Musical Showcase (Years 5-8)
Wed 5 Aug	Board Meeting
Thur 6 Aug	Kapa Haka Festival - Wellington College
Mon 10 Aug	PTA Meeting
Wed 19 Aug	Kōwhai Tech begins
Mon 21 Aug	Teacher Only Day - school closed for instruction
Wed 2 Sep	School Photos Day 1
Thur 3 Sep	School Photos Day 2
Fri 18 Sep	School Production
Fri 25 Sep	End of Term 3

Kelly Club - Afterschool Care

Our Afterschool Care programme has now been running for almost two terms with great success.

[Click here](#) for more information.





KIDS WINTER HOLIDAY ART PROGRAMME

THE LEARNING CONNEXION
School of Creativity and Art

WEEK 1: **Mon 6th** to **Thur 9th July**
WEEK 2: **Mon 13th** to **Fri 17th July**

TIMES: 9am to 3pm
COST: $65.00 per day

BOOK ANY DAY OVER AT WWW.TLC.AC.NZ
AGE: 5 to 13 year olds

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK ONE	 **STARRY NIGHT OF MATARIKI** Reimagine Aotearoa beneath glowing stars! Inspired by Van Gogh's *Starry Night*, create your own swirling nightscape using pastels and rich textures to celebrate Matariki.	 **SOLAR SYSTEM HANGER** Blast off and build your own hanging solar system complete with planets, rockets, and cosmic surprises! Paint, construct, and design a moving artwork to take home.	 **STENCIL ART & T-SHIRT PRINTING** Design your own stencils, layer bold colours, and print onto paper and fabric! Then bring a plain T-shirt to transform your creation into a wearable artwork!	 **WILD CREATIONS: TIN FOIL SCULPTURES** Twist, shape, and build amazing 3D sculptures using tin foil, wire, and plasticine! From fantasy creatures to robots, bring your biggest ideas to life.	**NO CLASS** It's Matariki, so we won't have any classes running today unfortunately. Feel free to check out the other classes however!
WEEK TWO	 **MIXED MEDIA UNIVERSE** Create your own dreamlike world inspired by artist Wenzel Hablik! Explore splatter painting, stencilling, and layering to build floating cities and cosmic landscapes.	 **MATARIKI STAR GIFT BOXES** Celebrate Matariki by crafting handmade gifts for the people you love! Decorate star-themed boxes and fill them with bracelets, cards, and sparkling Matariki stars.	 **AIR DRY CLAY ANIMAL PLAQUES** Sculpt and decorate your own animal plaque using air dry clay! From jungle creatures to fantasy pets, learn basic clay-building and texture-making skills.	 **TREE HOUSE** Build your ultimate dream treehouse complete with intricate rooms and more! Explore construction and problem-solving to create a model that tells its own story.	 **SOCK MUPPETS** Turn an ordinary sock into a hilarious puppet bursting with personality! Using fabric, buttons, wool, and craft treasures, design a one-of-a-kind character to take home.





Performing arts classes led by a London West End performer!

After school and weekend classes in Aotea, Johnsonville, Karori, Newtown, Lower Hutt, and Upper Hutt!

Two-week trials available.

SPOTLIGHT
PERFORMING ARTS

For more information, please visit

www.spotlightperformingarts.co.nz

THE CIRCUS HUB
SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Tired of hearing "I'm bored" in the school holidays?
Send them to the circus!

Our School Holiday Programme for ages 5+ is packed with circus skills, games, creativity, movement, and fun. Children can try aerials, acrobatics, juggling, balancing, and more, all while building confidence, making friends, and discovering what they're capable of.

No circus experience required — just energy, curiosity, and a willingness to have a go.

HOW TO BOOK
- Contact us on **info@circus.org.nz**
- Book online at **www.circus.org.nz**

Bookings are essential - please book a spot before 5pm the previous day



- Learn exciting circus skills like aerials, tumbling, juggling &more...
- Build confidence and coordination
- Make new friends and have a blast!
- Expert instruction from experienced circus trainers
- A fun, inclusive environment for all skill levels

What parents need to know

Next available dates
- 7-9 July
- 14-16 July

Times
- running time - 9am-3pm
- drop off from - 8:30am
- pick up by - 3.30pm

Cost
- daily cost $76 per child

What to wear
- Comfortable stretchy clothes
- No zips, buttons, buckles or loose/hanging jewellery

What to bring
- packed lunch
- a snack
- water bottle (plastic or metal with sealable top)
- sun hat and sunblock
- warm layer (for a Wellington summer!)

Where to find us:
- Te Whaea complex
- 11 Hutchison Road
- Newtown, Wellington 6021

Drive past the Te Whaea main entrance on Hutchison Rd or from the lower entrance which is off Hall Street.



KARORI ARTS & CRAFTS

July School Holidays 2026

www.KACC.org.nz
info@KACC.org.nz
04 476 6817


Fish of Matariki
Monday, 6 July
1 pm to 4 pm


Underwater World: a Matariki Diorama
Tuesday, 7 July
1 pm to 4 pm


Birds of a Feather
Wednesday, 8 July
1 pm to 4 pm


Reaching for the Stars
Thursday, 9 July
1 pm to 4 pm


Felted Soaps
Monday, 13 July
1 pm to 4 pm


Driftwood Sculpture
Tuesday, 14 July
1 pm to 4 pm


Book of Me
Wednesday, 15 July
1 pm to 4 pm


Creatures of the Deep
Thursday, 16 July
1 pm to 4 pm

SQUINT

DISCOVER A WORLD IN MINIATURE



Miniature Diarama & Dollhouse Show
July 18-19 2026 at Pātaka Art + Museum



Entry: $5 adult $2 child

Demonstrations - Sales Tables - Raffles
Free Kids Workshops at 11am & 2pm