Wadestown School

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

Newsletter - Panui

Term 3 Week 9, 2026

Thursday 17 September

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,

One of the key focuses of the past fortnight has been on this year's 2026 whole school Production; *A Journey Through Time.* As an event that happens biennially, we will have students who will be participating and performing for their first time, and others who, after a number of years at Wadestown, will have participated in one of our school Productions a number of times. Providing opportunities for our students to step into the unknown and to experience new things is important for developing their confidence.

Not only do learning opportunities such as these provide rich learning experiences across The Arts, they also help children to build resilience, collaboration, and focus. Coming together as a whole school also builds a sense of community and belonging; both of which contribute to stronger student wellbeing.

Our teachers and wider staff have also worked incredibly hard in the build-up to the Production, and their dedication is further evidence of the work that our staff put into ensuring our students have varied learning experiences.

Yesterday was the opening of the *International Confederation of Principals' Convention* in Auckland; a conference that I am very fortunate to be able to attend with a number of my Wellington Principal colleagues. Coming together with other leaders and educators from around the world is providing an opportunity to gain insights into the wider educational context.

As part of *Te Wiki o te reo Māori Language Week*, Mel Beirne and Alwyn Rees have been preparing a House Competition for the final week of this term. The focus of this year's week is: *Ake, Ake, Ake - A Forever Language*. Read on for further details.

Ngā mihi nui,

Amanda Frater
Principal/Tumuaki

IMPORTANT and OF NOTE:

- *Wadestown School Production 2026; A Journey Through Time.*
- *Sign up for Working Bee 2026 - **THIS Saturday***
- *Te Wiki o te Reo - next week*
- *Parent Volunteers - Road Patrol Volunteers - Rose Street*

Pay it Forward - Production Tickets

We have been overwhelmed with the generosity and kindness of our families through our 'Pay it Forward' scheme. Inclusion is a key foundation of our school, and in doing this, you have enabled us to ensure that all families have the opportunity to attend this event.

Thank you - Graphic Designer - filled!

Thank you to James May who has agreed to assist us with both the Yearbook for 2026 and also the creation of a flyer for new families. We are thrilled that he has come forward as both a graphic designer, but also as a new parent to our school.

Help needed Parent Volunteers: Road Patrol (Rose Street)

We remain on the lookout for parents who could assist us with Road Patrol at Rose Street in the mornings. We know that Weld Street Kiss and Drop remains well supported, and would like to extend this to Rose Street.

Please contact Liberty Cook or Cathrine Wilkinson if you are able to assist with this or if you wish to find out more.

PTA Meeting Update

The committee met last Monday, and it was wonderful to see a number of new faces, alongside some parents who regularly attend. If you have not been to a PTA before, or if it has been a while since you have, I encourage you to come along to connect with both the PTA Committee, our staff representatives and our Board representatives.



Rose Street - Working Bee THIS Saturday

Thank you to those families and parents who have already volunteered to attend this year's Working Bee. Please continue to sign up for this important event, which is happening this **Saturday from 8:00am at Rose Street.**

Please indicate your availability by texting Sean on 021 281 0130.

We are now looking for families who are able to contribute to our food and drink roster. If you are able to help please complete this form.

House and Garden - Saturday 15 November

Thank you to the dedicated team of parents and teachers who are assisting with the organisation of this event.



This is a true celebration of the Wadestown community and if you

have never attended before, I strongly encourage you to do so. It is a fantastic community event and our biggest school fundraiser.

A sincere thank you to those families who have agreed to open their homes this year.

Tickets for this event are still available and include morning and afternoon tea. Gather some friends and come along for a great day out!

Wadestown House & Garden Walk 2026 – Deli Stall

The much-loved Wadestown School Deli Stall will be back for the 2026 House & Garden Walk, with a delicious selection of homemade treats, garden goodies and crafts made by our Wadestown School families.

We'd love your help to stock the stall, last time we sold out! If you have a favourite family recipe, something wonderful from the garden, or a crafty creation, please consider making something to donate. Some of last time's favourites included fudge, mini Christmas cakes, homemade jams, flavoured oils, homemade soaps and Christmas crafts. Take a look at the photos below for inspiration.

We will be collecting items the week before the event (9th to 13th November) and closer to the time, we'll let you know where to drop off your creations. The Deli Stall team will take care of the labelling and presentation, so all you need to do is make something delicious or lovely to share! Any questions please email pta.houseandgarden@wadestown.school.nz.





Te Wiki o te Reo

On Thursday 24th September, all tamariki/children (Weld St and Rose St) will come to school dressed in their house colours. **This is a non-uniform day.**

All classes will take part in an interactive **house wero/challenge**, with students earning house points for the kupu/words they get correct.

The house with the most points at the end of the challenge will become the **kaitiaki/guardians of the patu (short club)**, which has been generously gifted to the school by the Gray whānau.

A special thank you also goes to **Sushi Bi**, who have generously donated a $90 voucher to support this event.

The purpose of the Reo-a-thon is to encourage students to understand and use Te Reo Māori more often. And this year, it also aims to enhance our tamariki's understanding of the

- birds of our school house names
- trees of our syndicate names
- trees most easily identified at school
- places we are most likely to go at school (including for Pōhutukawa Te Hōro - The Hall at Rose St)

This is in line with the theme for Te Wiki o te Reo Māori 2026, which is this week: Monday, September 14 to Sunday, September 20, 2026 - ***Ake ake ake - A forever language.***

Below is a list of the kupu/words your tamariki will be learning in class.

Manu - Birds 1 Pōhutukawa	Rākau & Tipu - Trees & Plants 1 Pōhutukawa	Wāhi - Places 1 Pōhutukawa	
tūī kākā kererū - wood pigeon kōtare - kingfisher ruru - morepork **5**	pōhutukawa kōwhai **2**	rūma - room kōti - court whīra - field **3**	 **10**
Manu - Birds 2 Tōtara	**Rākau & Tipu - Trees & Plants 2 Tōtara**	**Wāhi - Places 2 Tōtara**	
tūī *kākā* *kererū* - wood pigeon *kōtare* - kingfisher *ruru* - morepork kiwi kākāriki 7	*pōhutukawa* *kōwhai* tōtara rimu kawakawa 5	*rūma* - room *kōti* - court *whīra* - field whare paku - toilet tari - office hōro - hall whare pukapuka - library rūma tūroro - medical room 8	 20
Manu - Birds 3 Kōwhai	**Rākau & Tipu - Trees & Plants 3 Kōwhai**	**Wāhi - Places 3 Kōwhai**	
tūī ***kākā*** ***kererū* - wood pigeon** ***kōtare* - kingfisher** ***ruru* - morepork** ***kiwi*** ***kākāriki*** **pīwaiwaka - fantail** **pūkeko** **korimako - bellbird** **kārearea - bush falcon** **11**	***pōhutukawa*** ***kōwhai*** ***tōtara*** ***rimu*** ***kawakawa*** **tī kouka - cabbage tree** **mamaku - black tree fern** **ngaio** **harakeke - flax** **9**	***kōti* - court** ***whīra* - field** ***whare paku* - toilet** ***tari* - office** ***hōro* - hall** ***whare pukapuka* - library** ***rūma tūroro* - medical room** **papa tākaro - playground** **papa ōrangi - blue court** **papa horihori - turf** **10**	 **30**

CELEBRATIONS: Student Leadership and Schoolwide Events

Inter-Zone Swimming

On Tuesday, eleven students represented Wadestown School and Western Zone at the Wellington Inter-Zone Swimming.

Year 5 Student (Year 5) led the way with wins in both the 25m freestyle and 25m butterfly events. Sylvie Langford (Year 7) also won her 25m freestyle event, as well as two second-place finishes. Sylvie was also joined by Dani Mayo, Halina Bowery and Skyler Grey to secure a comprehensive victory in the Year 7 girls relay.

The Year 4 girls relay of Matilda Williams, Eva May, Quinn Avery and Masha Facchini-Siyanova finished second. Eddie Spencer finished second in his only event, the 25m backstroke, while Wolf Sciascia was busy with three individual races, with a fifth-place finish his best result.

Wellington Schools Tennis Tournament

Next week Wadestown School will have eleven students competing in the Wellington and Kapi Mana Primary and Intermediate Schools Tennis Tournament, held at the Renouf Tennis Centre. Zara Short, Eve Latham, Sylvia Lees and Charlie Tietjens will be in the Open (Year 7-8) grade. Jamie Whyte, Adela Zatkovic, Max Freeman, Harvey Mintrom, Lachlan Kerr, Freddie Tietjens and Thomas Tietjens will be playing in the Year 6 and Under grade. We wish all these tennis players well for the tournament.

Interprovincial Cross Country

Next week, five Wadestown School cross country runners will be representing Wellington Schools at the Interprovincial Cross Country in Nelson. They qualified by finishing in the top ten in their event at the Regional Cross Country earlier this term. Good luck to Andrew Thurston (Year 8), Emily Gerritsen (Year 7), Sylvie Langford (Year 7), Eli Boniface (Year 7) and Jamie Whyte (Year 6) for their respective events.

AIMS Games

Last week, two Wadestown School Year 8 students competed at the Zespri AIMS Games in Tauranga. The AIMS Games is Australasia's largest junior inter-school sporting event, bringing together thousands of intermediate-aged athletes to compete across a wide range of sports.

Andrew Thurston and Charlie Tietjens competed in both cross-country and tennis, with some fantastic results.

In the cross-country, Andrew finished 7th and Charlie 82nd in a field of almost 200 runners.

The boys also performed impressively on the tennis court. Charlie finished runner-up in the Division 2 singles, while Andrew placed 6th in Division 1. Together, they won their first three doubles matches to reach the Division 1 Doubles Final, where they went down in a very close match.

Andrew also received a Sportsmanship Medal, having been nominated by his fellow players. This was a particularly special recognition and a wonderful reflection of the respect, sportsmanship and encouragement he shows towards others on court.

A fantastic effort from both boys, and a great achievement for Wadestown School







Springtime Netball Tournament

Congratulations to our Year 7/8 Blizzards, who competed in the annual Springtime Netball Tournament in Levin last weekend. With more than 30 teams from across the Horowhenua and Wellington regions, the girls had a fantastic day, finishing with five wins and two losses and a third place overall.

The girls showed great determination, particularly in their final game, digging deep after a long day to secure the win in the 3rd/4th playoff. It was a very special way to finish their final tournament together after playing as a team for six years.

There was plenty of sunshine, fun, spot prizes and, most importantly, great team spirit and positive attitudes throughout the day. A huge thank you to the parents who supported the team on the day, and congratulations to the Blizzards on a wonderful achievement.









‘A Journey Through Time’
Rehearsal Action in Pictures







Futsal

On Monday 7 September, Mrs Henderson took 28 children, four teams, from Years 1-4 to a Futsal Tournament at the Akau Tangi Sports Centre in Kilbirnie. This was a 'have a go' tournament with relaxed rules, introducing the children to the game of Futsal.

It was an all-day tournament with teams playing 4-5 games throughout the day.

We had a fantastic group of parents who took on the role of coaches and referees for each team. A big thank you to everyone for giving up their time to help out. We could not have gone to this tournament without parent help.

The children were very excited and enthusiastic and almost, but not quite, worn out by the end of the day.

Every child embraced the Wadestown School values and represented our school with pride.

- "We won all our matches, and we were so excited."
- “We did good teamwork and were very good at passing.”
- “One of the teams we were up against had a defender in goal, but we used our initiative and kept playing well, and we won that game!"
- “I liked being at Akau Tangi the whole day with my teacher."





POSITIVE
IN THE CAR
RIDE HOME!



EXIT
Positive Vibes only
JUST LET THEM PLAY


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 week:

Tues 22 Sep	EPRO8
Wed 23 Sep	Kōwhai @ Tech - KWNS
Thur 24 Sep	Te reo-a-thon - come in house colours Inter-Regional Cross Country
Fri 25 Sep	**Final day of Term 3**

Important Dates for Term 4

Wed 14 Oct	Kōwhai @ Tech - KWNS
Mon 19 Oct	Years 1-4 swimming
Tues 20 Oct	Years 4-8 Athletic Sports - Ben Burn Park
Fri 23 Oct	**School Closed - Teacher Only Day**
Mon 26 Oct	**School Closed - Labour Day**
Wed 28 Oct	**Board Meeting @ 6.30pm**
Mon 2 Nov	**PTA Meeting**
Fri 6 Nov	Western Zones Athletics
Tue 17 Nov	Inter Zone Athletics

Thur 26 Nov	Year 4 EOTC - Wellington Zoo
Mon 30 Nov	**PTA Meeting**
Tue 1 Dec	Regional Athletics
Wed 2 Dec	**Board Meeting @ 6.30 pm**
Fri 11 Dec	Year 8 Leavers' Dinner
Wed 16 Dec	Last day of Term 4

Wadestown Tennis Club

Wadestown Tennis Club is offering a holiday programme in the first week of the upcoming school holidays – Monday 28 Sept till Friday 2 Oct, 9am – 12noon.

Friday Club Night starts back in Term Four – first night October 30.

Please see our website for further details.

Wadestown Tennis Club



Kelly Club - Afterschool Care

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



Click here for more information.