



# WATERLEA SCHOOL

*He nui te akoranga ki Waterlea Great learning happens at Waterlea*

Hello, Kia Ora, Kia Orana, Bonjour, Talofa Lava, Taloha Ni, Bula Vinaka, Ni Hau, Namaste, Malo e Lelei, Deea awit, Sagutom, Fakalofa Lahi Atu, Dia daoibh, Sillaw, Huan Ying, Hola, Konichiwa, Guten Tag, Здравствуйте

## Newsletter 28 February 2024

### Important Dates

29 February	Boys Cricket Zone Day
5 March	Girls Cricket Zone Day
7 March	Girls Cricket Rain Day
8 March	Senior School Kayak Rm 5, 6, 9
11 March	New Cohort Start School
14 March	Senior School Snorkeling Rms 5, 6, 9
15 March	PTA St Patricks Day Casual Clothes Day
15 March	Senior School Snorkeling Rm 7, 8, 9
21 March	Goat Island Trip Rms 5, 6, 9
22 March	Goat Island Trip Rms 7, 8, 9
25 March	Softball, Otahuhu College Sports Field
27 March	Softball Rain Day
27 March	PTA AGM in Staffroom 2:30pm-3:30pm
28 March	Senior School Kayak Rms 7, 8, 9
29 March	Good Friday (school closed)
1 April	Easter Monday (school closed)
2 April	Easter Tuesday (school closed)
5 April	PTA Sausage Sizzle
6 April	PTA Paint & Sip Evening
12 April	Last Day of Term 1

Kia ora,

Waterlea School has good systems in place to track student achievement each year and this has been particularly important since the time of school closures that occurred during COVID. Like all schools, we noticed that our achievement data was much lower after we reopened after a series of Level 3 & 4 school closures and our tamariki came to school full time. Many good shifts have been made in our student achievement data since 2020 and next week we'll show you what these shifts look like. In response to our data, the junior part of the school has adopted a Structured Literacy approach to teaching and learning literacy called Better Start Literacy Approach (BSLA). In the past, the way we taught literacy was more aligned with a Balanced Literacy approach. Last week a group of about 50 parents came to a workshop to learn more about BSLA and the similarities and differences between the two literacy approaches. BSLA is a structured approach to literacy instruction for Year 0 to Year 2 classrooms, to support children's early reading, writing and oral language success. It has been developed by the team at Canterbury University specifically for our New Zealand educational and cultural context and controlled research trials have proven its effectiveness.



BSLA teaching includes:

- The systematic teaching of critical phonological awareness skills and letter sound knowledge skills through fun, games-based activities
- Activities making explicit links to the reading and spelling context
- Structured small group reading sessions using the new Ready to Read - Phonics Plus early readers series
- Explicit teaching in vocabulary skills and in building children's oral narrative and listening comprehension skills through quality children's story books
- Following a structured phonics scope and sequence that is used in the class and small group reading teaching



Dear parents and caregivers,

The Auckland Regional Dental Service (ARDS) is a Te Whatu Ora-operated service, which provides FREE dental care to children across greater Auckland. In order to prevent any eligible children missing out on receiving free dental care, ARDS is cross-checking their own records with school rolls.

For our children's better oral health and wellbeing, our school roll will be shared with the service as required. To find out more information about ARDS, please visit [ards.co.nz](https://ards.co.nz) or call 0800 TALK TEETH (0800 825 583).



## Phones away for the day



An issue that has been in the news is that schools need to ensure students do not use or access a personal phone while they are at school. This includes during lunchtimes, breaks and after school while they are on the school grounds. Again, this is not such an issue for us at Waterlea because our policy regarding personal phones has reflected this already. If a student has a phone at school it is dropped off at the school office before school and picked up again at 3pm. The Year 5 and 6 team has a parent/child agreement regarding this which has been sent out so look out for it and ask your classroom teacher if you require further information.

### Moth Plants


The Waterlea School moth plant busting team have entered the competition hosted by Māngere-Ōtāhuhu Local Board and Pest Free South Auckland again this year. Last year we won \$300.00 for our school gardens. We managed to purchase new gloves, tools, compost and seedlings for our garden club. The team will be visiting your classrooms during the last block tomorrow. They have put together a competition for classes to guess how many moth plants might be collected at the end of the competition. Ice Blocks are up for grabs for the class that has the closest guess.



# Upcoming Community Events

02 March 2024

## Māngere Bridge Pump Track Opening Fun Day

 **When:** 10am-1pm Saturday 2 March.

 **Where:** Waterfront Reserve, Māngere Bridge

Join us to celebrate the opening of the new pop-up pump track at the Waterfront Reserve!

There will be FREE activities for the whole whānau - from delicious food and games to music, balloon making, and face painting!

Need a bike or helmet? No worries! We've got some spares available for you to borrow on the day.

03 March 2024


## Bike to Māngere Bridge Village Market


Sunday is Market Day at Māngere Bridge Village, and this week it's bike day too!

Travel by bike to Māngere Bridge Village Market on the 3rd of March and receive a voucher to spend at some of the local stalls and shops. We've got VIP bike valet parking ready to look after your bike at Naomi and Bill Kirk Park while you enjoy browsing the market.

04 March — 25 March 2024

## Weekly Monday Ride

 **When:** 6pm-8pm Monday 4, 11, 18 & 25 March

 **Where:** Meet at Waterfront Reserve

Join us for a pedal-powered cruise through Māngere Bridge! Explore the shared paths, Ngā Hau Māngere Bridge and the brand-new trial bike path to Māngere Bridge Village.


Starting at Waterfront Road Reserve, our friendly guides from Triple Teez will lead the way and make sure everyone has a great time, no matter your biking experience. After the ride, we'll have a picnic at Waterfront Road Reserve (we'll bring the food!), unwind and meet our fellow riders.


But wait, there's more – every time you ride with us on Mondays, you'll have a chance to WIN a brand-new bike!

Need a bike? No worries! We've got some extras, plus all the safety gear you need. Just let us know on the registration form so we can organise it for you! And if your bike's been sitting around, Triple Teez can check it out to make sure it's good to go before we hit the road.

23 March 2024

## Māngere Bridge Bike Rave

 **When:** 6:30pm-9pm Saturday 23 March

 **Where:** Waterfront Reserve

Get on your wheels, and let's light up the streets of Māngere Bridge in style!


Cruise through the neighbourhood and the new trial cycleway, accompanied by experienced guides, music and twinkling lights. After the ride, stick around to share some kai and enjoy a casual boogie – the perfect way to unwind and connect with fellow riders.


Don't forget to pimp your ride! Come dressed up with your best bike rave look, or pop by our decorating stand before the ride to add some flair to your wheels.

The Bike Rave is suitable for adults and kids, so bring the whole whānau and enjoy a night of wheels, music, and community!

29 March 2024

## Waterfront Reserve Easter Egg Hunt

 **When:** 10am-12pm Friday 29 March

 **Where:** Waterfront Reserve

Hop on your bike and join us for an exciting Easter egg hunt with a twist!

Keep your eyes peeled and your baskets ready as you hunt for hidden eggs along a designated cycle trail around Waterfront Reserve, including the new trial cycleway on Coronation Road! Stick around after the hunt to enjoy a relaxed Easter picnic with friends and whānau.

Need a bike or helmet? No worries! We've got some spares available for you to use on the day - just let us know in the registration form.

### **Crocs at Waterlea**

We have a large number of tamariki choosing to wear crocs to school. While we don't have an issue with this footwear choice in this warmer weather, the accessories (jibitz) worn on the crocs are presenting us with a challenge. Unfortunately the temptation to swap with others or remove these from unattended crocs can mean that we end up with some very upset children.

We are asking that jibitz are treated like toys and therefore should remain at home.



### **Bikes and scooters left at school**

We have bikes and scooters left from last year.

If you are missing a bike or scooter please contact Eric with a full description.

[eric.haslam@waterlea.school.nz](mailto:eric.haslam@waterlea.school.nz)



# MUSIQHUB

PLAY SMART



**Do you want to give your child the opportunity to enjoy fun experiences and learn new skills at school?  
Do you want to share the gift of music with your kids?**

***Music lessons held on site  
at Waterlea Primary School!***

MusigHub are excited to offer private guitar tuition to students at Waterlea Primary School with experienced tutor JP Carroll. Drum Lessons will also be available again soon,

Students have fun, while learning a range of traditional and contemporary styled songs and techniques where they play together as a group, and as individuals.

### **Three Easy Steps to Sign Up:**

**1. Email**

[jp.carroll@musiqhub.co.nz](mailto:jp.carroll@musiqhub.co.nz)

*Expressing your interest, and any questions you might have*



**2. Find the right lesson time for your student**

*JP will help you choose from the options that are available*



**3. Confirm enrollment**

*Provide the details requested and get ready to rock and roll!*



**If you're ready to connect with your children over the excitement, fun and joy of music, get in touch now so we can help you begin this journey!**