



Kawaha Point School

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NEWSLETTER - 31 August 2017

Principal's Message

Tena koutou katoa, nga mihi nui kia koutou katoa.
Greetings Parents, Whanau and Community Members.

Westbrook sports exchange

It was wonderful again today to have the opportunity to play another school in a variety of sports. As I write this, I don't have any results but I am confident that the students have had a good time and represented us proudly. Thanks to our parents that were able to come along and support the teams.

CoL (Community of Learning)

A CoL is a group of schools that combine to create a pathway of education for students. For example, the primary schools in our area feed students into Kaitao Intermediate (and several other intermediates) and from there they feed into Western Heights High School. We are in the process of forming a CoL with Sunset, Selwyn, Ngongotaha, Mamaku, Kaharoa, Aorangi, Kea St, Western Heights Primary, Kaitao Intermediate and Western Heights High School. This is designed to impact positively on student achievement and progress through shared professional development and sharing of expertise. The Board agreed to be part of the CoL at the last meeting and we will keep you posted with developments.

The partnership of education

As you are probably aware, your children spend about 1230 hours a year at school with about 1000 of these hours actually with a teacher. This means that of the 8760 hours in a year, 11% are spent learning at school. This means that you are the experts in knowing your children and therefore we need your help to ensure that we support their learning to the very best of our abilities. Dropping in to chat with teachers, asking your child about their learning (and NOT accepting the answer "nothing" when you ask what they learnt today), praising their efforts and progress rather than achievement, reading at home with them, involving them in problem solving and giving them a few responsibilities at home are all things that support your children's learning. The wonderful thing about learning is that it can happen anytime and anywhere. Please do keep communicating with the teachers about your children's progress as this also demonstrates to your children that you care and have an expectation that they will be trying hard at school. Using language like "You must have tried really hard on that" rather than "You're so smart" helps focus on the progress rather than the achievement and

therefore stops children having a fixed mindset around what they can or can't do. The more we can encourage children to see mistakes as a learning tool rather than a failure, the better risk takers and problem solvers we create.

Likewise, as mentioned last year in newsletters, we must allow students to make mistakes and deal with the consequences. Not just with their behaviour, but with their learning. An example is when they help with the baking. If they forget to put in the baking powder, let them carry on and they will learn far more from the result than if we rescue them and add the baking powder for them. By letting our children have these lessons and a few disappointments, we prepare them for a life of taking calculated risks, making mistakes, learning from them and then using this new knowledge to help in other areas. The short version of the above is that educating children is a TEAM Approach, AND we are all on the same team!

Selecting the next step or your Year 6 child

It is about this time of year that parents of Year 6 students start asking me which intermediate they should send their child to. I always suggest the same thing. Go and look at the options and choose the one you and your child feel most comfortable with. I don't think you will make a 'bad' choice as the local schools I know are all working very hard to ensure their students get the best possible education. Therefore, it comes down to the 'flavour' of the different schools. Each school has a 'flavour' that is made up of their beliefs about education, their values, their approach to whanau involvement etc. Quite simply, some schools will 'fit' you better than others. I say this to prospective parents considering enrolling here. I know that many parents are looking for the *perfect school*. I use italics for this as the perfect school doesn't exist as far as I'm aware. Every school has a few issues they deal with or aspects that each parent would change if they could. What you should be looking for, in my opinion, is the school that is perfect for your child and whanau.

Reminders:

1. Please ensure your child attends school each day they are well enough to be here.
2. Uniform- please ensure your child has the correct school uniform each day.

Regards Andrew Sinclair
Andrew Sinclair.

TERM EVENTS

31 August	Interschool Sports at Westbrook
1 Sept	Rata Team Assembly 2.15pm
6 Sept	Kaitao Orientation Day 1.30pm
8 Sept	Kauri Singing Assembly 12.15pm
12 Sept	Rotorua Int Orientation Day 12.30pm
13 Sept	Kaimanga Reo, Rimu and Kauri Teams Sharing the Learning
14 Sept	Interschool Sports at WHPS
15 Sept	Kauri Team Assembly 2.15pm
21 Sept	Team Discovery noho & hangi
25 - 29 Sept	Swimming Week

SCHOLASTIC BOOKS

ISSUE 6 CLOSES Friday 15 September

All books ordered go towards the school receiving FREE Library books. Payment by cheque, cash and eftpos accepted (Please make cheques payable to Scholastic books). Orders can also be made online.

Thank you for your orders.

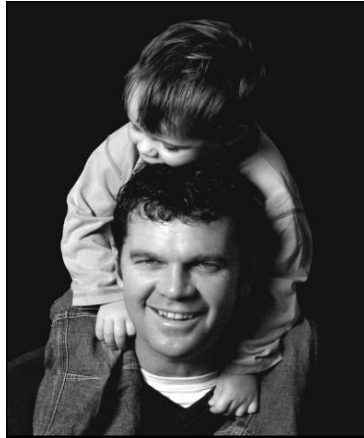


NOTICE BOARD

ICON PHOTOGRAPHY FUNDRAISER

On **Sunday 24 September** we have ICON Photography booked to take portraits of your family. To secure your booking please bring to the office the Portrait voucher and \$10.

All sittings receive a 10 x 13" portrait free of charge when you view your photos.



Parenting Helpline

get support, advice
and practical strategies

we can help
with your
parenting concerns

Call 0800 568 856

9am - 11pm Monday to Sunday

www.parenthelp.org.nz

**Parent
Help**
for Parent and Family Support

WILD WEST JUNIOR KIDS CAMP
SCHOOL YEARS 2-4 4-6 OCTOBER 2017

WANTED YOU!
REGISTRATIONS OPEN AUGUST 7

SIGN UP ONLINE: WWW.TOTARASPRINGS.ORG.NZ

PHONE: Nicky (07) 888 4700 EXT 217
EMAIL: NICKY.HOUGHTON@TOTARASPRINGS.ORG.NZ

WILD SPRING KIDS CAMP WEST

9-13 OCT 2017
SCHOOL YEARS 5-8

totarasprings
SIGN UP ONLINE:
WWW.TOTARASPRINGS.ORG.NZ

Enquiries: Phone: Nicky (07) 888 4700 ext 217
Email: holidaycamp@totarasprings.org.nz

WILD WILD WEST
SPRING TEENS CAMP 2017

CALL THE SHERIFF
TOBY YOUNG
01 888 410 EXT 224
HOLIDAYCAMP@TOTARASPRINGS.ORG.NZ

AGES: 13-17 DATES: SEP 30-OCT 3
WHERE: TOTARA SPRINGS CHRISTIAN CENTRE
WWW.TOTARASPRINGS.ORG.NZ

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J-KIDS

4-6 OCTOBER
SCHOOL YEARS 2-4

KIDS

9-13 OCTOBER
SCHOOL YEARS 5-8

TEENS

SEP 30 - OCT 3
AGES 13-17

WWW.TOTARASPRINGS.ORG.NZ

Waitomo Caves

Two weeks ago Rapu, Angitu and Tama Toa went to Waitomo Caves as part of our tourism inquiry unit. We left at 8:00 am and travelled by bus for 2 hours. There were two buses and two groups. Bus A went to the glow worm caves first while Bus B went to the Ruakuri Caves.

At the glow worm caves Bus A got a quick lecture from the guide and entered. We all know now that it took 2 years to map the entire caves. We learnt that a stalactite and stalagmite takes about 150 years to develop a centimetre in length. We reached the cathedral, (biggest part of the cave) and discovered that the limestone was sound absorbent and perfect for holding concerts. Many artists have performed in there, such as Katy Perry, christmas carols, etc.

At the end of the cave, we got to go in two small boats which took us through the rippling waters. Above our heads were thousands of glow worms that looked like tiny stars and constellations. This was the best part of the trip.



By Finn Newton and Allahzae Goodfellow-Marino