

School Newsletter

Week 3, Term 1, 2025



Kia Ora Koutou

Congratulations to the following students who received a certificate in our first learning celebration for 2025 - we celebrate our students who display our values of respect, connect, belong and resilience:

Brookie Damaso, Topher LePage, Eilidh Ferguson, Hunter Scully, Legacy Coles, Anna Roberts, Harno Breet, Ruby Roberts, Eva Johnston, Leo Clayton, Claire McCallum, Liam Parkes, Archie Prebble, Elora Sharma, Millen Taoho, Wiremu Waitere, Matilda Pearson

Our next Learning Celebration is on Friday 28 February at 2.25pm

TERM DATES 2025

4 Feb to 11 Apr - Term 1
28 Apr - 27 June - Term 2
14 July - 19 Sept - Term 3
6 Oct - 17 Dec - Term 4

Please note the correction for the end of Term 2 and the start of Term 3.

Reminders and Updates

Meet the Teacher Evening

Wednesday 26 February.

Syndicate Teams will meet in the library first and then head to classrooms.

Wai-iti Team - Juniors - 6pm

Wairoa Team - Middles - 6.30pm

Waimea Team - Seniors - 7pm

School Tryathlon

Our Whole School Tryathlon and Splash & Dash is on Friday 7 March. Syndicate teams will take part at various times throughout the day. A separate email has been sent today with further details.

Lockdown Drill

We will hold a school wide lockdown drill next Thursday 27 February. Draft communication will be sent via our Facebook page and website. The children will be reminded of correct procedures prior to the drill. The children will be in 'lockdown' in their classrooms for no longer than 10 minutes. It is important that we regularly practice these procedures to ensure everyone has an understanding of what to do in an emergency. We will be supported through this drill by our expert consultants, Harrison Tew.

PB4L - Our Expectations

We are starting 2025 focusing on wearing hats when in the outside spaces of our school and walking wheels at school. Hats need to be wide brimmed hats, not caps. Wheels need to be walked through our school and all the way up to Ellis St Autos.

Attendance

One of the things we are continuing to focus on in 2025 is student attendance.

If a student misses one day of school every two weeks, they miss more than a whole year of school by 16 years of age. As a parent or caregiver, you, alongside our school, play a key role in building strong habits of regular school attendance.

All students are legally required to attend school every day and it is a shared responsibility to make sure students attend and engage in learning from when they first start school.

You must let the school know if your child is going to be absent or intends to be absent for a portion of the school term for whatever reason, like a tangi or medical procedure. Family holidays or taking time off for extracurricular activities (not organised by school) are not acceptable reasons for being absent.

Knowing if your child is well enough to go to school can be tricky. Health guidance to support you to decide is available [here](#). If you are still unsure, get in touch with us and let's work together to support your learner.

If you're struggling at home with getting your child to school, talk to us.

If you are finding it hard to get your child to school, please talk with us so we can work together. Our school is committed to supporting your child to attend school.

Our school continues to build a culture that fosters attendance every day by having:

- School staff who have strong relationships with students and family.
- A school culture that recognises your child and your family for who you are, where you come from and what you value.
- A school whānau that takes all practical steps to make sure your child is at school and progressing in their learning.
- A school that is safe and welcoming for everyone in our school community

If you have any attendance queries and issues, please contact us so we can work together.

Parent Liaison Group (PLG) Update

We had a very productive meeting earlier this week, putting plans in place for fundraising throughout the year.

Main points as follows:

- Juicies, Moosies will be available for sale each Friday 3:00 - 3.30pm (thank you to Tasman Bay Foods for their support), start date TBC
- Sausage sizzles will be held a couple of times a term - first one on Friday 7th March (School Tryathlon day)
- Disco - during Term 2 (date to be confirmed)
- Investigating community grants to support projects and learning
- Plant, produce, garden theme for our main fundraising event in Spring (e.g. plant sale, bulbs, vege plants, cut flowers, veges and produce, jams and preserves, bake sale, garden trail, kids entertainment etc)

Helpers and support with any of these initiatives would be appreciated. Meetings scheduled for every second Wednesday at 9am - next meeting 5th of March. Minutes of each meeting are kept to share with those who can't make it to a meeting. To contact the PLG, email brightwaterschoolplg@gmail.com

Upcoming Events This Term

Event	Date	Detail
Meet the Teacher Evening	Wednesday 26 February Meet in syndicate teams first then classroom visits	An opportunity to learn more about your your child's teaching and learning for 2025. Wai-iti - 6pm in library Wairoa - 6.30pm in the library Waimea - 7pm in the library
In School Hockey	25-26 February	Hockey coaching sessions across the school
Lockdown Drill	27 February	All staff and students will practice the procedures for a lockdown with draft communications distributed.
Waimea Team Swimming Sports	5 March	Wakefield School pool. Students will be selected to participate in the cluster swimming sports.
Whole School Tryathlon and Splash & Dash	7 March	Teams taking part throughout the day - more information to follow. This is a lead in for those taking part in the regional event at Tāhunanui.
Weetbix Tryathlon	9 March	Tāhunanui Beach
Cluster Swimming Sports - Waimea Team and some Wairoa	13 March	Wakefield School. Competition against other local schools.
Goal Setting Conferences	Date to be confirmed	Share priorities for your child's learning this year

Skool Loop - App



This is a free app that provides access to information, newsletters, sporting notices, permission forms etc and is a great communication channel between home and school. Please ensure you notify us of any absences before 9am - this can be done through the app or phoning the school. If you haven't already, please download it on to your phone.