



Education

Wairoa School

An individual journey in education

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Wairoa School

Our vision is for students to be empowered learners who build skills and understandings and make sense of their world. Our students are confident, creative and connected learners who are known, valued and cared for within a culture of high expectation by the school community to thrive - now and in the future.

Term 1 Week 10 Newsletter

Tuesday 30 March 2021

Dear Parents and Community,

HARMONY DAY

EVERYONE BELONGS

Our Harmony Day celebration was a day to remember for all of our students who were immersed in a sea of orange, music, stories, arts, craft and friendship.

Term 1 is when we focus on our school wide rule of

Be Respectful

and Harmony Day provides the opportunity to celebrate what being respectful looks like for our students.

We received many beautiful comments from our families in response to Belonging at Wairoa looks like

Here are a few to share with our wonderful school community.

BELONGING AT WAIROA LOOKS LIKE.....

- Being accepted
- Being respected
- Being nurtured and supported
- Happiness
- Togetherness
- Laughter, sharing, supporting, smiling, learning, celebrating, understanding, helpful, kindness, caring and love
- Being a culturally diverse group of students and teachers, all with a rich, colourful heritage and history

- Finding a safe place that makes Jakob happy and therefore makes us all happy. Being inclusive and supportive and making a transition into school life much easier than any of our family ever thought possible. Thank you to Wairoa and all the wonderful staff
- Being part of my class and having my friends and learning with me.
- Being included in all activities and being taught by the best teachers in the world!
- It is a wonderful beginning of new friendships, new possibilities to learn and grow in our own ways. To overcome obstacles, and set in motion opportunities that can change our individual lives
- A second home for Callum and place where he has grown as a special individual. It is a place full of amazing staff where Everyone BELONGS!

As Term 1 concludes we reflect on the achievements of our students who have settled into their routines and are engaged in their learning across the day. We are delighted with their curiosity about learning and their engagement in many opportunities and experiences. Congratulations to each of them. Thank you to families who have connected with the school and contributed to the development of student goals.

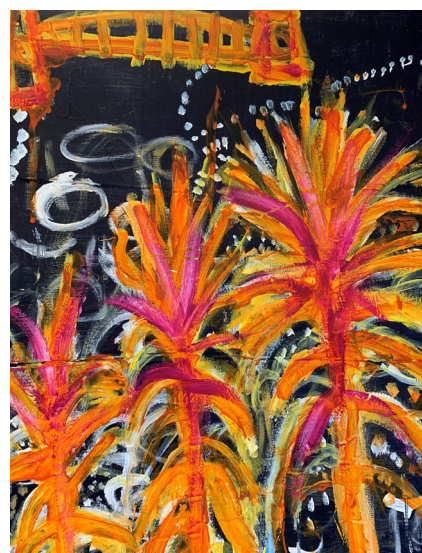
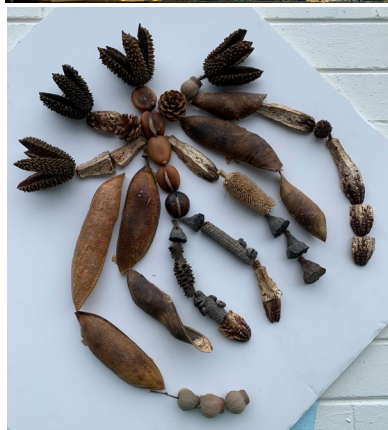
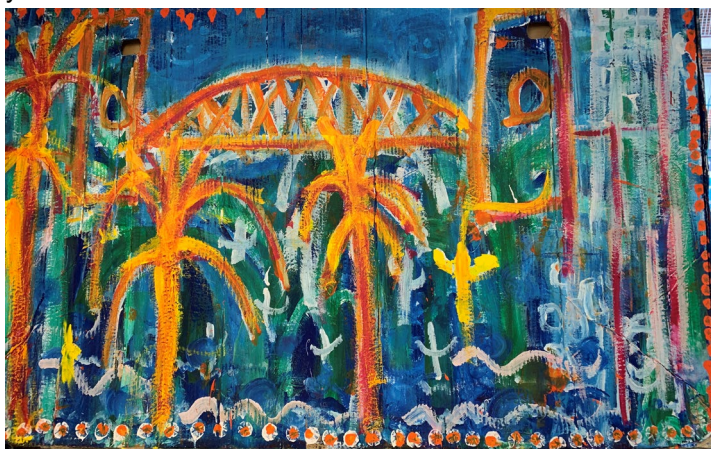
We wish you all a safe holiday break and look forward to welcoming our students back on **Tuesday 20 April for the start of term 2.**

Kind regards
Carmel Seeto

Visual Arts at Wairoa

The school corridors and classrooms continue to be decorated by the wonderful art works by individual and groups of students – our school is our gallery!

There are so many beautiful experiences for the students to learn about visual arts and explore styles and techniques of using art materials. We appreciate that families understand that sometimes our students' artist exuberance extends beyond the protective art shirts. We have fantastic photographs of all students engaging in the art program and we look forward to sharing these with you throughout the year.



Harmony Day



School Uniform

Students are encouraged to wear the school uniform each day. Please ensure your child's uniform is clearly labelled.

The winter uniform includes:

- Navy blue track pants
- Pale blue polo shirt – long sleeved
- Navy blue fleecy jumper
- Black shoes or appropriate sports shoes

School Bag

Getting ready for the new school year please remember to provide these items for your child. It would be appreciated if these are all clearly labelled.

- Lunch box
- Water bottle
- Communication folder
- Personal care items (nappies)
- Labelled spare clothes
- Sun hat

Voluntary Contributions

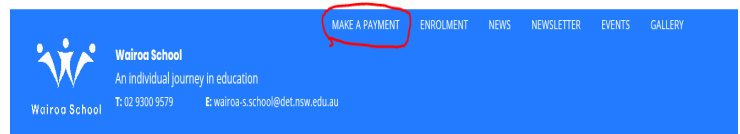
Voluntary contribution invoices have been sent to families. These contributions enable the school to provide student diaries, hygiene products such as tissues, wipes and other items which directly assist students.

It is appreciated that these contributions are paid. Please contact the school if you wish to discuss this payment.

The online payment system is located on the Wairoa School website at

www.wairoa-s.schools.nsw.edu.au

The "Make a Payment" icon is at the top middle section of the main webpage.



Assisted School Travel

What are my responsibilities as a parent?

- Be ready 15 minutes before the pickup and drop off time
- Wait outside of your home for transport
- Help your child get into the vehicle, ensure your child is safely seated with seat belts done up according to the road rules
- Provide an Australian approved child restraint or booster seat where appropriate (AS/NZS 1754)
- Provide additional equipment if required for safe travel such as seat belt buckle covers, specialised transport harnesses and any medical equipment
- Assist travel staff in loading and securing your child and their mobility equipment such as wheelchairs and walkers
- Communicate any additional needs your child might have on transport to the school and travel staff
- You must be present at the drop off point to meet the vehicle
- Call the driver and school if your child is going to be absent from school
- Contact the school if your details or circumstances change such as work commitments, address or phone numbers
- Speak with the school if your child's health needs changing

2021 SCHOOL TERM DATES

Term 1 2021

Friday 29 January – Thursday 1 April

Term 2 2021

Tuesday 20 April – Friday 25 June

Term 3 2021

Tuesday 13 July – Friday 17 September

Term 4 2021

Monday 4 October – Thursday 16 December

Safe and Supportive Environment

Student Absences

If your child is absent on any day, please contact the office to advise them of your child's absence and forward a written explanation to the teacher upon return. We are required to keep records of all absences. If your child will be absent for an extended period of time due to holiday or such you will be required to complete an application for Extended Leave for our records. Please contact the office if you require forms.

Sickness

If your child is unwell please do not send them to school. Illness can travel quickly within a school which may place other students and staff at risk. If your child becomes unwell whilst at school, the office staff will contact you to collect your child from school.

Externally funded service providers delivering health, disability and wellbeing services to students

The Department of Education has guidelines about access to students at school by externally funded service providers.

There are 4 key steps:

1. **Ask the school in writing**
2. **Consult with class teacher the details of the service and goals to be achieved and possible time options.**
3. **Principal considers your request taking into account the needs of your child, other students and the operations of the school**
4. **If agreed, the service needs to enter into an agreement with the school and meet important legal requirements.**

All requests will be in line with these guidelines and arrangements for 2021 will be considered by the school staff once a request has been made by the parents. The parent request letter will be required to indicate the specific service. The goals to be supported by the therapists will need to specifically support the students Personalised Learning and Support Plan goals. The consultation process will be ongoing and some direct intervention services may be possible. Direct interventions within the school will be reviewed each term so that there is equitable access for all students.

Swimming

Swimming programs have commenced for all students. Please ensure they have a suitable swimming costume, towel and swim nappies if required.

If your child wears a nappy, please provide appropriate protective swimwear so, all students can enjoy the benefits of swimming in a safe environment.

We would recommend the "Splash" range of protective swim wear particularly the **Jammers** - Child and Adult and **Board shorts** - Child and Adult. These are available for purchase from

<https://www.littleoggs.com.au/disability/>

We thank you for your support with this requirement for your child's participation in the swimming program at Wairoa School.

NSW Department of Education

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:

- Learn
- Make friends
- Build skills through fun

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just... they miss weeks per year and years over their school life

1 day per fortnight = 4 weeks = Over 1 year missed

1 day per week = 8 weeks = Over 2.5 years missed

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