



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 19 November 2025

Important Dates

21 Nov	Junior Fun Games Day (New date)
28 Nov	MANA Assembly 9:45am
4 Dec	End of year school reports go home
9 Dec	Y6 Graduation
9 Dec	Board of Trustees Hui 7pm
10 Dec	Y6 Dine & Dance
12 Dec	Y6 Pool Party
12 Dec	2026 Road Patrol Training
15 Dec	Final MANA Assembly 11:15
16 Dec	Last day of school, Finish 1pm
2 Feb	First Day - Waananga Day
3 Feb	Waterlea Powhiri 9:30
6 Feb	Waitangi Day (School Closed)

Last night at the Waterlea School Board hui, members discussed the Minister of Education's proposed changes to the law which would remove the requirement of school boards to give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Since this announcement to remove this requirement was made a couple of weeks ago, approximately 500 school boards have written to the Minister expressing their opposition to changing the law. The Waterlea School Board of Trustees joins this growing list of schools and you will find their letter below. Te Tiriti o Waitangi is New Zealand's founding document, a living agreement that establishes the unique bicultural foundation of Aotearoa. At Waterlea School, our commitment to Te Tiriti is fundamental to our school community and the success of all our tamariki. From our MANA Values to our stories and history of our local whenua, Te Tiriti provides the roadmap and direction it takes in terms of everything we do here. Our commitment to Te Tiriti principles goes beyond history lessons; it is about creating an environment where all students at Waterlea School develop empathy, critical thinking, and the cultural competence needed to thrive in our diverse nation and interconnected world. By honouring our founding document, we are ensuring that every child is set up for success. On behalf of our staff, whannau and tamariki, we thank the board for honouring Waterlea's ongoing commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. In keeping with this theme we have some exciting developments in terms of progressing our new Kapa Haka uniform design. Whaea Aroha and Whaea Marama have been consulting with our wider community in terms of creating a design and they are almost at the production stage. The new Kapa Haka uniforms have been made possible through funding from our Te Reo a-thon so we thank you for supporting this initiative. We will present them to the wider school in 2026.





WATERLEA SCHOOL

18 November 2025

RE: Giving effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Dear Minister Stanford,

We, the Board of Waterlea School, wish to express our deep disappointment at the government's intention to remove the requirement for school boards to give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. This is the founding agreement of our nation between Tangata Whenua and Tangata Tiriti, guiding us in the principles of partnership, participation and protection. The significance of Te Tiriti o Waitangi cannot be overstated.

We wish to tautoko the words of some of our school parents, who wrote to us saying, "Te Tiriti is the foundational blueprint for how we can all live together in Aotearoa in unity and with aroha for one another. When our school upholds Te Tiriti, our tamariki learn about partnership and respect for different cultures, our history and for Te reo Maaori. All of these values provide a strong educational foundation for building happy and healthy tamariki and rangatahi." "Te Tiriti serves as a beautiful roadmap for how we can move forward together - as students, as teachers, as a school, and as a community. It is something to be embraced rather than shunned."

We also wish to tautoko the following position statements from The Iwi Chairs Forum:

Position Statements: Education & Training Amendment Bill No.2

Position 1: As Crown entities, school boards have both legal and moral duty to understand and give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Position 2: Strong communities are built through partnership - not by rolling back commitments to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Position 3: Removing Te Tiriti o Waitangi protections from legislation weakens the Crown's commitment to achieving equitable outcomes for ākongā Māori.

Position 4: Iwi and hapū see better outcomes for whānau when Te Tiriti o Waitangi is understood and lived.

Ma te kotahitanga e whai kaha ai taatau. In unity we have strength. We, the Board of Waterlea School, affirm our steadfast commitment to giving effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi. We urge the government to do likewise.

Ngaa Mihi,

The Board of Waterlea School

Disco Magic

Thank you PTA for organising another wonderful community event- the Waterlea School Disco. This year the theme was 'Tropic Like it's Hot' and tickets were snapped up quickly. We really appreciate these events that the PTA organise as they raise funds that help the school buy additional equipment and learning resources. A great night was had by all who attended.



A MASSIVE THANKS TO
EVERYONE THAT CAME TO THE
DISCO & OUR HELPERS. WE
RAISED JUST OVER \$4,300!

Thanks to our sponsors:



Gilmours
Mt Roskill



PLEASE HELP SUPPORT THEM!

MANA CERTIFICATES



MANAKI TANGA

JUNIOR SCHOOL

AKO



NGATAKAWA PONO

MIDDLE SCHOOL

AWHANGEA



SENIOR SCHOOL



Ukulele Jam

On Thursday, the Ukulele Group attended a Ukulele Jam with six other schools at Mt Roskill Primary. After two terms learning 12 songs, they performed for a full hour as part of a mass group. Waterlea shone on stage, leading two songs: *Kindness is Free* and *Summertime and Sunshine*. It was a huge effort to learn so many songs and great fun to play alongside such a big group. It should be noted that both Whaea Samia and Whaea Megan have been instrumental in building this team up this year. Many classes are learning songs and even actions in preparation for successful assembly singalongs. Tino pai taa koutou puukenga puuro katoa - what fantastic musicianship from everybody!



Health & Safety

Coloured Sand

You would have heard that we had some of the coloured sand that has been recalled due to a risk of containing asbestos. The asbestos experts came on Monday afternoon, they tested and removed the sand. Yesterday evening we heard that the tests had been negative and our tamariki returned to their classrooms today. Thanks Whaea Sally for being so flexible and positive, making our tamariki's experience a good one in the hall.



Independent testing in Australia has confirmed asbestos contamination in similar products. While testing of New Zealand batches is ongoing, as a precautionary measure, the company Educational Colours has issued a recall notice for EC Rainbow Sand (1.3kg) and Creatistics - Coloured Sand (1kg).

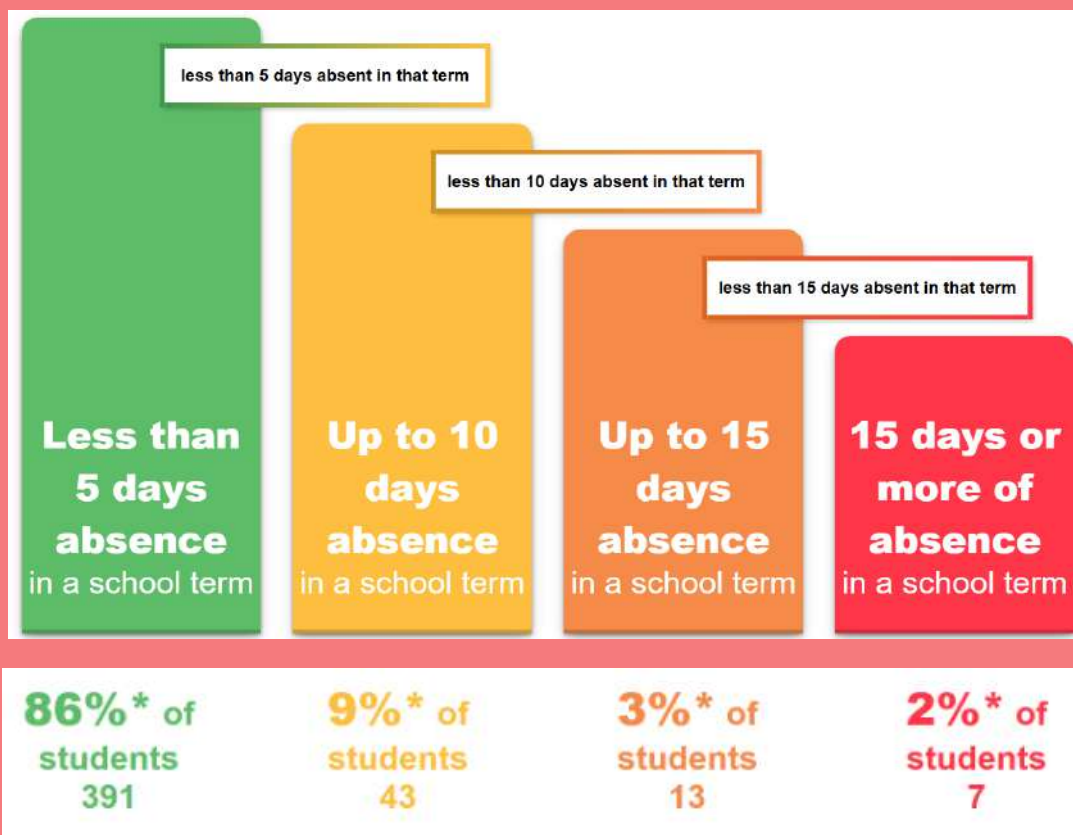
ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Attendance

Week 7, our whole school attendance rate was 86%. Just a reminder about lateness, and emailing principal@waterlea.school.nz if you are going away so that these absences can be coded correctly for the Ministry of Education.

Responding to all absences

The Government's target is for **80% of students to attend regularly**, that is to attend school more than **90% of the time**.



Please reply to absent texts sent from the office advising of your child's absence. This helps us code absences correctly for the Ministry of Education.



Waterlea PTA Presents

THE FRIDAY SALE

UNIFORM FROM \$2
LOLLY BAGS \$1
ICE BLOCKS \$2
CHOCOLATES \$1

All sale proceeds go towards
supporting Waterlea School

FRIDAY 21 NOVEMBER
2.50PM - 3.30PM
OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL HALL

Cash & EFTPOS available



Junior Fun Games Day

Junior Fun Games Day

This Friday

9-10:30am

Year 1 & 2 Classrooms

Parents welcome!



Lost Property

Please come in and check the lost property before the end of this term. Any items left will be donated.

Please remember to name your children's clothing so any lost items can be returned to them.

Lucky Book Club

Lucky Book Club

Lucky Book Club

All library books due back
for the year!

The last day to order from the
Lucky Book Club
is this Friday 21st November



MANGERE COMMUNITY CONNECT



MANGERE MAANAKI COMMUNITY CONNECT

MANGERE MAANAKI & COMMUNITY CONNECT

MULTI-SPORTS

ANY SKILL LEVEL

ALL AGES

3V3 BBALL

VIBBES

TAG/TOUCH

LOCAL FUN

FREE TO ALL

VOLLEYBALL

DAVID LANGE PARK

17TH OCTOBER - 21ST NOVEMBER

4:30PM-7PM
EVERY FRIDAYS

CONTACT ALEX

PHONE - 0220213049

EMAIL - ADMINMANGERE COMMUNITY @CONNECT.NZ





MANGERE MARKET
— T R U S T —

SANTA PARADE **WINTER**

Wonderland

4TH DECEMBER

4-8 PM

PARADE STARTS AT 6PM
at Mangere War Memorial

MANGERE BRIDGE VILLAGE



Four Winds
FOUNDATION

Māngere-Ōtāhuhu
Local Board
Auckland Council



COLLECT YUMMY STICKERS AND GET SPORTS GEAR FOR OUR SCHOOL!

Collect the Yummy cut-out labels from bags (each cut-out label is worth 10 stickers) and individual Yummy apple stickers for Waterlea School's share of the \$200,000 free Sport sports gear prize pool.

Yummy apples are available from New World, PAK'nSAVE and participating Four Square stores. The more you collect, the more sports gear we can get so get going and start collecting your Yummy cut-out labels and stickers now!

All stickers/cut-outs along with your school's Total Tally Sheet must be received by us by Tuesday 24 September.

[Download your sticker collection sheet here or pick one up at the office.](#)



SECONDHAND UNIFORMS

If you are after any secondhand uniform items, such as tee-shirts, polo shirts, skorts, shorts, or sweatshirts, please get in touch with the Waterlea PTA and we will do our best to help you find what you need.

All items are \$2, except the fleece sweatshirts which are \$10.



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