



Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whānau

Years 4-6 Hub Newsletter

Term 3 2025

Welcome back to school and Term 3. We hope that you have all had a great break and are well rested for the new term. We would like to take this opportunity to also welcome new families, whānau and their child/ren.

Year 4 & 5 Classes

Room 1 Chris McCullough
Room 2 Brooke Morgan-Cameron
Room 3 Glynnis Bell (Team Leader)
Room 4 Dylan Pittams
Room 8 David Haste
Room 9 Renee Littlejohn
Room 10 Sam McGavin (Team Leader)

Year 6 Classes

Room 5 Janice Karl (Team Leader)
Room 6 Olivia van Woerkom
Room 7 Jason Trenberth

Classroom Release Teachers: Aimee Cunningham, Paula Martin, Chris Cowman and Charlotte Kelly

Link to all Waterloo Staff contact details <https://www.waterloo.school.nz/our-team->

School Timings

Monday - Thursday

8:30am Students can enter classes
8:55am School Day starts
11:00am - 11:30am Morning Tea
1:00pm - 2:00pm Lunch break
3:00pm End of School Day

Friday

8:30am Students can enter classes
8:55am School Day starts
11:00am - 11:30am Morning Tea
12:30pm - 1:30pm Lunch break
3:00pm End of School Day

Classrooms will be open from 8.30am. Please arrive between 8.30am and 8.50am to allow enough time for your child to settle and be ready for their day. If your child arrives after the bell, please send them to sign in at the office

and collect a late card before going to their classroom.

The Fun Club service is available in the hall for children who must be dropped at school before 8:30.

If your child is unwell, please keep them home and phone, email the **office** or use the @school app to inform the office of the absence and the reason.

Clothing

Please make sure all clothing and other personal property (such as lunchboxes and drink bottles) are **clearly named**. Please send spare clothing in a named bag, so students can manage themselves and change when necessary. Encourage your child to wear sensible footwear to enable them to participate fully in our fitness and PE programmes. Your child will need a warm layer and a waterproof jacket or coat every day this term, as classes move between buildings for different activities and the weather changes during the day. **With the weather getting colder and wetter, please ensure your child has a spare change of clothes in their bags please.**

Whānau Communication

eTAP parent app

Waterloo School's main form of communication is through the **@school eTAP App**. It gives you the ability to submit an absence, receive notices and newsletters, complete permission forms, book parent interviews and more. **Please make sure your notifications are turned on to receive all communication from the school.** Please speak to someone in the office if you are unsure about how to set this up.



Seesaw

Seesaw family is a fantastic way for your child and teachers to share your child's learning at school. If you are not yet signed up, your child's classroom teacher will be able to provide you with the login details. Each Seesaw family account can have up to 10 users, so feel free to share with your wider whānau.

We encourage the students to make positive reflective comments on their posts - i.e. what they were working on, what was easy or more challenging, and how they overcame any difficulties. It is great when you "like" their posts and make reflective comments, as well, e.g. "I love the detail you added to your writing", and "What bright colours you used on your artwork".

Term 3 at a Glance	
Maths ~ Strategy & Strand	Strategy focus: Multiplicative thinking, Proportional thinking (Fractions, decimals and percentages), Geometry (2D, 3D shapes and symmetry), Year 6 also: algebra. Strand focus: Geometry, Measurement
Inquiry (Science)	Habitat Heroes Term 3 Focus: Become nature detectives and explore the diversity of life on Earth, the amazing places they live, and what makes them special. Students will be learning about living things such as animals and the habitats that they live in.
PE	Catching and throwing, skipping, kicking and striking skills - e.g. Hockey, T-Ball, Padder Tennis, Volleyball, Football.
Health	Navigating the Journey - focusing on the following: Theme 4 - Growing and Changing - My changing body, Our physical differences, Caring for my body. Theme 5 - Staying Safe - Cyber/Digital safety, standing up for myself and others.
Active Learner Traits Key Competencies	Communicating Me - Digital Communication Students will be learning to effectively share and reflect on their learning using Seesaw. They will also continue to develop their online research skills, e.g. notetaking, summarising and rewording information from different information sources.

	Thinking Me - Inquiring Students will be focusing on developing their ability to ask rich, meaningful questions. This links into their digital communication and researching skills.
School Values and PB4L	Show Respect to all people always. Take Responsibility for our actions. Have Resilience in everything we do. Our wise owl Ruru helps us to make good choices in every part of our day. We will be focusing on building our understanding of Resilience and what this looks like at school.
Tikanga Māori	Waterloo School Whakatauki - Nā tō rourou, nā taku rourou ka ora ai te iwi.  With your food basket and my food basket the people will thrive. Karakia - to start the day. Kapa Haka - Papa Murray will teach us waiata on Friday afternoons. Tuakana Toa lessons continuing - Students from Year 4-6 who have signed up to be Tuakana Toa leaders will be leading basic te reo Māori lessons throughout the school each Friday morning. Focus on classroom kupu and phrases. Māori Language Week is happening in Week 10. There will be a celebration day of the Māori language involving learning rotations throughout the kura.
Literacy	Handwriting: focusing on correct letter formation and pencil grip. Reading: instructional reading using a Structured Literacy approach. This includes developing comprehension and vocabulary knowledge using decodable texts and authentic texts. Spelling: Structured Literacy spelling lessons, based on spelling levels and needs. Writing: writing about personal experience and interests, dictated sentences linked to reading and constructing paragraphs. Linking to our inquiry we will also explore information reports. We will begin incorporating the Structured Literacy approach to our Writing practice. Oral language: discussing news, current events, story telling, listening to stories being read aloud and sharing experiences that they have done.

Home Learning Ideas

Our focus is to encourage **a life-long love of reading**. Students are expected to read, and be read to, at home every day - **up to half an hour** each night, depending on the age of your child.

We encourage you to discuss your child's learning at home.

Great starting points for supporting their mathematics:

- Helping your child to learn their basic facts - adding two numbers up to ten, 20 and 100, multiply and divide up to the 10x tables,
- measuring for construction and cooking - weight, length, and
- reading the time on a digital and analogue clock.

Upcoming Events

Check the school website calendar for up-to-date information

Week 2	• Mathathon Testing
Week 3	• Wednesday APSMO extension Maths Test 3

Week 4	
Week 5	• Tuesday Aku Tangi Sports Centre (Kilbirnie) Trip Year 6 • Learning Conversations • Wednesday 3.30 - 6.30 pm • Thursday 3.30 - 5.30 pm
Week 6	• Whanau Hui • Tuesday (19th) Mathswell competition - Victoria University
Week 7	
Week 8	• Chinese Language Week (31st August - 6 September)
Week 9	• Science Roadshow • Wednesday APSMO extension Maths Test 4 • Culture Day (Thursday 11 September) - Celebrating all the cultures in our school.
Week 10	• Maori Language Week • Whanau Hui • Looking forward to Go-Kart day in Term 4.

Ngā mihi

Janice Karl, Glynnis Bell, Sam McGavin, Chris McCullough, Brooke Morgan-Cameron, Olivia van Woerkom, Jason Trenberth, Dylan Pittams, David Haste, Renee Littlejohn