



Friday 10 October 2025

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whānau

Years 4-6 Hub Newsletter Term 4 2025

Welcome back to school and Term 4. 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 children.

Year 4 & 5 Classes	Year 6 Classes
Room 1 Chris McCullough	Room 5 Janice Karl (Team Leader)
Room 2 Brooke Morgan-Cameron	Room 6 Olivia van Woerkom
Room 3 Glynnis Bell (Team Leader)	Room 7 Jason Trenberth
Room 4 Dylan Pittams	
Room 8 David Haste	
Room 9 Renee Littlejohn	
Room 10 Sam McGavin (Team Leader)	
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	Friday
8:30am Students can enter classes	8:30am Students can enter classes
8:55am School Day starts	8:55am School Day starts
11:00am - 11:30am Morning Tea	11:00am - 11:30am Morning Tea
1:00pm - 2:00pm Lunch break	12:30pm - 1:30pm Lunch break
3:00pm End of School Day	3:00pm End of School Day

Classes 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 8:30am.

If your child is unwell, please keep them home. Phone, email 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. **Please ensure your child has a wide brimmed hat for this term. As per our school policy, wide brimmed hats must be worn in Terms 1 and 4. It is also a good idea to send sunscreen, to be reapplied by your child during the day.**

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 4 at a Glance	
Maths ~ Strategy & Strand	<p>Strategy focus: Multiplicative thinking, Proportional thinking (Fractions, decimals and percentages), Geometry (2D, 3D shapes and symmetry), Year 6 also: algebra.</p> <p>Addition and Subtraction Multiplication and Division</p> <p>Strand focus: Measurement, Geometry</p>
Inquiry (Science)	<p>Habitat Heroes <u>Our Term 3 Focus was:</u> being nature detectives and exploring the diversity of life on Earth, the amazing places they live, and what makes them special. Students learnt about living things such as animals and the habitats that they live in.</p> <p>Term 4 - Passion Projects Students will be working on their own passion projects based on their own personal interests.</p> <p>We will be teaching them about questioning, summarising, synthesising and how they can present their findings effectively.</p>
PE	<p>Catching and throwing, skipping, kicking and striking skills - e.g. Hockey, T-Ball, Padder Tennis, Tennis skills, Kickball, Cricket skills, with swimming and a review of athletics for Year 6.</p> <p>Friday afternoon PE/Sport sessions.</p>
Health	<p>Navigating the Journey - focusing on the following:</p> <p>In Term 4 we will be continuing our health programme "Navigating the Journey". Many aspects have already been covered during the year (e.g. identity, maintaining and changing friendships).</p> <p>Areas to be covered In Term 4:</p> <p>Theme 4 - Growing and Changing - My changing body, Our physical differences, Caring for my body.</p> <p>Theme 5 - Staying Safe - Cyber/Digital safety, standing up for myself and others.</p> <p>This programme is aligned with the health and physical education learning area of The New Zealand Curriculum and the Ministry of Education's guidelines for relationship education and sexuality education.</p>

	<p>Research suggests that children are reaching puberty at an earlier average age and the intention of this programme is to prepare them for these inevitable changes and support the development of their resilience.</p> <p>If you have any questions about these sessions, please speak with your child's classroom teacher.</p>
Active Learner Traits Key Competencies	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
School Values and PB4L	<p>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.</p> <p>We will be focusing on building our understanding of Resilience and what this looks like at school.</p>
Tikanga Māori	<p>Waterloo School Whakatauki -</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Nā tō rourou, nā taku rourou ka ora ai te iwi.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p style="text-align: center;">With your food basket and my food basket the people will thrive.</p> <p>Karakia - to start the day. Kapa Haka - Papa Murray will teach us waiata on Friday afternoons. Tuakana Toa lessons continuing - Students from Years 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.</p>
Literacy	<p>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 and explanations. 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, responding to texts and sharing experiences that they have had.</p>

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 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mihi Whakatau• Tiki Shield (Big 2 Showdown)
Week 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kapa Haka Exchange• Whanau Hui
Week 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diwali Celebrations• Year 6 swimming at Te Ngaengae Pool (Mon, Tues, Wed)• Possible strike day - Thursday 23rd October - TBC
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Labour day 27 October - School Closed• Tuesday 28 October - Ministry of Education Curriculum Day Staff Only Day - School Closed• Senior Hub - Zoo Trip - Wednesday Year 6, Thursday Years 4/5• Friday EPro8 in-school competitions 1 and 2 in the hall.
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• EPro8 Interschool Competition - final in-school competition - Monday in the hall.• Interschool Athletics - Tuesday (Thursday PP)• Whole School Assembly - facilitated by Room 5. EPro8 and APSMO certificates and awards presented
Week 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Interzone Athletics - Tuesday (Thursday PP)• ePro8 Interschool competition - Maidstone Intermediate - Wednesday
Week 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 6 Go Kart Day
Week 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regional Athletics - Tuesday (Thursday PP)
Week 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Celebration Concert - Wednesday• Years 4/5 Trip to Akau Tangi Sports Centre
Week 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 6 Visit to Days Bay - Tuesday• Year 6 Leavers' Assembly - Thursday 2pm - 3pm• Year 6 Leavers' Dine and Disco- Thursday 6pm - 8pm

Ngā mihi

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