

UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS

Upcoming School Events

- Thursday 13 May
- National Standards Meeting
- Friday 14 May -
School Assembly
- Monday 17 May-
Interviews -school
closes 1:30pm
- Thursday 20 May
- interviews
- Tuesday 18 May-
Board of Trustees
Meeting



WAIKOUAITI PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

12 May 2010

Term 2 Week 4

Kia ora to everyone

The weeks are whizzing by and I am quickly becoming accustomed to Waikouaiti School. I am still meeting parents most days – thank you to those who have introduced yourselves to me and forgive me if I ask you your name again. Now for business!

School interviews are a very important time for teachers to discuss with parents and with the children what their learning goals are going to be and how they can achieve these goals. Our interview time has been extended to 15 minutes to have more time as we find we get to know the parents and share with you what is happening at school for the child. Learning is a three way process including teachers, parents and the children. If the interview time is not long enough for you please speak to the teacher and make another time.

Trudy Pankhurst

National Standards Information Evening Thursday 13th May in the school Library at 7.00pm

There will be a meeting at school for anyone interested to hear and learn more about the National Standards. These standards are new to all schools and staff so we are still learning about them as we use them this year to report to our parents. I will share with you what I know and attempt to answer your questions.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

Kia Ora!

Students are busy practicing for the Kaupapa Māori Festival which will be held at Waikouaiti event centre on the 22nd June. Everyone is more than welcome to come and support the students. We have kapa haka on a Wednesday afternoon and if you would like to come and offer support we welcome it.

The students are learning a new Māori phrase each week.

Haere mai ki te tepu—Come to the table

We will be planning a whānau hui for all school parents/ whānau members to attend. This will happen later in the term.

Nā Rachel

SPORTS

Netball

Well done to both Netball teams who have been playing some excellent games in the past two weeks. Last week Waikouaiti Red had another great win and Black drew their game. We had our last grading game on Tuesday. Good luck to all of the players.

The players of the day last Tuesday were:

Waikouaiti Red: Angus

Waikouaiti Black: Cailtyn

RIPPA RUGBY

Last Friday Year 3,4,5 and 6 children played in a Rippa Rugby competition in Palmerston. We had 3 teams in the competition and the children played very well and displayed some excellent skills. Well done to all of the children who participated.

T SHIRTS

Please check at home for any Waikouaiti School t-shirts and return them to school.

FROM the OFFICE

We need to keep up-to-date contact details for all pupils. If you have a new address, phone number or someone new you would like added to the emergency contacts for your child, please let us know. If your child is to be absent from school please contact us before 9:00am - a phone call, or an email to: office@waikouaiti.school.nz will be **very much** appreciated

SPARE CLOTHING

Our supply of spare clothing is very low at present and we would appreciate any knickers, trousers, socks etc—especially for the younger children. Thank you.

ASSEMBLY

Assembly will be at the Events Centre this Friday, 14 May and will be taken by Room 5

PARENT DONATIONS

A Reminder: Parent donations are now due. The donation level for this year is set at: \$50.00 for 1 child, \$70.00 for two children, \$90.00 for three children. Please pay at the school office or online - our bank account name and number is: Waikouaiti School Board of Trustees account and the number: 03 1737 0023252 00

ROOM 1

Kia Ora!

Wow! Another 2 weeks have gone by very quickly. The students in room 1 were lucky enough to have a visitor from Otago University who spoke about fossils and bones. The students were very excited and lots of questions were asked. Yesterday we made our very own fossils and at the end of this term the students will be able to take them home to enjoy. Thank you to Sarah's family who brought in a Moa fossil for the students to look at. We took lots of photos and the

students wrote some amazing stories. Please have a look on the wall outside Room 1. We have started our measurement focus and we are looking at length and then moving onto money, which will be a big hit with the students.

Congratulations to the following students for will receive an award at assembly on Friday:

Greg – sounding out unknown words in story writing time

Sarah – eager to learn more about Dinosaurs and asking wonderful questions

Please remember if you have any spare time to help in the classroom it would be appreciated. Any concerns, please see me after school or send me an email.

Nā Rachel Thorne

ROOM 2

A Big Dino Hi from Room Two!

We have been very busy in Room Two with our creative energy working overtime. The children have produced awesome pastel pictures of the best thing they saw at the museum. I am very impressed with the children's use of pastel and colour to create vibrant interesting works of art.

The children are in the process of making dioramas of a dinosaur's habitat. The detail going into these is amazing. They will also be writing about the habitat. Following this we will be moving into writing a report on their favourite dinosaur.

So as you can see Dinosaur Mania is still alive! The children made absolutely beautiful tissue flowers for Mother's Day. We hope you enjoyed them.

Goodbyasaurus from the Palaeontologists in Room Two.

ROOM 3

Kiaora from Room 3.

Once again we have had a busy two weeks in Room 3 doing a number of activities related to our topic on dinosaurs. We had a visit from a Palaeontologist from the University of Otago who talked to the children about fossils and brought some fossils to school that he found down at our local beach. The children all enjoyed his visit and asked some interesting questions. In class we have been learning about the different types of dinosaurs and when they existed. We measured the largest dinosaur on the netball court and have observed a dinosaur egg being hatched.

In writing we are learning to write reports. We have read a number of reports and talked out the type of information used to write their own reports. The children have written a report on ladybirds and are in the process of writing their own report on their favourite toy. In the next few weeks we will focus on writing a report on a dinosaur.

LADYBIRDS

Ladybirds are insects and beetles.

Lady birds have spots and they are black. You can find them on wood, grass and flowers. They can do things such as fly, eat and crawl.

They are cute, cool and they don't bite. I love ladybirds. By William.

In Maths we have been learning about reflection, translation and rotation in Geometry. We will be continuing this for the next few days before moving onto multiplication and division. Keep practicing your basic facts!

ROOM 4

Hello everyone.

I look forward to talking to you all at parent teacher interviews next week. Please send the form back as soon as possible to ensure you get the time slot you want. This week we started a new spelling programme. The children will be concentrating on learning the words from the essential word lists which is an expectation of the national standards. An initial test determines what list the children are on then each week they are given ten –twelve words from the list. They are tested on these. Which ever words they get wrong, they are the ones they must learn that week. It seems silly children learning words if they already know how to spell them. A spelling test will be given every Friday. If they get any wrong those words are added to next weeks' list. Each week spelling groups will learn spelling skills such as letter sounds, blends, plurals, etc.

Many thanks

Cheryl Neill

ROOM 5

Kia Ora from Room 5,

What a busy couple of weeks it's been for our room. We have students going all over the show to compete in different sporting activities and doing very well, so congratulations to those students. In class we have been continuing our work on Multiplication and Division, report writing, and also discovering lots more about Dinosaurs and Fossils. We will continue with fossils for another week or two before we move onto learning about our environment. Thank you to all those parents who have supplied transport for our sporting events and EOTC trips. These things couldn't happen without you.

Keep smiling, keep learning.

Chris Cowan

KARITANE COMMUNITY BOOK SALE

The annual Karitane Book Sale will be held on Labour weekend Saturday, 23rd October, at the Karitane Hall. Book can be dropped at the Karitane Store or phone 465 8054 for collection. All proceeds go to River-Estuary Care: Waikouaiti-Karitane for revegetation projects.