



# Year 1-3 Hub Newsletter

## Term 1 2025

Dear Parents/Caregivers and Whānau

Welcome to our first newsletter of 2025. We hope you have all had an excellent holiday and that your child is settling back into school routines. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new staff member Rebecca Jackson to our Year 1-3 Hub, along with new families/whānau and their child/ren. We are excited to be working as a Year 1-3 hub and look forward to getting to know you.

### Year 1 Classes

Room 21 Carolyn Robb (Team Leader)  
Room 22 Courteney Johnston  
Room 23 Stacey May

### Years 2&3 Classes

Room 11 Paul Wehipeihana (Team Leader)  
Room 12 Molly Schuler  
Room 13 Sarah O'Dowda-Vriens  
Room 14 Julie-Ann Kamal  
Room 15 Toni Meadows  
Room 17 Rebecca Jackson (Team Leader)  
Room 18 Georgia Chapple  
Room 19 Anna Brownlie

**Classroom Release Teachers:** Nina Koch, Louise Macleod, Anna Thompson, and Karen McMillan

**Year 1-3 Hub SENCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator):** Emma Wright

**We have a number of Teaching Assistants** working with some of our students to support them with their learning.

Link to all Waterloo Staff contact details <https://www.waterloo.school.nz/our-team-1>

[School Timings](#)

Monday - Thursday		Friday	
8.55am - 10.00am	<b>First Morning session</b>	8.55am - 10.00am	<b>First Morning session</b>
10.00am - 10.10am	<i>Fruit break</i>	10.00am - 10.10am	<i>Fruit break</i>
10.10am - 11.00am	<b>Second Morning session</b>	10.10am - 11.00am	<b>Second Morning session</b>
11.00am - 11.30am	<i>Morning Tea</i>	11.00am - 11.30am	<i>Morning Tea</i>
11.30am - 1.00pm	<b>Middle session</b>	11.30am - 12.30pm	<b>Middle session</b>
1:00pm - 2:00pm	<i>Lunch break</i>	12:30pm - 1:30pm	<i>Lunch break</i>
2:00pm - 3:00pm	<b>Afternoon session</b>	1:30pm - 3:00pm	<b>Afternoon session</b>

**Classes will be open at 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. If you need childcare before **8.30am**, please consider morning Fun Club, as your child won't be supervised before this time. <https://www.waterloo.school.nz/before-after-school-care>. If your child is unwell, please keep them home and phone or email the office to inform them of the reason for the absence.

### Fruit break

Please send a piece of **fruit or vegetable** cut up for our fruit break at 10am as only fruit is allowed. Please make sure it is in a container that your child can open and close. This way we can ensure our students can manage what they eat for fruit break, morning tea and lunch.



### Sunhats

As it is Term 1, all students **must have a named** bucket or legionnaire style hat to wear when they are outside. Waterloo School hats can be ordered here <https://www.waterloo.school.nz/school-clothing>. If your child brings their own sunscreen to school, please ensure they are able to manage and apply it themselves. We recommend roll on sunscreen as this is easiest for the students to apply. This is not to be shared with other students due to allergies.

### Clothing

Please make sure all clothing and other personal property such as lunchboxes and drink bottles are **clearly named**. Please bring 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.

As you will be aware, there is also a change to the way that any unclaimed lost property is donated to a charity. This will now be mid-term (end of week 5) and at the end of the term (week 11). This is to make it more manageable for us as a school. Any lost property that is clearly named, will still be returned to the students.

### 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.



Term 1 at a Glance	
Maths ~ Strategy & Strand	<p><b>Strategy focus: Number Knowledge, Addition and Subtraction</b></p> <p><b>Strand focus: Patterns and Relationships, along with Statistics</b></p>
Inquiry	<p><b>'Te Ao': Our World (Tangata) We will be focusing on building our classroom treaty, getting to know one another, making new friends, working as a team and understanding the systems in our classroom and wider school community.</b></p>
PE	<p><b>Year 1: Weekly: Wednesday - folk dancing, Friday - Jump Jam</b></p> <p><b>Weeks 1-6: Gross motor skills: body &amp; spatial awareness (walk, hop, skip, jump)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Obstacle course: climbing, through, under, over, jump, leap</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Weeks 7-9: Developing game skills: move with control, change direction, balance</b></p> <p><b>Weeks 10-11: Running: Fun Run, Cross Country training</b></p> <p><b>Years 2&amp;3</b></p> <p><b>Weeks 1-3: Games involving throwing catching, running jumping</b></p> <p><b>Weeks 4-8: Athletics</b></p> <p><b>Week 9: Games Rotation across the different classes</b></p> <p><b>Week 10 -11: Fun run, Cross Country training</b></p>
Health	<p><b>Navigating the Journey: Focusing on the following:</b></p> <p><b>Theme 1: Establishing a positive learning environment</b></p> <p><b>Theme 2: Who am I? Ko wai au?</b></p> <p><b>We will also be focusing on how to manage our feelings through different strategies.</b></p>
Learning through Play	<p><b>We believe Learning through Play empowers active learners. We provide open, rich inquiry based learning provocations (invitations) and loose parts to guide the children's play. We will also use your child's interests to extend their learning. This may look different across the classrooms.</b></p>
Active Learner Traits Key Competencies	<div data-bbox="874 1729 1152 2004" data-label="Diagram"> </div> <p><b><u>Managing Me: Making Choices</u></b></p> <p><b>Waterloo students manage themselves well, know how to behave and are ready to learn.</b></p>

At home we encourage our students to:

- Pack, carry and unpack own school bag (hat, lunch, book bag, library books)
- Look after belongings - clothing, stationery
- Practise opening and closing containers, lunch boxes and drink bottles independently

### Collaborating Me: Caring

Waterloo students look after each other and work as a team.

At home we encourage our students to:

- Talk about nonverbal indicators of emotions (facial expressions)
- Explain how I am feeling (and why)
- Read books and talk about how the story made me feel
- Share ideas about how to be a good friend

### 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 be responsible and make good choices in every part of our day.

**Ruru's Choices: It's Your Choice!**

When you have a small problem choose one of Ruru's Choices to solve it:

- Talk it out
- Walk away
- Apologise
- Play another game
- Make a deal - Paper, Scissors, Rock.

### Waterloo School Whakatauki -

Nā tō rourou, nā taku rourou ka ora ai te iwi.



### Tikanga Maori

With your food basket and my food basket the people will thrive.

**Karakia** - to start and end the day.

**Kapa Haka** - Whaea Hilary will teach us waiata fortnightly on Thursdays

**Kura Ahurea Purakau** (stories):

Year 1: Rangi and Papa's Children  
Years 2&3: Taraika

### Literacy

#### Phonological Awareness:

Identifying rhyme - which two of these rhymes? hat, mat, sat; night, light, mouse.

Creating rhymes - what rhymes with pin? fin; frog? hog.

Initial sounds - retrieval of words that begin with the same sound: see, sand, sink; shrimp, shop, shred.

Blending sounds - c-a-t is cat.

Nursery rhymes - having fun with rhyming words, hearing each sound in a word - blending sounds and segmenting words.

**Handwriting:** we are using the Casey Caterpillar handwriting programme to help with letter formation. It is vital that every child's letter formation and pencil grip is corrected.

**Oral language:** story telling, listening to stories and learning new vocabulary, sharing our own experiences.

**Poetry** - exploring rhyme and poetic language, reciting poems and rhymes.

**Reading:** (instructional reading lessons in groups) and **Spelling:** (whole class spelling lessons) using a Structured Literacy approach.

This includes many of the following:

- Learning letter names and sounds, digraphs, syllable types, blends, etc.
- Blending sounds to read words, phrases and sentences using decodable texts and authentic texts
- Learning new vocabulary words and their meanings and origins
- Writing a dictated sentence from a text
- Answering questions about texts to demonstrate comprehension

**Perfected practice over time makes perfect and permanent.**

**Writing:** Writing in classrooms may include the following:

- Learning what a sentence is; A sentence is a group of words that contains a complete thought. It has a subject and a verb, e.g. The girl was singing.
- Identifying the 'who', 'doing what' and 'where' in a sentence, e.g. The dog lay down inside.
- Learning about different sentence types
- Frequent opportunities to practise new writing skills

## 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 everyday. **5 to 15 minutes per child** each night, depending on the age of your child.

- Bringing a text home in the form of a sentence, passage or book that they have read at school
- A library book your child has chosen at school or the Hutt City Libraries
- Poems, reciting nursery rhymes, waiata ringaringa (action songs)

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

Ideas for mathematics:

- Count - forwards, backwards, odd/even, in 2s, 5s, 10s
- Games - Monopoly, Bingo, board games, cards
- Time/calendars: days, months, significant times throughout the day

### **Upcoming Events**

**Week 3:** Welcome Picnic - Wednesday 5:30-7:00 pm

**Week 5:** Junior Hui - Monday 2-3pm

**Week 9:** Tuesday and Wednesday: Learning Conversations

**Week 9:** Year 2&3: Sports Rotation Thursday 27 March from 9-11am

**Week 10:** Junior Hui - Monday 2-3pm

**Week 10:** Fun Run - Thursday (pp Friday)

Please check the Waterloo School Facebook page regularly for any added up and coming events.

Ngā mihi

***Carolyn Robb, Courteney Johnston, Stacey May, Toni Meadows, Rebecca Jackson, Paul Wehipeihana, Molly Schuler, Sarah O'Dowda-Vriens, Julie-Ann Kamal, Georgia Chapple and Anna Brownlie***