



## Year 4-6 Hub Newsletter

### Term 4 2024

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whānau

Welcome back to school and Term 4. We trust 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 2 Brooke Morgan-Cameron	Year 6 Classes
Room 3 Glynnis Bell (Team Leader)	
Room 4 Dylan Pittams	
Room 8 David Haste	
Room 9 Renee Littlejohn	
Room 10 Sam McGavin (Team Leader)	
<b>Classroom Release Teachers:</b> Charlotte Kelly, Paula Martin, Chris Cowman (PCT Release)	

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

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. **Classes will be open at 8.30am.**

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 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. 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.

**Wide brimmed or bucket hats must be worn when outside during Term 4. Please make sure your child's hat is clearly named.**

## 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 logindetails. 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

### Mathematics

Our mathematics will be integrated with our inquiry topic work as much as possible - with special emphasis on **fast recall of basic facts** (e.g., times tables to 10). It will also be a time when individual teachers will **revise** any areas where they feel the class has gaps in their knowledge.

#### Focus areas will be:

**Using symbols and expressions to think mathematically - algebraic thinking** is fundamental to all other aspects of mathematics. It focuses on the ways in which symbols, expressions, and equations are used to communicate mathematical ideas. It is related to finding patterns and relationships between things e.g., a tile pattern in the bathroom, a fabric pattern.

**Patterns and Relationships** - Reading and using graphs to make conclusions and communicate findings e.g., how many people have a cat or a dog or no pet at home.

**Number - adding and multiplying using numbers that are fractions** - e.g., sharing three pizzas between 4 friends, one-quarter of 20 items, 12 quarters of an apples is equal to how many whole apples.

We are finding that in this digital age, many students have not yet mastered the mathematics involved in **telling the time, particularly using an analogue clock** (with hour and minute hands). This might be a great time to buy a cheap watch as a holiday gift and work over the school break to help your child with this skill.

#### Maths hot spots for seniors and areas you could help at home:

- Learning *times tables* with fast and accurate recall helps with a lot of mathematical thinking.

- *Telling the time* on a digital watch and analogue clock is a life skill and helps with learning about fractions. An extension activity is to read and make travel plans using train timetables.
- Do some cooking or construction project to help them learn different units of measurement and when to use them:
  - to *measure a liquid* (e.g., mls, litres, cups, tsp and TBSP),
  - to *measure a solid* (e.g., grams, kilograms, cups, tsp and TBSP),
  - to *measure a height or distance* (e.g., mm, cm, m, km),
- *Recognising and using fractions*: name and describe it:
  - Unit fractions, such as one-half, one-quarter and one-third, and more complex fractions for the older students. Fractions of shapes e.g., one-q and of groups of items e.g., 10 is  $\frac{2}{5}$  of what number
- How to *read and make a basic graph* (e.g., line graph, bar graph, pie graph, stem-and-leaf graph, pictograph).
- [www.mathsisfun.com](http://www.mathsisfun.com) has some good simple explanations and examples.

## Inquiry

### Project Mural

In the last term of this year the students will continue to explore the overarching concept of Taonga. However, it will be through the lens of art and more specifically 'street art' with an added emphasis on murals.

The history of mural painting can be traced back to prehistoric times in the form of cave painting, some of which are believed to be over 12,000 years old. Murals have been found in every continent except Antarctica and much can be learned from studying them. In many ways, they act like photographs of today, pictures carved into whatever materials were available to prove that people were there.

Today, murals are used as a way to express freedom, create relationships between art and politics and in advertising. What stories do the murals of today tell?

Ultimately, we want the students to explore and appreciate these artworks as they are also treasures (Taonga) that reflect our humanity.

### Literacy

Wherever possible we will attempt to make links between our inquiry topic and our literacy programme. This means that our reading programme will support the students' learning about murals - their purpose, their history, famous artists, famous murals and more. The writing programme will focus on persuasive writing.

## PE

**Athletics** - We will continue our athletics rotations to build skills in these areas. The Year 6 and Year 4/5 events lead into the interschool and interzone events later in the term.

**Catching, Throwing and Striking** - Continuing to build on and develop our skills in these areas and start to integrate these skills into games such as rounders, non stop cricket and scatterball.

## Health

### Navigating the Journey:

Please ask your child's teacher or the Team Leader for more information about the topics covered.

**Navigating the Journey:** Focusing on the following:

#### Theme 1: Who am I?

Which includes:

Different Recognising discrimination and acting to support others

Affirming diverse gender identities

#### Theme 3: Relationships

Which includes:

Different types of relationships (close,

Understanding different perspectives

## Theme 4: Growing and changing

Which includes:

- Stages of life
- Pubertal change
- The human reproductive system
- Menstruation and conception
- Looking after our bodies
- Truths and myths about hygiene

## Theme 5: Media safety and influences

### Active Learner Traits Key Competencies

**Thinking Me: Reflecting Inquiring Creative**



**We will be paying special attention to reflective thinking and work towards unpacking what it means to be a reflective learner.**

### 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 continue to explicitly focus on building resilience in a variety of contexts, for example, in our learning or participation in sport. We will be focusing on using Growth Mindset strategies to learn about resilience as learners.

Alongside this we will continue to build the students' knowledge and understanding of what it means to Take Responsibility and Show Respect.

Waterloo School Whakatauki -

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



### Tikanga Māori

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

Kura Ahurea Purakau (stories)

Tuakana Toa - every class spends 30 minutes on Friday morning to learn Te Reo

Māori - basic words and phrases. Some seniors are leaders for these sessions

### Literacy

**Handwriting:** focusing on correct letter formation and pencil grip.

**Reading:** instructional reading in groups and whole class sessions, 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. Also use of descriptive language and varying sentence structure.

**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

everyday. **Up to half an hour** each night, depending on the age of your child.

There are some ideas above for areas you can support your child with their mathematics.

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

## Upcoming Events

<b>Week 1</b> <b>14-18 October</b>	Year 6 Interschool Athletics qualifying events.
<b>Week 2</b> <b>21-25 October</b>	Friday 25th October - Ministry of Education <b>Staff Only Day</b> . <b>Waterloo School is closed on Friday. Staff are at school.</b> The practice day for the EPro8 competition is Tuesday morning in the school hall. The EPro8 competition is Wednesday morning in our school hall. The top 2 EPro8 finalist teams compete in Week 6 at Maidstone Intermediate, and will need parent managers for a morning or afternoon session.
<b>Week 3</b> <b>28 October - 1st November</b>	Tuesday 29th October - Years 4 and 5 Athletics Day Tuesday - Friday Year 6 Swimming
<b>Week 4</b> <b>4-8 November</b>	Diwali Monday - Thursday Year 6 Swimming
<b>Week 5</b> <b>11-15 November</b>	Monday 11th November 9.30am to 10.30am - Open Morning for confirmed Year 6 student enrolments to walk to Hutt Intermediate for a guided tour. Parent helpers of these students are welcome. Tuesday 12th November - Interschool Athletics
<b>Week 6</b> <b>18-22 November</b>	Tuesday 19th November - Interzone Athletics (postponement day is Thursday) Wednesday 20th November - EPro8 inter school competition at Maidstone Intermediate. Finalists from the school competition will need parent managers and transport for a morning or afternoon session. Friday 22nd November - Go-Kart Derby
<b>Week 7</b> <b>25-29 November</b>	Tuesday 26th November - Regional Athletics Friday 29th Go-Kart Derby postponement day
<b>Week 8</b> <b>2- 6 December</b>	
<b>Week 9</b> <b>9-13 December</b>	Wednesday 11th December - Celebration Concert (parents welcome) Friday 13th December - Reports go home
<b>Week 10</b> <b>16-17 December</b>	Monday 16th December - Year 6 Leavers Assembly (2 - 3pm, prizegiving for Year 6 students and family) Monday 16th December - Year 6 Leavers Disco (6-8pm, bring a plate of dinner finger food e.g., sushi, pizza, sausage rolls, kebabs were popular last year) Tuesday 17th December school breaks up at 12.30pm
Please check the Waterloo School Facebook page regularly for any added up and coming events. <b>Tabloid Sports tbc</b>	

Ngā mihi

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