



# RiwakaNews

#2 - 28 March 2025



**TERM ONE  
2025**



**is cool!**



Kia ora e te whānau - hello to all of our school families!  
The mornings are a little cooler but the sun is still shining and we are enjoying every moment. It has been an awesome term of camps and outdoor activities, including lots and lots of swimming, hiking, adventuring, exploring and doing stuff outside, together!  
Term One is all about whānaungatanga - creating space to be ourselves with each other so that we feel like we belong here, being a good friend and part of our school whānau.

It's also been about implementing the two refreshed Te Mātaiao curriculums - English and Maths. Our team are doing an amazing job of growing their own 'Understand, Know, Do' of these two new documents and integrating our new maths resource - Maths - No Problem! This year we have also joined the House of Science, as science is such a fantastic way to engage learners and deliver curriculum through a scientific lens. With our year long focus being on Sustainability, science fits perfectly and I know that the teachers and tamariki are loving the hands on kits.

If you've been into school lately, you will see that the refurbishment of the old classrooms, Anarewa and Pukekoikoī, (previously rooms 1 & 2), is full steam ahead and the development of the dental clinic into an outdoor performance space and breakout area is all coming together. All of the classrooms now have heatpumps, which was wonderful to cool things down on those hot February days, and we won't be totally reliant on the boiler to heat rooms this winter. Mārahau and Waitua had a spruce up with some paint and Autex, and all classrooms have had teaching stations and Smart TV's installed.

We also LOVE our new signage made especially for our place - our school is looking great!

Lastly, get involved with any or all of the awesome upcoming events being organised by our FORS group. The funds raised go directly into our school.

Team work really does make the dream work - and we are doing it for our children!

Mauri ora - Be well!

*Adele Lidgard*  
**Tumuaki - Principal**

Riwaka te puna wai, whakatipu nga tamariki  
The flowing waters nurture our future generations



# SOME UPCOMING DATES

Make sure you have these on your calendar

Sun, 30 March		Last day to swim - School Pool closes for Community Swimming	
Mon, 31 March	All Day	Teacher Only Day - SCHOOL CLOSED	
Tue, 1 April	3:00pm	All Hot Cross Bun orders need to be in and paid by today	
Wed, 2 April	All Day	School Photos today	
Fri, 11 April	9:10am 2:50pm	Learning Celebration Assembly Term One ends today	
Mon, 28 April	8:50am	Term Two commences	
Mon, 2 June	All Day	King's Birthday - SCHOOL CLOSED	
Tue, 3 June	All Day	Teacher Only Day - SCHOOL CLOSED	
Thu, 19 June	From 4.30pm	Matariki - an evening at school with a home-made kite flying competition, hangi, kapa haka performance, lanterns and Matariki cluster spotting (details to follow)	
Fri, 20 June	All Day	Matariki - SCHOOL CLOSED	
Fri, 27 June	2:50pm	Term Two ends today	
Sun, 27 July	11am - 3pm	Duck Race & Mid Winter Swim	



We are no longer collecting cans for recycling! Please do not leave cans by the boiler shed.

## Upcoming Teacher Only Days

This year the Government has provided professional learning days for teaching staff to attend workshops during the school term. Riwaka School will be closed on **Monday 31 March** and **Tuesday 3 June** so our teachers can attend maths sessions. Thank you for your support and understanding.



Please return your Pool Key to the school office.



# Our Kids Online

## 2025 Term 1 session

We want our school and our community to be a safe place for all children. Our tamariki are growing up in rapidly changing times, and the risk, frequency and severity of online harm are increasing. We need to tackle this as a community. We have organised Filmmaker, Author and Speaker Rob Cope, Producer of the documentary "Our Kids Online" to present a humorous and eye-opening session to our parent community.

His talk will cover:

- Cyberbullying
- How bullies can reach our kids 24/7 Social media
- How social media is affecting the mental health in 3 out of 5 children.
- FOMO, depression, anxiety
- Gaming and the developing brain – An oversupply of dopamine leading to dopamine deficiency, synaptic pruning, and the underdevelopment of social skills and empathy
- Naked Selfies - The pressure to send nudes from intermediate up through high school
- Online predators - The methods they use, how to spot them Online porn vs healthy sexuality -
- How consuming online pornography as a child or teen can create a sexual template where violence, aggression, and dominance are seen as normal and consent can become very blurry.

Solutions:

- Filters - Which filters are best and how to install them Smartphones -
- How to lock down a smartphone to make it a safe phone
- Boundaries - How to put good boundaries in place around device use 3 golden rules -
- The 3 golden rules that will keep your kids safe
- Talking to your kids - How to have difficult conversations with your kids
- Challenging our own phone and device usage -
- Reconnecting as a family.

The event will be held here at school on  
**Thursday 3 April at 6:30pm - 8:30pm.**

Light snacks will be available. Please note this talk is for adults only and is not suitable for children or teens to attend.

If you are a new to our school or have not already been along to one of these sessions, we ask that at least one representative from each family attends one of the sessions offered, and hope you are able to prioritise this within your busy lives.

*This topic is too big for us not to pay attention.*

Included in your ticket is a one-year complimentary subscription to "Parenting in an Online World 101" from Rob and team at Our Kids Online. This is a cybersafety parenting course, designed specifically for NZ families. It usually costs \$99 per family. So show up and get it for free!

Please **Register via email to [office@riwaka.school.nz](mailto:office@riwaka.school.nz)** for catering purposes.

[View a trailer from Rob](#)



# School FUNDRAISING 2025



## Friends of Riwaka School

We have some aspirational plans for our school to enhance the outdoor environment for our students. This is part of the school's Strategic Goal - enhancing the outdoor environment to reflect our school learner attributes. This year we are focusing ALL of our fundraising to these three initiatives:

- New junior playground incorporating a sandpit
- Development of the shade area on the back field into a 'play space' and
- Resurfacing of the pump track and extension to include a bike/scooter track

We will be seeking funding for these projects from community grants and other charities, but we do need to contribute \$30,000 ourselves.

Our current fundraising balance is **\$3000!**

Thank you for selling hot cross buns - this will add to our total.

### Upcoming Fundraising

- **19 June: Matariki** - an evening at school with a home-made kite flying competition, hangi, kapa haka performance, lanterns and Matariki cluster spotting



Are you able to help us with our Matariki Event?

We need help to arrange the hangi - are there people in our school whānau community who can help us with this?

Please get in touch with [jenna.grooby@riwaka.school.nz](mailto:jenna.grooby@riwaka.school.nz) or pop into the office.

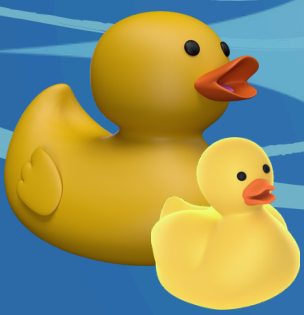
- **27 July: Duck Race** and mid-winter Polar Plunge (10 August postponement date)
- **Hot Lunches** on Friday each week in Term Two  
Hotdogs or Sausage Sizzle + Juicies  
Are you available on a Friday to support this initiative?? We need at least 10 parents to go on the roster which will mean you would only get 2 lunch duties per term.  
Please email [jenna.grooby@riwaka.school.nz](mailto:jenna.grooby@riwaka.school.nz)

Please respond to our survey [2025 Riwaka School Fundraising Survey](#)





# MID WINTER SWIM & DUCK RACE



**SUNDAY 27TH JULY 2025**

**KAITERITERI BEACH 11AM – 3PM**

**FOOD STALLS**  
**FAMILY FUN** **BIG DIG**  
**MUSIC** **BOUNCY**  
**CASTLE**



# COMMUNITY NOTICES

**SATURDAY, 29 MARCH**  
**Moutere Hills Community Centre**



**CASINO Night**

**DOORS OPEN AT 7pm**

- \$50 per ticket - includes entry, 1 free drink, nibbles & 25 playing chips

**Purchase your tickets from MHCC**  
 Email: [enquiries@mouterehills.org.nz](mailto:enquiries@mouterehills.org.nz) / Phone: 5432516

Bar open to purchase drinks & snacks.  
 Additional playing chips available for purchase.

Proceeds are going towards the Fitness Centre expansion

**OPEN DAY**  
 APRIL 6

**WILLOW BANK**  
 HERITAGE VILLAGE

**APPLE + PEAR HARVEST**  
 OPEN DAY-APRIL 6  
 10AM - 3PM

**ENTRY FEE:**  
 \$7 PER PERSON  
 \$3 PER CHILD

**APPLE HARVEST**

VISIT A FUN AND INTERACTIVE LIVING MUSEUM 1KM SOUTH OF WAKEFIELD. NELSON. WE HAVE 20+ SHOP DISPLAYS FOR YOU TO EXPLORE, FOOD AND DRINK AND LOTS MORE.



**SUNDAY 10AM - 3PM**  
 APRIL 6

1KM SOUTH OF WAKEFIELD  
 Kids Suitcase Market

**APPLE + PEAR HARVEST OPEN DAY. BRING YOUR FRUIT TO JUICE. JUICE BAGS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE.**

[info@willowbankwakefield.co.nz](mailto:info@willowbankwakefield.co.nz) [@willowbankheritagevillage](https://www.facebook.com/willowbankheritagevillage)

AVAILABLE FOR GROUP BOOKINGS  
[WWW.WILLOWBANKWAKEFIELD.CO.NZ](http://WWW.WILLOWBANKWAKEFIELD.CO.NZ)

79 WAKEFIELD - KOHATU HIGHWAY, WAKEFIELD

**NBS dancing for a cause**  
 for a cause  
 nelson hospice



**Fri 16th & Sat 17th May 2025 Trafalgar Centre**

**Tickets on Sale Now**

[Eventfinda.co.nz](http://Eventfinda.co.nz) **NBS Dancing for a Cause**



THE BREEZE | Graze | RAGE MORE AUDIO | NBS Community | GRAVITY EVENTS

**HOCKEY NELSON**

**2025 HOCKEY OPEN DAY**

**SATURDAY 3rd MAY at Saxton Field Hockey turfs**  
 9:00 am—10:30 pm

**2025 HOCKEY OPEN DAY**

We welcome everyone for a fun day!

Sticks/balls/bibs will be provided

**FREE OPEN HOCKEY DAY**  
 Free sausages & drinks

**Fun games/basics skills**

For information -  
 Please contact Lauren Hutton— [rdm@nelsonhockey.org.nz](mailto:rdm@nelsonhockey.org.nz)  
[www.nelsonhockey.org.nz](http://www.nelsonhockey.org.nz) - PH: 03-5479988



**HOCKEY NELSON**