NEWSLETTER #12- 6 November 2026

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**This newsletter is shared via email with our school families and the community email tree. It is available on our Facebook page and the school website. A printed copy is available by request through the office.*

Principal's Panui

Kia ora e te whānau,

Tuesday's visit by Graeme and Harold from Life Education was part of our regular Health and Physical Education programme, with a focus on emotions and emotional regulation and resilience. Harold certainly enjoyed his adventure to Waitaria Bay School and the students participated enthusiastically in the learning sessions.

I'm looking forward to seeing our completed entry for the 101 Ways with Wool promotion on Friday before it heads off to the Marlborough A and P show. A big thank you to Whaea Marion, Judith, and Kat for supporting the students with our entry and to Georgie and Annie for taking it to town this weekend and showing it off.

With the Pelorus Cluster Athletics unfortunately rained off, we'll continue with our school-based athletics programme to see if we have any potential competitors for the Marlborough Combined Schools Athletics day in town. More details to come.

Over the upcoming weeks Whaea Marion and I will be carrying out Assessments as stipulated by the Ministry of Education, which will inform the students' end-of-year reports. The rubrics used for Term 2 reporting have been revised and updated. We also have a Year 2 Maths Check kit to trial. The curriculum changes are continuing, and I'm looking forward to being more informed and up to date following a special meeting for school leaders hosted by the Ministry of Education in Nelson on the 10th of November.

Congratulations one and all for another spectacular Pet Day. Thanks to our community who showed up in numbers to support this very special day. Once again, our local judges were impressed with the high standard of the work presented by our students.

2026 PET DAY





















RESULTS:

Cups	
365 Days Pet Cup	Emma (chicken - Poppi)
Best Lamb or Calf Cup	Anna (lamb - Tui)
Best Pet Overall	Willow (chicken - Marshmallow)

	1st	2nd	3rd
Best Home Pet	Anna	Henry	Corben
Best Home Pet Knowledge	Jazzy	Emma	Ruby
Best Chicken Diary	Emma	Ruby & Jazzy	
Best Chicken	Ruby	Willow	Jazzy
Best Other Animal	Anna	Luca	Maxen

Indoor Activities - Juniors	**1st**	**2nd**	**3rd**
Sand Saucers	Jim	Anna	Maxen

Pet Rock	Annie	Jim	Freddie
Paper Mache Flowers	Jazzy	Anna	Annie
Decorated Gumboots (Home Activity)	Feddie & Annie	Luca	Jazzy
Canvas Art	Jazzy	Anna	Freddie
Yayoi Art	Luca	Anna	Freddie

Indoor Activities - Seniors	**1st**	**2nd**	**3rd**
Sand Saucers	Emma	Willow	Stella
Pet Rock	Willow	Emma	Stella
Paper Mache Flowers	Emma	Ruby	Willow
Decorated Gumboots (Home Activity)	Emma	Ruby	Willow
Canvas Art	Emma	Corben	Henry
Yayoi Art	Ruby	Emma	Henry



We are incredibly proud to share that Emma won **1st Place in the Years 7 and 8 category at the Lions Club of Blenheim 2026 Young Speechmaker Contest!** Following her success at the Pelorus Cluster Speech Competition, Emma was invited by the Lions Club of Blenheim to compete against 17 contestants from across Marlborough. Emma represented our school with confidence, courage and excellence. She truly stood tall, was brave and flew high! Her achievement is a wonderful reflection of our school motto:

Kia tū, Kia māia, Kia rere
Stand tall – Be brave – Fly high.

Congratulations, Emma! Your hard work, dedication and courage have paid off, and you have represented our school exceptionally well. We are so proud of you and look forward to seeing where your talents take you next!

Ngā mihi nui,
Tineke.

Term Four 2026

Week	Dates	Date	What	Where	Who
5	**9-13th Nov**	10th 12th	**Whaea Marion in Curriculum Day** **Pelorus Principals Cluster Mtg**	Nelson Linkwater	Tineke Tineke

6	**16-20th Nov**	16th 20th	**Pelorus Cluster Maths PD Day- School closed** **Annual Rural Women visit**	Havelock Waitaria	Teaching staff All students
7	**23-27th Nov**	27th	**Whaea Marion in Marlborough Principals Assoc Dinner**	Blenheim	Tineke
8	**30 Nov - 4th Dec**	1st 3rd 4th	**Manaroa Beach Clean TBC** **Board Meeting** **Supreme Team Cluster event**	Manaroa School Rai Valley	Everyone Board members All students
9	**7-11th Dec**	11th	**Year 6 Orientation Day**	Marlborough Technology Centre-Bohally	Stella Ruby Henry
10	**14-18th Dec**		**Last day of term**		

BOARD NEWS

The Board are pleased to announce that we'll be seeing Andy and Amber at school as the painting of the pool gets underway as the weather allows. It's going to look fabulous and will be worth the wait.

The purchase of a brand new 10-seater school bus is in process as the lease on the current bus runs out on January 17th, 2027. We are looking forward to a school van better suited to our driving conditions here in the Sounds.

Over the holiday break, our main block had a new roof installed via the Ministry of Education. We continue to be grateful for the recent property upgrades.

The Board has been working with Katie Tullet from ImpactEd to develop a 2-year strategic plan for Waitaria Bay School. The plan is currently in draft form and will go back out to the community for final endorsement before being formally adopted and in place by January 1st, 2027, as per the legislative requirements of the Education Act.

Don't forget about our School Calendar fundraiser. Spread the word to family and friends. The calendars are already here and available from the School office.

TOP OF THE SOUTH SAFEZONE Magazine
ka tango i tetahi kainga ki te whakatipu tamaiti

We're excited to share our FREE online SAFETY magazine with you. We want to get to as many parents, whanau and caregivers as possible to keep reinforcing messages to the tamariki.
The publication is aimed at primary aged tamariki and we thank Safekids Aotearoa (Starship Digital and Community Engagement) for editorial. Our shared vision is that every child in the Top of the South region and Aotearoa New Zealand enjoys a childhood free from traumatic, unintentional injury.

To access magazine on your PC go to: https://communitysafety.co.nz/magazine.php?m=292
For FREE ACCESS just scan the QR Code (This is only for Mobile devices)



FUNDRASER - We still have some delicious **Premium New Zealand Greenshell™ Mussels available for purchase at just $8.00 per 1kg bag!**
If you would like to get your hands on some, please contact the school office at office@waitariabay.school.nz. Thank you for supporting our school!

Waitaria Bay School
Since 1897

Waitaria Bay School's Fundraising Photo Wall Calendar 2027

Order Form



A/4 Monthly calendar - Public holidays - School terms - Moon calendar - 2028 Yearly overview

Easy to post (A/4)
Plenty of **Space for your own Notes**
Perfect Gift for friends and relatives
Stunning photos from local photographers

Get your calendar now and support Waitaria Bay School at the same time.

Each copy costs just **$15.00** (+ $7.00 postage for up to 3 copies).

✂- Order Form -

Yes, I would like to order my **2027 Marlborough Sounds** Calendars:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ Postcode:_____

Email: _____

Payment: ⬜ - I will collect at the school office

⬜ - I will make a direct payment into the school bank account:

Waitaria Bay School 03 0599 0307147 000

Please remember to put **your 'NAME'** and **'CALENDAR'** in the reference.

I would like to order _____ copies at $15.00 each. Subtotal: $_____

Postage $7.00, 1- 3 copies Postage: $_____

$10.00, 4- 6 copies **Total:** $_____

$13.00, 7- copies

Post this order form to Waitaria Bay School, 5668 Kenepuru Road, RD2, Picton 7282, or drop it into the school office, or email it to office@waitariabay.school.nz

Helping tamariki find their school rhythm again

Returning to early starts, busy days and familiar routines can bring excitement, tiredness and big feelings. A little extra support at key times can help.



1 When they come home

Offer kai and a little quiet before asking questions.

Transitions take energy. Give them time to land.

2 Through the evening

Keep plans light and use fewer instructions.

Tired brains cope better when there is less to process.

3 Before the next day

Choose one anchor: bags ready, clothes out or a story together.

Knowing what comes next helps tamariki feel settled.

A SIMPLE TIP

Expect a little wobble

A tricky first few weeks doesn't mean everything or anything has gone wrong.

You're all finding the rhythm again. A little steadiness is enough.

real parents realparents.org.nz

Real Parents offers practical, evidence-informed support to help parents understand what's happening beneath behaviour and respond with confidence and connection.

Lights Over Marlborough Fireworks spectacular

Proudly brought to you by RayWhite BLENHEIM | PICTON

Sat, Nov 14

A WHITNEY STREET SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

From 6.00pm (Gates open at 5.30pm)
A&P Park, Maxwell Road
(Postponement Day: Sunday November 15, 2026)
Admission: Adults & Children 5 & over: $10
Family of Five: $40 / Children under 5: FREE

For more information go to facebook.com/LightsOverMarlborough

MAJOR SPONSORS: RayWhite BLENHEIM | PICTON

A WINC fundraiser for Whitney Street School

Take the Train to Santa in Seddon!



Make this Christmas one to remember and climb aboard Steam Incorporated's heritage train for a festive railway adventure from Blenheim to Seddon on Sunday the 13th December. Gather the family, bring your Christmas spirit and step back in time aboard our beautifully restored heritage train as we travel through the spectacular Marlborough countryside. There'll be a heritage train, beautiful scenery, a festive stop in Seddon — and, of course, a very special visitor waiting at the other end....

Sunday 13th December | Departing Blenheim Railway Station at **8:45am, 11:40am, 3:05pm**

General Admission (3+) - $49 | Family Pass (4 People) - $169 | Infant (2 & Under) - FREE

SCAN FOR TICKETS!



STEAM Incorporated
Heritage Rail Excursions - Tours - Charters

REDEFINING HERITAGE RAIL
SINCE 1972

THE WOODY
WOODBOURNE TAVERN

2026

KIDS CHRISTMAS PARTY

SUNDAY 29TH NOVEMBER AT NOON

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

OVER $5000 IN PRIZES UP FOR GRABS!

LOTS OF AMAZING PRIZES!

- KIDS OUTDOOR TOYS
- WATER EQUIPMENT
- SPORTS GEAR
- BIKES, SCOOTERS & HELMETS
- PUZZLES, GAMES & BOOKS
- AND SO MUCH MORE!

1ST PRIZE HONDA CRF50 WITH TRAINING WHEELS

MEET SANTA & PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES! | FACE PAINTING | BALLOONS & FUN GAMES | YUMMY TREATS & GIVEAWAYS | TABLE RAFFLES WITH EPIC PRIZES!

These 4 road rules will become law soon



Children 12-years-old and under will be able to ride their bikes on footpaths

People will be able to ride e-scooters in cycle lanes

Drivers will need to leave a 1.5-metre gap when passing other types of road users

People will have to give way to buses leaving bus stops

NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY