



### From the Principals Desk

Welcome back to all our school families and a warm welcome to our new families. We look forward to seeing you all again.

Teachers will be sending home a class letter by Friday with information on the learning programme and other class activities that will be happening over the term. You can contact your class teacher by email (check the class newsletters) or phone the school office (03 689 2734).

**Home and School Communication** - All information will be sent home via the **HERO APP** and the fortnightly school newsletters. Please make sure you have the HERO APP downloaded to your phone. If you need assistance, please visit the school office and either Zoe or myself will help you to set the app up. There will be no Waihao Downs Messenger page. All messages will be via the HERO App.

**Pick Up/Transport Changes** - We will continue with this messenger page. Parents/Caregivers need to post up by 2.50pm if there are any changes with the end of school day transportation. Alternatively, you can phone the school office, if unattended leave a message. The phone will be checked at 2.50pm daily. Please don't post up messages the night before as they can be easily missed. Staff use their own private phones for this messenger page so please consider the time that you post up a message.

**Admin Block** - We are very excited to see our administration build near completion. I am meeting with the project manager and the construction manager on Friday so we will be able to establish a time line for moving over to the new building.

**Swimming** - The pool will be available for school swimming next week. A big thanks to Maggie and Sonya for organising the pool clean up, thank you to all the parents who helped and the rural fire brigade who pumped the water.

**Pool Keys** - These will go on sale as of Tomorrow (Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> of February) but the pool will **NOT** be accessible until Tuesday the 6<sup>th</sup> of February (Waitangi Day). Keys will be \$20.

**School Uniform** - Students are to wear correct school uniform; this includes wearing sunhats during outside play and bus vests travelling to and from school for **ALL** students. Please name your child's uniform. Sunhats can be purchased from the school office (\$17.50)

Kere Adams  
Principal

Term 1 Calendar	
Term 1 Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> January to Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	
Week 1 Term 1	
Wed 31 January	First Day of 2024 Hot Lunch
Thursday 1 February	
Friday 2 February	Hot Lunch
Week 2 Term 1	
Monday 5 February	Teacher Only Day
Tuesday 6 February	Waitangi Day
Wed 7 February	Hot Lunch
Thursday 8 February	
Friday 9 February	Hot Lunch

**Our School Website**  
[www.waihaodowns.school.nz](http://www.waihaodowns.school.nz)

**School Values – 5C's**  
Communicator, Curious,  
Conscientious, Caring,  
Considerate

**Waihao Downs School PTA**  
**Maize Maze Fundraiser!**  
**FEB 12 - 16 2024** *Times - TBC*  
**Photo booth & crazy characters to be found!**  
**Sausage sizzle available!**

*Keep an eye out for our open times and support our rural school PTA!*