

# WAIRAU VALLEY SPECIAL SCHOOL

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

WEEK 1, TERM 2, 2025

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Natalie Todd

## Welcome Back to Term 2

Kia ora koutou,

Welcome back to Term 2! I hope everyone had a restful and enjoyable Easter break.

A special thank you to Catherine Butler for organising the First Aid course over the holidays and to the dedicated teachers and therapists who gave their time to attend—your commitment is greatly appreciated.



We are excited to share that our much-awaited build has officially begun! Michael, our caretaker, always says that he will believe it when the digger arrives – well, I am pleased to say that the digger has arrived.



This development will include a new multi-purpose room, a hydrotherapy pool and a fully wheelchair-accessible outdoor education space. We are all looking forward to the incredible opportunities this will bring for our learners.



Looking ahead, Week 2 is both Sign Language Week and Teacher Appreciation Week. We will be sharing how we plan to celebrate these across our school shortly.

Here's to a positive and purposeful term ahead.

## SAVE THE DATE!

OUR SCHOOL IS CELEBRATING ITS GOLDEN JUBILEE THIS YEAR! JOIN US IN COMMEMORATING 50 YEARS OF LEARNING, GROWTH AND COMMUNITY.

THE CELEBRATION WILL TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER 2025.

STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO CELEBRATING THIS SPECIAL MILESTONE WITH OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY!

# Kia kaha, **ABILITIES**

We are all deeply saddened about the fire at Abilities across the road.

Our thoughts are with all communities and staff affected by the destruction to their workplace.

We recognise the important role Abilities plays in our community and stand alongside them during this challenging time.



2023 - 2025

WVSS Kaupapa

TŪHURA AKO TUTUKI  
EXPLORE LEARN SUCCEED

VALUES : Acceptance Respect Understanding ARU : To follow  
VISION : Engaged, empowered and challenged learners.

# GOALS

A culturally safe and inclusive environment.

A curriculum that supports our learners to explore, learn, and succeed.

Committed staff with skills, knowledge, & understanding to work across our kura.

## What's on at WVSS

**1 MAY, TH**

Target Road Satellite Photo Day

**5-9 MAY**

NZ Sign Language Week  
<https://nzslweek.org.nz/>

**12 MAY, M**

Birkdale North School Satellite Photo Day

**15 MAY, TH**

Workshop: Navigating Disability Together  
(see next page for more info)

**16 MAY, F**

Support Staff Day  
Pink Shirt Day

<https://pinkshirtday.org.nz/>

## WORKSHOP: NAVIGATING DISABILITY TOGETHER

If you're feeling overwhelmed and find navigating disability to be a challenge, you're not alone. Join us to gain insightful advice from four amazing organizations.

- Disability Connect
- Autism New Zealand
- CCS Disability Action
- IHC Community



**Date: Thursday 15 May  
7- 9 pm**

**Location: Wairau Valley special School & online**

Register on the link:

<https://forms.gle/Q26wFUn4EAbzH5WE8>