

WAIRAU VALLEY SPECIAL SCHOOL

Covid Lockdown Newsletter

Welcome to the lockdown issue of our school newsletter for 2020. We know it has been a difficult time over the recent lockdown periods and we are super proud of how you all managed. We are very happy to see everyone back at school.

We dedicate this newsletter to you because you all effectively became the teachers over this period. Thank you for soldiering on throughout the lockdown, for taking the role of parent, caregiver, playmate and teacher. Thank you especially for sharing the wonderful photos in this edition of our newsletter. You are the real heroes of the lockdown and we salute you.

Important Dates for Term 2 2020

Monday 18th May
Tuesday 26th May
Monday 1st June
Tuesday 23rd June

Tuesday 23rd June
Friday 3rd July
Monday 20th July

School is open
Board of Trustee Meeting
Queens Birthday – school is closed
HPV Vaccinations Year 8 Round 1
Boostrix Vaccinations Year 7 Round 1
Board Of Trustee Meeting
Last Day of School for Term 2
First Day of Term 3

TERM DATES 2020:

Term 3:

Start: Monday 20th July

End: Friday 25th September

Term 4:

Start: Monday 12 October

End: Friday 11th December



Welcome to these new staff members who started at WVSS:

Chris Mutch	Christal Bartie
Aurora Munoz	Kelly Richards
Diane Muller	Melanie Scheffer
Courtney Winterbottom	Ashleigh Cameron
Katlyn Sykes	Melissa McGowan

These staff members have left WVSS, we wish them well in their new adventures.

Helen Spencer
Catherine Skudder



Kia Ora Koutou

Welcome back to term 2, although a little different to what we are used to, the students have settled well.

I would like to thank all our families for supporting and trusting the board and staff to keep your child(ren) safe at this challenging time.

On behalf of the board I would like to thank the management and staff for all they did to support our children's learning during lockdown and their continued commitment to all our children.

Angela Clarke
BOT Chair

A Word from our Principal

Natalie Todd



Kia Ora Koutou

The past few months have been like nothing we have ever experienced in our lives before. Although I know that for some of our students and their families it has been a challenging period, particularly during the lockdown, I have felt very privileged to hear all your stories, both the positive ones and the ones that have brought challenges.

It was amazing to work with such a dedicated group of people; the teachers, therapists, teacher aides and our wonderful administration team during this time. Although at times a little stressful, the new learning which took place for myself and our staff was pretty remarkable. We took this opportunity to provide professional development across the school and to upskill all of our staff. The therapy team did an exceptional job of providing the PD.

The highlight for me was our physical return to school on the 18th May 2020. The students really surpassed all our expectations. We were all prepared for some anxious moments, but they returned with a smile on their faces and it was “business as usual” from day 1! We really do underestimate the resilience of our young people. Although not our typical Term 2, I am heartened to see the quality teaching and learning happening in every class across the school.

A huge thank you to all our families for your continued support and understanding during this time.

Finally, I would like to share a poem from one of my favourite poets:

A close-up photograph of a traditional Maori woven kete (basket) with a light beige or cream-colored fiber. The basket has a diamond-shaped woven pattern. Overlaid on the right side of the basket is a column of blue text in a cursive font, which is a Maori poem.

Nga mihi nui

Natalie

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

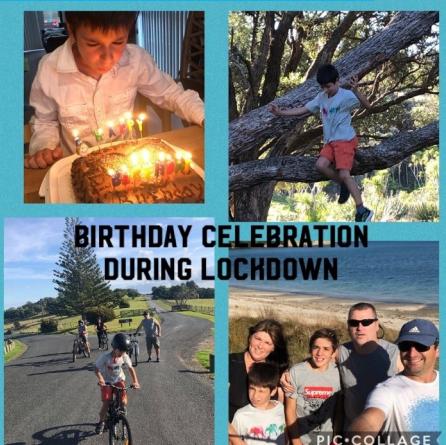
Look who celebrated their birthdays during lockdown.....



Ryan turned 7, here he is enjoying his cake and chillaxing on his special day.



Stephan turned 8 and celebrated with a wonderful day out and about with his family.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION DURING LOCKDOWN



Taj turned 8 in April, here he is celebrating with cake and candles.



Miro turned 9 and celebrated with cake shared with his grandad and family.



Mazon turned 9 and had a wonderful chocolate cake to celebrate.

JUST JOSHin....

Joshua Musgrave

This is our first trip to the beach after many weeks of staying at home.... loved by both Joshua and myself....think you can see that joy on both our faces.... lockdown was hard but I am so proud of how my whole family coped... sharing, caring and supporting each other through those times when Joshua struggled as well as the rest of us.



GRACE Ventura Pet Detective

Grace Clarke

Grace did cooking ,made mum some lovely flowers for Mother's Day ,and hung out with her best friend Hunter.



TWINNING IT....

Seira & Ciara Keay

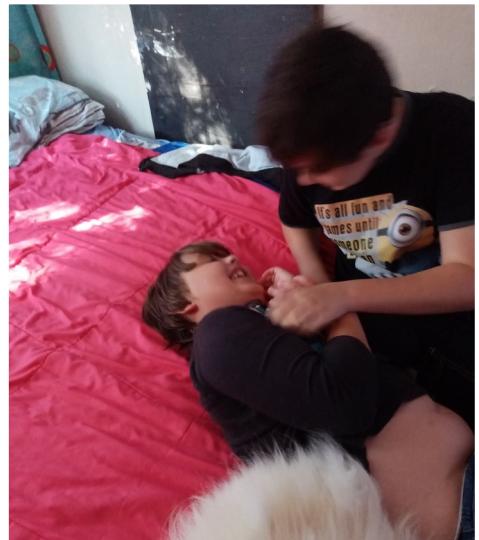
Seira and Ciara got up to lots of fun activities: from making pancakes, working on their devices, exploring their neighbourhood with their family, dressing up, trampoline fun and more.



MIXED MARSHALL ARTS....

Marshall Ward

Marshall got up to lots of fun activities during lockdown; dancing with our family, watching my favourite clips online, walking our dog Yuki and swimming everyday despite the cold. Marshall also got to hang out with his favourite person in world: his brother Sabian but best of all Marshall got a new bike.



SAM I AM....

Sam Gentry

Over lockdown, Samuel got back into his artwork - something he hadn't done in years - and now he constantly has a picture on the go. He loves it. And I'm going to frame them. He spends hours over each one. We might give them away as presents or sell them one day in the future, too.



Look who had an aMAZON time....

Mazon Lee

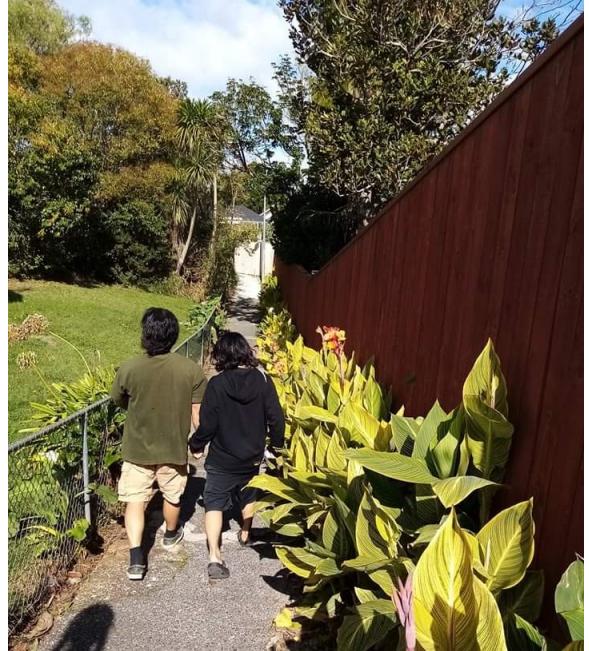
Over lockdown, Mazon made cookies and hung out with his siblings, he also celebrated his birthday.



WAYR'D AWAKE....

Wayr Carba

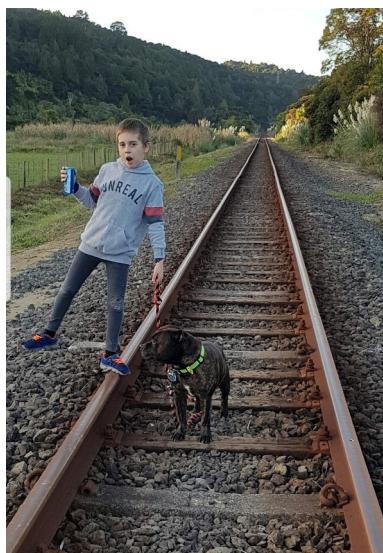
Over lockdown, Wayr got up to a huge variety of activites.....



Eli's Alibi

Eli Hart

Over lockdown, Eli loved riding his quad bike on the track we made in one of the paddocks. He also loved walking his dog Rocco down at the Kaukapakapa train line where he found bits of metal which he turned into a cool sign for his room.



AMITssion Impossible

Amit Loi

During lockdown Amit helped bake lots of yummy goodies. His favourite colour is green - so we made green scones and green pancakes! Amit was very keen to help with mixing the ingredients, checking the consistency, and of course tasting! We had fun getting creative.



Miro Miro on the Wall

Looks like Miro had the best fun of all....

Miro Polaschek



Stay a while

CrocOKYLE

Kyle Sell

Kyle had lots of activities to keep him busy during lockdown.....
Baking, surfing, chilling in the spa, and relaxing in the egg chair



Joe Chef

Joseph Steventon

Joseph made cheese bread also called Pão de queijo for the first time.
He also earned a medal during Autism month for a virtual race. He did 3km.



Iron Trike TYSON

Tyson Rusden

Over lockdown, Tyson got out and about with his family riding on his trike.
In case you're wondering the shot with the bandana completely covering his face is the ONLY way he would wear a mask .



Surfing the ETHANnet

Look what our Ethan's have been up to over lockdown....

ETHAN PRICE



**ETHAN
WEINSTOCK**



ETHAN FEATHER

MATTHEW's Matters

Matthew Collett

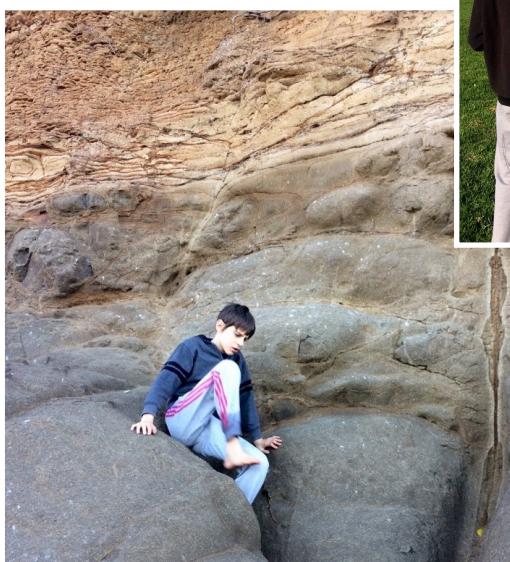
Some of the activities Matthew go up to over lockdown were painting an Easter Egg, decorating Easter cookies, painting plastic bottle tops to make poppies for Anzac Day and playing with a friend's electric guitar.



Run a marath-ANDREI

Andrei Popescu

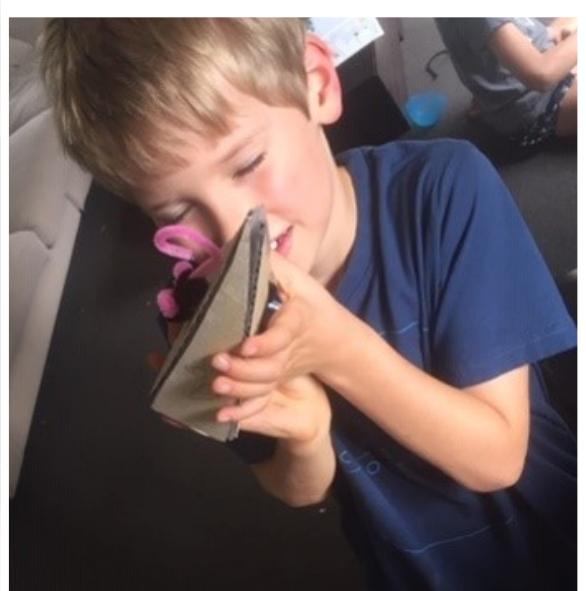
During lockdown Andrei got up to a marathon of adventures.... climbing at Torbay, taking in the sights at Okura and visiting parks in Orewa where Andrei found a rope swing.



I musTAJ you a question

Taj Freeman

Was your lockdown full of fun activities like this.....



YASH Gordon

Yash Nair

Yash helped make pizza, pancakes and played with his baby brother.



SuperstARIAN

Arian Gandhi

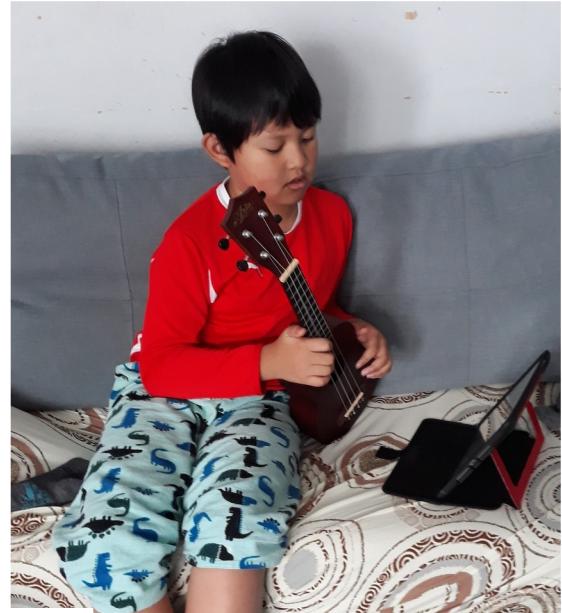
Arian enjoyed his lockdown time chilling at home with his family, playing in the yard.



The RONIN Ranger

Ronin Yeager

Ronin got up to lots of lockdown activities and look at all the fun he had.





She JADE her cards right

Jade Brewer

In lockdown, Jade spent lots of time enjoying her books.



Red Hot CHARLIE Peppers

Charlie Farthing

One of many jigsaws Charlie completed during lockdown



The RYAN King

Ryan Wang

Ryan was doing exercises on our back deck with his brother Daniel, who was also acting as his safety guard.



OLIVER the Place

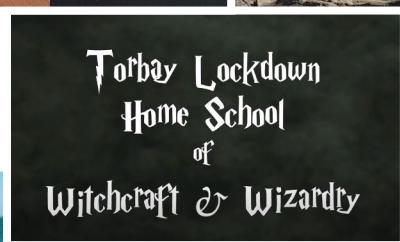
Oli Allen

Oli did lots of scooting around with his brother and played ball on the deck.

LIVVY'N IT UP....

Olivia Shimmin

In lockdown, Olivia starred in a movie with her brother, with an amazing backdrop and some added special effects, this video was stunning. She also had lots of fun with her family.



he BRAYDON a band....

Braydon Healey

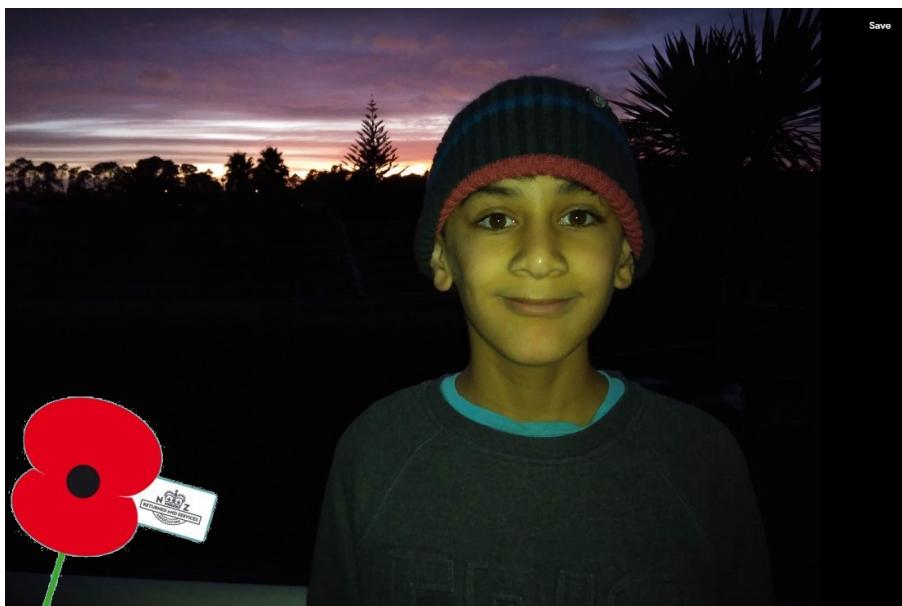
In lockdown, Braydon explored his local area with his younger brother Dylan, here they are out for a walk at the Warkworth Showgrounds.



Heading in the right DEREKtion....

Derek Walters

Derek on ANZAC dawn. He was very determined to wake up early and stand at the end of driveway. He was expecting a parade but we told him that during lock-down this was all we could do. His grandfather John served in Egypt at the end of WW2.



AHED & AHAD of the game

Ahed Parwaiz

Ahad Parwaiz



Barista DANIEL

Daniel McIlwain

During Daniel's lockdown, he has been busy helping to peel apples. He also enjoys making hot chocolate for himself and a latte for mum on our coffee machine, which he operates perfectly!



The RYLAN Stones

Rylan Lobo

Rylan got out and about during lockdown - look at him enjoying the rain - such wonderful enjoyment on his face.



TREMAINEdous Fun

Tremaine Bell

Tremaine spent his lockdown with his family exploring and got stuck in working too.



Fresh Prince of ISABELLAir

Isabella Ross

Isabella made poppies, baked some goodies and had lots of fun during lockdown.



Pirates of the KIMBERLEYan

Kimberley Shearer

Kimberley worked really hard at home during lockdown. Here she is on her device and working on some art.



Treasure ILLJA-and

Ilija Antunovich

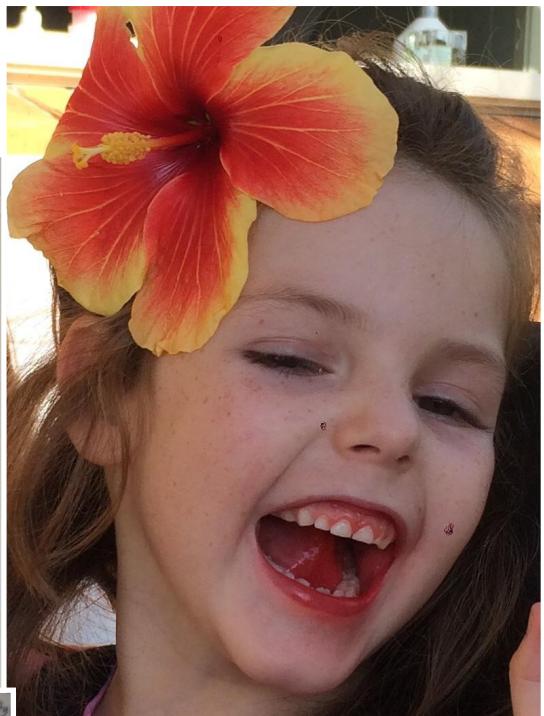
Ilija made Croatian biscuits during lockdown, we bet they tasted yum.



It's a LARENderful life

Laren Haworth

Look at Laren's face after licking the bowl - delightful! Laren filled lockdown time with lots of fun activities with her family.



ANGELAaaaaah



Angela Kamath

Angela had lots of lockdown fun, walking around the neighbourhood, hunting teddy bears and Easter Eggs, going to the park and lake to watch the lovely ducks, geese and black swans. Angela made pizza at home. She enjoyed practicing numbers, alphabet, months of the year, days of the week, telling time, playing ball and singing plenty of songs.



CLAYDEN with a chance of meatballs

Clayden Adams

Clayden loves to cook and bake, so he took over the kitchen chores during lockdown. His beloved sister turned 16 and was unable to have a party. Clayden saved the day by cooking dinner and baking her an awesome cake!



COMMUNITY NOTICES

We would like to extend once again, a great big thank you to our sponsors. No matter how great or small, the contributions these organisations make go a long way toward making things so much better for all at Wairau Valley Special School.

Please support them if you are able.



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