



Waitati School PTA Annual Report 2024

The Waitati School Parent Teacher Association (PTA) for 2024 was formed under the leadership of Co-Presidents Wendy Walsh and Shelley Hill, Treasurer Rebecca Pickford, and Secretary Mikaela Wilson, with Julia McEwan in training. The PTA held five official meetings throughout the year, along with a few pre-event catch-ups. The first part of the year was focused on setting up logistical essentials, like establishing signatories for the bank account. The major fundraising efforts, however, kicked off in April.

Fundraising Events and Initiatives:

- **Blueskin Show:** One of the year's highlights was the annual Blueskin Show at Bland Park in Waitati. The PTA ran the Possum Café, where we served tea, coffee, and delicious cakes. Families contributed beautiful home-baked goods, and the event provided a wonderful opportunity to connect with the community.
- **Fresha Foods Doughnut Fundraiser:** In the wake of the Blueskin Show, we launched a doughnut fundraiser with Fresha Foods. While it was a successful fundraiser, the event didn't have universal support due to the nature of the product, as not every family was inclined to buy doughnuts.
- **Year 6-8 Ski Camp Fundraiser:** The PTA supported the Year 6-8 programme, which relies heavily on fundraising for school camps. This year, the funds helped support a Ski Camp to Ohau. The Quiz Night, inspired by a 1970s ski theme, was a fun and vibrant event, though feedback about ticket pricing and clashes with another local event led to a less profitable outcome compared to previous years.
- **Firewood Raffle and Hampers:** We held a firewood raffle and raffled off two luxury hampers donated by school families. The cold snap towards the end of winter made the firewood raffle especially timely, and it was well-supported by the community.
- **Sheep Poo Fundraiser:** Our sheep poo fundraiser, sold initially at the Blueskin Flower Show and later at Blueskin Nurseries, turned out to be a great success. This fundraiser benefited greatly from the generous donation of the Lawson family and the hard work of Year 6-8 students. The growing reputation of the high-quality product contributed to its success, and it continues to be a reliable fundraising method for 2025.
- **Waitati School Tea Towel:** In Term 4, we introduced the Waitati School Tea Towel, which proved to be a popular item, particularly as a gift during the leavers' graduation and the holiday season. The children's artwork on the tea towels was a key factor in their success.
- **Flying Fox Fundraising:** A major focus in 2024 was fundraising for the re-installation of a flying fox at the school. The need for this was emphasized by both the school and the community. Throughout the final term, the children created items to sell, and families worked hard to gather donations. Two successful grant applications—one from the McMillan Trust and another from the Grassroots Trust—covered most of the costs, leaving just a small shortfall to be raised. To address this, the idea for the Waitati School Fair was born, and the event was booked for March 2025, leveraging the late summer weather.
- **Pepeha Book:** In December, the teachers worked with the children to create a Pepeha book, a beautiful gift to families. The PTA funded the printing of the book, which was appreciated by all involved.
- **Annual School Photos:** The annual school photos were taken by the talented Sinead McGivern, who donates a percentage of the proceeds to the school. The photo day was a highlight, and we are grateful for Sinead's continued support.

Acknowledgements:

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to all the families and teachers for their contributions throughout the year. Whether you baked, sold raffle tickets, gathered prizes and donations, attended meetings, or participated in events, your support is essential to the success of the PTA. A special thank you goes out to Wendy, Shelley, Mikaela, and Rebecca for their dedication and leadership this year.

We are excited for another productive and enjoyable year ahead in 2025!

Waitati PTA Treasures Report 2024	Income		Donated
Year started 31/1/24 money in bank	\$7,054.90		
Blueskin Show	\$1,780.54		
Donation to school for unpaid school fees			\$4,553.50
Donation to school as paid into PTA acc by mistake			\$80
Quiz night	\$2,098.39		
Donuts	\$315		
Raffle	\$874		
(\$40 paid into school account by mistake but included in this total)		\$914	
Donated to school for ski camp (from raffle)			\$874
Donated to school for ski camp (from quiz night)			\$2,161.64
Donated to school for ski camp food			\$1,000
Donated to school to use for fair expenses			\$400
Donated to school for year books			\$1,500
Halloween bake sale	\$172		
Year book donation	\$30		
Sheep poo into PTA account	\$1,102.10		
Sheep poo \$ donated into school account from Blueskin Nurseries			\$751.00
Total from sheep poo fundraiser		\$1,853.10	
Tea towels	\$678		
Total raised in 2024	\$7,841.03		
Total donated to school in 2024			\$6,686.64