# Whenuapai School

14 Airport Road, Auckland
New Zealand

## Newsletter – 17 November 2026




Kia ora whānau,

We are now past the halfway mark of Term 4. As we head into the final stretch of the school year, there is plenty to celebrate across both campuses, alongside important updates regarding our school property redevelopment, organisation for 2027, curriculum resources, BYOD, and our upcoming Strategic Plan.

As part of our ongoing Home Campus redevelopment, work is scheduled to begin next week on the safe removal of asbestos from Rooms 15 to 18. To ensure the health and safety of our students, staff, and community, all work will take place strictly outside of school hours, and the school grounds will be closed during these times and over the upcoming Christmas holiday break. There are health and safety plans in place to ensure the school can operate safely during the school day. The work is expected to take 3 weeks.

These preparation works are ahead of the scheduled demolition of Rooms 11 to 18 during the Christmas holidays, making way for the next stage of our school's growth. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation in keeping our school site safe while this essential work is completed.

Planning is well underway for the 2027 school year, and we are pleased to share that we have nearly filled all of our teaching positions.

As our school roll continues to grow, our classroom locations will look slightly different next year to best support our learners:

- **Senior Campus (Years 5–8):** The Senior Campus will continue to operate with three classes per year level (Year 5, Year 6, Year 7, and Year 8). All Senior Campus classes will remain in their current locations.
- **Home Campus (Years 1–4):** To accommodate our growing roll and new learning spaces, the entire Home Campus will be renumbered for the start of 2027. The layout across the campus will be organised as follows (Based on the current number system):
    - Rooms 1 to 6: Year 1 classes
    - Rooms 7 and 8: School Library
    - New Two-Storey Block (Top Floor): Three Year 4 classes and three Year 3 classes
    - New Two-Storey Block (Bottom Floor): Two Year 3 classes and three Year 2 classes
    - Rooms 20 and 21: Year 2 classes

***Important note to whānau**: If your family is moving out of the area and your child will not be returning to Whenuapai School in 2027 (excluding our graduating Year 8 students) or if you have a younger child starting next year who has not yet been pre-enrolled, please let the school office know as soon as possible to assist with our final class placements. Please email office@whenuapai.school.nz to let us know.*

Following our recent Teacher-Only Day, our staff have now completed the Ministry of Education Mathematics professional development, placing our teaching team in a strong position to fully implement the new mathematics curriculum across our kura. We are also looking forward to the arrival of the revised PR1ME Mathematics resources, which clearly align with the updated curriculum. To further support this transition, the School Board has prepared a dedicated budget to ensure all classrooms are equipped with the required physical maths resources, providing the best possible teaching and learning opportunities for our students in 2027.

The School Board has made the decision to begin phasing out our Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) requirement for Year 5 and 6 students. While digital devices will still be used to support learning in Years 5 and 6, these will be provided by the school moving forward.

This decision has been made for two key reasons:

- Firstly, with the changes coming through in the updated curriculum, there is a reduced need for students to use devices as frequently as they have in the past, and
- Secondly, we recognise the financial pressures many families are facing and want to help reduce the additional costs associated with schooling.

What this means for 2027 and beyond:

- **Year 5 (2027):** The Board will provide devices for all Year 5 students. Families do not need to purchase a device.
- **Year 6 (2027):** Students who already have a device are still encouraged to bring it to school. For students who do not have a device, the school will provide one.
- **Years 5 and 6 (From 2028):** The Board will provide devices for all Year 5 and 6 students, completing the phase-out of BYOD at these year levels.
- **Years 7 and 8:** Will continue to operate as BYOD. School devices will be available in 2027 for any students who do not bring one.

A reminder to all whānau that community consultation is currently open for our draft 2027/2028 Strategic Plan. Based on the feedback you shared with us previously, the School Board has drafted an updated Vision Statement and strategic goals to guide our kura over the next two years.

**Vision statement**: "We inspire tamariki to lead with Mana, have a love for Ako, act as kaitiaki of our people and environment, and connect through Kotahitanga."

We want to ensure this plan truly reflects your hopes and aspirations for your tamariki. Please take a few minutes to review the draft plan and share your thoughts via the feedback form linked on HERO (or complete the feedback form here). Feedback closes on Wednesday, 2 December 2026, and all input will be reviewed by the Board before the final plan is published early next year.

Have a wonderful week ahead.

Ngā mihi nui,
Adam Cels



## Congratulations to our Term 3 Donation Prize Draw Winner!

Congratulations to Isaac L, whose name was drawn as last term's winner to win back the cost of their school donation!

There are still **two chances to win** this year:

- **Term 4 Donation Draw:** All families who have paid their school donation in full this year will go into the draw to win back one child's donation.
- **$100 Grocery Voucher Draw:** All families who pay a school donation, whether full or partial, will be entered into a second draw to win a $100 grocery voucher.

Thank you to all our families who support our school through their donations. Your contributions are greatly appreciated!



## Dates for your diary ….

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| **Thursday – 19 November**<br>NW Athletics – Year 7&8<br>Kea MOTAT Trip-Rms 3,4,6,7,8,9 | **Wednesday – 9 December**<br>6.00pm Board Meeting |
| **Friday – 20 November**<br>Kākāpō (Year 5&6) Athletics<br>Kea MOTAT Trip-Rms 5,22,23,24 | **Thursday – 10 December**<br>Sports Prizegiving (TBC) |
| **Tuesday – 24 November**<br>NW Touch/Tag – Year 5&6 | **Friday – 11 December**<br>Mistletoe Mania |
| **Wednesday – 25 November**<br>Kea (Years 0-1) Athletics | **Monday – 14 December**<br>Kea (Year 0/1) Prizegiving |
| **Thursday – 26 November**<br>Tūī (Year 2) Athletics | **Tuesday – 15 December**<br>Meet the Teacher 2027<br>Year 8 Day - Offsite |
| **Thursday – 26 November**<br>Kahu Campout | **Wednesday – 16 December**<br>Pīwakawaka (Yr 3/4) Prizegiving<br>Kākāpō (Year 5/6) Prizegiving |
| **Thursday – 3 December**<br>Rainbow's End C.A.R.E Day | **Thursday – 17 December**<br>Kāhu (Year 7&8) Graduation |
| **Friday – 4 December**<br>Tūī & PWW - Junky Monkey Day | **Friday – 18 December**<br>Last Day of Term 4<br>3.00pm Finish |
| **Tuesday – 8 December**<br>Kea (Yr 0/1) Junky Monkey Day | |



## SAVE THE DATE

## MISTLETOE MANIA 2026

Our biggest school event of the year is back!

Join us at Whenuapai School Junior Campus on Friday, 11 December for an afternoon of fun for the whole family.

With entertainment for the kids, a spray from the infamous fire truck, delicious food stalls, student performances and a special visit from Santa, there's something for everyone.

More details coming soon.

We can't wait to see you there!




## IT'S CALENDAR ART TIME!

Students have been busy creating their own artwork that can be printed onto calendars, cards, diaries, mouse mats and sketch pads. These make great Christmas gifts for family and friends.

**How to order:**

1. Head to https://www.kidsartworks.com/ and enter the Code: **KZ1115**
2. Enter your child's room and name, view their artwork and place your order

**Orders are open now and close Wednesday, 25 November at 11:59pm.**





2026

# KĀHU ATHLETICS



## BOEING SEASPRITE ORION HERCULES





Kāhu Athletics 2026 was a fantastic day filled with determination, teamwork and plenty of House spirit! Our Year 7 and 8 tamariki gave their best across a range of track and field events, demonstrating resilience, sportsmanship and encouragement for one another. It was awesome to see our students stepping outside their comfort zones, celebrating each other's successes and showing our school values in action. A huge mihi to all our kaiako, and tamariki who helped make the day such a success!





2026

# KĀHU ATHLETICS



















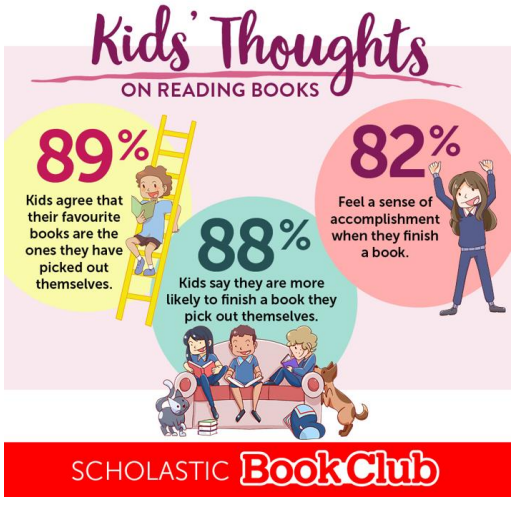



## Book Club – Issue 8

**Orders Close – Friday, 11 December 2026**

**CLICK HERE TO ORDER ONLINE**




🚦 ROAD PATROL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! 🚦
Can you spare a little time to help keep our children safe?
We're looking for Adult Road Patrol Volunteers to join our team!
Whether you can help regularly or just on the odd occasion, we need YOU!
Every little bit of help makes a big difference.
NOV 20
Training: Friday 20th November
⏰ 9:30 am
Come along, get trained by NZ Police, and help make a difference in our school community!
🙌 Every volunteer counts.
Thank you for your support!
Contact: Jennyc@whenuapai.school.nz for more information.



## MUSIC LESSONS at Whenuapai School

**Does your child want to learn to play music?**

Would you like in-school lessons with a professional Music Tutor with many years of teaching experience? You can enroll your child in keyboard, guitar, ukulele and drum lessons at Whenuapai School!

We deliver a fun, varied and structured curriculum. Students learn songs in styles ranging from traditional to contemporary during school hours.

For more information on guitar, ukulele, keyboard and drum lessons, contact **Paul Barry**
paul.barry@musiqhub.co.nz
Ph 022 198 0044

MUSIQ HUB

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Argyle Schoolwear

# BACK TO SCHOOL

RETAIL STORE TRADING HOURS

**December**
1 Dec - 19 Dec
Tue 3pm-6pm
Sat 9:30am-12:30pm

**January**
9 Jan - 30 Jan
Tue - Thurs 9:30am-6pm
Fri - Sat: 9:30am-3pm

**February**
2 Feb - 5 Feb
Tue - Thurs 9:30am-6pm
Fri 9:30am-3pm

Shop in store or online

**Store Location**
4/91 Central Park Drive
Henderson, Auckland

**Book a fitting online**
Visit our website, select your school & click 'Book a fitting'

**argyleschoolwear.co.nz**

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FREE GIRL ONLY SESSIONS

# HER FIRST PLAY

For ANY girl,
who wants to PLAY <3



22 November | 12pm - 4pm
Marina View School | West Harbour

4 - 7yrs | 12pm - 1pm
8 -10yrs | 1pm - 2pm
10 - 14yrs | 2pm - 4pm

Find out more: www.skillsetbasketball.com

FREE

He Oranga Poutama

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## SCHOOL DISCOUNT

Whenuapai Physiotherapy and Pilates supports our local school community with $5 off all appointments in clinic.

whenuapai PHYSIOTHERAPY + PILATES
FREEDOM IN MOVEMENT

**Our Services**

- Physiotherapy
- Reformer Pilates
- Pelvic Health Physiotherapy
- Vestibular Physiotherapy
- Acupuncture
- Massage Therapy
- Lymphatic Drainage
- TMJ Therapy

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