

Whenuapai School

14 Airport Road, Auckland
New Zealand

Newsletter – 25 March 2025



Kia ora e te whānau,

Daylight savings is just around the corner (ending on April 6th), signaling the change of seasons.

The nights are getting cooler, and mornings are starting with a crispness in the air. With this seasonal shift comes wetter school days, especially at drop-off and pick-up times.

These wet days, combined with our growing school roll, are causing parking issues as more families drive to school. Group Captain Mike Cannon, Base Commander of RNZAF Base Auckland, and I share growing concerns about the safety of our children before and after school due to traffic congestion and some drivers not adhering to road rules. To address this, we will be forming a task group with other stakeholders to explore solutions and improve the parking situation and traffic regulation compliance in front of the Air Force Base and school.

In the meantime, please help us out by:

- Parking only in designated car park areas.
- Avoid stopping on yellow lines when dropping off or picking up children.
- Using the zebra crossing when crossing the roads (if any parents are available to help supervise the crossing after school, we would be very grateful).
- Not stopping in the bus stop area.
- Respecting the school driveway, which is used as a footpath before and after school.

Our school population is growing by about 100 students each year, so it's important that we work together as a community to ensure the safety of all our tamariki, both now and in the future.

Summary of 2024

We are thrilled to share the progress our students made in writing, reading, and mathematics in 2024. Through targeted efforts and strategic interventions, our students have exceeded many of our goals and targets. Each year, we identify key groups of learners to accelerate their progress, ensuring success for all. Below are the key highlights:

WRITING - Overall School Achievement (rounded). Percentage of tamariki achieving at or above expectation:

Year Level	Whole School	Māori Learners	Pacifika Learners	Male Learners	Female Learners
Total	89%	86%	80%	84%	92%

Writing - Whole School Achievement Over Time. Percentage of tamariki achieving at or above expectation:

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 (Covid)	2021 (Covid)	2022	2023	2024
Whole School	51%	72%	73%	76%	90%	86%	83%	86%	89%
Māori Learners					77%	84%	70%	85%	86%

Writing Achievement - Targeted Year Groups (Target: 80%)

Year 4: 96% – Achieved	Year 6: 92% – Achieved	Year 8: 94% – Achieved
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In 2024, our writing results exceeded expectations, thanks to ongoing professional development in writing instruction and the use of the Writer's Toolbox framework. Teachers used a range of assessment tools (e-asTTle, HERO goals, and others) to track progress, and school-wide moderation helped refine our teaching practices. We are especially proud of the increase in student engagement, with learners confidently discussing sentence structures and making deliberate choices in their writing. We also saw significant growth in learner agency. A key focus in the senior school was spelling, with new initiatives to enhance literacy teaching across all levels.

READING - Overall School Achievement (rounded). Percentage of tamariki achieving at or above expectation:

Year Level	Whole School	Māori Learners	Pacifika Learners	Male Learners	Female Learners
Total	88%	84%	87%	87%	89%

Reading - Whole School Achievement Over Time. Percentage of tamariki achieving at or above expectation:

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 (Covid)	2021 (Covid)	2022	2023	2024
Whole School	68%	78%	75%	82%	91%	90%	81%	84%	88%
Māori Learners					82%	85%	69%	78%	84%

Reading Achievement - Targeted Year groups (Target: 85%)

Year 3: 93% – Achieved	Year 4: 91% – Achieved	Year 6: 97% – Achieved
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Reading also saw impressive growth in 2024. Our teachers focused on explicit reading instruction through our Structured Literacy and collaboration with whānau to support student learning. The success of our targeted interventions is reflected in the data, with students gaining a clearer understanding of their learning goals and strategies.

MATHS - Overall School Achievement (rounded). Percentage of tamariki achieving at or above expectation:

Year Level	Whole School	Māori Learners	Pacifika Learners	Male Learners	Female Learners
Total	76%	59%	74% (42)	75%	80%

Maths - Whole School Achievement Over Time. Percentage of tamariki achieving at or above expectation:

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 (Covid)	2021 (Covid)	2022	2023	2024
Whole School	69%	79%	79%	78%	86%	91%	90%	91%	78%
Māori Learners					72%	83%	81%	85%	59%

Maths Achievement - Targeted Year groups (Target: 85%)

Year 4 Target: 90%	Year 8 Target: 90%	Māori Learners Target: 78%
Year 4: 69% – Achieved	Year 8: 66% – Achieved	Māori Learners: 59% – Not Achieved

From our perspective, the new mathematics curriculum had one of the largest changes in learning expectations. To help prepare our Kura for this change, we raised our expectations to the new curriculum a year earlier than mandated by the Ministry of Education. This allowed us to better understand the new expectations and ensure we were in a strong position to deliver the curriculum in 2025. While the transition caused initial challenges, especially with our growing roll, targeted interventions have already shown improvements, with achievement rising to 77.55% by the end of 2024 compared to 57% at mid-year. Our teachers are focused on improving their practices and supporting all students, especially those who need additional help. We are confident that with ongoing professional development and a continued focus on acceleration, we will see even greater progress in 2025.

Looking Ahead to 2025 - Our focus for 2025 remains on ensuring every learner thrives. We will continue:

- ☒ Refining our teaching practices
- ☒ Providing targeted interventions
- ☒ Partnering with whānau to support learning at home
- ☒ Strengthening learner agency and engagement across all subjects

Thank you for your ongoing support in helping us achieve these fantastic results. Together, we can look forward to even greater success in 2025!

Ngā mihi nui,
Adam Cels



Dates for your diary

Wednesday - 26 March 6.00pm – Board Meeting	12 - 27 April School Holidays
Thursday – 27 March Music Lessons–Have A Go Day	Monday – 28 April First day of Term 2
Thursday – 27 March Turners Cars Filming Ad	Tuesday, 6 – Friday, 9 May Year 5-8 School Camp
Friday – 28 March NW Orienteering	Tuesday – 20 May NW Year 7/8 Football
Monday – 31 March FOW Sushi Lunch	Thursday – 22 May Rippa Rugby
Thursday – 3 April NW Year 7&8 Tennis	Tuesday – 27 May NW Year 7/8 Basketball
Friday – 11 April Last day of Term 1	Monday – 2 June King's Birthday–NO SCHOOL

2025 School Camp – Years 5-8

Information regarding this year's school camp was sent home via Kindo yesterday.

Camp Dates: Tuesday, 6th – Friday, 9th May 2025

Key Documents:

- [Camp Information Booklet](#)
- [Permission Form](#)
- [Students Not Attending Form](#)

To assist with planning, please complete either the **Permission Form** or the **Students Not Attending Form** by **Friday, 14th March 2025**.

Camp Payments - For the camp to proceed, we rely on whānau contributions to cover the full cost of attendance. To help make this more manageable, we are happy to accept staggered payments over the coming months.

We strongly encourage parents to set up regular payments (weekly or fortnightly). Payments can be made via direct deposit to the school bank account:

Account Number: 12-3085-0494188-00

Particulars: Camp

Reference: Child's Name

Questions?

For general camp inquiries, please contact your child's classroom teacher. For payment-related queries or to discuss a payment plan, please email **Jo Wright, Administration Manager** at:

accounts@whenuapai.school.nz.



Turners Cars - Filming on Campus

Turners Cars will be filming an advertisement on the field of our Home Campus this Thursday morning between 6.30–10.30 am.

Filming will not disrupt normal classes, and no students will be included unless specific permission has been sought from parents/caregivers.

Library News!

Book Club Issue 2 - Available Now

[Issue 2 PDF](#)



[Click Here](#) - to view and order online

FOW Sushi Lunch - 31 March 2025



[CLICK HERE](#)

To order now on Kindo!

Orders close on Thursday at 5.00pm

School Notices:



For our Policies and Procedures please visit SchoolDocs at:

www.schooldocs.co.nz/

User – whenuapai
Password – airport

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MUSIC LESSONS at Whenuapai School

Would you like in-school lessons with a professional Music Tutor with many years of teaching experience? You can enrol your child in drum, trumpet, sax, clarinet, keyboard, guitar or ukulele 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 Trumpet, Sax, Clarinet, Keyboard, Ukulele and Guitar lessons, contact **Gloria Arboleda Martinez**
gloria.arboleda@musiqhub.co.nz
Ph 0274 422 654

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

MUSIQHUB

NumberWorks 'nWords

Your children are amazing already. We just help them prove it.

numberworksnwords.com/nz
NorthWest Ph 416 3123

NumberWorks 'nWords

TUITION
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RESULTS

**ENGLISH
& MATHS**
Free assessment
Book now!

[Click here for a free assessment & trial lesson.](#)

Email: northwest@numberworks.com

Hilton Brown SWIMMING

Lessons for life

**Hilton Brown
Hobsonville**

<https://swim.school.nz/>

5 Rawiri Place,
Hobsonville.

Ph: 09 666 0240

[EMAIL](#)



Kumeu Rugby is a great community club based in Riverhead.

We have girls and boys playing from age 5 & up. There are both contact and non-contact options.

If you want to register your child or are interested in learning more, check out our website for more information.

<https://www.kumeurugby.co.nz/junior-rugby>

sKids - Before and After School Care

Accredited OSCAR Provider. Work & Income OSCAR Subsidy available!

Onsite: 021 174 8473

(Only checked during opening hours)

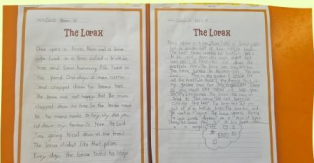
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Pīwakawaka Field Trip to the Senior Campus



The Pīwakawaka team recently went on a field trip to the senior campus, where we had an amazing time exploring the Pou for our Bottle Cap Murals. We loved meeting our buddy classes and were excited to draw the Pou, bringing the stories of the Atua - Tāwhirimātea, Tangaroa, and Tāne Mahuta to life through our artwork. We also enjoyed some time at the senior playground and, to top it off, savored a refreshing iceblock. Pīwakawaka students have also learned about deforestation by reading *The Lorax*, which sparked thoughtful discussions about the environment and sustainability. This has led to further exploration through writing and visual art.



Reminder:

We are still looking for more and more bottle caps. Any colours especially blues and greens.



Cricket

Yr 7/8

An awesome day was had by all at the Year 7/8 Cricket Zone Day held at Kumeu Cricket Club. With 2 boys teams and 1 girls team, everyone demonstrated Mana by celebrating wins gracefully as well as communicating with compassion, kindness, and leadership. Every round our teams got more confident and ended the day wanting more games - a clear sign of a fabulous day out. The weather played ball too so we were very lucky all round. Well done and congratulations to all those who participated and a massive thank you to Whakapono for being a sensational help to the girls throughout the day. We appreciate you!



NorthWest Swimming Sports

The NorthWest Swimming Sports competition saw Year 6, 7, and 8 students from Whenuapai showcasing their talent and sportsmanship. The day began with students finding their seats overlooking the pool, followed by a warm-up session. Heats commenced, featuring backstroke, breaststroke, freestyle, and butterfly events, where Whenuapai students displayed impressive effort and cheered each other on. The excitement escalated during the finals, with Xanthe Peterson excelling in both breaststroke (taking first place) and backstroke, and Mateo Lou delivering a strong performance in the breaststroke finals. The day concluded with thrilling freestyle and medley relays, fostering a fun and competitive atmosphere among the schools in the NorthWest zone, and providing a fantastic finale to a day filled with sportsmanship, teamwork, and competition.





Linewize at Whenuapai School



At Whenuapai School, we use Linewize to support our tamariki to stay safe online. Classwize is the in-school application that teachers use to keep our students safe, monitoring their use online and guiding students to select websites that are appropriate for what they are doing.

As part of the school's package with Linewize, there is an Online Safety Hub you can use with articles about online safety. Scan this QR code to take you to this website:



Whenuapai Online
Safety Hub

With our subscription, Parents have free access to Qustodio - an app that helps you monitor your child's device. It will offer some aspects of this tool to you. Please scan this QR code:



Qustodio App



Qustodio Parent App



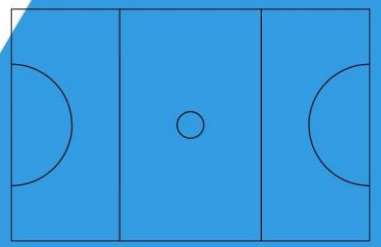
Qustodio Child App

YR 5-8 PRE-SEASON NETBALL TRAINING



STARTS TUESDAY MARCH 4TH, 3PM - 4PM
(THEN EVERY TUESDAY UNTIL END OF TERM: LAST SESSION / APRIL 8TH)

@ WHENUAPAI SCHOOL SENIOR CAMPUS
NETBALL COURT



All Yr 5-8 Whenuapai
Students Welcome!

SIGN UP HERE

Kia ora to all Yr 5-8 students interested in playing netball this winter for Whenuapai School on Saturday mornings in the Wider West competition. To help our netballers get ready for the season, we are offering **6 free pre-season training sessions at our Senior Campus netball court (Tuesdays 3pm-4pm) from March 4th to April 8th.**

Our amazing **Year 8 AIMS netball team** will be running the sessions (including warm-ups, drills & skills and practice netball games) with Whaea Sarah's support. We would love some parents to help supervise the sessions too if possible.

Please complete this permission slip to ensure your child can join in these trainings to help them get ready for the netball season which starts in early May. Also, FYI: registrations for the netball teams will be via KINDO this year and you will be notified about these in March (**this form does NOT register your child for the school teams**, it is just to join in the pre-season training sessions).

As always, let me know if you have any questions (sbone@whenuapai.school.nz) and I look forward to supporting your child as they prepare for an awesome year of netball!! Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou, Whaea Sarah (Teacher in charge of Netball)

HARCOURTS COOPER & CO

Shore to Shore

5km Fun Run/Walk

Sunday, 6th April 2025

Join our favorite fun run
from Takapuna to Milford!

Prizes up for grabs
Family-friendly open to all ages
Activation zone at the finish line

Register Now!



shoretoshore.co.nz

#shore2shore25

	Fun run/walk	Timed run/walk
Students, families, parents of registered schools only	\$18.00	\$23.00
GENERAL PUBLIC <small>*Not associated to a school</small>	\$30.00	\$35.00



Event Day Schedule

- 7:30am - Check-in opens
- 9:00am - Race starts
- 10:45am - Awards ceremony

Buses

Between Start & Finish Line
\$3 per person, purchase online
7AM-8AM, 11AM-12PM

Merchandise



Contact School
Ambassador if you
have any questions!

School Fundraiser!

All entries go towards earning sports
equipment for your school - courtesy of
Sports Distributors



Help us reduce waste at school by packing a **waste-free lunchbox!**



Waste Free Lunchboxes



Whenuapai School is an EnviroSchool and we ask that students come to school with waste free lunches (**Nood Food**) to show Kaitiakitanga/Respect to our school environment.



A waste free lunch means only packing items that can be composted or recycled. That means, **no plastic wrap, no foil, no zip lock bags and no packaged foods**. We have compost bins for food scraps which we feed to our worm farm which then fertilises our vegetable māra/gardens and fruit trees. Through this process we are teaching the students to be responsible for the waste they create and how they can make a difference to our planet. **If students bring waste to school, we ask them to please take this home.** Thank you for supporting our school value of Kaitiakitanga/Respect for the Environment.



NUDE FOOD: HEALTHY, FRESH & WASTE-FREE!

What is Nude Food?

Nude Food is simply food that is not wrapped in foil, plastic, or commercial packaging. It's all about fresh, healthy, and environmentally friendly choices!

Why Choose Nude Food?

- Encourages healthy eating habits
- Reduces waste and helps protect the environment
- Empowers students to make conscious food choices

Tips on How to Pack a Nude Food Lunch

- Use reusable containers for food and drinks
- Bring cutlery from home instead of using plastic utensils
- Choose a lunchbox with separate sections to keep food fresh

Try to Avoid These Items:

- ✗ Zip lock or plastic bags.
- ✗ Plastic wrap or aluminum foil

Tips for Packing a Nude Food Lunch

- ★ Get the kids involved in choosing their lunches to reduce food waste
- ★ Buy larger portions of yogurt or snacks and portion them into reusable containers
- Choose in-season fruits and vegetables—they are fresher, more affordable, & better for the environment!

COMMUNITY EVENT

GARDEN

OPEN DAY





**SAT
05
APRIL
2025**

10am till 2pm

WORKSHOPS

PLANT SALE



TRIANGLE PARK
COMMUNITY TEACHING GARDEN

385 DON BUCK RD



TRIANGLE PARK
COMMUNITY TEACHING GARDEN

OPEN DAY WORKSHOP



**OPEN DAY WORKSHOP
SATURDAY 05 APRIL**

10.00am | THE RONGOĀ GARDEN
A taste of Rongoā gardening with Judy Henderson.
Learn what type of plants will suit the home gardener.



11.00am | DIY BOKASHI COMPOSTING
An opportunity to make your own Bokashi System. It's an environmentally-friendly way to manage organic waste. Composting Q & A's. Registrations essential. Visit the Compost Collective website to book.



11.00am | CONSTRUCT A GARDEN BED
Hosted by Bunnings Westgate, this is your opportunity to help construct and plant a garden bed for the community garden.

12.30pm | SOIL HEALTH & FERTILITY
Join Ben Cheah as we discuss Soil health and fertility and how to get the best out of your soil.

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.co.nz.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ROBLOX

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable on smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

IN-GAME SPENDING

The majority of games within Roblox have extensive monetisation options, usually through season passes or microtransactions. Purchases can range in value from a few pennies up to much larger sums of money. While some games offer a lot of content via purchases, others can offer very little for real world money, causing younger players to end up out of pocket.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGable.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

@wake_up_weds /www.thenationalcollege @wake.up.wednesday @wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 12.03.2025



PKC

Premium Kids Care

April 2025 School Holiday Programme

Opening hours 7:30am - 6:00pm
Ages 5-14 years old

Located at The Sunderland Lounge
Cinema Road, Hobsonville Point

Monday 14th April	Tuesday 15th April	Wednesday 16th April	Thursday 17th April	Friday 18th April
				
Lego Masters 2025	Movies	DIY Day	Easter Celebration	Good Friday
Kick off the holidays with us and put your lego building skills to the ultimate test! We are on the hunt for PKC's Lego Masters champion for 2025!	Grab your popcorn and sit back and relax! Today we are off to the movies!	Arts and crafts projects and fun challenges! We spend the day doing some good old kiwi DIY!	Easter egg hunt, games, baking and crafts! Today we celebrate everything we love about Easter!	NO PKC
\$70	\$85	\$70	\$75	

Monday 21st April	Tuesday 22nd April	Wednesday 23rd April	Thursday 24th April	Friday 25th April
				
Easter Monday	Pizza Party	Auckland Zoo	Pop's Games	ANZAC Day
NO PKC	We get busy in the kitchen and kick off the week with an epic pizza party!	Come and check out all of your favourite animals! Today we are off to Auckland Zoo!	Can you win at 3D tic tac toe or navigate the maze of a hanging labyrinth? We end the holidays with Pop's Game	NO PKC
	\$70	\$85	\$75	

Children from all schools are welcome to attend.

Payment is required in full prior to the programme commencing.

Spaces are strictly limited and are done on a first come, first served basis. Your child's space is not confirmed until all necessary enrolment forms are completed and payment is made in full.

Once the programme has commenced, there will be no refunds for cancellations. Fees will still be payable if your child/children do not attend.

We reserve the right to change any activities and/or trips due to weather - conditions or other unforeseen circumstances.

To book now please visit www.premiumkidscare.co.nz

Contact: Alanah
alanah@premiumkidscare.co.nz
021 267 5832