

Whenuapai School

14 Airport Road, Auckland
New Zealand



Newsletter – 19 August 2025

Kia ora e te whānau,

It's full steam ahead as we move into the second half of Term 3! There's so much happening across our kura, and it's wonderful to see our tamariki, staff, and community embracing all of the opportunities this term brings.

Welcome to New Families

This week, we were delighted to welcome a number of new students and their whānau to Whenuapai School. Nau mai, haere mai, we're so pleased to have you join our school community, and we look forward to seeing you thrive here.

Cross Country Success

A huge congratulations to all of our runners who took part in the cross-country events over the past two weeks. We are incredibly proud of the determination, teamwork, and personal achievements on display. Thank you to the staff, volunteers, and whānau who came along to cheer on our tamariki, it was a true celebration of perseverance and whanaungatanga.

Tongan Language Week

This week we celebrate Tongan Language Week. A chance to honour Tongan language, culture, and identity. Our students have been learning simple greetings, songs, and phrases as we continue our commitment to recognising and celebrating the many cultures that make up our diverse school whānau.

Book Week is Coming!

Next week marks one of the most anticipated events on our school calendar – Book Week!

📖 The **Book Fair** will be running in the Home Campus library, with all proceeds going straight back into our school library to provide more wonderful books for our tamariki.

🎭 On Thursday 28 August at 9.00am, we'll be holding our much-loved **Book Character Parade**. This is always a highlight of the year, and we warmly invite parents and whānau to join us. Costumes are encouraged – we can't wait to see our students' creativity shine!

NZEI Union Meetings – Thursday, 21 August

A reminder that this Thursday, 21 August, approximately half of our teaching staff will be attending an NZEI Teachers' Union Members Meeting. To minimise disruption, the attending staff will be split into two groups:

- **Morning group:** 9:00 am – 11:00 am
- **Afternoon group:** 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

We are working hard to arrange guest teachers, but in the event we cannot secure enough relievers, some classes may be split and supervised by other teachers. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Math-A-Thon – Final Week!

This is the final week of our Math-A-Thon fundraiser! Every dollar raised is helping us get closer to our goal of building the new senior playground at our Home Campus. Please make sure your child's pledge sheet and donation are returned as soon as possible so they can be included in the prize draws. The Friends of Whenuapai and NumberWorks'nWords team have organised some fantastic prizes – don't miss out!

Thank you, as always, for your continued encouragement and support. Together, we are building a school where learning, community, and culture are celebrated every day.

Ngā mihi nui,
Adam Cels



Dates for your diary

Thursday – 21 August Teacher NZEI Meetings	Wednesday – 3 September 6.00pm - Board Meeting Whiria Te Tangata Kāhui Ako Music Festival – Choir Performing
Friday – 22 August Pizza Lunch – Order on Kindo Final AIMS Fundraiser	
25 – 29 August Book Fair Week	Wednesday – 10 September School Board – Election Day
Thursday - 28 August 9.00am Book Character Parade	Friday – 19 September Last day of Term 3
31 August – 5 September AIMS Week	20 September – 5 October School Holidays

Combined Choir Performance at Whiria Te Tangata Music Festival 2025

This year, our choir has been practising hard to learn ten fantastic songs. We will perform these in a big concert hall in town, alongside nine other choirs from our region. Come and see our singers perform on this wonderful occasion!

Tickets are available to purchase via the QR code below, or this link:

<https://moshtix.co.nz/v2/event/whiria-te-tangata-k%C4%81hui-ako-music-festival-2025/182459>

Our Champions are back in Action for Season 2! 🏀

Here's a snapshot of our incredible U7 Season 1 winners, the Whenuapai Jordans — smiles, pride, and pure team spirit! These little superstars worked extremely hard to come from many setbacks to winning their age group!

Basketball at Whenuapai School continues to grow from strength to strength. Off the back of this success, we are thrilled to have **7 teams and over 60 students** competing in Season 2 at Y-Massey. The enthusiasm, energy, and sportsmanship across all age groups is inspiring, and we are so proud to see our students embracing the game, supporting each other, and giving their best every time they step onto the court.

We wish every one of our teams a wonderful season ahead — may you play hard, support one another, and continue to make Whenuapai proud. Go Whenuapai!



**Book Club
Issue 5 -
Available Now**



[Issue 5 PDF](#)

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



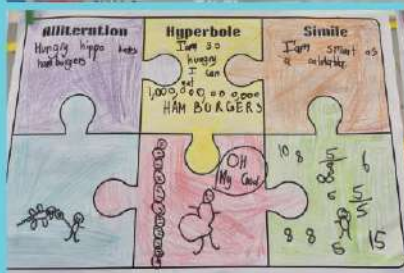
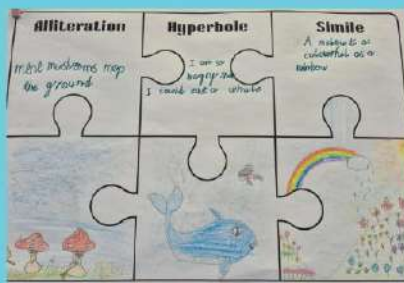


Piwakawaka team!



It has been a great start to the term to help our kura train for the cross country. The students have been training tirelessly since Week 1, they are showing the school values Mana – being resilient, pushing through even when it feels hard and Kotahitanga – participating in all of the training and ultimately the big race. The students did an amazing job on the day, cheering each other on and pushing themselves to their own limits. It was amazing as teachers, watching from the sidelines, seeing all their smiling faces running by. Congratulations to everyone for participating!

We have had a strong focus this term on poetry and figurative language features. The students have really enjoyed it and are so engaged in their learning! We have learned about onomatopoeia, hyperbole, alliteration and similes. In our classes, we have also learned about different types of poems such as, an acrostic, diamante, cinquains, and many others. Here are a few examples from our tamariki





JUNIOR CAMPUS CROSS COUNTRY



What a day we had! After the rain stopped our running on Friday, the Junior Campus Cross Country was finally able to go ahead on Monday 11 August. The sun was out, the grass was a little squishy, and our young runners were ready to give it their best.

Classes gathered with lots of smiles, energy, and a few nervous giggles before lining up at the start. Teachers and helpers gave a big cheer as each year group set off, racing around the course. Some ran fast from the start, others kept a steady pace, and a few showed great determination to keep going all the way to the finish line.

It was wonderful to see everyone having a go, supporting their friends, and showing such great effort. There were tired legs, big grins, and lots of proud moments at the end.

A huge well done to all our runners. You were amazing!



Year 0/1 Girls:

1st - Brianna, 2nd - Lila, 3rd - Tilly

Year 1 Boys:

1st - Moiz, 2nd - Taksh, 3rd - Hugo

Year 2 Girls:

1st - Mila, 2nd - Mira, 3rd - Doyun

Year 2 Boys:

1st - Nicolas, 2nd - Noah, 3rd - Zach

Year 3 Girls:

1st - Haylee, 2nd - Abbie, 3rd - Fleur

Year 3 Boys:

1st - Azel, 2nd - Zayn, 3rd - Blake

Year 4 Girls:

1st - Mila, 2nd - Maree, 3rd - Athene

Year 4 Boys:

1st - Buddy, 2nd - Luke, 3rd - Samuel



Senior Campus Cross Country

On a chilly winter's morning, the Senior Campus was buzzing with excitement. After being postponed on the Friday, the Senior Cross Country was finally here - Monday 4th August. Colours of Hercules, Boeing, Seasprite, and Orion arrived and students were eager to get the day started.

First up was the race briefing for Year 7½ girls. Around this marker, through the field, up the driveway and back into school, instructions were given so all students knew where to run. And away they went. Cheers were coming from everywhere as they made their way to the first turn (make sure you go around the marshals!). Running at pace, making sure the person behind was not too close.

Races followed in order - Year 7½ boys, Year 5/6 girls and finally Year 5/6 Boys. Everyone cheered the whole way around, watching eagerly at the finish line for who crossed first! Results are below! What tight races we had and many enjoyed the ice creams and hot drinks too!

Finishing with a sausage sizzle and bake sale made for a great morning of cross country!

Year 5 Girls:

1st - Eleanor, 2nd - Ishara, 3rd - Una

Year 5 Boys:

1st - Wyatt, 2nd - Mayan, 3rd - Rishi

Year 6 Girls:

1st - Molly, 2nd - Zanneja, 3rd - Ivy

Year 6 Boys:

1st - Hudson, 2nd - Lewis, 3rd - Marcus

Year 7 Girls:

1st - Joanna, 2nd - AK, 3rd - Allie

Year 7 Boys:

1st - Fletchie, 2nd - Mark, 3rd - Damian

Year 8 Girls:

1st - Molly, 2nd - Leila, 3rd - Hemani

Year 8 Boys:

1st - Iden, 2nd - Taytum, 3rd - Etoni



North West Cross Country Inter-schools A Day to Remember

We arrived at 8:30 am sharp, ready to jump on the bus for the Cross Country Inter-zones. It was a cold, misty morning, but the clouds slowly cleared, and it turned into a beautiful day. Students from Year 5 to Year 8 hopped on the bus, filled with a mix of excitement, nerves, and quiet confidence.

When we arrived at the venue, we had to wait an hour before anything started. While waiting, we walked the track to get a feel for the course. The tide was coming in, and the path twisted along the beach with steep sandy hills and sharp turns. We paid close attention, none of us wanted to take the wrong turn during the race, especially not while leading!

The first race of the day was the Year 5 girls. As the race began, everyone cheered excitedly. The girls sprinted toward the first turn and quickly disappeared around the corner. We all watched eagerly, waiting for them to come back into view. When the lead runners returned, two Whenuapai girls were in the front group. Even the Year 7s and 8s stopped playing manhunt to watch. After about 15 minutes, the first runner crossed the finish line - it wasn't one of ours, but we cheered loudly anyway. Our top finishers were 21st and 23rd. Well done, Elenor for coming 21st and Ishara for placing 23rd! After a short break, it was the Year 5 boys' turn. They had two laps to run, and it was a close and competitive race. Everyone gave it their all. By the end, the boys were exhausted but proud of what they had achieved. Our top runners were Wyatt who came in 6th and Mayan who came in 11th.

The Year 6 girls had a tough course: one long lap and one short lap. The long lap had a steep sandy hill that dragged at your feet and a pond that could easily catch someone off guard. Despite the challenge, they pushed through, and we had a top 5 finish - Well done Molly! Next up were the Year 6 boys. They ran the same course as the girls and started strong, but the difficulty of the track wore them down.

Still, they finished strong, and everyone was cheering them on. Shoutout to Marcus and Hudson who both placed in the top 10—
amazing effort!

The Year 7 girls ran with determination and gave it everything they had. You could see the exhaustion on their faces at the finish line.

Congratulations to Joanna who came 9th in her year group, which means that she qualified to represent our school at the Auckland Champs later this week!

North West Cross Country Inter-schools A Day to Remember

Fletchie, one of the Year 7 boys, was nervous before his race and talked about it nonstop. Unfortunately, he got a stitch during the run and couldn't finish. It was tough, but we were all proud of his effort. Mark was the top finisher from Whenuapai, placing 14th - great job! The Year 8 girls—Molly, Leila, Arwern, Tegan, Aleka, and Icella, all ran incredibly well. A huge congratulations to Molly, who placed 12th. Just two spots away from qualifying for the Auckland Champs. So close, but still a fantastic result!

The last race of the day was the Year 8 boys. After waiting so long, it was finally our turn. The team: Iden, Etoni, Taytum, and Jason.

Here's how we finished:

Iden (me!) – 2nd place

Taytum – 30th

Etoni – 65th

Jason – 66th

I gave everything I had. The boy who beat me was 13, and I'm only 12 - yes, that one year makes a difference! I truly believe that if I race him again next year, I'll have a better shot at winning. I was so nervous before the race, but once the starting horn blew, I sprinted into the front pack. I remember hitting the first steep sandy hill, it drained my energy, but I managed to recover on the downhill stretch. We had to run shorter laps near the end, but they were just as brutal. There was one final steep hill before the finish that felt like it was pulling me back with every step. Still, I kept pushing and crossed the line in 2nd place, qualifying for the Auckland Champs.

I'm proud of my performance, and I'm hungry for more. Next time, I'm aiming for 1st.



Iden James Thorns- Year 8.



Rippa Rugby Festival



Rain, shine, wind, and everything in between - our boys powered through it all! Both teams played brilliantly, winning nearly every game. They represented Whenuapai with pride and showed all our school values, on and off the field.

Tino pai, tama mā!





YEAR 5/6 NORTH WEST NETBALL COMPETITION

2... 4... 6... 8... Who do we appreciate?

Not the king, not the queen, but the whole netball team — Go Whenuapai!

On Tuesday the 5th of August, our Year 5 and 6 netballers represented our school at the North West Netball Competition held at Te Pai Courts. They played their hearts out, showing determination, teamwork, and a love for the game.

Our Year 6 team had a fantastic run, winning all but two of their games and finishing an impressive 10th out of 19 teams. Throughout the day, all our players demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship, exemplifying our school values by winning and losing with grace.

A huge thank you to Whaea Sarah for being an awesome referee, to our dedicated coaches and parent helpers, Tasha Rankin and Tom and Chelsea Lyons, and to our supportive kaiako, Rebecca Robinson and Megan Powell. The girls gave it their all, had a wonderful day, and should be incredibly proud of their efforts. Ka pai, team!





Kia ora koutou students and whanau,

Whenuapai School Book Fair: Monday 25th - Friday 29th August

We can't wait to see you at our Book Fair which will be held in the Whenuapai School Library. Children will be visiting with their class teacher at a pre-scheduled time where they will be given wish lists for them to record their favourite items.

Parents/Guardians can visit the book fair during the following times:

- **Monday: 3.00-4.00pm**
- **Tuesday to Friday: 8.00-9.00am and 3.00pm-4.00pm**

Books will be available for purchase with cash and EFTPOS at these times. A form will be sent home with your children which has order and credit card payment options on the reverse. The form is just a taste of what will be available. There will be many more to choose from at the book fair so please wait to place your order until you and/or your children have had a chance to have a look.

This is a wonderful opportunity to purchase birthday gifts and stocking fillers as the books and novelty items are well priced with lots of variety. Please support us if you can. It's a great way for us to raise funds to benefit your children and the school. We can earn up to 30% commission with your invaluable help.



Storybook Character Parade

Book Character Parade: Thursday 28th August at 9.00am

As part of our book week celebrations students are able to come to school on this day dressed as their favourite book character. We will be holding a parade starting at **9.00am** and families are more than welcome to attend (dressed up if you wish). There will be spot prizes and prizes for the most imaginative re-creations. The Book Fair will be open for purchases after the parade until the start of morning tea.

**Whenuapai School is working towards
being a Green/Gold EnviroSchool!**



Kaitiakitanga: Showing Respect for the Environment



**Please help us look
after our School property!**

We need your support with:



- **Nood Food** (pack rubbish free lunchboxes)
- **Label School Uniform Items** (esp. jumpers)
- *Walk, bike, scooter, bus or carpool to school on Wednesdays (and as often as you can!)*
- **Compost** food scraps to help our gardens grow
- **Recycle** paper, cardboard, glass & plastics (1,2 &5)
- ***Be a tidy Kiwi (don't litter!)***



School Notices:



For our Policies and Procedures please visit SchoolDocs at:

www.schooldocs.co.nz/

User – whenuapai
Password – airport

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Concerns or Complaints

Managing complaints appropriately, using fair and consistent practice, is an important part of how we support our school community.

If you have a concern, we encourage you to follow the process outlined in our school's policies.

You can find the full procedure on our **SchoolDocs website**:



[Click Here](#)



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

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- Trainings on Wednesday or Thursday nights
- \$150 for the season (payment options available)
- We provide uniforms and umpires
- Everyone has FUN!

REGISTER VIA OUR WEBSITE
NORTHSHOREUNITED.ORG.NZ/YOUTH



The Youth Grade is only for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 and is an 11 a-side full field comp. "Senior" (18+) players are allowed in the team and their role is to encourage, support, and teach players. We welcome all levels of players from experienced to beginners.

FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT:

MARIJKE V ROOYEN

021 353 933

MARIJKE.VANROOYEN@GMAIL.COM



McIntosh Dental

2025 Orthodontic Scholarship Nominations are open!

We are proud to announce the return of our 2025 Orthodontic Scholarship.

What is the Orthodontic Scholarship?

Two deserving students will win orthodontic work valued up to \$10,000 each! Students can be nominated by family, whanau, teachers, peers or anyone from their community.

Nominations are open to students in Year 7 to 13 who attend selected schools in West Auckland and West Harbour.

Scan the QR code below to apply or nominate a deserving student
T'&C's apply



ALL AGES WELCOME!

BMX OPEN DAY

BALANCE BIKES, PEDAL BIKES & MOUNTAIN BIKES. ALL WELCOME!

FREE ENTRY	31 AUGUST	SUN 1-3PM
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PLEASE BRING:

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- Helmet
- Long-sleeved top
- Long pants
- Covered shoes
- Gloves

LIMITED HIRE AVAILABLE ON THE DAY:

- Bikes of all sizes
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14th – 18th July



Vive la France

Celebrate Bastille Day and the French Revolution through hands on crafts, games and story telling.

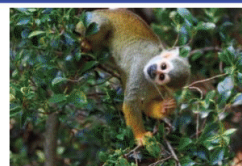
21st – 25th July



Space Week

Get ready for an out-of-this-world adventure! Learn about planets, astronauts and space missions through fun games, crafts and activities!

28th July – 1st August



Amazon Antics

Explore the rainforest and play fun games that explore the Amazon environment. Create flicking frogs, dirt pudding and build the tallest Kapok tree!

4th-8th August



Sweet Treats Week

It's Sweet Treats Week! Cooking, STEM, Team Challenges and activities to make you feel good!

11th-15th August



Blast From The Past

Welcome to our totally rad trip back in time — get stuck into cave murals, stone crafting and sing-along to 90s karaoke! It's a step back in time all week long!

18th – 22nd August



Kindness Crew

Celebrating World Humanitarian Day on 19th August, we will be honouring the people who help during emergencies and disasters.

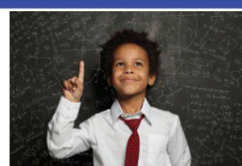
25th – 29th August



Daffodil Day

Explore with us the significance of Daffodil Day through engaging activities including crafts, puzzles, poetry, and baking!

1st-5th September



Inventors Lab

This week celebrates inventions, sparking creativity and inspiring future problem-solvers each day.

8th – 12th September



Safety Week

Teaching kids essential life skills through fun, hands on activities, from first aid to basic fire safety and emergency responses.

15th-19th September



Aroha ki te tangata

Celebrate Māori Language Week, International Charity Day and Father's Day with a variety of crafts, games and mindfulness activities.

<https://www.skids.co.nz/aboutus/terms-conditions/>



Parent Portal

Linewize is a FREE online safety tool available to all our families and here's how it can help:

- **See What Your Child Sees:** Linewize allows you to see a filtered report of your child's browsing activity, including websites and search terms. This gives you a springboard for discussions about online content.
- **Spark Conversations:** Use Linewize reports to talk to your child about what they find interesting online. This is a great opportunity to teach critical thinking skills and discuss online dangers.
- **Set Boundaries Together:** Linewize allows you to set website filters and time limits for your child's internet use. Work with your child to create a safe and responsible online routine.

For more information, please visit <https://whenuapai.onlinesafetyhub.nz/>

Our school is proud of the work we do to foster and promote positive relationships and social skills through our restorative PB4L approach. We place great emphasis on our core values and provide engaging behaviour lessons to empower students to make positive choices.

With your help and support, we can continue to guide our tamariki on their journey towards responsible online behaviour and overall well-being.

Thank you for being an important part of our community.



School Uniform

You can now purchase our school uniform not only online via the [Argyle Online website](#) but also in person at Argyle's retail shop, giving you the option of a full in-store shopping experience.

Retail Store Location:

- Unit 4, 91 Central Park Drive, Henderson
- Retail Store Term Hours: 3.00-6.00pm Tuesdays and Thursdays.

For the best service, we recommend booking a fitting appointment. Simply visit our school's page on Argyle Online and click on 'Book a Fitting'.

Please note: Limited parking is available in front of the store.

[Click Here to Book a Fitting](#)

