

Whenuapai School

14 Airport Road, Auckland
New Zealand

Newsletter – 28 October 2025



Kia ora e te whānau,

I hope you all had a fabulous long Labour Weekend and managed to enjoy some family time together despite the random, unpredictable, and rather crazy weather. Thank you for your support of our staff during the recent teachers' strike. We truly appreciate the understanding and encouragement from our community.

Exciting news — our school hall is now completed! The painting and new wall linings were finished last week, and we're absolutely thrilled with the result. The space feels bright and welcoming. I'm looking forward to the school disco on Thursday. Thank you to the wonderful team of parent volunteers who have organised this event.



Last Friday, Rebecca Purdy (DP) and I attended a Ministry of Education roadshow about the revised New Zealand Curriculum. The final version of the refreshed English and Mathematics learning areas was released recently, and we are beginning to work through the changes as we prepare to implement the new curriculum next year. These updates are designed to provide clearer expectations of what students will learn each year, helping ensure greater consistency of learning across schools. Our current programmes, PRIME Maths, Little Learners Love Literacy, The Code, and Writer's Toolbox, continue to fit well within the new curriculum's scope and sequence, so our learners are already well positioned for this next step.

Today, we are expecting the release of the draft documents for the remaining curriculum learning areas, including Science, Technology, The Arts, Health and Physical Education, and Social Sciences. At the roadshow, we were given a small insight into what these changes may look like. The full New Zealand Curriculum is shifting to a *knowledge-rich* model, which means there will be a stronger focus on building students' background knowledge and understanding across all subjects, rather than teaching isolated skills. We anticipate that this will involve some changes to our local curriculum design. As we review these drafts, we'll be identifying where we may need to adjust content, teaching approaches, and assessment criteria to align with the direction.

We are also waiting for further information from the Ministry about upcoming changes to assessment and reporting to parents. A nationwide approach is being introduced, using a range of common assessment tools to track student progress in core areas like literacy and mathematics. As more information becomes available, we'll continue to keep you informed and make sure everyone understands how this will look in practice.

It's hard to believe we are already in week four, this term is flying by! Students are well into their athletics training, with regular practice sessions underway. Athletics Days will be held here on the home campus, and we're hopeful that the fencing will be down in time to open up more field space. The grass is finally thriving after all the building work, and it's great to see parts of our grounds coming back to life.

Please keep checking the school calendar and HERO posts so you don't miss any upcoming events. It's a busy term with lots happening, and we look forward to sharing many special moments with our school community in the weeks ahead.

Sunhats are compulsory for all students whenever they are outside at morning tea and lunchtime. Please make sure your child brings their named hat to school every day. Students without a hat will be required to stay in the shade to stay safe in the sun.

Have a great week.

Ngā mihi nui,
Adam Cels



Dates for your diary

Wednesday – 29 October 6.00pm – Board Meeting	Friday – 14 November Pīwakawaka Team Athletics Day
Thursday – 30 October School Disco	Thursday – 20 November NW Athletics Day
Monday – 3 November Kāhu Team Athletics Day	Wednesday – 26 November NW Tag – Year 5&6
Tuesday – 4 November NW Touch – Year 7&8	Thursday – 27 November NW Badminton – Year 7&8
Tues 4 & Wed 5 November School Photos	Wednesday – 10 December Year 7-8 Prizegiving & Yr 8 Dinner
Friday – 7 November Kākāpō Team Athletics Day	Friday – 12 December Team Prizegiving for Kea, Tūi, Pīwakawaka & Kākāpō teams Mistletoe Mania
Tuesday – 11 November NW Cricket – Year 5&6	Monday – 15 December Last Day of Term 4
Wednesday – 12 November Tūi Team Athletics Day	Tues 16 & Wed 17 December Teacher Only Days – No School
Thursday – 13 November Kea Team Athletics Day	

No Cash Sales at the School Office

From Term 4 onwards, the school office will no longer accept cash payments over the counter. **No Cash – Card only**

Payments can still be made via EFTPOS at the office, or online through Kindo for all items such as donations, sports, trips, and other payables.

We encourage all families to set up their school Kindo account to make payments easier and more convenient.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we move towards a safer and more efficient cash-free system.



Mistletoe MANIA



Save the Date

Friday, 12 December 2025 - 4.00-7.00pm

Mark your calendars – **Thursday 12 December** is our much-loved **Mistletoe Mania**, one of the absolute highlights of the school year! Led by the incredible Bailey Greer and her team, this event promises to be one you won't want to miss. When the call goes out for helpers, we'd love our school community to get behind the team and support in any way possible.



Term Dates

Meet the Teacher Day: Thursday 5 February 2026

- Term 1**
 - Starts – Monday, 9th Feb
 - Ends – Thursday, 2nd April
- Term 2**
 - Starts – Monday, 20th April
 - Ends – Friday, 3rd July
- Term 3**
 - Starts – Monday, 20th July
 - Ends – Friday, 25th September
- Term 4**
 - Starts – Monday, 12th October
 - Ends - Friday, 18th December



Trouble Accessing Kindo??

If you're having any issues logging in, making payments, or finding what you need, please don't hesitate to contact their amazing helpdesk team for support.

0508 4 KINDO
(0508 4 54636)

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PB4L Focus:

🌸 The 30-Second Rule 🌸

This week, our PB4L focus has been **Kotahitanga**, which means showing Respect for Others. We have been learning about the **30-Second Rule** - a simple way to help us be kind with our words.

If someone can fix something quickly (in 30 seconds or less) - like tying their shoes or wiping food off their face then it's okay to tell them nicely and quietly.

But if it's something they can't change in 30 seconds - like their hair, skin, or how they talk, we don't say it.

Students have been practicing this through activities and discussions, helping everyone feel safe, respected, and cared for in our classrooms and kura. 💖

Mana - We have also been learning how to show **mana** by making smart, safe choices in the sun and wearing our sunhat! 🌞

When we wear our sunhat, we show **mana** because we:

- **Respect** our school's expectations
- **Take care** of our bodies and stay sun safe
- **Set a positive example** for others

Show **pride** in being part of our school community

THE 30-SECOND RULE reminds us to be kind.



If someone can fix something quickly — like tying their shoes or wiping food off their face

it's okay to tell them nicely and quietly.



But if it's something they can't change in 30 seconds — like their hair, skin, or how they talk —

we don't say it.



This helps everyone feel safe, respected, and cared for. 💛



Wishing a very warm welcome to

ABC

Room 24



We are so excited to welcome our newest learners to Whenuapai School! Our New Entrant class has settled in beautifully and are already showing great enthusiasm for learning. Although they have only been at school for a short time, they are confident, curious, and eager to take on new challenges.



It has been wonderful to see how quickly they have adapted to school routines. A big thank you to all our Whenuapai students for being so welcoming and supportive – you have helped make our newest tamariki feel right at home!



KEA'S VISITORS!

On Thursday, 16th October, the Kea Team finally enjoyed our Little Bo Peep Farm Visit, which had been postponed from Term 2. We had a wonderful time interacting with the animals and revisiting our learning about how to care for them safely, as well as how to keep ourselves safe around animals.



We met "Beauden Baaarrett" the very friendly goat!



We got to brush the cow and pat the sheep.



Careful! Did you know a llama or alpaca might spit at you? He didn't spit at us... thankfully!



We got to get up close and touch the animals - it was a lot of fun. But we all thought they smelt a bit funny!



We saw a chicken and a guinea pig.





Niuean Language Week 2025

Our incredible Pasifika group put on a wonderful performance last week to celebrate Niuean Language Week. This amazing group of students, led by two very dedicated teachers — Madison Tanuvasa and Zivana Makalio-Nicol, worked incredibly hard to share their talents and culture with our school community. We are so proud of their effort, teamwork, and the joy they brought to the stage. Fakaaue lahi!



**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](#)

New spaces are now available:



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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Ph: 09 666 0240

[EMAIL](#)

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After School - we'll feed them a nutritious afternoon tea, run a fun activity, and make sure homework is done so you don't have to worry about it! Whether you need care for full weeks or just a few days, your child will be safe, supported, and having fun.

School Holidays - Our programmes are packed with crafts, science, sports, games, and challenges—plus exciting trip days to explore the community!

Contact: whenuapai@skids.co.nz or 021 174 8473

BOOK HERE





NETBALL SUMMER SKILLS 2025

Hobsonville Point Secondary School are offering a FREE summer netball skills programme during Term 4.

Location:
Hobsonville Point Secondary School Courts

When:
Starting Friday 17th October
at 3:30PM-4:45PM, HPSS outdoor courts

Ages:
Open to Year 7 - 13 students

Cost:
All sessions are FREE

With who:
HPSS Premier 1 coach, Nat Pati

sports@hobsonvillepoint.school.nz

Term 4 Activities



Calling all Year 1 - 8 players
Play cricket this summer for Kumeū



Register Today Scan to Join!

FOOTBALL LUNCH PROGRAMME KIWI KICK STARS Whenuapai school

**FUN FOOTBALL SESSIONS FOR
BOYS AND GIRLS!!
TERM 4**

Our awesome programme gets kids exercising through super fun activities based around football and storytelling. Kids build confidence while improving their motor skills and coordination. Learning how to play with others, focus on problem solving.

Our friendly, experienced coaches have a hands-on, relatable approach and a passion for fun!
Everyone's a winner at Kiwi Kick Stars!

Where: Whenuapai School fields

When: Wednesdays (Starting Wednesday 8th October)

Time: Lunch time

Cost: \$135 per term (10 weeks)

Second child discount of 10% applies!

TO REGISTER GO TO WWW.KIWICKICKSTARS.COM

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*Priority for booked appointments – reserve your slot!
Card payments only; no cash. WINZ quotes available.*



4/91 Central Park Drive, Henderson

Nov - Dec 2025

Saturdays (9am-1pm): 29 Nov, 6 Dec, 13 Dec

Tuesdays (3pm-6pm): 2 Dec, 9 Dec, 16 Dec

Jan 2026

Thursdays (10am-6pm): 15, 22, 29 Jan

Fridays (10am-4pm): 16, 23, 30 Jan

Saturdays (10am-3pm): 17, 24 Jan

Tuesdays (10am-6pm): 20, 27 Jan

Wednesdays (10am-6pm): 21, 28 Jan

Feb 2026

Tuesdays (10am-3pm / 3pm-6pm): 3, 10 Feb

Wednesdays (10am-3pm): 4 Feb

Thursdays (10am-3pm): 5 Feb



Book now at **sKids.co.nz/book**
6th October – 19th December 2025

0800 274 172

Please ensure all food complies with allergy guidelines.
Contact your service for detailed information.

TERM 4



Secure
your spot
today!
skids.co.nz

What's
on this
term

6th -10th October



STEM Superstars
Get ready for a week filled with fun STEM activities! Engineering, compass building, water filtration and more!

13th – 17th October



Indigenous People
Discover the rich traditions of Indigenous cultures through a week of creative art, active play, and storytelling-inspired fun.

20th – 24th October



Diwali
Join us for a vibrant Diwali celebration filled with creativity, culture and fun. Decorate rangoli cupcakes, craft clay diyas and explore the festival of lights!

27th-31st October



Halloween
Get into the spooky spirit with this weeks Halloween fun themed activities, and fast paced fun.

3rd – 7th November



You're the Zest
Squeeze the day with a juicy mix of citrus-inspired games, creative crafts, fizzy experiments, and a splash of DIY lemonade fun.

10th-14th November



Sprinkle Kindness
Celebrate the power of kindness with a week full of heartwarming activities, thoughtful gestures, and creative ways to make someone smile!

17th to 21st November



Disney Week
Step into the Hundred Acre Wood for a magical week of Disney fun with Winnie and Friends—packed with crafts, games, and imagination!

24th-28th November



On The Move
Celebrating World Transport Day as we explore the exciting ways people and goods travel across our communities and around the world!

1st -5th December



It's Legendary!
Experience myths and legends from all over the world with this week's mythical and magical theme.

8th-12th December



Animal Kingdom
Dive into the wild with hands-on fun, creative challenges, and animal-themed adventures that spark curiosity and bring nature to life!

15th-19th December



Christmas Week
Make spirits bright with our Christmas Week after-school programme

In addition to the weekly theme activities each week, we also have The Taste Factory every Monday from Week 2 to Week 7 and enjoy The Weekender Club every Friday throughout Term 4 — all at no extra cost. Just make sure to book on Mondays and Fridays to take part!

Check with your local SKIDS site for Term 4 school dates specific to your location.



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Spotlight Programme

Taste Factory

13 OCT -
17 NOV

Every Monday



Book Now for our 5 week programme

Included in
cost of term
time sessions



Join us at Stay and Play to whip up some delicious recipes every week! From scrumptious sushi to tasty toasties, there's something delicious for everyone!

Where play *meets* potential



skids

Spotlight Programme

Weekender Club

Every Friday in TERM 4!

GOOD
VIBES

Included in cost of
term time sessions



Scan to Book Now!



Where play *meets* potential