

Whenuapai School

14 Airport Road, Auckland
New Zealand

Newsletter – 25 November 2025



Kia ora e te whānau,

Firstly, this week we would like to say a HUGE congratulations to four of our amazing staff members on their teacher registration graduation. Well done to Victoria Kingi, Olivia Tustin, Elysia Paton, and Megan Powell! This is a wonderful milestone in a teacher's career, and we are very proud of them all for their commitment and dedication to their tamariki and Whenuapai School.

We are excited to share classroom organisation for 2026:

Home Campus

- Year 0 classes: Rooms 1, 2, and 11
- Year 1 classes: Rooms 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9
- Year 2 classes: Rooms 12, 13, 14, 23, and 24
- Year 3 classes: Rooms 15, 19, 20, and 21
- Year 4 classes: Rooms 16, 17, and 18

Senior Campus

- Year 5 classes: Whā, Rima, and Ono
- Year 6 classes: Tahi, Rua, and Toru
- Year 7 classes: Whitu, Tekau mā Tahi, and Tekau mā Rua
- Year 8 classes: Waru, Iwa, and Tekau



We are pleased to share some positive changes happening in Kāhu next year. As our Year 7/8 roll continues to grow, and with upcoming updates to the New Zealand Curriculum, we are now in a fantastic position to move to single year-level classes for both Year 7 and Year 8.

To support this shift, we have converted our whare hui into two additional classrooms, and we will also be restoring the senior library to its original purpose-built space (currently Tekau mā Tahi). These changes will create more focused learning environments and ensure our students have access to the spaces and resources they need.

We want to reassure you that this is a very positive step for our senior learners. Single year-level classes will allow for more targeted teaching, smoother transitions, and enhanced support for both academic and social development.

We are genuinely excited about what this will mean for our students and the opportunities it will create for their learning next year.

On Thursday 11th December, our tamariki will visit their 2026 classroom and meet their new teacher. This visit is an opportunity for students to meet their teacher, connect with their classmates, and become familiar with the environment. That same morning, families will receive an email with their child's class placement and details about the teacher. Please note we will not be sharing placement information before this date as we continue to finalise the class lists.

There is still a lot of learning and many school activities and events to enjoy before our final day on Monday 15th December. Please continue to check HERO for updates.

Finally, thank you to our wonderful community for your support and kind words as we have navigated the asbestos sand issue over the past few weeks.

Ngā mihi nui,
Adam Cels



Dates for your diary

Wednesday – 26 November NW Tag – Year 5&6	Friday – 12 December Team Prizegivings: 9.00-10.00am – Kea (Year 0/1) 10.00-10.45am – Tūi (Year 2) 11.45-12.45pm - Pīwakawaka (Y3&4) 1.30-2.30pm - Kākāpō (Year 5&6)
Thursday – 27 November NW Badminton – Year 7&8 AAIMS Interzone Athletics	4.00pm - Mistletoe Mania
Thursday – 4 December Sports Prizegiving: 2.00 – 3.00pm - Years 0-4 3.15 – 4.45pm - Years 5-8	
Friday – 5 December Rainbow's End C.A.R.E Day	Monday – 15 December Last Day of Term 4
Monday – 8 December Kākāpō and Kāhu Science Showcase Open Morning	Thursday – 5 February 2026 Meet the Teacher Day
Wednesday – 10 December 3.30pm Year 7-8 Prizegiving 5.30 – 8.00pm Year 8 Dinner	Monday – 9 February 2026 First Day of Term 1 2026

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.



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.



We need helpers on the sausage sizzle, burger and hotdog stalls during the following times:

- 4:30pm – 5:30pm
- 5:30pm – 6:30pm
- 6:30pm – 7:30pm (or earlier if sold out)

If you'd like to team up with a friend (or a few!) or volunteer alongside your son/daughter, just add their names to the form and we'll make sure you're on the same stall.

Click the link below to select your food stall and time slot, and we'll be in touch with further details:

<https://forms.gle/2gQRWnpsLuc1PR3H7>

Thanks for your support!



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)



Friends of Whenuapai Fundraiser

Juicie Friday!

Cost: \$3 via KINDO (No cash sales)

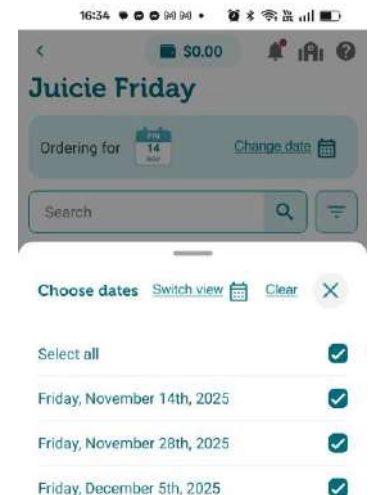
Available on Friday:

- **28 November – THIS FRIDAY**
- **5 December**

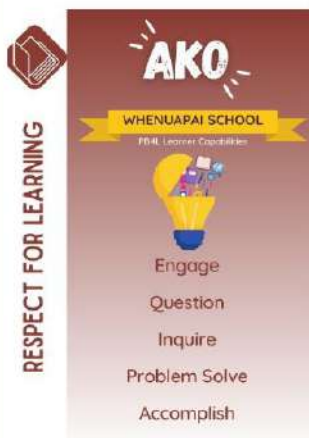
***KINDO cut off the Thursday before**

[Click Here to Order](#)

Order via the Kindo App – you can order for one Friday or every Friday!



PB4L CORNER



This fortnight, our PB4L focus is on Ako (Respect for Learning). As we approach the end of the school year, we are exploring what it means to continue investing our best efforts into our learning even when it feels challenging. At Whenuapai School, we know that Ako means taking ownership of our learning and respecting others' right to learn. By continuing to respect our opportunities to grow, we can finish the year feeling proud of our accomplishments and the progress we have made.

Here are some simple ways to support our Ako learning from home:



- Celebrate small achievements by noticing and praising effort as well as results. Example: "I saw you kept trying even when that maths problem was tricky - well done!" This reinforces that respecting learning means trying your best, even when it feels difficult.
- Help your child set small, achievable goals for the final weeks of term. Examples could include finishing a book, completing a project, or practising a skill for a few minutes each day. This keeps learning structured and helps tamariki achieve a sense of accomplishment.
- Model persistence by sharing examples from your own life. Example: "I'm going to finish this tricky puzzle, even though it's taking a while." This supports tamariki to understand the value of resilience in the face of challenges.
- Encourage self-care breaks during home learning routines to support your child's energy and motivation. Short bursts of movement, breathing exercises, or stretching can refresh the brain. Shorter, more focused learning sessions can be effective when energy is low.

Keep up the mahi - you are almost there!



Kea Team Athletics Day

Monday, 17 November brought a stunning day for our littlest athletes as the Kea Team took to the field for their Athletics Day. Our tamariki had an absolute blast, running, throwing, jumping, and climbing their way through a fun-filled morning of activity.

It was wonderful to see so much enthusiasm, energy and happiness as our Year 0 and Year 1 students gave everything a go. A fantastic morning of movement, smiles and Kea Team spirit!





Pool Trip

On Friday, we went to the Base pool. We learned how to stay safe in the water. When we got there, we put on our life jackets. First, we got in safely by putting our hands to the side and pushing ourselves in. Next, Whaea Sarah taught us how to starfish float, tread, huddle, and doggy paddle.

Lastly, we played Captain's Coming, got changed and went back to school. My favourite part was the doggy paddle.

Emma



NORTHWEST ATHLETICS DAY

We were treated to a beautiful sunny day for this year's Northwest Athletics event, where 20 of our talented students proudly represented Whenuapai School. Our athletes competed across four field events – high jump, long jump, discus, and shot put – as well as on the track.

Throughout the day, our students displayed outstanding effort, determination, and sportsmanship, embodying the Whenuapai School values in everything they did. It was fantastic to see our representatives giving their best and supporting one another.

We would like to congratulate the following students who placed in the top 3 in their events and have qualified for Interzones Athletics:

- Iden T – 3rd place Year 8 boys 800m, 3rd place Year 8 boys 1500m
- Xanthe P – 3rd place Year 7 girls 200m, 2nd place Year 7 girls 400m, 3rd place Year 7 girls 800m, 2nd place Year 7 girls High Jump
- Nayten R – 1st place Year 7 boys 200m, 2nd place Year 7 boys Long Jump, 2nd place Year 7 boys Shot Put (DNQ)
- Fletcher U – 2nd place Year 7 boys 800m, 3rd place Year 7 boys 1500m
- Ivan W – 3rd place Year 8 boys Shot Put

A huge thank you to our parent helpers who generously volunteered their time – your support made the day possible!



CRICKET

YR 5/6 ZONE DAY

Our Year 5/6 boys had an awesome day at the Cricket Zone Day held at Huapai Domain. The team played four exciting games, showing fantastic teamwork, sportsmanship, and all of our school values throughout the day. There were plenty of big hits, great runs, and impressive wickets as everyone gave it their best effort. Between games, the boys enjoyed a visit to the tuck shop and made sure to cheer on both their teammates and the opposition. A huge thank you to Karen Peterson for coming along to support the team – it was a great day of cricket and fun all round!



Diwali Celebrations





Whenuapai School has been awarded a Silver Travelwise Award for 2025. Thank you to everyone who walked, biked, bussed, or scootered to school.

These images show our travelwise leaders trying out some alternatives modes of transport at a recent Travelwise celebration sponsored by AT.

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](#)

skids

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



A huge shoutout to our friends at **Hardfell Professional Arborists**, who have generously donated a significant amount of mulch to support the grounds at our Senior Campus.

Their contribution has made a noticeable difference, helping us keep our outdoor spaces healthy, tidy, and looking fantastic.

We are incredibly grateful for their kindness and community spirit. **Legends!**

If you're in need of expert arborist services—tree maintenance, removals, advice, or anything in between—be sure to get in touch with the team at Hardfell Professional Arborists.

Visit: <https://hardfell.co.nz/>



Thank you!



New Zealand Traveller Declaration

Going overseas for the school holidays? Everyone travelling into New Zealand must complete a New Zealand Traveller Declaration, including returning New Zealand passport holders.

It's FREE and you can do it on the [online form](#) or on the [NZTD app](#).

If you're travelling as a family or group and completing multiple declarations, the [NZTD app](#) allows you to copy your travel details into another declaration, making it easier to complete multiple declarations for the same journey. The submitted declarations are then all easy to see within the app.

The New Zealand Traveller Declaration collects travel, customs, immigration and biosecurity information and aims to improve the safety and security of New Zealand. It replaces the paper card you used to fill out on the plane.

To make your arrival easier, do your digital declaration before your flight back to New Zealand.

Head to travellerdeclaration.govt.nz today!



Gently Loved Markets
BIG kids!

12PM - 3PM
SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER

Greenhithe Community Hall
7 Greenhithe Road

Preloved Market • Free Entry

A preloved market day dedicated to items for the big kids aged 5 to 12

Clothing, accessories, games, toys and everything in between!



FIND US AT
[@GENTLYLOVEDMARKETSNZ](#)



Travelling overseas in the school holidays?

You must do a New Zealand Traveller Declaration when you come back

TravellerDeclaration.govt.nz

Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Government

New Zealand Traveller Declaration
Whakapuakanga Tangata Haere ki Aotearoa



sKids Whenuapai
15 Airport Road, Whenuapai
Monday 5 January to Thursday 5 February 2026

**0800 274 172**
Site Ph: 021 174 8493



Scan for pricing and to book online!

www.skids.co.nz/holiday-programmes



HOURS: 7.30AM TO 5.30PM

MON 5 JAN**CAMP KICK OFF**

Let the summer camp fun begin! Celebrate the first day of 2026 with our exciting camp Olympics, packed with games and teamwork. Then get creative and craft your own watercolour paper tents to kick off an unforgettable summer at sKids.

TUE 6 JAN**SPORTS SHOWDOWN**
MAKE & TAKE: DIY DECORATIVE WATER BOTTLES

Summer Camp is getting sporty today. Our first Make & Take activity of 2026 is designer drink bottles - design your own decorative water bottles to keep hydrated all summer long! Plus get ready for games, sports and exciting challenges that will keep you moving, laughing and having a blast!

WED 7 JAN**WILDERNESS EXPLORERS**

Explore, navigate, and carve your own path using teamwork, problem-solving, and creativity. Craft your very own paper plate compasses, design detailed treasure maps, and tackle fun challenges and games that test your wit's and skills. Adventure awaits around every corner.

THU 8 JAN**TASTE OF SUMMER**

Taste, create and celebrate food, fun and friendship under the sun! Step into a delicious outdoor foodie themed day with delicious s'mores from solar power, craft fun pretzel necklaces and enjoy hands on activities that bring the flavours of camp to life!

FRI 9 JAN**CAMPFIRE CELEBRATION**

Wrap up an incredible week with salt dough creations to treasure as a keepsake from camp. Show off your skills and creativity in the big sKids Talent Show, take part in exciting games and challenges, and celebrate all the fun, friendships, and adventures you've shared.

MON 12 JAN**OVER THE RAINBOW**

Get ready for a week bursting with colour. Today we explore over the rainbow as we create yummy rainbow jelly cups for a tasty treat and then bring the outdoors to life with puffy footpath painting.

TUE 13 JAN**SENSORY SPECTACULAR**
EXCURSION: GOOD PLANET STRAWBERRY PICKING

Pick juicy berries and eat real fruit icecream at Good Planet for today's excursion! Back at sKids, it's a bright hands on day bursting with colour, fun and sensory activities. Enjoy the cool fun of painting with ice and get hands on with squishy dough.

WED 14 JAN**COLOUR SPLASH**
PLEASE BRING OLD CLOTHES FOR THE COLOUR RUN!

It's a bright, messy and fun filled day of colour today. Take part in a vibrant colour run (don't forget to wear old clothes you don't mind getting colourful possibly permanently). Dive into creative process art activities and more!

THU 15 JAN**COLOUR CREW**
MAKE & TAKE: DECORATE YOUR OWN KITE

Join our colour crew for a rainbow filled adventure! Team up for exciting challenges, creative games and colourful fun. Enjoy a special make and take activity as we decorate our own fabric kites to take home and soar into the skies!

FRI 16 JAN**COLOUR CARNIVAL**

We're wrapping up colour week with an extra splash of fun! Join us to dive into a whole lot of arts & crafts, games and team challenges. Exploring creativity and working together in exciting activities. From colourful creations to playful competitions it's a day full of imagination, vibrant energy and laughter.

If applying for OSCAR subsidy, eligibility criteria will apply. Visit www.skids.co.nz/oscar-subsidy for eligibility and entitlement. Please ensure all food complies with allergy guidelines. Contact your programme for detailed information. Programmes, surcharges, and activities may change; check our website for updates. Special Experiences incur extra costs for all attending children, regardless of participation.

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www.skids.co.nz/holiday-programmes

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MON 19 JAN



COASTAL DISCOVERIES MAKE & TAKE: TREASURE CHESTS & SEA CREATURE BAG CHARMS

Kicking off Water Week with us as you construct your own wooden treasure chests to fill with secret treasure and decorate your own ocean themed bag tags or key chains to take home. It's a day filled with imagination, seaside vibes and hands on fun with your friends!

TUE 20 JAN



SPLASHY SCIENCE

Get ready to make a splash with our STEM focussed Splashy Science! Featuring unpopable bubbles, powder shield experiments and plenty of wild water powered experiments. Tamariki will explore how science and fun flow together through hands on challenges, teamwork and creative discoveries.

WED 21 JAN



WATER DETECTIVES

Dive into the world of watery mysteries as we design our own Secret Agent ID Badges, crack top secret codes and tackle mind bending summer themed STEM missions. Sharpen your detective skills through thrilling spy games, puzzles and challenges. Agent are you ready for action?

THU 22 JAN



SPLASH & DASH EXCURSION: SKIDS SUMMER PARTY

BRING TOGS & TOWEL FOR AN EPIC WATERFIGHT!
Get ready for an epic day of water play, laughter and summer fun with our friends from other sKIDS sites! Exciting splash games to cool challenges, it's all about being active, keeping cool and making awesome summer memories. Please remember to bring your togs and towels!

FRI 23 JAN



AQUATIC WILDLIFE SAFARI

Explore the magic of the sea, rivers and ponds with an aquatic themed wildlife adventure today. Enjoy crab themed crafts, ocean inspired painting and splashy games. Dive deeper with STEM experiments and show your creativity in the kitchen.

MON 26 JAN

Service
Closed for
Auckland
Anniversary
Day

TUE 27 JAN



BUSH CRAFT BASICS

Learn essential survival skills like building shelters using a range of materials, trying strong knots and making bush cordage from natural materials. It's a hands on day of creativity, problem solving and outdoor fun!

WED 28 JAN



PICNIC PARTY EXCURSION: AUCKLAND ZOO

Enjoy the wildlife up close in the spectacular lush grounds of Auckland Zoo! Pack your sunny smiles and get ready for a fun filled picnic party with the animals! Back at sKIDS there is more fun to be had with our arts and crafts, games and team challenge activities.

THU 29 JAN



OUTDOOR EXPLORERS MAKE & TAKE: DIY BIRD HOUSES

Construct your very own birdhouse to take home! Make Morse code bracelets, craft mini bows & arrows, and show us your archery skills. It's a fun nature day full of outdoor adventures, exploring, and laughs with friends!

FRI 30 JAN



SURVIVOR DAY

Test your survival skills today for the last day of Outdoor Adventures Week! Take on our Water Distiller experiment, play survivor themed games, and work together to problem solve and adapt just like real explorers. It's a day of discovery, teamwork and outdoor fun!

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MON 2 FEB



MIND SPARKS

Get ready to stretch your mind and spark your creativity! Dive into optical illusions, discover clever challenges that will make you think in new ways. It's a day packed with curiosity, laughter, and brain boosting fun!

TUE 3 FEB



READY SET SCHOOL!

We are gearing up for an exciting new school year while still making the most of the summer fun! Together we will create collaborative art, enjoy fun games and strengthen our friendships as we get ready to start the year feeling confident, connected and full of sunshine.

WED 4 FEB



BACK TO SCHOOL PARTY

Get ready to launch into Term 1 with a burst of fun and creativity at our exciting Back to School Party! We're celebrating with a day full of colour, laughter and hands on activities including pipecleaner Pencil Pals.

THU 5 FEB



KIWI SPIRIT

Today we celebrate the last day of Holiday HQ with our Kiwi Spirit Day! Tamariki will get hands on with FIY Hokay Pokey and craft their own Manu Tukutuku (kites). Enjoy loads of kiwiana, creativity, culture and classic Kiwi pride!



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