

# Whenuapai School

14 Airport Road, Auckland  
New Zealand

Newsletter – 31 March 2026



Kia ora e te whānau,

As we wrap up this term, we are celebrating the incredible progress our students and staff have made across the school. From focused learning in English and Mathematics, our students are showing growth, curiosity, and engagement every day. It's inspiring to see their hard work in action, and I thank our dedicated staff and supportive families for making this term such a success.

## Attendance Matters – Every Day Counts

Regular attendance is one of the most important factors in student success. Students who attend school consistently are more likely to achieve their learning goals, build confidence, and develop strong lifelong learning habits.

Did you know that our attendance registers are sent to the Ministry of Education every night, and student attendance is closely monitored? Our Attendance Management Plan is available on the school website.

Please note that we are required to follow up if students are not attending regularly. Parents will be contacted if a student is absent for 5, 10, or 15 days in a term, regardless of whether a reason has been provided.

Thank you to all families who keep us informed about absences. Your communication helps us support your child effectively.

So far this year, 78% of our students have met the 90% government attendance target, exceeding our annual plan goal of 70%. This is a fantastic start—well done to our students and families.

## Learning Targets and Progress

Our Annual Plan, available on the school website, outlines our key learning targets. This year we have targets in:

- Attendance
- Writing: Years 4 and 8
- Reading: Years 3 and 4
- Mathematics: Years 4 and 8, and all Māori tamariki

These targets help us focus support where it's needed most, ensuring every student has the opportunity to achieve their full potential.

## Property Updates

- External upgrades to Rooms 1–6 are complete, along with safety repairs to outside seating.
- Work on our new 12-classroom block continues and is on track for completion by the end of the year.
- Safety fencing has been installed around Rooms 23 and 24 due to building concerns. These rooms will remain closed until we receive further guidance from the Ministry of Education.

## Carpark and Student Safety

We continue to work with the Air Force Base, ITM, Police, Ministry of Education, Auckland Transport, and local council to improve safety during drop-off and pick-up. The Air Force Base and Ministry of Education are working together to expand the carpark. A design has been completed and they are now working towards council approval.

Whilst we are waiting, please follow these safety reminders:

- Use the crossing—this is the safest place to cross, with or without road patrols.
- Ensure tamariki stick to the footpath and do not cut through the ITM carpark.
- Do not stop or park on yellow lines.
- Do not let children in or out of vehicles while double-parked or at the crossing.
- Walking, cycling, or scootering to school is strongly encouraged.

### Term Dates and Holiday Wishes

- Last day of term: Thursday, 2 April 2026
- Return to school: Monday, 20 April 2026

We hope you have a wonderful holiday. Whether travelling or staying local, enjoy quality time with your family. The school grounds remain open during the break, so please feel free to use our play spaces.

We look forward to seeing all our students refreshed and ready for another exciting term ahead.

### Friends of Whenuapai (FOW)

This year, our focus for Friends of Whenuapai is on strengthening our school community through connection and shared experiences, rather than prioritising fundraising. We are excited to offer a range of community-based events across the year that bring our whānau together and create meaningful opportunities for involvement.

Thanks to the generosity of our community over the last few years, we now have sufficient funds to complete the new Senior Playground. We are currently waiting for the Ministry of Education to finalise the master plan for our home campus. It's important that all plans are confirmed before we begin construction, to ensure the playground is positioned correctly and won't need to be relocated in the future. We look forward to sharing further information and updates with you as they become available.

We would like to sincerely thank you for your continued support of our school. Our community is a special one, and we truly value the way you show up, contribute, and stay connected. We look forward to continuing to build strong relationships together throughout the year.

Please keep an eye out for upcoming dates and events in our newsletter and school communications on Hero. Alternatively, if you would like to be involved with Friends of Whenuapai and offer your support, please contact Tiffany at [apjunior@whenuapai.school.nz](mailto:apjunior@whenuapai.school.nz)

Thank you again for a wonderful Term 1. We wish you all a wonderful Easter and a relaxing holiday break. Stay safe, enjoy time with your whānau, and we look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for Term 2.

Ngā mihi nui,

Adam Cels





## Dates for your diary ....

<b>Wednesday – 1 April</b> 2.00 – 3.30pm - Kakapo Team Open Afternoon - Showcase	<b>Monday – 27 April</b> ANZAC Day Observed – No School
<b>Thursday – 2 April</b> Last Day of Term 1	<b>Thursday – 14 May</b> Year 3-6 - Ripa Rugby Festival
<b>Easter and School Holiday Break.</b>  <b>Term 2 starts:</b> Monday 20 April 2026	<b>Friday – 15 May</b> Pink Shirt Day
	<b>Tuesday – 19 May</b> Year 7&8 – NW Football
	<b>Tuesday – 26 May</b> Year 7&8 – NW Basketball



## go-deli **this term's PROMOTION Menu Items**

**SUSHI COMBO**



Available All Week

**Katsu Chicken/Pork & Apple Schnitzel on Rice with Salad**



Available All Week

**Butter Chicken on Rice**



Available Monday

**Macaroni Cheese**



Available Tuesday

**Pizza (C&P, C&H, C&C)**



Available Wednesday

**Pies (S&C, M, M&C)**



Available Thursday

## Scholastics Book Club - Issue 2 out now!



[CLICK HERE TO ORDER ONLINE](#)

## Celebrating Success

Congratulations to one of our amazing Year 7 students, Zanneja, who achieved an outstanding 2nd place at the Secondary Schools North Island U13 Mountain Biking Championships held in Wellington over the weekend.

Zanneja showed incredible determination, tackling a challenging practice session on Friday in wet and muddy conditions. By race day on Sunday, the track had dried out, creating fast conditions—and she rose to the occasion with an impressive performance.

We are incredibly proud of your achievement, Zanneja—what a fantastic result!



## Science of Learning and Our Behaviour Curriculum – What This Means for Your Child

Across Term 1, we have focused on creating structured classrooms, consistent routines, and explicitly teaching both learning and behaviour. These approaches reduce cognitive load, increase engagement, and help create classrooms where all students can feel successful, confident, and supported in their learning.

By combining the Science of Learning (how we teach), the Behaviour Curriculum (teaching students how to behave as learners), and PB4L (recognising positive behaviour), we are creating classrooms where teachers can teach and students can learn.

One of the most important outcomes we are seeing from our PB4L data is a significant decrease in major behaviour incidents, which take a considerable amount of time to manage. Instead, teachers are responding to low-level behaviours early and within the classroom. This means less time managing behaviour and more time for teaching and learning.

**What Has Changed?** Our school uses a clear and consistent process to support behaviour, combining our PB4L, Behaviour Curriculum and Positive Pathways Process, which includes reminding, refocusing, relocating, and removing when necessary.

Expectations, routines, and learning behaviours are now explicitly taught, and students know:

- What is expected
- How to behave in class
- What to do when they feel frustrated
- How to refocus on their learning

This has led to:

- Fewer major behaviour incidents
- Faster responses to low-level behaviour
- Less time spent managing behaviour
- More time spent on teaching and learning
- Calmer classrooms across the school

Why This Matters:

- Classrooms are calm and predictable
- Students can focus for longer
- Students feel more confident
- Teachers can spend more time teaching
- Learning time increases for everyone

This preventative approach reduces escalation and strengthens the classroom environment for everyone. There is increased consistency across classrooms, with visible expectations and predictable routines which aligns directly with Science of Learning principles and contributes to reduced cognitive load, increased sustained attention, fewer disruptions, and a calmer school-wide tone.

Overall, our Term 1 PB4L data highlights that our Behaviour Curriculum is working, our PB4L framework is working, and our Science of Learning work is increasing learning time, not just improving behaviour!

***Fewer major incidents → More teaching time → More learning time → calmer classrooms = better learning outcomes for our students***

**Positive Pathways**

- 1 REMIND**  
Remind student of expected behaviours and consequences. Relate directly to our school values.
- 2 REFOCUS**  
Refocus attention by moving to a another space in the classroom.
- 3 RELOCATE**  
Relocate to another classroom or Team Leaders room.
- 4 REMOVE**  
Remove to Hauora Hub. Support co-regulation. Complete reflection sheet and notify parent/caregivers.

# Kāhu Trips Tāwharanui



Our Kāhu team had an incredible day at Tāwharanui, where our Year 7 and 8 students ventured out to the beautiful DOC sanctuary. Throughout the day, students were actively engaged in a range of learning experiences. On land, they collected water samples and carried out pH and nitrate testing, linking directly to their classroom learning. They also enjoyed a nature walk, spotting native birds and wildlife along the way. Down at the beach, students had a fantastic time in the water, making the most of the waves and enjoying time together. There were also fun shore-based activities for those who chose not to swim, ensuring everyone was involved.

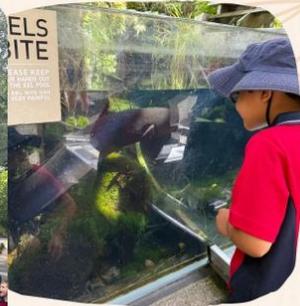
Overall, it was a wonderful day filled with smiles, laughter, and great memories, as well as a valuable opportunity for students to bring their Term 1 learning to life.

Another big thank you to our parent helpers, without you these amazing experiences aren't able to happen.

Tūi Zoo Trip

24 March, 2026

# AUCKLAND ZOO



# NW Swimming Sports



## Finals Results:

**100m Open Free** Yr 8 – Xanthe 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

**50m Breast** Yr 8 – Xanthe 2<sup>nd</sup>

**50m Back** Yr6 – Una 3<sup>rd</sup> Yr8 – Xanthe 2<sup>nd</sup>

**50m Free** Yr6 – Una 3<sup>rd</sup> Yr8 – Xanthe 3<sup>rd</sup>

**50m Fly** Yr8 – Xanthe 1<sup>st</sup>

**Open Medley** – 1<sup>st</sup>

**Yr7 Relay** (4 x 50m Free) – 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Yr8 Relay** (4 x 50m Free) – 3<sup>rd</sup>



11 of our students represented our school at the North West Swimming Sports, and they did an outstanding job. Our swimmers put up strong competition across all events, with finalists in each stroke category and several impressive placings.

A highlight of the day was our Open Medley team—Fletcher (Backstroke), Molly (Breaststroke), Una (Butterfly), and Xanthe (Freestyle)—who powered through to take out 1st place with a fantastic team effort. We have the wonderful Xanthe who will be going forward to represent us at Auckland Champs.

The team showed great spirit throughout the day, keeping morale high and cheering each other on. It was a competitive and exciting event, and we are incredibly proud of their effort and sportsmanship.



# North West Orienteering 24<sup>th</sup> March 2026

On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March, 16 of our Year 7 and 8 students spent the day at Monte Cecilia Park, participating in the NorthWest orienteering competition run by the Auckland Orienteering club.

In teams of 3-5, our athletes used their map reading skills to successfully navigate the park, and collect all the controls.

The weather was on our side, and the whole day was a huge success.

The teams were:

Year 7 boys – Lewis S, Ethan D, TJ K, and Luca N

Year 7 girls – Molly M, Bailey B, Harper C, Zanneja M, and Isla S

Year 8 boys – Taaransh P, Reyaansh V, Nayten R

Year 8 Girls – Eve B, Haidee Y, Yalini P, and Xanthe P

A huge well done to everyone, and good luck to Nayten, Molly, and Zanneja who made it into the Auckland Finals

A massive thanks to Aaron Butler and Janeen Cammock for helping us out.





What a fantastic week we've had celebrating Walk or Wheel (WoW) Week! A huge thank you to our whānau and staff for your incredible support, especially during Tuesday's Big Walk to School. It was so special to see so many families out together, starting the day in such a positive and active way. Thank you to Connected Communities for adding to the fun!

Throughout the week, it has been awesome to see our tamariki making the effort to bike, scooter, and walk to school. Their enthusiasm and commitment have been inspiring - even with the wet weather we've had! A special shoutout goes to one determined student who scooted an impressive 4.4km to school. What dedication!

We also want to acknowledge Mrs Squier and her group of lunchtime roller skaters, who brought energy and excitement to Wheelie Wednesday. It was wonderful to see students building confidence, learning new skills, and having fun on their wheels.

Despite the rain, our community has truly embraced the spirit of WoW Week. Moving forward, we are excited to continue promoting active travel through initiatives such as walking school buses and bike trains. These are great ways to keep our tamariki active, safe, and connected as they travel to and from school.

Thank you again for your ongoing support - together, we are making a positive difference!





## School Notices:



For our Policies and Procedures please visit SchoolDocs at:

[www.schooldocs.co.nz/](http://www.schooldocs.co.nz/)

**User** – whenuapai  
**Password** – airport

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## 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

**MUSIQHUB**

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NorthWest Ph 416 3123

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Email: [northwest@numberworks.com](mailto:northwest@numberworks.com)



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

5 Rawiri Place, Hobsonville.

Ph: 09 666 0240

[hobsonville@hiltonbrownswimming.co.nz](mailto:hobsonville@hiltonbrownswimming.co.nz)

## 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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BOOK NOW at: [www.skids.co.nz/book](http://www.skids.co.nz/book)

search for Whenuapai 





# APRIL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

[BOOK NOW](#)

**Term 2 Lunch & After School Football Programmes, Registrations Now OPEN!! Don't miss out. Secure your spot today!**

### LOOKING FOR SCHOOL HOLIDAY MAGIC?

OUR SESSIONS ARE PACKED WITH ACTION, FUN GAMES, AND EXCITING STORYTELLING THAT BRING THE BEAUTIFUL GAME TO LIFE WHILE BUILDING FOOTBALL SKILLS AND CONFIDENCE. WE'VE GOT AMAZING PRIZES, AND EVERY CHILD WILL TAKE HOME UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES!

**WEEK ONE: TUESDAY 7TH, WEDNESDAY 8TH, THURSDAY 9TH APRIL**  
**WEEK TWO: TUESDAY 14TH, WEDNESDAY 15TH, THURSDAY 16TH APRIL**  
**TIME: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM**  
**WHERE: HOBSONVILLE SCHOOL (104 HOBSONVILLE RD)**

COME PLAY, HAVE FUN, AND SCORE LOADS OF GOALS!!  
FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER GO TO:

[www.kiwikickstars.com](http://www.kiwikickstars.com)



## Little Scientists



# Holiday programmes

5-10 year olds

Loads of science fun to keep your children busy this April!

- Hillsborough
- Glen Innes
- Massey
- Birkenhead



[www.littlescientists.co.nz](http://www.littlescientists.co.nz)



# Hi to our fabulous Pform community!

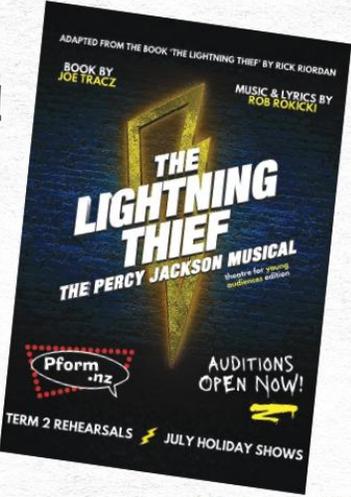
We have three exciting opportunities coming up this April for our Pform students – something for our younger performers and two special projects for teens...

## THE LIGHTNING THIEF THE FULL PERCY JACKSON MUSICAL!

This high-energy rock musical follows Percy as he discovers he's the son of Poseidon and sets off on an epic quest filled with gods, monsters, and adventure. Auditions open now for any students who want to work at a more advanced level in singing, acting, and performance.

- Auditions: Students submit a short audition video to [info@pform.nz](mailto:info@pform.nz)
- Confidence Project students: You do not need to submit a video audition – you can register directly.

More details contact: [info@pform.nz](mailto:info@pform.nz)

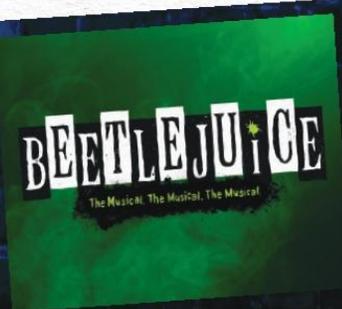


## BEETLEJUICE MUSICAL THEATRE INTENSIVE!

This Teen Musical Theatre Intensive is packed with high-energy workshops in singing and acting based on the cult-favourite musical Beetlejuice.

- Perfect for teens who love musical theatre and want to stretch their skills in a supportive environment.
- Venue: Wellesley Studios, 113/115 Wellesley Street, CBD
  - Time: 1.00pm – 5.00pm, Sunday 22 March

For details & bookings: [info@pform.nz](mailto:info@pform.nz) or [www.pform.nz/auckland/holiday-programme](http://www.pform.nz/auckland/holiday-programme)



# APRIL SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES!

Looking for something creative and confidence-building these school holidays?

Our popular Pform Holiday Programmes are back this April. Students spend the day singing, dancing, acting, and playing theatre games while building confidence and making new friends.

## WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Drama, dance and singing workshops
- Fun theatre games and creative challenges
- Mini performances and confidence-building activities
- A full day of creativity with our experienced tutors

## VENUES:

- Belmont - The Rose Centre
- Albany - Meadowood Community Centre
- Epsom - St Cuthbert's College Junior Gymnasium
- Epsom - St George's Church Hall
- Orewa - Orewa Beach School
- Titirangi - The Crossing

Drop off: 9.00am | Pick up: 3:00pm

These days are always incredibly popular and spaces fill quickly, so we recommend booking early.

Book here: [info@pform.nz](mailto:info@pform.nz) or [www.pform.nz/auckland/holiday-programme](http://www.pform.nz/auckland/holiday-programme)

We can't wait to see our students creating, performing, and having an amazing time these holidays!

Love Rose, Tom, Logan & the Pform team x