

Whenuapai School

14 Airport Road, Auckland
New Zealand

Newsletter – 17 March 2026



Kia ora e te whānau,

The term is moving very quickly, and it's hard to believe there are only two weeks left until the school holidays! There is still a lot happening in classrooms, and it has been wonderful to see how well our tamariki are doing.

Our tamariki continue to impress us with their learning and behaviour. They are showing enthusiasm, trying their best each day, and settling well into our classroom routines. Later in this newsletter you'll also find some information about how we teach and support positive behaviour expectations at school.

Changes to School Reporting for 2026

Over the past year the government has introduced several changes to education. One of the most recent changes is how schools report student progress to parents and whānau.

After reviewing the expectations from the Ministry of Education and examples provided through HERO, we will introduce the following reporting process for 2026:

- End of Term 1 - HERO post on how your child has settled into school.
- End of Term 2 - HERO written report for Reading, Writing, and Mathematics.
- Start of Term 3 - Parent-teacher interviews.
- End of Term 4 - HERO written report for Reading, Writing, and Mathematics.

Each report will include:

- Your child's achievement level, shown using progress descriptors
- A visual graph showing your child's progress over time (similar to the current HERO graphs)
- A teacher comment explaining what your child has learned and why the progress level was selected
- Next learning steps and suggestions for how parents and whānau can support learning at home
- Your child's attendance record

Assessment Results

We are still finalising how assessment results will be shared with families. This is because schools will begin using the new SMART assessment tool introduced by the Education Minister. One challenge with this system is that results are typically not available until about six weeks after the assessments are completed.

All schools in New Zealand must complete these assessments within the same short timeframe. Because of this, the results from Term 2 assessments may not be available until Term 3.

We will share more information with you once we have clearer guidance.

Understanding the Progress Descriptors

Reports will indicate your child's achievement level using a five-point Progress Descriptor scale. The following explains each level.

1. Emerging

Your child:

- Is beginning to understand learning ideas for their year level with a lot of support.
- Sometimes uses what they have learned but usually needs help.
- Is making early progress with significant support.

2. Developing

Your child:

- Is starting to understand key ideas, often with some support.
- Can remember facts and use learning in familiar situations with a little help.
- Is making progress toward the expectations for their year level.

3. Consolidating

Your child:

- Is learning to use strategies independently to support their learning.
- Is improving at remembering and applying what they have learned.
- Is beginning to use knowledge in new situations.
- Can share ideas and reflect on what they could improve.

4. Proficient

Your child:

- Can use helpful learning techniques on their own and knows how to use them well.
- Can use what they've learned in different situations without help.
- Can often use what they know in new situations.
- Can share their thoughts clearly and explain their reasoning.
- Often shares their ideas to build knowledge.

5. Exceeding

Your child:

- Shows advanced thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Makes strong connections between different learning areas.
- Demonstrates deeper understanding of ideas.
- Uses knowledge creatively and thoughtfully in challenging situations.

HERO Curriculum Progress

You may have noticed that the curriculum progress dials are currently disabled in HERO.

This is because our learning goals are now based on the Revised Curriculum, which uses year-level goals. Students have the entire year to achieve these goals, and we are still working on the best way to show meaningful progress to parents during the year.

This is our current plan for Reports to Parents in 2026. Education is rapidly changing, and we will keep you informed if we need to adjust this plan.

Have a great week,

Adam Cels



 Dates for your diary	
Monday - 23 March NW Swimming (Years 6-8)	Monday – 30 March FoW Juicie Monday • Keep an eye out for more details soon
23 – 27 March Walk or Wheel to School Week	
Tuesday – 24 March NW Year 7&8 Orienteering Tui Team Zoo Trip	Thursday – 2 April Last Day of Term 1
Wednesday – 25 March 6.00pm – Board Meeting	Easter and School Holiday Break.
Thursday – 26 March NW Year 7&8 Tennis Air Base Tough Kid Event	Term 2 starts: Monday 20 April 2026 



Road Safety Reminder

We kindly remind all parents and caregivers about the importance of road safety in and around the school.

✗ Please do not drop children off in the middle of the road or on the lines at the pedestrian crossing.

✓ For everyone’s safety, we ask that you park in the designated parking areas and always use the pedestrian crossing when entering or leaving the school grounds.

Let’s work together to keep our tamariki safe every day!



Scholastics Book Club - Issue 1 out now!



[CLICK HERE TO ORDER ONLINE](#)

Consultation Now Open – Te Pae School Enrolment Scheme

The consultation process for the proposed enrolment scheme for the new school in Massey, **Te Pae School**, is now open.

The Ministry of Education has released details of the proposed enrolment zone, which can be viewed at the link below.

We encourage our community to take a look and share any feedback by completing the survey:

[Ministry of Education - Te Pae School New Enrolment Scheme](#)

Your input is an important part of this process.

thank you!



TE PAE SCHOOL
 TOGETHER WE RISE
 KOKIRITIA KI UTA

Science of Learning

As we continue to strengthen our teaching through the Science of Learning (SoL), many whānau have already shared that their children are now able to explain their learning more clearly at home - sharing what they learned that day, how they practised it, and what they will be working on next. This clarity helps build confidence and strengthens understanding.

Alongside our SoL approach, we are continuing to develop a Behaviour Curriculum across the school. This recognises that positive behaviour, just like reading or maths, needs to be explicitly taught, practised, and reinforced.

Children are not expected to simply “know” how to behave in every situation. Instead, we take the time to teach the behaviours that help everyone learn and feel safe at school.

This approach is informed by international educational research and emphasises that clear expectations and consistent routines create calm classrooms where learning can thrive.

At Whenuapai School, this means we explicitly teach and model behaviours such as:

- Listening when others are speaking
- Following instructions the first time
- Working respectfully with classmates
- Managing frustration and solving problems appropriately
- Moving safely and respectfully around the school

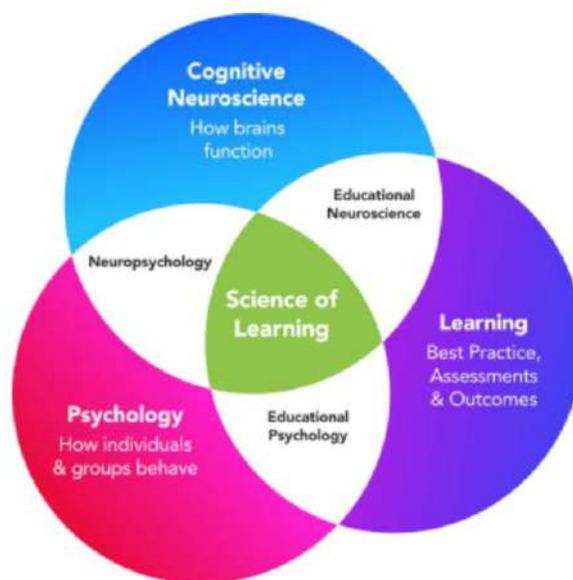
These expectations are taught, practised and revisited regularly, just like any other part of the curriculum.

You may have noticed our teachers using:

- Clear and consistent routines
- Explicit teaching of expectations
- Positive reinforcement when students meet expectations
- Calm and predictable responses when behaviour needs correcting

When expectations are clear and consistent, students feel safer, calmer, and more confident, which allows them to focus fully on their learning.

Together, our SoL approach and Behaviour Curriculum help us create classrooms where every child can feel secure, supported, and ready to learn.





Auckland's WoW Week is a fun Travelwise event encouraging tamariki to walk or wheel to school all week long. Whenuapai School will be getting active, ticking off daily journeys on their Wow Passport, celebrating themed days, and showing how fun and easy active travel can be.

We will celebrate participation and students will be in the draw for spot prizes throughout the week. Whether it's walking together, scootering, biking, or trying a Park & Walk, every active journey counts.

WoW Week helps reduce congestion around schools, supports healthy habits, and brings school communities together.

There will be fun events such as Travel Together Tuesday where we all meet by the Parkhouse Cafe and walk/wheel to school together and Funky Feet Friday - where you can dress your feet up as funky as you want!!



23-27 March 2026 (Week 7)





Dear Matuku Link
Thank you for showing us the wonders of New Zealand's only Wetland. My favourite part was when Kereru flew above me. I also liked when Aileen fed the eels an egg. I learned that the Maori used Raupō to make Poi. Raupō looked like sausages on a stick.

From Nathan

Nathan Room 18



Dear Matuku Link
Thank you for showing Room 18 the Wetland. My favourite part was catching fish and looking through binoculars. Thank you again. It was so fun.

From Enya

Enya Room 18



On the 12th of March 2026 which was yesterday, I went on a school trip to the Wetland's in Matuku Link and there is only 10 percent of the Wetlands left, so I was pretty lucky that I got to go. It was really really fun! We were the very first class to ever see a weasel trapped in cage and it died. But I really didn't really want to look at it, but it's kind of good because they were eating the Brown Teal duck.

Mila Room 15



Scan me to check out
Makutu Link





NORWEST 7&8 CRICKET ZONE DAY

After several luntime trainings and many conversations about game plan, our Yr 7&8 Cricket boys were back at Huapai Domain to compete in the Norwest tournament. Morale was high and everyone had their eyes on the prize, hoping for some wins and a fun day out.

Our first win turned into 2, and then 3, then 4. Our fifth game was a BYE but we were told we had made it to finals against Pool A's winner, Huapai.

Nerves kicked in, and we continued to play our tight game. Every player had a stand out moment, though it was too close to tell which side was up. After our last ball, we were hopeful. The umpire announced we had won by 1 run and the boys were over the moon!

A huge thank you to our parent helpers.

Officially the Norwest Cricket Champs 2026!



WHENUAPAI
YEAR 5&6

Norwest TEEBALL ZONE DAY



Our Year 5 & 6 tee ball teams headed to Rosedale Park for an exciting day at the Norwest Tee Ball Tournament. After weeks of lunchtime trainings, they were ready to give it their all.

The teams showed great teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship while playing several games against other schools. There were some fantastic hits, great fielding, and lots of cheering from the sidelines.

A huge thank you to our wonderful parent helpers for their support throughout the day.



Young Grapplers Shine at NZBJJF Youth League



Three young athletes from Whenuapai School, Harvey L, Abhi C, and Alesha C, recently stepped onto the mats at the NZBJJF Youth Jiu-Jitsu League, facing talented grapplers from across the North Island, from Whangārei to Tauranga.

Despite the tough competition, they showed determination, courage, and technical skill, bringing home 2 golds, 1 silver, and 1 bronze between them.

Throughout their matches, the athletes demonstrated the core values of Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu discipline, respect, and perseverance. Matches were intense, requiring quick thinking, effective defense, and strategic control or submissions. For these young competitors, moments like these are the reward for countless hours of training.

Often called “human chess,” Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu demands both physical ability and mental strategy. Competitors must stay calm under pressure, escape difficult positions, and rely on technique over strength. For Harvey, Abhi, and Alesha, the event was not just about medals but also gaining experience, building confidence, and learning to perform under pressure.

By the end of the day, their efforts were rewarded with strong performances and podium finishes. Standing proudly with their medals, they represented themselves, their team, and the many hours of training behind them. Events like the NZBJJF Youth League continue to grow in New Zealand, offering young athletes a chance to test skills, build friendships, and develop resilience. For these competitors, it was another step forward in their martial arts journey — a reminder that hard work, discipline, and courage lead to great achievements on and off the mats.



Great work!



School Notices:



For our Policies and Procedures please visit SchoolDocs at:

www.schooldocs.co.nz/

User – whenuapai
Password – airport

Copyright: Except where stated, the content on this site is the copyright of SchoolDocs Ltd. It may not be reproduced without written permission from SchoolDocs.



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

NumberWorks 'nWords

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

numberworkswords.com/nz
NorthWest Ph 416 3123



NumberWorks 'nWords
TUTORING CONFIDENCE RESULTS

[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

skids - Before and After School Care

Accredited OSCAR Provider. Work & Income OSCAR Subsidy available!

BOOK NOW at: www.skids.co.nz/book

search for Whenuapai



Onsite: 021 174 8473
(Only checked during opening hours)
www.skids.co.nz/whenuapai



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.



Uniform Shop

Argyle Schoolwear now has a retail shop, where you can purchase our school uniform.

You will still be able to purchase your uniform online through their Argyle Online website, but you now also have the option to purchase in store, offering you a full retail experience.

Argyle's Retail Shop is located at:

- Unit 4 / 91 Central Park Drive in Henderson.

It is advisable that you book an appointment – please go to our school page on Argyle Online and click 'book a fitting'. Limited parking is available in front of the store.



[Click Here to Book](#)

Uniform Retail Store Opening 5th December 2024

WHENUAPAI SCHOOL

4/91 Central Park Drive, Henderson, Auckland
Book a fitting online through your school page at www.argyleonline.co.nz
Card payments only; no cash. WINZ quotes available.

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.



Rubbish Free Lunchboxes are:



Healthier, Cheaper & Way better for Whenuapai (good land)

Here's what happened at another NZ school that asked all their students to pack Nood Food Lunches:

"The children are loving the food - it is a lot more nutritious. We are noticing **better focus in the afternoons after lunch.** Even after the first week there was a huge change," says Heather.

As well as **eliminating waste,** Heather says they wanted to help families **save some money.**

"We tried to show them that by **decanting big bags of things into a lunchbox, they could stop waste and save money.**" she says.

Other spinoffs are that children are **proud of their lunches;** some have **started making their own lunches** and some of the youngest children, who can take a long time to eat their lunches, **now manage to finish eating their lunches** because **they're not spending time opening up packets.**"



Hornby Primary School
Read the rest of the article here

UPPER WAITEMATĀ COASTAL CLEAN UP



Saturday 28th March ~ 10am - 12.30pm

Riverlea Reserve, Whenuapai



Do you want to be involved in making a positive difference to the marine environment? We are organising an afternoon of action for people to head out and collect litter. We would love to see you there.

free refreshments/ sausage sizzle

Clean Ups also in Albany, Greenhithe, Beach Haven, Scott Point, Herald Island and Hobsonville!



Registration essential



Supported by



FREE Kids Sewing Workshop Make a Cute Keychain!



Curious about sewing?
We are running a FREE session for kids to try sewing and make a cute keychain to take home.

Hobsonville Point Primary School
Weds 1st April • 3.30-4.30
For Kids in Year 4 to Year 8

Spots limited – booking essential

Scan to book your FREE spot
threadroom.co.nz/classes



Weekly after-school sewing classes run on Wednesdays at Hobsonville Point Primary.