

Whenuapai School

14 Airport Road, Auckland
New Zealand

Newsletter – 28 April 2026



Kia ora e te whānau,

We hope you all enjoyed a restful and refreshing break with your whānau. As we begin Term 2, we're looking forward to a term filled with exciting learning opportunities, activities, and events.

Term 2 is a longer term, with 11 weeks of school, and it promises to be a busy and engaging time with plenty happening both in and out of the classroom. Our inquiry focus this term is on ancient civilisations. Each team will be learning about a different period, from the Stone Age through the great ages of the world.

We also have a busy assessment programme ahead. Over the next four weeks, we will be trialling the new SMART assessment tool. Tamariki will take part in reading, writing, and maths assessments. We look forward to reviewing the results towards the end of this term and into the start of next term. Alongside this, we are excited to introduce a new reporting format, which will provide clear information about your child's current achievement level and next learning steps. Reports will be shared with parents in the last week of term.

It's been fantastic to see so many of our tamariki involved in sport. Basketball and Flippaball are in full swing, and Netball is starting up. We have hundreds of children involved in our outside-of-school sports programmes. A huge thank you to all the coaches and managers who make our sports programme such a success. We will be holding our Summer Sports Prizegiving during the last few weeks of the term. This year, we have moved from one large prizegiving at the end of the year to two smaller events in Terms 2 and 4. We are hoping to make them more meaningful and relevant for the children.

We are also pleased to share some exciting progress on our school site. Have you noticed the doors and windows are now installed in some of the new classrooms on the home campus? If you walk up the ramp by the Sports Office near Room 18, you can also see that the brick cladding is starting to be installed. It's all very exciting to watch the development of these new learning spaces.

I would also like to commend our tamariki and staff as we continue introducing our new classroom expectations and Science of Learning teaching approaches. We have already noticed improvements in student attention to learning and overall behaviour. This is an ongoing journey, and we will share more in future newsletters about our behaviour curriculum, including expected student behaviours and how we respond.

As always, your support and understanding are greatly appreciated as we work together to support students with behavioural development. Behaviour expectations need to be taught, modelled, and reinforced so that children clearly understand what is expected of them. While school and home expectations may differ, working in partnership helps create consistency and supports positive outcomes for our tamariki.

Finally, the Board had hoped to share our new School Strategic Direction with you this term. However, like many other changes in education at the moment, we are still waiting for updated requirements to be released. As soon as we have a clear picture of the Ministry of Education and Government expectations, the Board will resume work on the plan and share it with the community for feedback. In the meantime, if you have any feedback or suggestions about our kura (school), please feel free to contact a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

We look forward to a wonderful Term 2.

Ngā mihi nui,

Adam Cels





Dates for your diary

Wednesday – 13 May 6.00pm – School Board Meeting	Thursday – 28 May Year 7&8 – NW Basketball (Girls)
Thursday – 14 May Year 3-6 - Rippa Rugby Festival National Young Leaders Day	Monday – 1 June Kings Birthday - No School
Friday – 15 May Pink Shirt Day	Wednesday – 5 June Year 7/8 – NW Table Tennis
Tuesday – 19 May Year 7&8 – NW Football	Thursday – 11 June Year 5/6 – NW Football
Tuesday – 26 May Year 7&8 – NW Basketball (Boys)	Friday – 3 July Last day of Term 2



Scholastics Book Club Issue 3 Out Now!



**CLICK HERE TO
ORDER ONLINE**

Massey High School
OPEN NIGHT
2026

Year 8 Students and their Families

16 JUNE 2026
TWO SESSIONS AVAILABLE
4:00PM - 5:30PM
6:00PM - 7:30PM

Scan to Register

REGISTER NOW - LIMITED SPACES

Celebrating Success

Congratulations to one of our amazing Year 5 students, Buddy M, who recently competed in the New Zealand Karting Nationals held in Rotorua over the Easter holiday period.

Buddy demonstrated fantastic skill & determination throughout the competition, racing against some of the best young drivers in the country. He performed extremely well and has come away ranked **New Zealand No. 4 in his class**, an outstanding achievement!

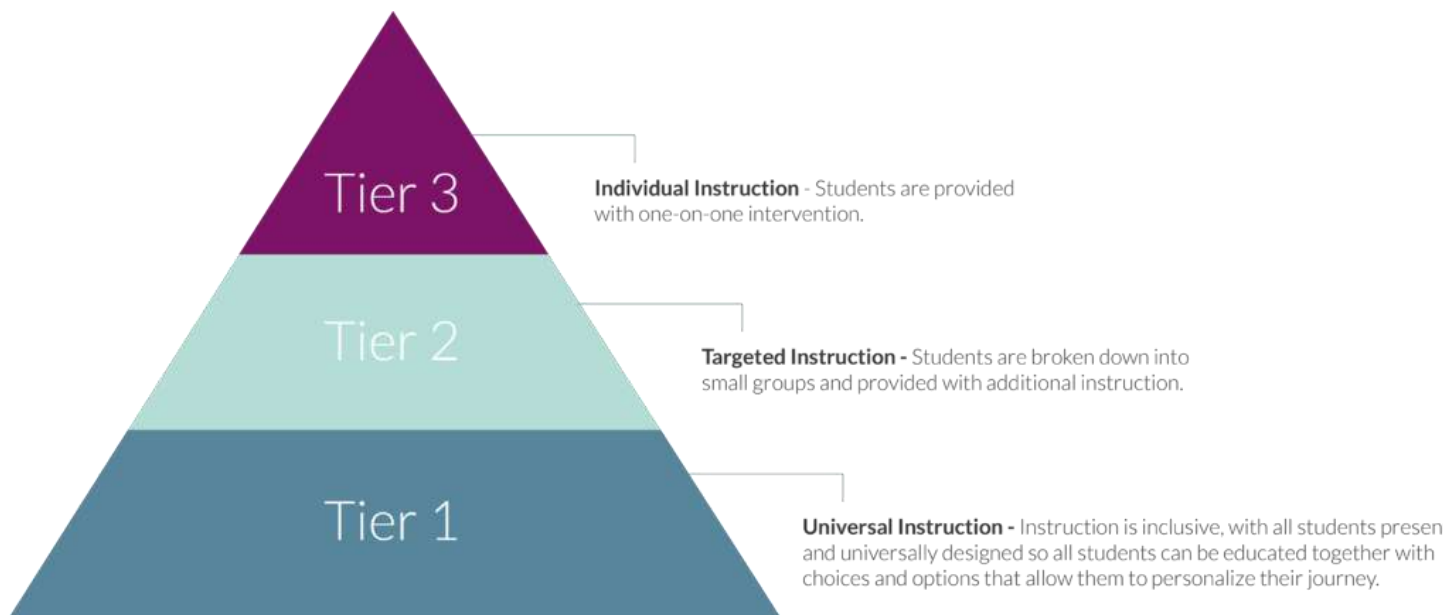
We are incredibly proud of you, Buddy, what a fantastic result!



Science of Learning (SoL) Understanding Tiered Support for all learners.

Science of Learning is built on the understanding that, while every student is unique, our brains generally follow the same cognitive processes when learning new information. When we align teaching with how the brain learns best, we create more inclusive classrooms where support is built into instruction, rather than added afterwards.

Our classrooms use a tiered support framework to ensure students receive the right level of instruction at the right time.



The Support Pyramid: Overview

- **Tier 1:** Universal Instruction – High-quality teaching for all students.
- **Tier 2:** Targeted Instruction – Additional small-group teaching for some students.
- **Tier 3:** Individual Instruction – Intensive, tailored one-to-one intervention for a few students.

Tier 1 vs Tier 2: What's the Difference?

In a Science of Learning classroom, it is important to distinguish between differentiated support provided during everyday teaching and more formal intervention.

Tier 1: Differentiated Tier 1 Instruction (Universal)

Tier 1 happens during whole-class teaching. It is designed to be inclusive, allowing all students to learn together with scaffolds, challenge, and support that personalises their learning journey.

- **Scaffolding:** Using visuals, gestures, worked examples, sentence stems, or prompts to support understanding.
- **Active Monitoring:** Teachers circulate, check for understanding, and provide immediate corrective feedback.

- **Pre-teaching (frontloading):** A strategy used to support students who may struggle with upcoming content, giving a “sneak peek” of key vocabulary, concepts, or skills before the lesson.
- **Extension for Advanced Learners:** Tier 1 also supports students ready for greater challenge through:
 - higher-order questioning
 - more complex tasks
 - multiple solution pathways
 - deeper reasoning and justification
 - opportunities to apply learning in new contexts.

This ensures advanced learners continue to grow within the classroom programme, rather than simply receiving “more work.”

Tier 2 Support (Small Group Intervention)

Tier 2 is additional to classroom teaching, not a replacement for it. It is a high-energy, highly structured “extra dose” of instruction.

- **Small Groups:** Typically 3-6 students with similar learning needs.
- **Targeted Focus:** Addresses specific foundational gaps, such as phonics, phonological awareness, fluency, number knowledge, or vocabulary.
- **Increased Frequency:** Typically delivered 3-5 times a week for 10-20 minutes.

Tier 2 provides the targeted, short-term support necessary for students to successfully access and master their regular classroom learning.

Tier 2 can also be used for students who have already mastered core content. In this case, small-group sessions may focus on:

- inquiry learning
- advanced problem solving
- deeper text analysis
- creative and critical thinking
- leadership and collaboration tasks

This allows advanced learners to be stretched through purposeful enrichment and meaningful challenge.

Feature	Differentiated Tier 1	Tier 2
When	During whole-class instruction	Outside / in addition to whole class
Who	All students (some need more help)	Students with identified gaps in essential knowledge or who require extension
Intensity	Moderate	High (extra dose)
Grouping	Flexible / Individual	Small group (3-6 students)

KĀKĀPŌ ART

Kākāpō Team worked hard at producing beautiful art pieces towards the end of last term. We tied in our Inquiry learning and are all very proud of what we achieved with some new creative skills.

Year 5 Matau

These clay matau (fish hooks) have been carefully designed and created by our students, inspired by native species of Aotearoa. Each piece reflects the unique features of a chosen animal, showing the children's creativity and understanding of the natural world around them. This learning connects to our term whakataukī, reminding us of our responsibility as kaitiaki (guardians) to care for and protect our environment.

Through this art, students have explored the importance of conservation, recognising the need to look after our native species so they can thrive for generations to come.



Year 6 Flox Inspired Art

In Rimu Kainga, we delved into the world of NZ artist Flox and linked in our learning of precious native and endemic birds. We chose a bird, painted a vibrant background, outlined our animal surrounded in beautiful flora, and then painted using blending methods. Our final step was to add detail with paint pens. We all loved this multi-step project and you can check out a handful of them in the upcoming NW Art Exhibition.

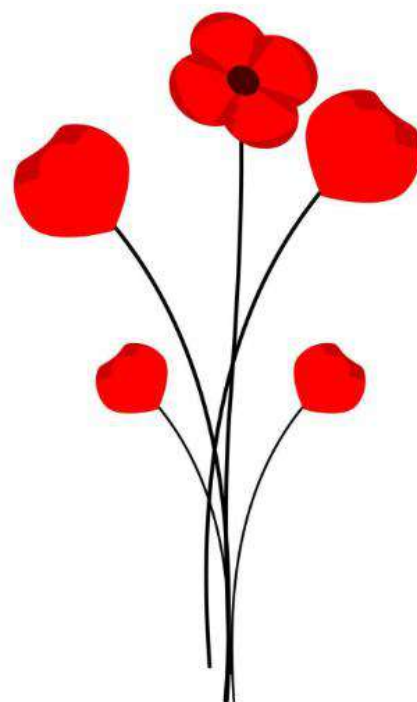
ANZAC Day Remembrance: Pride, Respect, and Community - Saturday, 25th April 2026

What a beautiful morning it was for the ANZAC Day Parade. With the sun shining and the community gathered in shared reflection, it was a truly special occasion, and it was wonderful to see such a strong turnout from our whānau and staff to support our students and the wider Whenuapai community.

Our students represented Whenuapai School with pride. Throughout the parade and the service, they displayed outstanding mana and respect, marching with dignity and acting as true ambassadors for our kura, while honouring the legacy of those who have served.

As always, a highlight of the day was the Flyover - a perennial favourite! The sight of the aircraft soaring above the crowd added to the significance of the morning and never fails to impress.

We would like to extend a sincere thank you to all the staff, students, and whānau who joined us. We are incredibly proud of our students for the way they remembered the past, and represented our school values so beautifully. **Lest we forget.**



ONLINE SAFETY HUB + PARENT SAFETY APP (QUSTODIO)

We have partnered with Linewize by Qoria to provide a dedicated online safety hub website with parent resources for all parents. Delivering insights by world leading safety experts, this central hub helps parents build knowledge to take an active role in your child's online safety. The hub includes **special access to the world leading Qustodio parent safety app** used by over 8 million parents.

HOW CAN YOU PROTECT YOUR CHILD AT HOME?

All families and whānau now have free access to resources, information and free tools to help keep tamariki safe online when using their devices at home.

- The latest advice from experts including social media, app & game risk reviews
- Difficult online safety conversation starters for Parents & FAQ's
- Guides to help you support your child's online development
- Qustodio Parent App - FREE tool for parents to protect children's devices at home.

VISIT OUR HUB AT: <https://whenuapai.onlinesafetyhub.nz/>

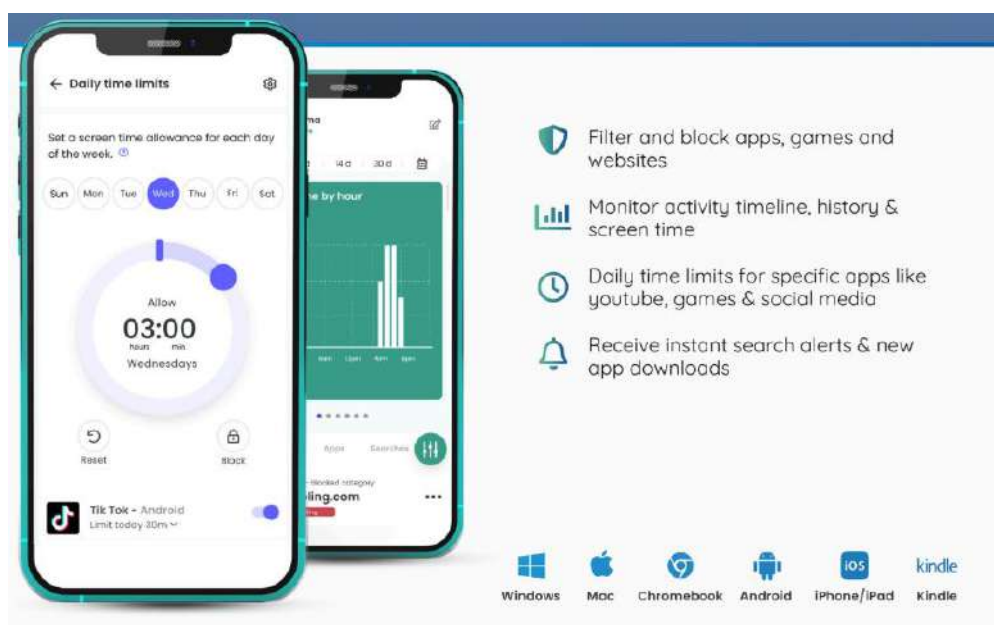
With Qustodio Parent App for Families - Free 'My School' Qustodio Access Parents Can:

- **Manage screen time**, social media, app and YouTube limits across multiple different devices
- **Receive** instant search alerts
- **Filter** websites, images, videos & searches
- **Block** apps, websites and games
- **Protect** screen-free moments such as mealtimes & bedtime by pausing the internet & locking the device

Qustodio works across multiple different devices - iOS, Chromebooks, Android & Windows. Works with apple screentime and Google Family Link.

How to get started:

1. Visit the Online Safety Hub.
2. Create your free parent account via the main page
3. Install Qustodio on your child's devices



Ezlunch is back for Term 2

Ordering Ezlunch through Kindo is quick, easy, and one less thing to think about in the morning. You order from home (or on the go), and your child's lunch is delivered to school, ready to eat.

Here's how:

1. Log in to the Kindo app (or set up an account at shop.kindo.co.nz)
2. Pick from the menu on your school's available days
3. Your child collects their lunch at school

💰 **Order & win!** Every Ezlunch order placed between 27 April - 22 May goes in the draw to win 1 of 5 x \$50 Kindo credits each week.

Order here 🖱️ mykindo.co.nz



[T&Cs apply.](#)

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](#)



School Notices:



For our Policies and Procedures please visit SchoolDocs at:

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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hobsonville@hiltonbrownswimming.co.nz

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