



Whangārei Heads School Newsletter

Term 1 - Week 9 - April 2, 2026

KIA ORA E TE WHĀNAU,

And just like that another term whizzes by!

What a term it has been. In terms of learning, the classes have all settled into their new and in some cases temporary locations. I am so proud of all the kaimahi (staff) and taura (students) for how they have navigated some of the challenges that come in operating in a building site. Special mention has to be made for Kotare and Jamie who are the closest to the noise!

The big focus for Inquiry has been around the landforms and natural resources. The children have been learning all about the volcanoes, mountains and visited estuaries. It was a big term for Education Outside the Classroom, weather has played a role in cancelling or changing some events like the Teina trip to the natural jetty and it effected the Kotare and Korora camp. But other events went ahead as planned such as Ruru's walk to Reotahi, Karearea's EOTC trip which included a visit to Tranquility Bay and the Pines Golf Course to show acts of kindness or Manaakitanga, then Sailing at Parua Bay, for resilience. They are off to Weta Workshop in Auckland today for Creativity. What an amazing experience!

Funky Fish last weekend was another hugely successful event. Thanks to Guyco as Platinum Sponsor for your support as well as all the other sponsors. We couldn't do the event without you. The Funky Fish Committee is another group of amazing people without whom we couldn't do the event. I am in awe of how you busy people manage to carve out time from already busy lives to dedicate to the organisation of the event. Thanks as well to the staff who are super busy on the day running different aspects of the event, as well as the preparation before hand. This year it was really helpful to have so many additional parents volunteer to help as well on the day. This helped make it a smooth event. We are in the process of reflecting on the day and recording ways to further improve it, so if you do have ideas feed them through to the staff or any member of the Funky Fishing Committee.

I know there were some concerns around landslides in last weeks rain. Tonkin and Taylor are monitoring the ground water and they visited the site again on Friday. I have asked the MOE to provide some information for you all to explain the process. However at all times the school remains safe. Our issues are around access on the road. This will hopefully be explained better by the experts soon.

Finally, have a safe and restful holiday with whanau and friends this Easter break. We look forward to seeing you all back at school safe and sound next term.

Kelly

Our Place to Grow and Learn together

Ko tātou kura, kia tipu, kia ako ngātahi

Coming Events:

TERM 2

Week 1 - Apr 20-24

Apr 20 - First Day of Term!

Week 2 - Apr 27-May 1

Apr 27 - ANZAC Day - No School

Apr 29 - WPSSA Y5/6 Winter Sports

Week 3 - May 4-8

May 5 - Board Meeting 6pm

Week 4 - May 11-15

May 11 - Jumping June Begins

May 13 - WPSSA Y7/8 Winter Sports

Week 5 - May 18-22



Funky Fish 2026

We had a great turn out at Funky Fish - our biggest school fundraising event each year! It was great to see the local community come together and support our school - enjoying the food, refreshments and activities we offer, alongside the fishing and diving competition.

Thank you Clare Gordon Photography for capturing the day in these photos!

Another big thank you to all our Sponsors! Your support keeps this event running, year after year.

And the biggest of thanks to all our Event Crew who put in the mahi (for some, months before the competition). It was great to have some new faces on board this year. We always need more!





Longest Snapper Winners

~ Catch & Release ~

Our 2026 Senior Winner was Alan with an 84cm Snapper.

Our 2026 Junior Winner was Abi with a 68cm Snapper.

Both of these Snapper were released back into the ocean after their catch & release photoshoot.

Well done Alan and Abi!



Karearea Visit Tranquility

A message from Kathy - Activities Co-ordinator:

"It was a pleasure to welcome your polite and well behaved group to our Home. I hope the students enjoyed their visit, something different for many of them.

Lance said the morning group worked so hard they finished all the jobs he'd prepared for the whole day! He was impressed.

All the kids were patient and respectful of our residents. I noticed many showing exceptional warmth and kindness during our balloon volleyball game and card bingo.

I think the interviews/informal chats went well because we often had to extract the children from the rooms. So I assume the chats felt easy. I wish I could have been a "fly on the wall" during their discussions. Some of our residents are very interesting people who have led fascinating lives."



"Brenda said if these children are an example of who will lead society she feels very hopeful about the future.

Tom amused the children (and us all) by flexing his biceps and showing how fit and able he is despite being in his 90s.

They heard stories about nursing, sailing, diving and travel from Annette, Kim, John B, Ian W, Brenda and Tom.

They enjoyed meeting all our resident pets. Birds, cats (Charlie, Mocka and Teddy) dogs (Bailey) and my visiting Spoodle puppy Darcy."

Karearea Sailing Day

It's EOTC week for our Karearea class! On Tuesday, they took to the water for a sailing experience. They all returned windswept, fresh faced, and full of stories and excitement about the events of the day.



ADULTS ONLY EVENT

PARENT PITSTOP

For Carers of Awesome Kids

APRIL 12 - 2PM
THE QUAY - UNDER THE GAZEBO

We are a local group of parents who met through Parent2Parent, who want to expand our group and support others!

- Awaiting a diagnosis for your child?
- Considering having your child diagnosed but feeling apprehensive?
- Received a diagnosis and want to talk about it with parents who truly understand?
- Navigating challenges alone because friends and family can't relate?

We have been there!
We get it.
Come have a chat, a laugh, or a rant.
We look forward to meeting you!

JOIN US FOR OUR PARUA BAY MARKETS

RUN FOR CHARITIES

MONDAY
6TH APRIL
9.00AM TO 2.00PM

GREAT STALLS

FOOD STALLS

EASTER WEEKEND

PARUA BAY
COMMUNITY HALL
1347 WHANGAREI
HEADS ROAD,
PARUA BAY

FREE
ENTRY

paruabaymarket@gmail.com for more info



13 - 15 APRIL | 9AM - 3PM | 148 CHURCH ST, ONERAHI

ONERAHI

HOLIDAY PROGRAMME



COST: \$99

AGES 8-16 BOYS

AGES 8-16 GIRLS

www.rh3footballacademy.co.nz/

REGISTER VIA LINK IN BIO

ONERAHI



RH3 FOOTBALL ACADEMY

TERM 2 PROGRAMME

DATES: MONDAY APRIL 20th - MONDAY JUNE 29th (NO SESSION JUNE 1st)

VENUE: ONERAHI FC, 148 CHURCH STREET, ONERAHI

AGE & TIME: 9 - 12 | 4:15PM - 5:30PM

AGE & TIME: 13 - 16 | 5:45PM - 7:00PM

COST: \$100



Love our community? Enjoy driving? Thinking of what to do in 2026?

SCHOOL BUS

We Need You!

Ritchies Whangārei is looking for School Bus Drivers to help get our Tamariki and mokopuna to school safely every day.

This is the perfect role if you:

- Enjoy being out and about in the community.
- Want work that fits around school hours.
- Like the idea of FREE school holidays (except the odd training day)!
- Take pride in keeping our kids safe on their journey to and from Kura.

What you'll need:

- Class 2 license (minimum).
- P Endorsement.
- A calm, friendly attitude.
- Reliability — our kids are counting on you!

What you'll get:

- Supportive team.
- Uniform.
- Fortnightly pay.
- Chance to drive extra charter trips if you want them.

**Join us—the community will thank you, and so will the next generation!
Apply online today - www.careers.ritchies.co.nz**

ITCHIES

Port to Cove Fishing Competition



27th April 2026



maiplace.co.nz



Port to Cove Rod and Reel Beach Fishing Competition – ANZAC Day

A fun, family-friendly fishing competition will be held on **Saturday 25 April 2026** at Bream Bay.

7:00 AM – 3:00 PM (fish anytime)

Adults \$10 | Kids (15 & under) \$5

Great prizes up for grabs, including junior and mystery prizes.

For more info:

Mai Place Bream Bay

Port to Cove Rod & Reel Beach Competition

FENCING LESSONS

For 7-10 year olds



*Learn the amazing discipline of
Olympic sword fighting*

Golden Church Hall 149 Kamo Road

Mondays - 2 sessions

3.30 - 4.30 and 4.30 - 5.30

All equipment and coaching provided

Taught in small groups of 10 students

\$20 a session (fees paid per term)

INFORMATION & ENROLMENT SESSION:

Monday 20th April 3.30pm at
the Golden Church Hall

*Any queries or pre enrolment
email: katrinaf00@hotmail.com
Katrina 02102725210*