



Whangārei Heads School Newsletter

Term 3 - Week 3 - Aug 7, 2026

KIA ORA E TE WHĀNAU,

It was so lovely to see you all here for the Three Way Conferences in the first two weeks at school. I heard such positive reports of the conversations had around learning and your child's progress.

You will have seen that the build is progressing along. The RAB board is on, and the roof should be on by the end of next week. Being water tight is not too far away. The build is on schedule now, based on the new schedule that was created when some challenges were found during the demolition phase. The classroom and toilet blocks are due for completion by the next school holidays, the admin area will be ready for the new school year. We can't wait!

The Board are now looking at investing the past years funds from the Funky Fishing towards a playground upgrade. We will start to ask the children what they would like, visit local school playgrounds to gather ideas and start to apply for grants. We have approximately \$66k in locally raised funds, and will need to generate at least another similar amount. But it is exciting to think about. We will be asking for input from you all along the journey, but if you would like to help out in any way; applying for grants, have skill/interest in playgrounds or building works, please let me know.

The judges were blown away by the quality of the Science Fair projects produced by our students in Karearea. I hope you had a chance to pop into the office and see some of them. Some memorable ones for me were;

- Solving Sunburn; where Juno has developed an App to alert you to the UV level
- From Rakau to Remeby; where Tim harvested and created his own manuka and kanuka balm
- Nip it; where Kaia made a sensory toy so her horse would stop biting her
- AI; where Amelie researched into the impact of AI on the environment
- The Dieback Detectives; where Sofia researched Kauri Dieback
- Bloom in a Bottle; where Macenzy has tested and made a natural perfume.

Kelly

Coming Events:

Week 4 - Aug 10-14

MATH WEEK!

Aug 12 - WGHS Interviews at PBS

Aug 14 - School Assembly 2pm

Week 5 - Aug 17-21

Aug 19 - Ruru Fire Station Trip

Aug 21 - WHS Cross Country

Week 6 - Aug 24-28

Aug 28 - School Assembly 2pm

Week 7 - Aug 31-Sept 4

Sept 2 - WPSSA Cross Country

Week 8 - Sept 7-11

Sept 8 - Board Meeting 6pm

Sept 11 - School Assembly 2pm



Our Place to Grow and Learn together

Ko tātou kura, kia tipu, kia ako ngātahi

Hui a Kura – Assembly Schedule

Term 3:

Week 4: Full school assembly - Kotare Sharing

Week 5: No assembly - Cross Country 12-2pm

Week 6: Full school assembly - Korora Sharing

Week 7: Team Hui - Teina hui for the junior school (Piwakawaka, Tui, Ruru),
Tuakana hui for the senior school (Korora, Kotare, Karearea)

Week 8: Full school assembly - Ruru Sharing

Week 9: Team Hui - Teina hui for the junior school (Piwakawaka, Tui, Ruru),
Tuakana hui for the senior school (Korora, Kotare, Karearea)

Week 10: Full school assembly - Tui Sharing



PLANTING DAY REPORT 2026
Whangārei Heads School
with Murray Jagger



**Trees for Survival
Planting Day**

**See full report
attached below**

**Together, we grew
and planted 820
native plants!**

Tauria Voice: Student Pulse Check Report

Synthesising Tauria feedback on core values, successes, and growth areas.

Te Ao Tauria (The Learner World)

MANAAKITANGA

Kindness in Action



Tauria experience kindness through smiling, complimenting others, and helping friends who fall or get hurt.

WHANAUNGATANGA

Fostering Belonging



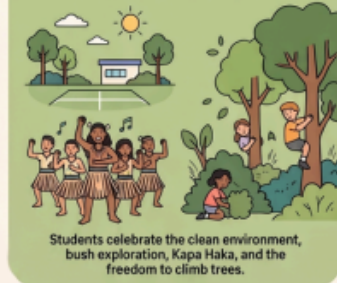
A welcoming environment is created by including others in games and giving new Tauria school tours.

“Saying morning to people and listening to whoever is speaking.”

The School Environment: The 'Ka Pai' & The 'Wero'

THE 'KA PAI'

Current Successes

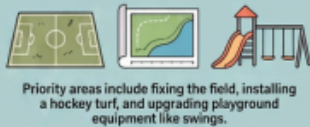


Students celebrate the clean environment, bush exploration, Kapa Haka, and the freedom to climb trees.

THE 'WERO'

Challenges and Improvements

Priority Areas



Priority areas include fixing the field, installing a hockey turf, and upgrading playground equipment like swings.

Top Infrastructure Requests



Top Student Priorities

Category	Priorities	Description
Physical Space		Improving the field, hockey turf, and playground slides/swings.
Sustainability		Planting more trees/vegetables and maintaining the environment.
Resources		More PE gear, better classroom equipment, and a hall to be on tuis.

DO YOU HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT YOUR CHILD?

Term 3 2026

Te Manawa Tahī is a learning support hub where you can talk to educational professionals about your child's learning needs. **This is a free service.**

If you have a concern about your child's language development, learning progress, social and emotional well-being or behaviour, Te Manawa Tahī have specialists available so you can discuss your concerns directly with them.

All hubs are open from 9:00am until 12:00pm unless otherwise stated.

Te Manawa Tahī COMMUNITY TIMETABLE Whangarei, Bream Bay and Kaipara

Date	Hub Locations	Term 3 2026, Weeks 1 to 5
Mon 27 th Jul	Clark Road Chapel, 4-6 Clark Road, Kamo	
Wed 29 th Jul	Bream Bay Community Trust, 9 Takutai Place, Ruakākā	
Thur 30 th Jul	Ministry of Education, 24 Kaka St, Morningside	
Thur 6 th Aug	Onerahi Community House, 130 Onerahi Road, Onerahi	
Wed 12 th Aug	Early Years Hub, 28 Hokianga Road, Dargaville	
Mon 17 th Aug	Clark Road Chapel, 4-6 Clark Road, Kamo	
Wed 19 th Aug	Ministry of Education, 24 Kaka St, Morningside	

Drop into a hub or to see a Speech Language Therapist make an appointment by phoning 0800 524 842 or emailing TT.Support@education.govt.nz

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
TE TĀHĪHĪ O TE MĀTAURĪNGA

[UNCLASSIFIED]



School Cross Country

August 21 - 12-2pm - Vinson Farm - Paddock opposite Manaia Club - Mark it on your calendars now!

Join us over at Vinson's Farm for our annual whole school event.

We will kickoff with our junior runners first from approximately 12.30pm - working our way through to our oldest runners. Everyone will participate - with the fastest senior runners invited to represent our kura at the interschool event in week 7. We have an adults race at the end for a bit of fun.

Please park at school and walk with us at 12pm, or over in the Manaia carpark.



Fantastic Gymnastics
Physical Preparation for Life

PARUA BAY COMMUNITY CENTRE

Gymnastics provides incredible fun and fitness opportunities for children, ranging from preschool through high school.

Class Timetable

Thursday Only.
3.00 – 3.30 PlayGym
3.15 – 4.00 New Entrants
3.30 – 4.30 GymSkills 1
4.00 – 5.00 GymSkills 2
4.30 – 5.30 Extension 1
5.30 – 6.00 Extension 2

Phone 027 66 59 174
hannah@fantasticgymnastics.co.nz



Bookings open now

TERM 3
20 July – 25 Sept



Whangārei Heads School

OUT-OF-ZONE ENROLMENTS

OPEN FOR TERM 4, 2026

2 places available Year 6
2 places available Year 7&8

Ballot closes Monday, Sept 7, 2026

Ballot drawn Thursday, Sept 10, 2026

For more information regarding the ballot, please
contact our school office via email
office@whangareiheads.school.nz

<http://www.whangareiheads.school.nz>

Our Place to Grow and Learn Together

Ko tātou kura, kia tipu, kia ako ngātahi





PLANTING DAYREPORT 2026

Whangārei Heads School with Murray Jagger



Together, we grew and planted 820 native plants!

Thank you for your commitment to environmental education in action!
Together, by growing and planting native trees we are actively involved in protecting
and restoring a more resilient environment.





PLANTING DAY SUMMARY:

30 Jun 2026 at Taurikura

Whangārei Heads School students, teachers and parents had an amazing day planting at the stream running by the tennis courts out to the harbour at Taurikura. Continuing on the stream from Parua Bay's School planting. What a great opportunity for the students to head out to a beautiful location, get their hands dirty and enjoy a morning in the fresh air.

The students and their teachers, Dane and Jessie, have been busy potting up, and caring for the native plants since spring and the big planting day had finally come.

With our gumboots on and our spades at the ready, we began with a quick health and safety briefing and learnt a bit more about our all about the environmental benefits our plantings will provide. These include nitrate filtering before the water gets into the stream and heads out to the harbour. The 3 c's we want our stream to be - cool, clear and clean. They will also help to increase biodiversity and provide food and shelter for our beautiful native birds. Then it was time to get stuck in and do the hard mahi.

Students learnt to dig a hole, get the beautiful native plant out of its bag and put it in the ground to give it the best chance of success in its new home at Taurikura.

Planting days are a great way to take tangible action for our local environment, leaving a future lasting legacy for generations. Thanks to Murray Jagger for fencing and prepping the site. It will be great for these students to see these trees grow over the years.

TfS Facilitator: Kate Davies

Teacher: Dane Higgison

30 Students

2 School Staff

5 Parents, Landowners, Others

Waterway planted: 20m and 5m







140 x Mānuka

(*Leptospermum scoparium*)

Manuka is great for restoration projects as it is common through NZ, hardy and tolerant of a range of habitats from wetlands to dry slopes. It is a good nursery crop, food source for birds and insects and honey produced from its flowers has strong antibacterial qualities.



160 x Karamū

(*Coprosma robusta*)

Common throughout NZ and easily recognized by its bright orange ripe fruit. This bushy shrub grows to 6m tall and provides food for birds in winter. It easily self-seeds which makes it a great plant for many restoration projects.



180xTiKōuka

(*Cabbage Tree / Cordyline australis*)

One of our most iconic native plants. Ti Kōuka trees prefer open wet areas and swamps, and their large taproot helps stop soil erosion. Flowers are enjoyed by insects and birds. It has the fastest growing root system over 5 years than any other species. It belongs to the lily family.



180 x Harakeke

(*Flax / Phormium tenax*)

Found throughout NZ, flax grows well in a wide range of habitats but favours wetlands and open riversides. Its flower stalks can grow up to 4m tall and tui and bellbird are especially fond of the nectar.



160xUpokotangata

(*Giant Umbrella Sedge / Cyperus ustulatus*)

Abundant throughout NZ, it grows well in damp open areas like stream sides or wetlands where it makes great nesting habitat for aquatic birds. Growing up to 2m tall dark brown seed heads makes it easy to identify.





What is Trees for Survival Charitable Trust?

Trees for Survival Charitable Trust is a Rotary initiated project now supporting over 250 schools and local communities across Aotearoa New Zealand to grow and plant native trees along waterways and on environmentally at-risk sites.

Through action based learning, our environmental education programme provides the opportunity for school communities to have a positive impact protecting and restoring their local environment.

Trees for Survival Donation & Membership

From \$7.00 you can support the growing and planting of a native plant in NZ by a school running our programme. For donation options visit us at www.tfsnz.org.nz/donate-a-tree

@treesforsurvivalnz



@treesforsurvivalnz



With special thanks to our Principal Partners



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TREES THAT COUNT



TE RAHI O TĀNE