

Whangārei Heads School Newsletter

Term 4 - Week 3 - Oct 28, 2026

KIA ORA E TE WHĀNAU,

The school is busy getting ready for Thursday afternoon and evenings Eco Innovators Showcase.

This is the end result of a year long Inquiry into "Growing Eco Innovators". In Term 1 the tauira (students) learned about the local landformations that make up our amazing Whangārei Heads Environment. In Term 2 they then learned how the land has changed over time. Some classes focused on natural, environmental changes to the environment like erosion, others focused on manmade changes like deforestation and farming. In Term 3 the tauira were then challenged to be an Eco Innovator - what can we do to make a difference for our envioronment?

Piwakawaka have created a living wall, to rehome the mini-beasts or small creatures that have been distrubed by the build project.
Tui have visited Fern Valley and compared how the fenced areas and non fenced areas are different. They have made a range of different houses for the creatures who live in the bush, including some fairies ;)
Ruru worked in groups; creating small businesses that have then solved a range of different issues in our school; a drain litter trap, a rat trap with a difference, insect kingdoms and new signs to inform the community that we are a dog-free zone.
Korora have researched about Fast Fashion, and the impact of our "throw away culture" in terms of clothing. They have some astonishing facts to share. They have also learned how to knit, weave and crochet!
Kotare have created a sustainable plan for our Vegetable Garden. This includes using Te Maramataka to guide when is best to plant. This is after learning about mining, deforestation and soil health.
Karearea took a different approach and based on feedback from you and the tauira during last years Strategic Plan consultation, asking for more leadership opportunities for our senior students. They have used the Eco Innovators platform to learn about leadership and have planned lessons to share with the Teina team.

I am incredibly proud of the entire team their creativity. We come together as a whole staff to sew the seeds and collaboratively plan for Inquiry. I am always surprised at where each class heads on the inquiry journey, gathering learner voice and agency. We look forward to sharing with you tomorrow.

Kelly

Coming Events:

Week 3 - Oct 26-30
Oct 29 - ⭐School Showcase⭐
1.30pm & 5pm session times

Week 4 - Nov 2-6
Nov 3 - Board Meeting 6pm
Nov 5 - Kaimahi Only Day

Week 5 - Nov 9-13
Nov 11 - Zone Athletics with PBS

Week 6 - Nov 16-20
Nov 18 - WPSSA Athletics Yr 7-8

Week 7 - Nov 23-27
Nov 27 - Junior Athletics Yr 0-4

Week 8 - Nov 30-Dec 4
Dec 1 - Funky Fish Hui 5.30pm
Dec 2 - Dryland Swimsafe Lessons & WPSSA Athletics Yr 5-6
Dec 3 - Te Whanga

Week 9 - Dec 7-11
Dec 8 - Board Hui 6pm
Dec 9 - Sam's Music Concert
Dec 10 - Tui Fun Day

Our Place to Grow and Learn together

Ko tātou kura, kia tipu, kia ako ngātahi

WELCOME TO WHANGAREI HEADS SHOWCASE

1:30PM AND 5:00PM

KAPA HAKA PERFORMANCES

AND LIVE INTERVIEWS



ALL WHANAU WELCOME

THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER 2026

Friday Lunches!

From Friday Nov 6 to Nov 27, Friday lunches return!
Each lunch will be one sausage sizzle in bread, and one ice cream.
You can **prepay $20 for all four lunches** and pay online or cash.
Or you can order Friday lunches week by week, and pay **$5 cash** to the school office by **Thurdsday 3pm**. No online payments for single lunch orders please!
An order form will be shared via Class Dojo and Email. All lunch orders will be delivered directly to your child's class on Fridays.
If your child is away on the day, you can nominate another student to receive the lunch, otherwise the lunch will be given to a student who has run out of food for the day, thanks!





Ice Blocks

Lunchtime Ice Blocks have also made a recent return!
Students can purchase ice blocks from Karearea Class at 1pm (after eating their lunch 👌) for $1 cash.

Alternatively, you can order a prepaid card from the school office for $10 - for 11 ice blocks!
Prepaid cards will be charged to your student accounts and can be paid for online.
Piwakawaka and Tui prepaid cards will be stored with their teachers.



Street Eats - Nominate Your Teacher!

Your child's teacher could win one of the Christmas gift baskets at Street Eats @ Semenoff. Students can fill out an entry form at the event. Street Eats will deliver the winning baskets to the schools.
There'll be around 100 street food and retail stalls, with Christmas presents and teacher gifts to browse while you're there.

Semenoff Stadium East Car Park, Whangārei
Sunday 29 November, 10am–4pm
Free entry
Facebook: @StreetEatsWhangarei



Update from Backyard Kiwi – Todd Hamilton

Kerry, Jess and I caught up with Kua Tae today for his 6 monthly check. He is healthy and almost fully grown - 2150g and 107.3mm bill today (cf 1900g and 106.8mm on release in May).
He has been cruising around the Martins' pine block at Owhiwa Road where he was released, but has not ventured any further. Photos of Kua Tae below.
Humphries has gone straight from one nest to his next - very keen. We will keep you updated!









