

Whangārei Heads School Newsletter

Term 4 - Week 5 - Nov 12, 2026

KIA ORA E TE WHĀNAU,

We have some exciting news to share. We have appointed 3 new teachers to join the team next year.

Ruby Dickinson-Yeoman; is from Waipu and we are very excited to have her join our team. Ruby has been finishing her training at Raroa Intermediate in Wellington and enjoys working with Year 7 and 8 students. She has a range of talents she will bring to our kura, including Surf Lifesaving, a love for the environment and a passion for theatre. Ruby will be in Karearea next year.

Jessie Fitzgerald; who has been finishing her training with us this year in Ruru class. Jessie will be covering the Parental Leave for Jamie Love, and working in Korora class. Jessie as we know has a passion for the environment and has proven to be a fabulous team member who has contributed so much during her time in Ruru this year. We are thrilled to be able to continue to support her growth as a teacher.

Wendy Darragh; Wendy has been a reliever in our kura and we delighted to welcome her to our team next year. Wendy is a highly experienced junior school teacher and will be working in Tui class. Wendy also has a love of the environment alongside a love of literacy. Wendy will be sharing Tui class with Sara Robinson.

Welcome to the team everyone!

School Organisation for 2027:

Karearaea	Ruby Dickinson-Yeoman	Year 7/8
Kotare	Penn Evans	Year 5/6
Korora	Jessie Fitzgerald T1/T2 Jamie Love T3/4	Year 4/5
Ruru	Sharon Allen / Emily Drake	Year 3
Tui	Wendy Darragh / Sara Robinson	Year 1/2
Piwakawaka	Alex Hunter	NE/Year 1

Dane Higgison; Tuakana team leader, Curriculum Impact teacher in Tuakana (senior) school, supporting Karearea and Kotare

Tracey Morgan: DP, Teina Team Leader, SENCO and Specialist ORS teacher.

Coming Events:

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 Teddy Bears Picnic & Y8 Leavers Dinner
Dec 10 - Tui Fun Day

Week 10 - Dec 14-16
Dec 14 - Christmas Tree Evening (End of Year Prizegiving)
Dec 16 - Last Day of School

Our Place to Grow and Learn together

Ko tātou kura, kia tipu, kia ako ngātahi

Zone Athletics - Year 5&6 with Parua Bay School

It was a fun day in the sun, as we welcomed Year 5&6s from Parua Bay School in for Zone Athletics. Students enjoyed catching up with friends and Manaia teammates from our neighbouring school, and the extra competition as they put their athletic abilities to the test! The top athletes will be sent to the WPSSA Athletics Day in Kensington, when Whangarei schools come together to compete. Year 7&8s will compete on November 18, and Year 5&6s on December 2.











“Every Child Should Be Able to go to Bush School”

Stories from Tui Class

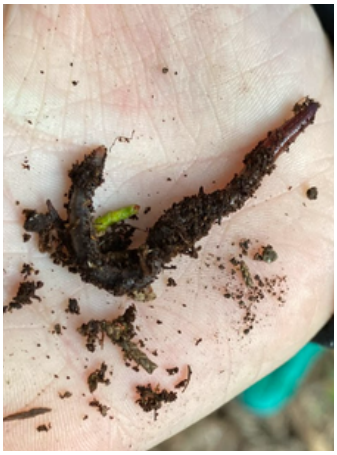




Asher, Year 2:

That is extremely right. Every kid in Whangarei Heads School should go to bush school because it is very interesting. I like seeing the two stick insects and the piwakawaka nest. It fell out of the tree. The hut building is good because you can learn about survival. The puriri tree is weird because it is hollow, and there is a big gaping hole in the middle of it. We learn about weeds.

Children should all be able to be in the bush whenever they want be in the bush. Some might like to walk, some might not. Others might like to do activities in the bush. I like finding cool insects and bugs. We were making inquiry projects such as bird houses or fairy house. The birds that we see at bush school might choose to live in some of them. I once saw a beautiful bird that had orange and blue feathers with a yellow beak!



Alexandra, Year 2:

I like bush school because we get to walk a lot. I also don’t like bush school because the line moves so slowly, but I like bush school for another reason. It is being with my friends. We also get to look at bugs and creepy crawlies. Once someone found a bright yellow worm and I loved it!

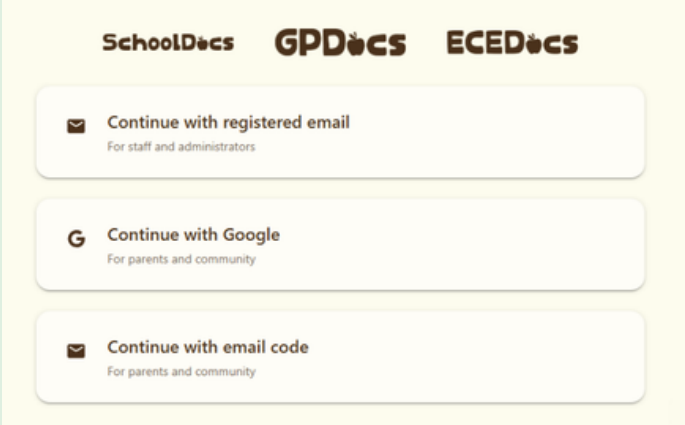




School Docs

Easier access for your school community

Parents, whānau and other community members can now access SchoolDocs site using their email address. They'll receive a one-time code by email, which they can use to sign in.







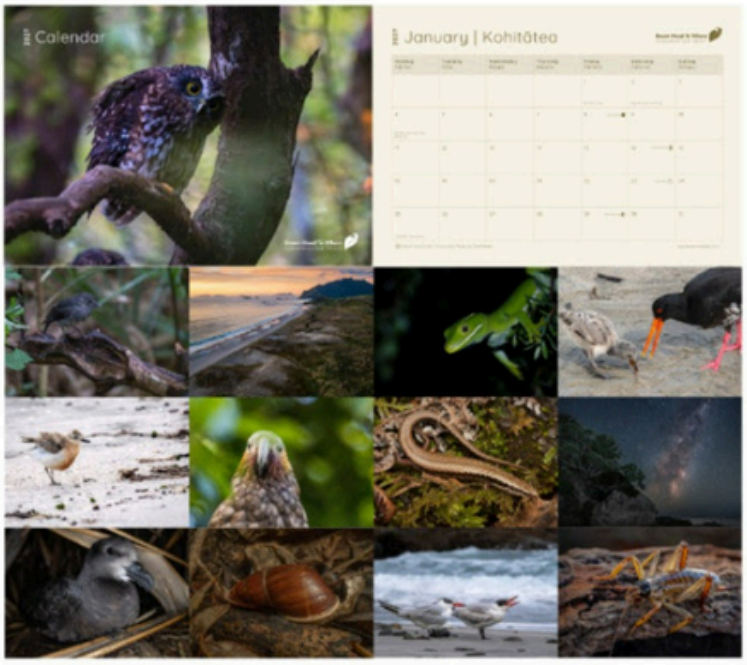
2027 Calendar For Sale

Purchase a 2027 Bream Head Te Whara Conservation Trust calendar. All money raised goes into conservation at Bream Head.

To purchase Scan QR code below or pay online at breamheadtrust.nz/shop. Online purchases can be picked up at The Deck Cafe or The Pines Golf Course.

Bream Head/Te Whara CONSERVATION TRUST

$25





Junior Surf Life Saving is an amazing opportunity to gain all the skills needed to be safe in the ocean through fun games and activities.

Based at the Whangarei Heads Surf Life Saivng Club at Ocean Beach.

Email Cecilia at juniorsurflifesaving@gmail.com for the info package and come give it a try next Sunday 15th Nov.

For kids aged 6 to 13.

Only $30 for the whole season!

All gear provided, just bring your wetsuit and sunscreen.

Riding bikes on the footpath

For children 12 and under

Children aged 12 and under can ride bikes on the footpath.
Parents and caregivers may ride with them to support their safety.



Footpath safety

Children should be confident and able to ride in a straight line, steer around objects, and be able to stop with control before riding on the footpath.

Support your child and help them learn how to:

- ride at a safe speed
- scan for driveways and other hazards
- pass people with patience and care
- ride near the middle of the footpath to keep safe but move to the left when other people are approaching.

Share with care

Teach your child to:

- slow down, especially in busy areas or near shops or bus stops
- give way to pedestrians - they may need to stop and pull over if there's not room to pass
- ring a bell or politely call out when approaching people from behind
- always pass people slowly and where there's the most space.

Managing hazards

Teach your child to:

- look for vehicles moving in and out of driveways – if there is a vehicle, teach them to stop and check the driver has seen them
- look for vehicles before crossing side roads – teach them to stop and put their foot down or get off and walk
- scan ahead for hazards on the path such as bumps, steps, rubbish bins and overhanging trees
- be aware of rubbish and recycling trucks – teach them to hang back and wait if the truck is emptying wheelie bins.

Other things you can do

- Practice bike control skills in an off-road area.
- Ride with them until they've built skills and knowledge.
- Make sure they're always wearing a helmet.
- Check their bike is in good order with working brakes.
- Have them wear light or bright coloured clothes so they can be seen more easily.

NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY WAKA KOTAHI

New Zealand Government
Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa

Manaia Kindergarten

A nurturing environment that values a connection with te taiao. Experienced, qualified teachers encourage, extend and support tamariki, 2-5 year olds.

Open Monday to Friday 8:30am – 2:30pm
48 weeks per year, 30 hours per week, **FREE!**

NKA Northland Kindergarten Association
Te Kura Kōhungahunga Tōpū o Te Taitokerau

09 436 1292 manaia@nka.org.nz

FEES FREE for all children!

Friday Lunches!

Friday lunch orders continue until Nov 27!
Each lunch will be one sausage sizzle in bread, and one ice cream.
Bring your **$5 cash payments** to the school office by **Thursday 3pm**.
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!





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





World Children's Day Treasure Hunt

20 - 30 November 2026

Go on a Treasure Hunt Adventure for World Children's Day!

Pick up an entry form from either:

- Whangārei Central Library or
- Hundertwasser Art Centre with Wairau Māori Art Gallery.

Follow the map to find eash of the 21 treasures, and be in to win art supplies or books!

Fun for families, friends and curious kids of all ages.

Put on your explorer hats and join the adventure!

Entry forms available from 20 to 30 November 2026

All entries go into a draw. Prizes will be drawn and winners notified after 30 November 2026

WORLD CHILDREN'S DAY NOVEMBER 20 unicef

HUNDERTWASSER ART CENTRE with Wairau Māori Art Gallery

Whangarei District Libraries

www.hundertwasserartcentre.co.nz | www.wdc.govt.nz/library



Calendar Art

Last Chance to Order!

Meaningful Christmas gifts for your whanau!
Place your orders via the website:
Go to: **kidsartworks.com**
Use the Entrance Code: KZ720
Enter your child's room and name when prompted.
You will be able to preview your child's art as the products below, before placing your order.
Orders close November 24!



Ice Blocks

Lunchtime Ice Blocks on sale daily! 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.
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.



Reotahi Road Works

We will advise of any change to the current bus stop location on the corner of Reotahi Road.

CLL SERVICE & SOLUTIONS

Whangarei District Council

Construction Works Notification

ReoTahi Road Slip Repair

The Whangarei District Council is responsible for all of your district's transport services (excluding state highways) – from roads and footpaths, to cycle ways, parking and public transport.

Contractors, CLL Solutions Ltd will be carrying out slip repairs on the corner of Whangarei Heads Road and Reotahi Road. These works are programmed for November 2026 to April 2027.

Works will include piling, roading, service relocation, slip repairs, new kerb and channel, drainage, signage, landscaping and renewing footpaths.

During these works we will have temporary traffic and pedestrian management in place. Please follow detours and the directions of our traffic management staff on site and use alternative routes if possible.

Where our works will directly affect access to properties, we will be contacting residents individually beforehand.

Further details about the regions works can be found on the Council's webpage.

We apologise in advance for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience while we carry out this essential construction work.



Dates	**November 2026 to April 2027** The completion date is reliant on reasonable weather so may change if frequent wet weather occurs.
Work days and hours	Monday – Saturday 7am – 6pm (day shift) No night shift works are proposed
Traffic Management	Please follow all traffic management signs and instructions from the traffic controllers to ensure your safety and that of our workers.
Street Parking	Some areas of parking may be temporarily removed during the works. We will attempt to limit the amount removed at any one time.
Noise	There will be an increase in noise, however, every effort will be made to keep noise to a minimum.
Driveway Access	Driveway access will be restricted at times. We will notify properties directly impacted with a knock on the door or a note in the letterbox. Please expect some delays when machinery is working immediately in front of your property.
Pedestrian access	There are times when footpaths may be closed. At these times alternative routes will be made available. Traffic controllers will be on site to assist pedestrians during work hours.
Safety	Your safety is important to us. Please take care when out walking in the area and keep away from the worksite.

For more information please contact the CLL Solutions Limited team:

Tina Mackay
Phone: 0275 719 911
Email: tina@cll.net.nz
Alternatively, you can contact Whangarei District Council on 09 430 4200 or email mailroom@wdc.govt.nz

