



Whangārei Heads School Newsletter

Term 1 - Week 3 - February 16, 2023

KIA ORA WHANAU,

What a wonderful start to the year! There is such a happy buzz around the school, and children are settling well into the new classrooms.

Thank you for being so understanding as we navigate the changing ways to come into school. The car park is on track to open next week, and the temporary classroom will be finished around the 8th of March.

You will see in the Board Bites section that Hanna Woods and Josh Gwilliam have stepped down from our Board. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their mahi over the past 5 years. They have been an amazing support to me, in their role as Presiding Members, and I have appreciated their wise counsel through some interesting times; covid, cyclones and now construction. Rebecca Brown was voted to be the Presiding Member at our Board meeting earlier this week, I look forward to working closely with her.

Our senior classes are getting ready to start camp preparation, and Kotare are our first camp heading off next week to Tangihua. Camps provide a wonderful opportunity for children to learn in the outdoors, meet different challenges than at school and grow in self confidence. We choose to camp in class groups as it helps to create bonds and build a class culture.

Camps however do ask a lot of our teaching staff. Being responsible for the safety of children, offsite for 24 hours, over several days, all for a very minimal extra allowance in pay. Thanks to the parents who give up their time to support as parent volunteers, we couldn't do it without you. Additionally to all whanau who support the camps by paying the camp costs. We couldn't provide these experiences without your support.

Coming Events:

Week 4 - Feb 19-23

Feb 20-23 - Kotare Class Camp
Feb 21 - Swimsafe Session 1

Week 5 - Feb 26 to Mar 1

Feb 26-28 Epro8 Internal Series
Feb 28 - Swimsafe Session 2
Mar 1 - Karearea Market Day

Week 6 - Mar 4-8

Mar 5 - Tech Catch up Day Y7&8
Mar 6 - Swimsafe Session 3
and Zone Swimming with PBS
Mar 7-8 - Ruru Camp at School

Week 7 - Mar 11-15

Mar 13 - WPSSA Swimming
March 13-15 - Korora Class Camp



Kelly

Our Place to Grow and Learn together
Ko tātou kura, kia tipu, kia ako ngātahi

Funky Fish – Sunday 7th April 2024

The Funky Fish committee, led ably by Matt Dennis are gearing up for another successful event - so put the 7th of April in your diaries.

As part of this year's event we plan to review the Fishing Tournament and will be seeking feedback about how to make it environmentally sustainable. We will also seek feedback from those in our community who don't attend the event.



For those who may not be aware; over the 230 years the committee behind the event has worked tirelessly to ensure that the impact on the harbour is as minimal as possible;

- we hold a Ministry of Fisheries licence and meet all the obligations under this
- all fish weighed in are auctioned off and the proceeds from the auction go to the Community Library
- at the end of the event all fish carcasses are given to local food charities to be made into soup or stock
- there are limits to what can be caught and weighed in - these are detailed on the entry tickets
- Last years event saw just 660 fish weighed in, with approximately 300 tickets sold this is on average 2-3 fish per person. Most people would catch more on a typical weekend of fishing. However we know for some, this is the one time each summer they go fishing.

This year we are planning to promote the Catch and Release category, and create more prizes to encourage people to participate. The committee are working on the logistics of this at the moment.

To make the event more of a community focus, we are inviting local Community Groups to have information tents at the event. If you know of a Community Group that would like to take up that offer encourage them to email: funkyfishing.whs@gmail.com

Would you like to sponsor our camps?

We are well aware that with the growing cost of living that not everyone is able to pay the Camp Costs.

Rather than cancel camps, as the Board also can't fully fund the costs for Camp, we would were wondering if any local businesses would like to sponsor the Camps.

This donation would be acknowledge in our newsletter and on our School Website.

If you are interested in finding out more feel free to contact either myself or Courtney.



Wild Kiwi Event – Volunteers required!

We are looking for 30 people to be involved. There are various locations to suit you - solitary or group, sitting or active, early morning or late morning.

These are the positions we need to fill ideally:

3 - 4 parking volunteers – 7.00am to 10.30am – 1.5kms up Ody Road

3 - 4 finish line volunteers – 11.00am – 3.00pm – Taurikura Bay

Come direct and cheer on the competitors of the Wild Kiwi event on the 16th March and fundraise for our school in the process.

Get in touch with Fiona at

fiona_bycroft@hotmail.com for more details.



VS



Iceblocks for sale!

Every lunch time our fundraising superstars in the Karearea class are busy selling iceblocks! They make the iceblocks themselves and sell them for \$1 each!

Show your support to the senior class and give your child an icy treat on these warm summer days! All profits go towards class activities for the year.



“Many Hands” Cookbook

Our much anticipated school cookbook has arrived! Order your copy via the school office. These make a great keepsake for anyone with a connection to The Heads and our school. The books are \$45 each and can be paid directly to the school bank account - referenced with your students name and “Cookbook”, or cash to the office and take home with you straight away.

Manaia Mako's Under 8's Rugby League

We are looking to field an Under 8's Rugby League team this season.

If you're interested, please email:

Manaiamakos@gmail.com

or Phone Cait :0272183699



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Te Whatu Ora
Health New Zealand

0800 698 3384
(0800 MY TEETH)

Farewell from Hanna and Josh

Tena koutou katoa,

Whangarei Heads School BoT, Management and Community. I am writing to inform you of my intention to step down as presiding member and resign from my Whangarei Heads School Board of Trustees position.

After having children attend Whangarei Heads School for the past six years and serving on the board for the past five, it is now a change of season for my whanau. All three of our daughters have moved on to high school, having been richly blessed in their formative years at Whangarei Heads School.

'Never a dull moment' is the cliché that comes to mind as I reflect on my time on the board. We have navigated staff and leadership changes, role growth, property projects, weather events and, of course, a global pandemic. While it is with mixed feelings that I step down, it gives me great pleasure to know that the school board is in a stable and strong position going forward. They are an incredibly capable and committed team, passionate about supporting the school's management and keeping all of our children at the centre.

I want to thank all the staff members I have worked with over the past five years. It has been a privilege, and I wish you all the best for the future. I also want to make special mention of all the BoT members, past and present, whom I have served alongside. I have always been inspired by how these volunteers tirelessly and selflessly give their time and talents to govern WHS and support the school community.

It was an honour to be elected by this community and to serve you in this role. I look forward to hearing about the continued achievements of Whangarei Heads School and its exceptional students.

Nga mihi nui,
Joshua Gwilliam

Kia Ora Whanau,

It has been an honour and a privilege to be part of Whangarei Heads School Board of Trustees. It has been an incredible journey and I have learnt a lot. I am so proud of the team that leads our school and am excited to see how things progress over the coming years. My resignation is the result of considerable changes in my work life and my lack of capacity. I know that there are parents in our community that will make an amazing contribution to the board, and I encourage people to think about putting their hand up.

We have an amazing team of people on the board, and I know that they will continue to do a fantastic job. To Josh, my co-Presiding member, we have made it work, juggling our commitments and being able to step in to support each other when needed to manage challenges and working to our strengths. Thank you, it would not have been possible without your kindness and willingness to just get things done. I would finally like to say that it has been a pleasure working with Kelly and all the staff over the past 5 years, they are an amazing team and I feel lucky to have had them educate my children and walk along side them in the governance space.

Nga Mihi
Hanna

Casual Vacancy for a Parent Representative on the Board

The Board resolved to fill the positions created by the resignation of Josh and Hanna through by selection.

The next Board Elections are in 2025. By using the by selection process we can allow someone to experience what it is like to be on the Board, before we hold the elections. See the notice (right)

COME JOIN THE BOARD!

During our discussion around what the “right fit” might be, the Board suggested finding someone who could support our strategic goals of; environmental education or strengthening our links to the community, especially Tangata Whenua. However there are many other strengths that could contribute to having a cohesive Board.

The time commitment for being a Board Member would be to attend 8 meetings a year (2 a term). These start at 6pm and usually end at 8.30pm. There is some prior reading to be done, and for some portfolio's there can be some additional hours.

If you think you might like to join the Board, feel free to talk to Rebecca Brown (Presiding Member), David McDonald, Emily Benge (Parent Representatives), Dane Higgison (Staff Representative) or Kelly Mercer.

Whangarei Heads School Board

Casual vacancy for a parent representative

Two casual vacancies have occurred on the School Board for an elected parent representative.

The Board has decided to fill the vacancy by selection.

If 10% or more of eligible voters on the school roll ask the board, within 28 days of this notice being published, to hold a by-election to fill the vacancy, then a by-election will be held.

Request for a by-election should be sent to:

Presiding Member (Chair)
Whangarei Heads School Board

via

Courtney (Board Secretary)
courtney.t@whangareiheads.school.nz

by: 15th March 2024

School Drop Off

We recognise the challenge to travel to town, so we have allowed children to be dropped off from 8.15am.

However there are a few families starting to drop their child before then. This is essential time for teachers to meet, or set up for the day. We are not available to supervise children before 8.15am.

Please stick to the 8.15am drop off time, or consider using the Before-School care service in Parua Bay.

Be aware Gate Duty does not begin until 8.30am





HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!

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0276659174
email
hannah@fantasticgymnastics.co.nz

CLASS SCHEDULE

Term 1, 2024

3.00-3.30 PlayGym



PlayGym is a pre school class for children age 1-4 years exploring new kinds of movement as well as meeting new friends. We climb, swing, balance, hang, jump and play with the aim to start developing our gross and fine motor skills, coordination and senses.

3.15-4.00 New Entrants & Ninjas



New Entrants and Ninja tumble are our transition programs with parents not coming on the floor during class and where we continue to develop co-ordination, spacial awareness and introduce more gymnastic based elements. Our classes are kept small for this program to provide a safe and welcoming learning environment.



4.15 - 5.15 GymFun Skills 1



Children aged 5-7 years are participating in a gymnastics class, where they work on developing skills on apparatus, physical preparation, strength, and flexibility. The class aims to create a fun and safe environment for children to learn and interact with peers while working towards badges.

4.15 - 5.15 GymFun Skills 2



Children aged 7-10 learn gymnastics skills on all apparatus, including teamwork and tumbling, while also improving physical fitness through general and specific preparation. The classes are designed to be fun and explorative.

4.15 - 5.45 GymFun Advanced/Ex Competitive & Tumble



The gymnastics class is intended for individuals who have some experience or are physically confident in a gymnastics setting. It encourages participation in fun competitions but does not require it.



Ollie D, Gemma, Otto, Griff,
Riley C, Tui D, Lucy, Zia,
Max, Freddie, Noah, Indie
M, Rosa, Rumi, Sophie, Iyah,
Hunter A, Amelie, Jess,
Harry, Niko, Finn S, Hilton,
Chey, Cobie, Aroha, Alice,
Van, Flo, Primrose, Jack D,
Shani, Tai and Arlo I!

School Whanau Leaders

Here are our 2024 Whanau Leaders! Here they receiving their badges at assembly.





VS



2024 Inaugural Wild Kiwi Interschool Competition

The annual Wild Kiwi run/walk event is a creeping up fast on Saturday the 16th of March.

Remember this year there will be a friendly competition running between Parua Bay School & us. It is open to all students, past students, teachers & parents of Whangarei Heads & Parua Bay Schools who enter the 8km, 15km or 21km run/walk events.

Total Sport have come up with a points system to calculate the winner & the trophy will be presented to the winning school at prize-giving on the day. More information is available on the website, thewildkiwi.co.nz

Get the whole family involved, get out there, get active – it's always a great day out based down in Taurikura. If your child is more suited for a shorter course PaknSave sponsors the Kids Dash which is super cute!

Enter using the following code, you will get a 10% discount on the entry fee for the eligible courses & you will be automatically put into our school's team:

CTS23WHANGAREIHEADS