



Whangārei Heads School Newsletter

Term 4 - Week 9 - December 13, 2024

KIA ORA E TE WHĀNAU,

And this brings us to the final newsletter of the 2024 school year.

What an incredible year it has been, with so many highlights;

- Kaitiaki of the Moana inquiry - leading to a review of the Funky Fishing competition
- Matariki/Kaitiakitanga Day with the planting around the new car park, and other Working Bee tasks
- Art Exhibition - with Visual Art on display to enhance our school grounds or using upcycled materials
- Kaitiaki of the Community Inquiries - celebrating our Community Heroes, Supporting charities, and show manaakitanga at Tranquility Bay Care Home
- Establishment of Kaitiaki Project Days, and Whanau Hui sessions
- Structured Literacy introduced from Year 3-8
- Embedding a Balanced Approach to Maths from The Learner First Professional Learning
- Hosting Te Whanga - showcasing our school communities whanaungatanga
- Our children shining in their various different areas of talent;
 - Bernina Fashion Awards - 2 Prize winners
 - Northland Science Fair - 2 Award Winners
 - Finalists in Debating Competition
 - Finalists in E-Pro 8 Competition
 - A first place in 8 year old girls - WPSSA Cross Country at Barge Park
 - 3rd place in Rock Climbing - AIMS Games
 - 2nd place in Squash Tournament - Northland Girls Competition
 - 1st in 18 holes - Girls Whangarei Juniors Competition

Our kura is doing so well, achieving incredible results on a regional and national stage. They have so many exciting learning opportunities on offer, so they can fulfil our vision: Our Place to Grow and Learn Together.

To our kaimahi (staff), please do take a well earned rest this summer. You have given your all to the students. There have been so many changes in the Education space this year, which you have navigated so well, always putting our children first. I am so very proud of you all,

Kelly

Coming Events:

Week 10 - Dec 16-18

Dec 16 - Music Concert

Dec 17 - Christmas Tree Evening

Dec 18 - Last Day of Term

~ Early finish at 12PM ~



2025

29th/30th January -
Teacher Only Days

Week 1 - Feb 3rd-5th

Monday 3rd Feb -

First day for all children

Thursday 6th Feb - Waitangi
Day

Friday 7th Feb - School Closed
for Waitangi Weekend

Week 2 - Feb 10-14

Week 3 - Feb 17-21

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

Access to the Grounds over summer



The planned car park works have been delayed and won't start until sometime in the new school year.

We will still have significant construction work on 3 different parts of our school over the summer break.

1. Ruru class upgrade will be completed, including the deck area
2. Demolishment of the old School Garage at the end of Piwakawaka and Tui
3. Demolishment of the old Bus Shed near the Big Rock
4. Demolishment of the old Boiler Shed.

We would ask you to limit your access to the grounds to outside the hours the construction team are working (7.30am-5pm Monday to Friday). If you are in the grounds, please ensure you keep your children close, and are mindful of moving vehicles.

The Community Library will remain open from 10am-12pm each day with the exception of the **week 6-10th January when the grounds will be fully closed due to asbestos removal.**

Due to the uncertainty of the construction plans, and the leak to the pool (now fixed), we have not issued keys to the pool this summer.

We will however be allowing access to the pool, for school community whanau, outside school hours from the 3rd of February. Watch out on DOJO for how to request a contract from the school office, and the key hire costs in the new year.



2025 Parent Contributions

Parent contributions or school donations have been confirmed by the school board for 2025.

Families of 2+ students will be \$240 for the year.

Individual students will be \$140 for the year.

You are welcome to pay these in set amounts, eg \$60 per term for families, or \$34 for individuals. Or set up a recurring payment throughout the year at a frequency that works for you.

Please reference these payments clearly when paying via online banking.

These parent contributions are considered donations to the school, and are used to purchase resources that the school needs to enhance the experiences of our tamariki schoolwide.

We thank you for your support for making these payments in a way that suits you best!

2025 Stationery Packs

Office Products Depot will be pre-packing class stationery packs, ready to collect in store in January.

You do not need to pre-order these packs.

Just pop into the store on Commerce Street, look for the "Whangarei Heads School" sign, and pick up the pack for your child's 2025 class.

Optional extras will be noted on the front of the packs, and will be available to purchase in store or you can bring what you already have from home.

You can still order online as well - info will be included with school reports on Monday.

Collect your packs before the end of January so that your kids arrive at school with these ready to go on February 3rd!



2025 Term Dates:

Term 1 - Week 1 - February 3-5

Classes Monday to Wednesday only

6th February: Closed for Waitangi Day

7th February: School Closed

Week 2 - February 10-14 (Full week)

Week 8 - March 30: Funky Fish (Sunday)

Week 10 - April 11: Last day of Term 1

Term 2 - Mon 28 April - Fri 27 June

Term 3 - Mon 14 July - Fri 19 Sept

Term 4 - Mon 6 Oct - Wed 17 Dec



Thanks
for your
Donations





Christmas Carols by Candlelight on Heritage Park

WITH MEMBERS OF WHANGĀREI CHORAL

FRIDAY 20 DECEMBER, 2024 AT 6PM

📍 Glorat Homestead Grounds at Heritage Park, Gate 2, 500 SH14, Maunu Whangārei
For enquiries contact 09 4389630 or programmes@kiwinorth.co.nz



Happy Birthday



**Phoenix, Taika, Jihzaan,
Mac G. Vulcan, Emily K,
Nelson, Sofia, Matiu,
Georgia F, Theo, Nina K,
and Jennifer**

The image shows two overlapping festive tags. The background tag is red with white and gold Christmas decorations, including a star, snowflakes, and holly leaves. The foreground tag is blue with white text and red and white Christmas decorations, including snowflakes and holly leaves. A green cross with red rays is positioned to the right of the tags.

**15th
DECEMBER**

**Christmas
CAROLS**

**with
Fun Activities for kids!**

**Community
CAROL SERVICE**

SUN 15th DEC
from 6pm - 8pm
at McLeod Bay Hall

Organised by Local
Christian Churches

6pm-7pm BYO Picnic
(Bring rugs/chairs).

6pm-7pm Free sausage sizzle,
drinks & baking.

Children's activities/games.

7pm Outdoor Carol Service.

Biking to school safely

Biking to school can be a great way for kids to get exercise, develop confidence and learn to share the road on bikes. Before encouraging your child to get on their bike, there are a few things to consider:

Keep safe

Ensure your child has the right cycling skills to get to school safely on a bike. Always ride with your child if they're under 10 and then continue until you're sure they have the skills and confidence to ride in traffic.

Prepare your children to ride on the road by teaching them road safety skills, such as:

- Turning and signalling skills away from traffic
- Then on quiet streets to improve traffic awareness.
- Recognising potential hazards and how to choose good places to ride.
- Riding in a straight line, at least one metre from parked cars, and using cycle lanes wherever possible.
- Watching for potential hazards including car doors, potholes, rubbish, grates and pedestrians.

The bike

Ensure your child's bike is the right size and fit. They must be able to:

- With hands on the handlebar, place the balls of both feet on the ground when sitting on the seat.
- Comfortably stand with two feet flat on the ground when straddling the centre bar.
- Easily grasp the hand brakes and apply enough pressure to stop the bike.

Bikes must have brakes and reflectors, and front and rear lights need to be on when it's dim or dark.

The helmet

Cycle helmets must be worn and meet an approved standard. Before your child sets off on their bike, ensure the helmet is securely fastened, in good condition and not cracked or damaged. Make sure it's the right size, with little or no wobble when fitted. To learn more, check out the Bike Wise Bike & Helmet Check pocket pamphlet:

www.tinyurl.com/bikehelmetcheck



Have your child wear bright or high visibility clothing or a high-vis backpack cover and have front and rear lights for night time or low light and rain.

If an adult is cycling with young children, keep an eye out. If there's one adult, riding at the back is best. If there is more than one adult, have one at the front and one at the back.

Plan the route

Map out a safe route to school from home.

Choose a way through side streets, with other kids on bikes, low traffic speeds and good visibility.

Ride with your child and make sure they understand the route – have them lead to show you they know where they're going.

Sharing the road

It's important to ride with courtesy and respect for motorists and other people on bikes.

Ensure your child knows to be visible at all times, clearly show their intentions and thank other road users when they can.

For example, you can show them how to let motorists or other cyclists know you're happy they've waited for you by waving, smiling, or giving them a 'thumbs up'. This will make sharing the road easier for everyone. Try not to hold up the flow of traffic. If necessary, pull over to allow vehicles to pass.

Teach your child the road rules. Check out the Official New Zealand Code for Cyclists for more: www.nzta.govt.nz/resources/roadcode/cyclist-code/

Weather

Help your child check the weather conditions before each bike ride. If they are cycling in wet or low light conditions, ensure they wear high visibility and reflective clothing.

Carrying gear?

Don't hang anything from the handlebars – it could throw them off balance or get stuck in the wheels and cause a crash.

Keep healthy

Did you know 10% of all Kiwi children between two and 14 years-old are overweight and at greater risk of Type 2 diabetes, according to the Ministry of Health. Get your children into fun, healthy habits like cycling that last a lifetime.

