



Whangārei Heads School Newsletter

Term 3 - Week 2 - July 25, 2025

KIA ORA E TE WHĀNAU,

Congratulations and a huge thank you from me, the Kaiako and the WHS Board. Working together we have improved our school attendance rate in Term 2 for the first time! We had 61% of students attend regularly, compared to 49% in Term 2 last year.

Well done to everyone who has made attending school a priority.

Term 2 Summary

How many students regularly attended school this term?

Regular Attendance

61%

Compared to 49% in Term 2, 2024

Irregular Absence 22%

Compared to 29% in Term 2, 2024

Moderate Absence 9%

Compared to 12% in Term 2, 2024

Chronic Absence 8%

Compared to 10% in Term 2, 2024

What were the main reasons given for absence this term?

1. (M) Illness / Medical Absence 68%
2. (J) Explained and Approved 11%
3. (G) Holiday 11%
4. (E) Accepted (but unjustified) 9%
5. (U) Stood down / Suspended 1%

How many students were on time to class?

83% of students were on time to class

Definition of lateness depends on school attendance policy.

We do have a group of students who regularly are late to school. It is important to arrive before 9am, to have the opportunity to settle in for learning and connect with teachers and friends. It sets your child up for success for the day.

On a personal note I have decided to return to my maiden name of Ward, you will see this appear on emails and formal reports moving forward. This started a conversation with the staff around how the children address the staff. We will share next week that the following staff would like to be addressed as; Whaea Kelly, Matua Dane, Whaea Alex, Whaea Sara moving forward Matua Penn, Mrs Morgan, Mrs E, Ms Allen, Mrs Drake and Whaea Sam will continue with their current titles.

Kelly

Coming Events:

Week 3 - July 28-Aug 1

Jul 28 - 3-Way Conferences

Jul 29 - Board Meeting 6PM

Jul 30 - 3-Way Conferences

Jul 31 - Final 3-Way Conferences

Week 4 - Aug 4-8

Aug 4 - Science Fair

Presentation

Aug 7 - Enviro Projects

Week 5 - Aug 11-15

NZ Math Week!

Aug 11 - Library Trip

Ruru, Tui & Piwakawaka

Second MOE
Kaimahi Only Day

We will have our second MOE Kaimahi Only Day on Friday 12th September.

These days have been awarded to all schools in NZ to allow time for Professional Development in Maths

There will be no supervision on this day

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

Harold is Back!



We are pleased to welcome Nadine and Harold from the Life Education Trust programme at school this week. This is part of our Term 3 Inquiry which links back to the Health Curriculum; Personal Health and Physical Well-Being as well as our Ngā Matapono - Manawaroa or Resilience.

Each class has planned their own learning journey that links back to the school wide focus or **Big Idea:** *We each have our own story, and our experiences all add a different chapter.*

The team from Life Education will support each class in the "Finding Out" Phase of the inquiry.

Karearea

Personal Growth and Development.

Personal Identity. Human Biology. How do we change as we get older?

Kotare

Personal identity - what makes us unique. - Personal Identity, Reputation and Self-worth, Self-Management & Goal Setting, Decision Making

Korora

Why are my reputation and identity important? What gives us our identity and how do we create our reputations? What do they mean to us now, and what will they mean later in life? How do we show people who we really are?

Ruru

How do we adapt to certain situations? Students explore the concept of participation. How and when is it appropriate to conform to the group? How can we know when to adjust our behaviour?

How can we show resilience? Students explore what is meant by resilience and develop possible strategies to bounce back from difficulties or setbacks in a positive and successful way and apply these in future situations.

Tui

Personal health and Physical growth and personal growth

How do our bodies get energy from the food we eat?

How can we take care of hauora?

Piwakawaka

What makes me different?

What makes us special and unique?



2025 WHS BOARD ELECTIONS

Last week nomination forms for any parents who are keen to be part of the WHS Board went home. We are thrilled that four of the current Board Members are keen to stand again for election; they do such a great job governing our Kura. We are however needing a further Board Member so if you are interested, please get your nomination forms in.

The Board meets twice a term from 6-8.30/9pm in the Whangarei Heads Staffroom. It is a Governance role; meaning that the Board discusses; the Strategic Direction for the next 3 years and progress towards these goals, Student Achievement, Property Development, Health and Safety, Giving Effect to Te Tiriti and Finances.

If you think you may like to join the Board, please do have a chat with Rebecca Brown, the current Presiding Member, or any of the other Board Members; David McDonald, Luke Ogle, Emily Benge, Amy MacDonald or Staff Rep Dane Higgison. We do also have a Board Hui next Tuesday 29th July at 6pm, in the staffroom, and you would be welcome to attend to see how a Board Meeting runs.

Nominations close at noon on Wednesday, August 6. If there are more than five nominations for parent representatives, a voting election will be held. Eligible voters will be issued voting papers and candidate statements, on or before Wednesday, August 13.

The poll closes at 4pm on Wednesday, September 10. The highest polling candidates will be elected to the board, and results will be notified to the school community and other affected parties.

WHS SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY LIBRARY CELEBRATION

Thursday 14th August

We have planned a celebration day for the WHS School and Community Library building which turns 100 years old this year. We will have a Book Parade in the morning, where the children and staff can come to school dressed as their favourite Book Character. There will be a Book Swap, where you can bring to school any books you own that you would like to exchange for new books.

At 2pm we will have a special assembly to celebrate the library. There will be a photo slide show of the building in its various stages from the beginnings as the Waikaraka Church, being moved on to the School Grounds, and the annex being added, being moved to its current location to make way for Te Mangoroa being built and then the last renovations. The Community Library Sub-Committee have been "sleuthing" the history of the building to share with us all and we will have some special guests who will tell the story - Peter Coates 1986 Principal, Mike Lee Parent from this time and Allie Fry and Denise Humphries. The assembly will close with an afternoon tea.

Please do save this date and come along to join us in the celebration.
RSVP to Courtney as their will be limited seating, and for catering purposes.

We will be asking for support from our amazing bakers to provide the afternoon tea; watch out for this closer to the time.

SECURITY CAMERAS – AT WHS

Thank you to Brendon Reid and Luke Ogle who have put in place Security Cameras in the school grounds.

We have installed these to protect our school grounds from damage out of hours.

Purpose of camera surveillance

We only collect information for a necessary and lawful purpose (Principle 1).

Our purpose for using camera surveillance is to deter and identify anyone:

- entering the school grounds illegally
- engaging in criminal activity, misconduct, or behaviour risking harm to health and safety.

Camera surveillance is not used to routinely monitor students or staff as this breaches the information privacy principles of the Privacy Act (Principles 4 and 10).

You can read the full policy by going to School Docs; select Whangarei Heads School, Password: caring



Whangarei Heads School

A Celebration of our School & Community Library

Thursday August 14



Book Character Dress Up Parade - 9:30am

Children, dress up as your favourite book character and parade around the court. Plenty of prizes to be won.

Book Swap - From 11:30am

Bring in your old or unwanted books from home and let them be enjoyed by someone else. Receive a token for each book to swap.

Library Presentation, Interview Panel Q&A, followed by afternoon tea - from 2:00pm - please RSVP (details to come).

We look forward to you joining us in celebrating our library building turning 100.

**Do you have concerns
about your child?**

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.

DATE	HUB LOCATIONS	Term 3 2025, Weeks 1 to 5
Thurs 17 th Jul	Clark Road Chapel, 4-6 Clark Road, Kamo	
Wed 23 rd Jul	Bream Bay Community Trust, 9 Takutai Pl, Ruakākā	
Thurs 24 th Jul	Ministry of Education, 24 Kaka St, Morningside	
Thurs 31 st Jul	Onerahi Community House, 130 Onerahi Rd, Onerahi	
Wed 6 th Aug	Early Years Hub Dargaville, 28 Hokianga Rd, Dargaville	
Wed 13 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**.

Whangarei City Library Trip

On Monday 11th August Piwakawaka, Tūi and Ruru, will be travelling to the Whangarei City Library by bus as part of our Inquiry learning for the term; Storytelling. We will base ourselves in the heart of the City Library for a series of activities to learn about what it is like behind the scenes of a library, enjoy some storytelling and exploring of pukapuka, before heading to our second destination, Whangarei Arts Museum (Town Basin) for the afternoon.



**Liam, Isla C,
Keiran, Jesse,
Zeke, Poppy,
Kaia, Eli &
Amarni**

FREE Wednesday Lecture Series

The Treaty & Me 2025

July

23

Dr Elizabeth Cook
Unsettled Bliss
It's OK to be uncomfortable

July

30

Sheryl Mai, Mike Kake & Dr Carol Peters
Why Māori Wards?
3 locals share their experience

Aug

06

'Paddy the Pākehā'
From Silence to Solidarity
Finding our voice as Tangata Tiriti

Aug

13

Kate Frykberg
Did I Really Just Hear That?
Tricky conversations about Te Tiriti

2 sessions each date: **12-2pm & 7-9pm**
OneOneSix Bank St, Whangārei
Free coffee, tea, soup & snacks

For full details & to book, scan here or visit
www.networkwaitangiwhangarei.org.nz



FOOD FOREST FILMS

Whangarei Heads School Hall

28 Whangarei Heads School Rd
Friday August 15th - 5pm to 7pm



This event serves as an introduction to a one-day Fast Track your Food Forest training on Sunday August 31st. Lydia can tell you more.

What you can expect

A selection of short films with examples from across the world, and here in Aotearoa.

These films highlight the benefits of multi layered systems of mostly perennial food plants, including Syntropic Agroforestry.

There will be time for discussion after the films.

Koha - \$5 suggested

Context setting by

James Samuel
growingradicles.org

James Andrews
jamesandrews.co.nz

Lydia 
lydiamair@gmail.com
022 053 0626

Doing the mahi!

Matua Dane and a group of teina akonga sorted out and cleaned the rat traps and boxes so that they are ready to go back into the bush. There were plenty of cobwebs and a couple of rat skeletons - yuck!!



Incredible Years Positive Parenting Programme is coming to Whangarei Heads



This course concentrates on parents and caregivers with children between the ages of 3-8 years old. It provides fresh new skills and strategies to help with the challenges we face as parents.

It's a **FREE** course that runs one morning per week for 14 weeks and excludes school holidays.

When: **Tuesdays** starting **August 5th, 2025**

Time: **10am – 1pm**

Where: **Parua Bay Play Centre**

Cost: **FREE**



Scan for Website

So, if you care for children within this age group, would like some new tools to help you and your whānau, and are interested in signing up - please feel free to call / text on 0212343527.

Ngā mihi

🌸 Cassie, Leila & Josh 🌸

