



# Whangārei Heads School Newsletter

Term 3 - Week 4 - August 8, 2025

## KIA ORA E TE WHĀNAU,

We have a new Board to govern our school for the next 3 years. I am pleased to announce that we received 5 nominations from the parent community, and 1 for our Staff Representative so we are not required to go to an election. We welcome the new Board member Steph Versteeg and retain the remaining Board Members who stood for reelection.

I am thrilled for the sustainability of our kura to have so many Board members returning for a second term. This means that we can continue to move forward together to govern the school.

It is sad to have Emily Benge step down from the Board with this election process. Emily has been on the Board for 5 years, and their last child Arlo leaves us at the end of this school year. She has been the voice of the community, with a special interest in providing a holistic learning curriculum for everyone and a passionate advocate for those learners who need alternative learning programmes. We will miss her wisdom and experience.

We are very much looking forward to the upcoming Library Celebration next week. I will need to spend this weekend sourcing my Book Character costume, as I am sure will many of you.

The Book Swap is a fun way to share a love of books within our school community. Please do send your child along with any preloved books you would like to swap. These do need to be in a good condition.

We are also hosting a Community Library Celebration from 2pm. The Community Library Sub-Committee led by Clare Henderson, Allie Fry and Denise Humphries have been researching the history of our beautiful Library Building and have created information boards to share with us all. The Library began its life as the Waikaraka Church and then was moved to the school in the mid 1980s. They have gathered some wonderful photos of the building arriving on site and throughout its time here in the school grounds.

We are noticing the large number of whanau requesting time away from school for holidays in term time starting again. Please do note that when you do this it does mean that they will miss out on some learning opportunities here at school. Our teachers can not play "catch up" for those who choose to go away on holiday. As you know there is a big push to improve all children's attendance as being absent does impact learning. It is going to take some time to change this kiwi culture of the holidays in term time, but it is important. It would also help if airfares were not so expensive during the traditional holiday breaks.

Kelly

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

## Coming Events:

**Week 5 - Aug 11-15**  
**NZ Math Week!**

Aug 11 - Library Trip  
Ruru, Tui & Piwakawaka

Aug 13 - Cross Country

Aug 14 - Library Celebrations  
9.30AM Book Character Parade  
11.30AM Book Swap  
2PM Community Presentation  
Aug 15 - Community Event -  
Food Forest Presentation 5PM

**Week 6 - Aug 18-22**

**Week 7 - Aug 25-29**

Aug 27 - WPSSA Cross Country

**Second MOE**  
**Kaimahi Only Day**

We will have our second MOE  
Kaimahi Only Day on  
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> 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



# 2025 WHS BOARD ELECTIONS UPDATE

A big thank you to the parents who put their names forward for the triennial school board election. Nominations closed on August 6, 12pm. We received five parent representative nominations, and one staff representative, so a voting election is not required.

Our new school board, as of August 13, 2025, will be as follows.

## Parent representatives:

Rebecca Brown

Luke Ogle

Amy Macdonald

David McDonald

Steph Versteeg

## Staff representative:

Dane Higgison



## WHS SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY LIBRARY CELEBRATION

Our day of celebrating the beautiful building which holds our library books is almost here!

On August 14, we will start the day with a Book Character Parade! Students and teachers will be dressing up as their favourite characters, ready for the parade (which we will share on Class Dojo and the school Facebook page)

Gather up your unwanted books that are still in good condition, ready for the schoolwide Book Swap at 11.30am!

We will end the day with a special community event, for all the people who have supported and loved the library on our school grounds. The Community Library Committee have invited some guest speakers from the school's past to come and share a little history about this 100 year old building. Please come along to join us for these event at 2pm. RSVP to Courtney in the Office, as there 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.



**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.

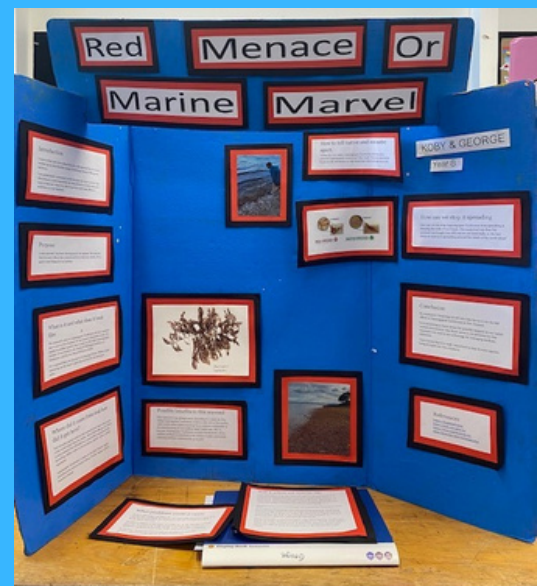
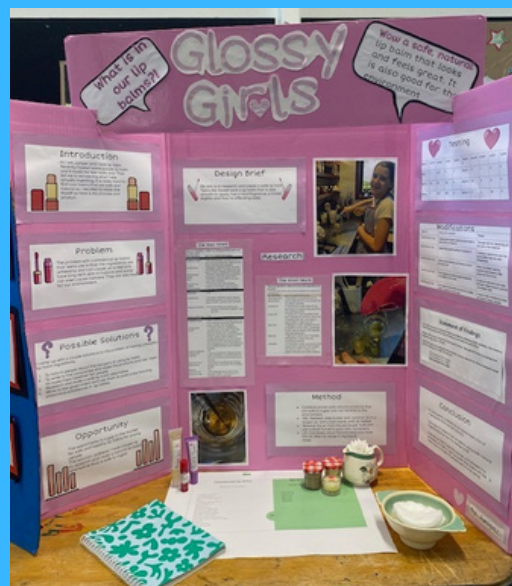
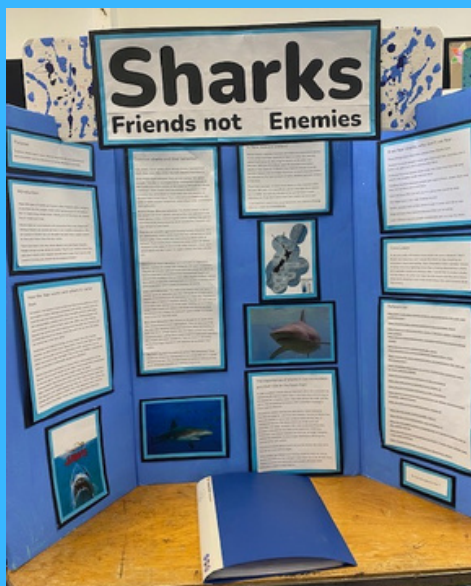
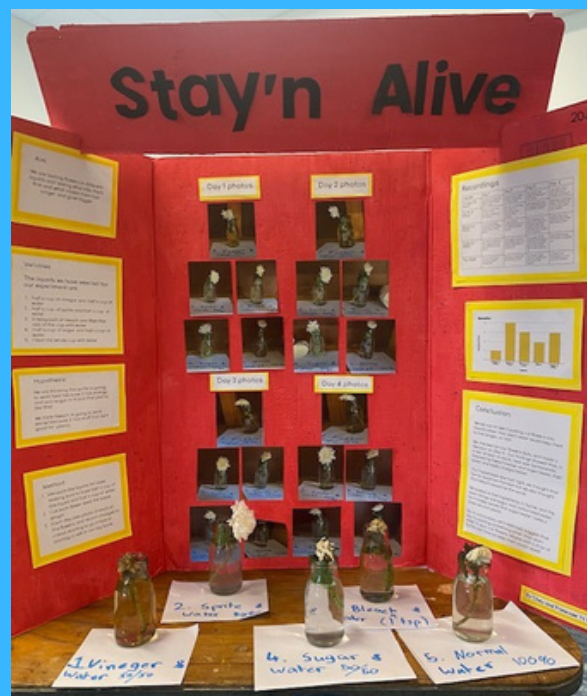
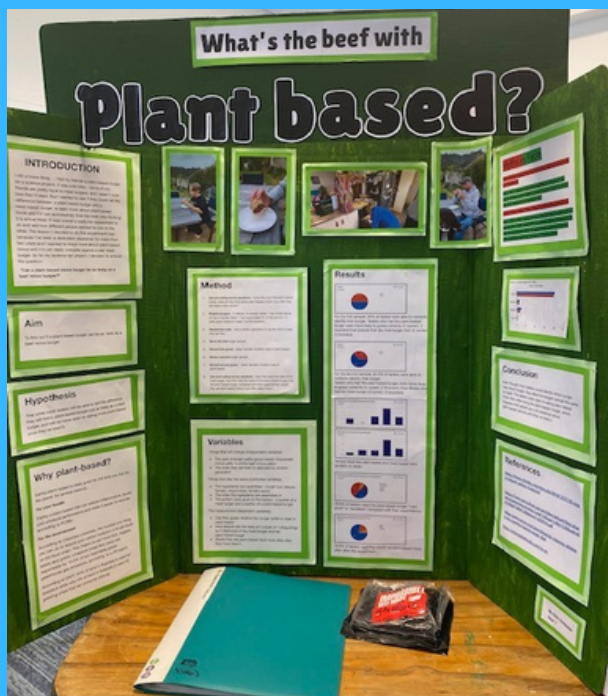
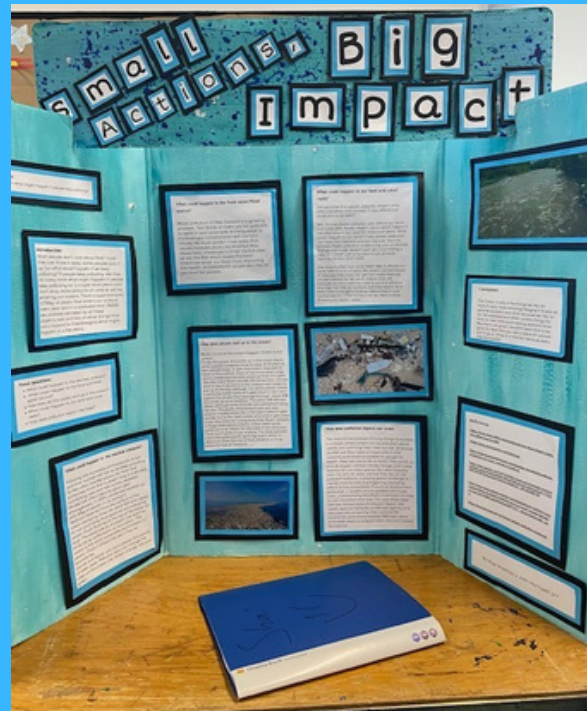
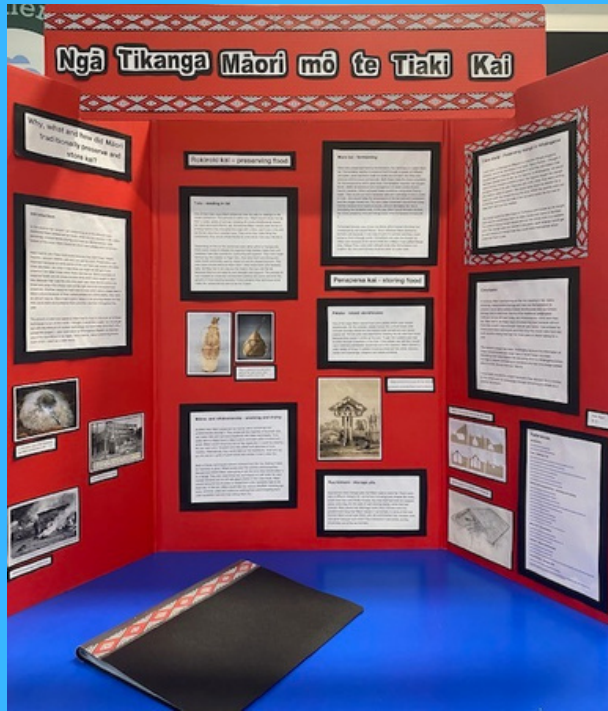
Library Presentation, Interview Panel Q&A, followed by afternoon tea - from 2:00pm - please RSVP (details to come).

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



# Science Fair

Karearea Students really impressed the judges of the Science Fair this year with their thorough and interesting investigations! Well done to you all!





**Te Manawa Tahī  
Community Timetable**

**WHANGĀREI  
BREAM BAY & KAIPARA**



**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 6 to 9
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Bream Bay Community Trust, 9 Takutai Pl, Ruakākā	
Thur 21 <sup>st</sup> Aug	Clark Road Chapel, 4-6 Clark Road, Kamo	
Thur 21 <sup>st</sup> Aug	Te Kura o Otangarei School, William Jones Drive, Otangarei, Whg	
Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Hikurangi School, 4 Swan Avenue, Hikurangi	
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept	St John Ōtamatea Ambulance Hall, Maungaturoto	
Thurs 4 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Ministry of Education, 24 Kaka St, Morningside	
Wed 10 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Early Years Hub Dargaville, 28 Hokianga Rd, Dargaville	
Thur 11 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Clark Road Chapel, 4-6 Clark Road, Kamo	
Thur 11 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Ngunguru School, Te Maika Road, Ngunguru 0173	

**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**.

# 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

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**Tamar, Finn R,  
Lenny, Jack T,  
Cruz, Hunter K,  
& Lima**

## Car For Sale!



### 2009 Mitsubishi Outlander

4WD seven-seater

Low kms (113k), 2350cc, auto, petrol

Recently serviced and drives like new

Great condition for age, genuine reason for sale  
\$7,000.00

Phone Mark 027 2558 953