



Whangārei Heads School Newsletter

Term 4 - Week 2 - October 17, 2025

KIA ORA E TE WHĀNAU,

Welcome back to the final term of 2025! Gosh the year seems to be racing by. It is a busy term so do please keep an eye on the Coming Events, you don't want to miss out on the fun!

In the holidays (non-contact time for teaching staff) the Kaimahi (staff) met to plan the Inquiry for Term 4. With a focus on Manaakitanga (Kindness) from our Ngā Matapono and linking to the Technology Curriculum each class is going to design and make products to sell at a Christmas Market on December 11. The children are all learning about the design process, including coming up with an idea that matches the design brief, conducting market research, designing a prototype and testing it, making modifications and then the final product. The older classes are also learning about financial literacy; profit and loss. It is a very rich and authentic piece of learning.

Thanks for all your feedback last term around Before and After School care. Karen Parr has kicked off Coastal Kids this term, providing after school care in Te Mangoroa. We are thrilled to have a small group of families already keen to be involved, and we hope more continue to access this service so we can ensure it is viable. If you want to know more contact Karen directly on karen_parr@hotmail.com or 021507111.

Thank you in advance for your support of our NZEI Teaching Staff who are on strike next week. Last week our wonderful new Board sent out a letter of support for our kaimahi, and informing you of the upcoming Strike Action. We urge you to support our teachers as they fight for improved working conditions, and keep your kids home on the 23rd October. You can even head into Lawrie Hall Car Park to attend the rally. It has been a tough year of change of all teachers as we navigate the refreshed curriculum. I often describe it to non teaching friends as saying, imagine if you had to change how you do 75% of your job in just one year. The workload is incredible and I am so proud of how our WHS staff keep giving to ensure your child/ren have the best education. If you are stuck for finding care for your child on the day please let Courtney know as we can provide some limited supervision.

Kelly

Coming Events:

Week 3 - Oct 20-24

Handball all week - Kids Can

Oct 21 - Board Meeting 6pm

Oct 23 - NZEI strike day - limited supervision at school

Oct 24 - Class Cricket Sessions

Week 4 - Oct 27-31

Oct 27 - Labour Day (Holiday)

Oct 30 - Handball Tournament

Week 5 - Nov 3-7

Nov 5 - School and Zone Athletics day (Y5-8)

Week 6 - Nov 10-14th

Nov 12 - Junior Athletics day

Week 7 - Nov 17-21st

Nov 19 WPSSA Athletics Y7/8

Nov 20 Manaia Tech here for Y6 students



Our Place to Grow and Learn together

Ko tātou kura, kia tipu, kia ako ngātahi



We are lucky to have Tricia Culina and her dog Rosie come join us as part of the Canine Companion programme. Each week 3 children will come and read a book to Rosie and enjoy some time with a gentle dog. The programme is designed to encourage reading in young children.

Rosie (and Tricia) will arrive each week after the bell and will read with children in the staffroom area. Each child will have a 20 minute session to enjoy their company as well as gain confidence in reading.

I have spoken with Todd from Backyard Kiwi and he is a strong supporter of the Canine Companion Programme. Rosie will be on a short leash as she moves from the car park to the staffroom area, and will be only in the building for a short time. We are super excited to have something extra to help encourage a love of reading.

Our School's Rat Trapping Experts

The WHS Trapping Group has its first official check of the 10 recently installed rat traps along the bush loop walk. We had a hit rate of 5 rats. Some stinky and stale, some a bit more fresh.

We wish to thank Tom Grinsted (WHS Dad and Bream Head Ranger) for supporting the set up of the trapping programme. It's great to have another opportunity for students at WH to get involved and be Kaitiaki of our school area.



FUNKY FISH 2026

We have set the date: 20/21st March 2026.

Please do keep this date marked as to ensure a successful event for all we need a lot of help!

On the day roles will be advertised next year.

If you are new to our kura, this is our school's biggest annual fundraiser and a great way to meet the locals!

There is still plenty of time to go fishing when you are on the Funky Fish Crew, so you won't miss out on the action!

This years funds purchased items that sit in our "nice to have list"

- A second EPro 8 kit
- New furniture in Kotare, Piwakawaka and Tui
- More Kapa Haka uniforms for our growing roopu
- A new BBQ (very much needed)



funkyfishing.co.nz



**Frank D,
Cohen, Tara,
Frankie & Shai**

KIDS CAN HANDBALL

Last chance to purchase your own "one of a kind" handball with the Whangarei Heads School logo on it. Bring your \$10 along to Matua Dane. We are working towards our whole school Handball fun day on Thursday 30th October. More to come, watch this space!!!!



2025 Important Dates For your calendar

Te Whanga - 10th December
Leavers Dinner TBC - 10th December
School Christmas Market - 11th December
Christmas Tree Evening (Prize Giving) - 15th December
Term 4 Ends - December 17 at 12pm

2026 Term Dates

Term 1 - February 4 to April 2
Term 2 - April 20 to July 3
Term 3 - July 20 to September 25
Term 4 - October 12 to December 16

[IN-CONFIDENCE - RELEASE EXTERNAL]

Te Mahau
Term 4 2025

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 4 2025, Weeks 1 to 5
Thurs 9 th Oct	Clark Road Chapel, 4-6 Clark Road, Kamo	
Wed 15 th Oct	Bream Bay Community Trust, 9 Takutai Pl, Ruakākā	
Thurs 16 th Oct	Ministry of Education, 24 Kaka St, Morningside	
Thurs 23 rd Oct	Onerahi Community House, 130 Onerahi Rd, Onerahi	
Wed 29 th Oct	Early Years Hub Dargaville, 28 Hokianga Rd, Dargaville	
Thurs 30 th Oct	Clark Road Chapel, 4-6 Clark Road, Kamo	
Wed 5 th Nov	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.

[IN-CONFIDENCE - RELEASE EXTERNAL]

WANTED: Chess Enthusiast

Do you have a passion for chess and a few spare minutes once a week?

Our small but enthusiastic **Chess Club** meets every week at morning tea to practice their moves and share strategies. They are looking for an adult volunteer (parent, grandparent, or community member) who can bring their **expertise and skill** to the club.

You'd be challenged by our keen young players, offer tips, and help nurture the next generation of strategic thinkers!

Time commitment: Approximately 25 minutes at Morning Tea, once a week.

Interested? Please contact the school office



KIDS LEARN TO SKI DAY!



Learn to ski \$20

Sunday 16 November 2025

9am to 3pm

Whangarei Harbour

Bookings essential.
Contact whangareiwaterskiclub@gmail.com or Sarah 021 1770 704

WHANGAREI WATER SKI CLUB INC



LIGHT PARTY

A fun, safe alternative to trick or treating
for under 5's and Primary aged children!

Lollies

Sausage Sizzle

Crafts

Games

Face Painting

Friday 31st October
6:00pm - 8:00pm

Church Unlimited
10 Mill Road, Regent, Whangarei

Come dressed in a friendly costume!

Gold coin donation.