

Kia Ora Whanau

What another great week of learning at our beautiful kura. Today was our last day with Nadine and Harold from the Life Education Caravan. All our classes have enjoyed the learning in the caravan and seeing Harold again, even the Tai Pari students!! Hopefully you have heard all about Harold and his messages from your tamariki.

Thank you for last week. I know it was a bit disjointed with the strike, TOD etc so I thank you for your support with this. I hope you did get to enjoy the long weekend though! Our Teacher Only Day went well with all of us planning our maths teaching for 2026 with the new refreshed curriculum. We are excited by the content and how we can use PRIME and other resources to reinforce learning.

Currently teachers are busy with assessments for end of year reports. This happens every year at this time. Our year three to eight students have Aotearoa/New Zealand standardised assessments called PAT tests Reading Comprehension and Reading Vocabulary as well as Maths. Students who can write a sentence independently, complete a writing sample using the asTLe tool. This information is used to help us make an overall teacher judgement (OTJ) on every student's progress over the year. BSLA (structured literacy testing is also part of this. If you would like to know more about these assessments do not hesitate to talk to myself of Tim Burke (Learning Support Coordinator)

Colour Fun Run

Thanks to all of you who have signed your tamariki up for our school Colour Fun Run. This is our current total:

Online

Gross Money Raised

\$11,885.50

\$11,885.50

Whoop whoop! Let's see if we can get it to \$15,000 next week! We currently have 130 students raising money, let's see if we can get the last 90 signed up next week. It is very exciting. Today is the lunch with the principal draw for those students who have raised \$20 or over. The count down is on for the two students who have fundraised the most to slime myself and Mr Burns in two weeks. Sign your child up, they could be the lucky person!!

Reports

As well as completing assessments for reports, teachers are also busy general comments writing ensuring you get a comprehensive overview of where your child is at. In saying this, the reports will again look different this term. As you are aware the revised, revised Maths and English (Reading and Writing) curriculums came out last week. No one had notice that this was happening. As a result of this HERO cannot update the assessments we enter to the new curriculum in time for reporting in December. Our student reports will be based on the revised, not the revised, revised curriculum. This will all be updated for 2026 and we will be reporting on the new curriculum for both the mid year and end of year reports. Thank you for your patience with this.

NEWSLETTER
Friday 31st
October 2025

Find us on facebook

Log in to Hero



Athletics Day

Next Wednesday is our athletics day and we would like all our students to participate. There is something for everyone to excel at on athletics day whether it be jumping, throwing, running. As per the last newsletter let's encourage our students to develop resilience by attending the day whether they are into athletics or not. It is by giving things a go that we learn more about ourselves as well as develop skills we did not know we had. I encourage you to have that conversation with your tamariki.

Tsunami Drill

Next Thursday the 6th of November we will be practicing our Tsunami drill. This is a legal health and safety requirement. We will be following our designated route and walking up Te Maika Road to just past Evan Hamlet's property. As part of the drill Rex Clements (care-taker) will take the emergency trailer with water, portable toilet etc. He, with Steph accompanying him, will also transport any students who are unable to manage the walk. If you have any questions about this please feel free to contact me. Teachers will be going over this with their students prior to the drill.

Using the Crossing

Whanau, please can we model good road safe behaviour and use the crossing when walking our tamariki in and out of the school. I know it can be quicker to dash across the road but the safer option is always to use the crossing. It is important for developing young minds that we take a second or two longer and model the safer option. Thank you.

Students wearing helmets

We have had a small number of our senior students riding their bikes to school without a helmet. It is the school's requirement that any student riding to and from school must wear a helmet. Please remind them when they leave in the morning to wear their helmet. If they repeatedly do not wear their helmet they will not be able to ride to school. Student safety is paramount.

School Sports Tops and Uniforms

With another successful winter sports session now complete, please start returning school sports uniforms to the office. We would like them all back in please as they are expensive. Thank you for your support with this.

Sun Smart Term Four

Just a reminder that term four is our sunsmart term. Hats are compulsory as is sunsmart clothing. No singlets or spaghetti strap tops and midriffs must be covered. Sun damage now can lead to skin cancer further down the track and we do not want that happening to our amazing tamariki. Thank you for your support with this.

Calendar Art

We have extended the deadline to the 17th of November. Check schoolbags next week to view your child's artwork.

Have a lovely weekend everyone, thanks for your continued support of our amazing students, staff and kura. It is appreciated. As always, my door is always open.

Ngā Mihi Nui, Rosemary Murphy

Important dates

Athletics Day 5th November

Calendar Art orders deadline 17th November

Board Meeting 25th November 5.30pm Y8 Leavers Dinner 9th December, 6-8 pm

Prizegiving12th December

Last day 2025 Midday 16th December Keep up to date with our live calendar

click here



FNDAR ART

RAISING FUNDS AND KIDS SELF ESTEEM THROUGH ART SINCE 1991



Greeting Cards \$17.00

Featuring either an individual artwork or a photo printed onto high quality card stock, presented packs of eight, with envelopes.





Sketch pads \$18.00

Printed cover, blank Art Paper with a hard backing and a clear plastic protective front cover, with black wire binding.



Diaries \$20.00

Convenient A5 size with 7 days at a glance. High quality hard cover and wire bound to stay open and lie flat



Calendar \$18.00

Practical yet very personal, these high quality calendars feature either an individual artwork or photo, laminated and wire bound into a 12 month tear-off calendar.

> **LAST CHANCE** order deadline extended to the 17th **November**



Mouse Mats \$18.00

Lightweight and easy to post overseas, our Mouse Mats make perfect Mother's Day, Father's Day and Christmas gifts.

Purchases will be processed through Kidsartworks

Orders close 31st October





Community notices

Learn to Sail

click here for more information

Learn to Ski

click here for more information

Pacifica Classes

click here for more information

Whangārei's Emergency Services Family Fun Day is a FREE event held Sunday, 2nd November.

click here for more information

The Whangārei Fireworks
Spectacular is on this
Saturday 1 November at
Semenoff Stadium
click here for more information

Gumboot Day Colouring Competition

click here to download



Once again our incredibly generous Ryan from Whangarei ITM has provided these fantastic yellow bucket hats to keep our Tamariki safe and ready for Summer. Terms one and four require all children to wear hats as we are a sun safe school. Thanks again guys!!

Moana Camp Letters

Dear Melva,

Thank you for helping Moana's camp. I had fun playing games. I was excited to go to Matakohe Island.

I learnt what plants are good and bad. The purple flowers are bad. Some fish are bad and some are good. The wetlands filter the water, and the traps keep the pests down.

On Matakohe/Limestone Island, I found a dead bird, quartz, crabs, and skinks. I was looking for skinks with Tony and we found

Thank you again for letting us visit Old Mill From Max



Dear Louise,

Thank you for helping me and my friends when we needed it. You helped us on Matakohe Island and camp. We are grateful that you were there on that very day. In our group at Old Mill Lane, you also showed us where to go if we got lost.

At camp, we played spotlight and some games. Then, we went to bed. In the morning, you helped us pack up our tent. You made camp so special. I am so grateful.

I really enjoyed how you helped Isla and me to carry some of our bags if we were holding too much. I wish you were in my life now. Isla and I appreciated it so much.

Thank you again for your kindness and making our camp so special. Love Heyoan.

Dear Kristy,

Thank you for helping mean Jay put up our tent. Thank you for taking some kids to Matakohe Island, driving some people back to Ngunguru School, and staying a little bit.



Thank you for finishing off the tent for the night. We played spotlight and I made most people win. We had nachos for dinner. Then, we played Build Up tag until bedtime.

At the ruins, we were jumping around. We also climbed the tallest tower. We were allowed to climb. I climbed down but I didn't climb down the side.

Thank you again for taking some people to Matakohe Island. From Nikau.

Dear Des.

Thank you for driving us to Old Mill Lane and back. Thank you for setting up the tarps. Thank you for everything.

At camp, we slept in tents. We put them up on the field. We slept well. When we woke up, we stepped on the ground and it was cold. It was fun. At seven o'clock, we had breakfast. It was nice. We played until we got bored. We then made our lunch. We had the best time ever

At Old Mill Lane, it was fun learning about the invertebrates.

Thank you for everything Des. From Blake

Dear Rebecca,

Thank you for making our camp so much fun!

On Matakohe Island, we explored the dungeons and the ruins. We also slept at school and played Spotlight. We went to the wetlands and did some environmental activities.

I really appreciated how kind you were to me. You helped me with a lot of things and made me laugh so much. With your help and encouragement, everything was a lot easier. I am so grateful that you were there. From Odette.

Dear Te Whanau o te Waiariki,

Thank you for making our camp so much fun. We appreciate all your hard work. Thank you for the rakau game. It was so fun.

We went to Matakohe/Limestone Island and we explored the ruins, the dungeon, and looked for gems on the beach. Then, we explored the old broken down factory. We jumped wall to wall and through tunnels. It was the best time ever.

We couldn't do it without you. Thank you for making our camp special! From River.

Dear Whaea Helen.

Thank you for making all the food on camp. The nachos were juicy, fat, and amazing. I really loved the nachos. I loved the ice cream too.

Thank you again. From Awa-Kiu.





Dear Kayla,

Thank you for helping Moana Tahi and Moana Rua's camp. Amazing!

On Matakohe Island, we explored the dungeon and the manager's abandoned house. Me and Odette tried to make the sheep chase us. Sadly, they didn't.

We all loved Old Mill Lane, especially the activities. Thank you for letting me sit with you under the shade. You're so kind. It was so hot on that day.

Thank you again for making our camp so amazing. From Aurora.

Dear Malva,

Thank you for letting us go to Old Mill Lane.

I loved the macroinvertebrates. I learnt that dobson flies can grow up to 30 millimetres. They like to curl up into a ball. When we looked into the microscope, two of them were curling up in a ball.

At Matakohe Island, Ranger Bevan walked us to the dungeon and haunted house.

Thank you again. I loved Old Mill Lane. From Tasman.

