

Whenuapai School

14 Airport Road, Auckland
New Zealand

Newsletter – 25 February 2025



Kia ora e te whānau,

This week, we begin our newsletter with a message from our Head of Sport, Greg Berry, acknowledging the incredible contributions of our sports volunteers.

Whenuapai School Sport Volunteers - Whenuapai School and its sports programme are incredibly fortunate to have dedicated parents and volunteers serving as coaches, managers, and parent helpers. Your commitment and passion play a vital role in supporting and developing our young tamariki as they grow in their chosen sports.

Coaching, managing, and assisting with our sports teams can often be a thankless task, yet it is also incredibly rewarding. Most volunteers step up because they genuinely want to make a difference in young people's lives—an act of generosity and dedication that reflects the best of our school values.

It's easy to overlook the personal sacrifices our volunteers make to lead and support our tamariki in sport. Through their efforts, they instil character, resilience, and teamwork in our young athletes. Many volunteers return season after season, putting in hours of hard work to ensure their teams thrive. Coaches are the first to arrive at training and the last to leave. Team managers invest countless hours in administration and organisation to set their players up for success. Parent helpers support teams through the highs and lows, ensuring equipment is ready, players are encouraged, and every child has the opportunity to grow.

To all our incredible Whenuapai volunteers—no matter what level or role you play—thank you! Your dedication does not go unnoticed. On behalf of Whenuapai School and our tamariki, we deeply appreciate your efforts. We hope you enjoy the experience as much as our students do, and we wish you and your teams all the best for the season ahead.

Greg Berry, *Head of Sport*

Bike Storage Update - It's been fantastic to see so many tamariki and whānau cycling to school this year! With more students riding, the number of bikes on site has now exceeded our current storage capacity.

To accommodate this, we have ordered additional bike racks, which we expect to arrive within the next month. Some of these new racks will be placed outside the school fences at the end of the carpark on the home campus. These will primarily be for our senior students, and we strongly recommend that bikes are locked during the school day. Additional racks will also be installed at the senior campus.

We'll provide an update once the new racks have arrived and are ready for use. Thank you for your patience and for continuing to support active transport to school!

Mufti Day – World Kidney Day - A reminder that **Thursday, 13th March 2025** is **Mufti Day** at Whenuapai School! We ask all students to bring a **gold coin donation** to support **World Kidney Day**.

Many children in New Zealand are affected by kidney issues, including some very special students right here at our kura. By taking part in this event, we can raise awareness and show our support for those living with kidney conditions.

We are proud to support this incredible cause. Thank you for getting behind it with us!

2025 Year 5-8 School Camp 🏕️ - Camp information for **Year 5-8 students** has now been posted on **HERO!** Please let us know if your tamariki will be attending.

📅 **Camp Dates:** Tuesday, 6th – Friday, 9th May 2025

We strongly encourage parents to set up **regular payments** (weekly or fortnightly) to help spread the cost.

More details can be found further down in this email.

Ngā mihi nui,
Adam Cels



Dates for your diary

Wednesday - 26 February NW Year 7&8 Tag	Thursday – 20 March NW Orienteering
27-28 February Kahu Camp Out	Wednesday - 26 March 6.00pm – Board Meeting
Tuesday – 4 March NW Year 5&6 Tee Ball	Thursday – 3 April NW Year 7&8 Tennis
Thursday – 6 March NW Year 7&8 Softball	Friday – 11 April Last day of Term 1
Tuesday – 11 March NW Year 7&8 Cricket	12 - 27 April School Holidays
Thursday – 13 March Gold Coin Mufti Day	Monday – 28 April First day of Term 2
Monday – 17 March NW Year 6-8 Swimming	Tuesday, 6 – Friday, 9 May Year 5-8 School Camp

2025 School Camp – Years 5-8

Information regarding this year's school camp was sent home via Kindo yesterday.

Camp Dates: Tuesday, 6th – Friday, 9th May 2025

Key Documents:

- [Camp Information Booklet](#)
- [Permission Form](#)
- [Students Not Attending Form](#)

To assist with planning, please complete either the **Permission Form** or the **Students Not Attending Form** by **Friday, 14th March 2025**.

Camp Payments - For the camp to proceed, we rely on whānau contributions to cover the full cost of attendance. To help make this more manageable, we are happy to accept staggered payments over the coming months.

We strongly encourage parents to set up regular payments (weekly or fortnightly). Payments can be made via direct deposit to the school bank account:

Account Number: 12-3085-0494188-00

Particulars: Camp

Reference: Child's Name

Questions?

For general camp inquiries, please contact your child's classroom teacher. For payment-related queries or to discuss a payment plan, please email **Jo Wright, Administration Manager** at:

accounts@whenuapai.school.nz.



To recognise all the children with kidney issues in New Zealand and to support Kidney Kids NZ who look after them, we will be having a non-uniform Gold Coin donation day on World Kidney Day.

Thursday 13th March 2025

Thank you to everyone for their support from Kidney Kids New Zealand



Many NZ kids are affected by kidney issues, including some very special students who attend our Kura.

We are proud to support this incredible cause!!

Scholastics Book Club

Issue 1 out now!

GET UP TO **3 FREE BOOKS** WHEN YOU ORDER ON ISSUE 1

Every LOOP order earns a **\$5 PROMO CODE** to spend on Issue 2!

Offers are valid once per issue on LOOP orders only. See LOOP for Terms & Conditions.

[CLICK HERE TO ORDER ONLINE](#)

Our house captains!

Boeing



Hamnah, Jake,
and Arwen

Hercules



Corban, Sophie,
and Callum

Orion



Mateia, Kennedy,
and Faith

Seasprite



Aleka, Ruby,
and Prapthi



Message from the Lancasters Football Team

A huge **thank you** to **Mr. Berry** for coming along to our Summer Football games and stepping in as our coach!

We really appreciate your time, encouragement, and support—it made a big difference to the team. The boys had an awesome time on the field, learning, playing, and having fun together. **Thank you for everything!** 🌍 🙌



Come along and join in the fun!






Girls only Football Hubs for girls 4-12 year olds
Tuesdays evenings 5-6pm Wainoni Park starts 18th Feb

Order now on **Kindo** - orders close this Friday, 28 February!

House T-Shirt Orders are now open via Kindo :

HOUSE T-SHIRTS

KIDS ICE TEE - YELLOW



BLUE



KIDS ICE TEE - GREEN



Please note the T-shirts will now be made out of a Breezeway micromesh material.

\$25

EACH

Below is the size chart.

KIDS MODERN FIT	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16
GARMENT 1/2 CHEST (CM)	34	36	38	40	42	44	47	50

Adult Small, Medium, Large and XL available for purchase too.

Our awesome House T-shirts are now available for purchase on myKINDO.co.nz. Orders close on 28th February to ensure delivery before the April School holidays. All proceeds go towards our Whenuapai School AIMS sports teams! A huge shout out to Anthony & Nicole at Brandistry and our Amazing House Captains for all their support with these cool T-shirts for our students to wear at School House events :)

Help us reduce waste at school by packing a waste-free lunchbox!



Waste Free Lunchboxes



Whenuapai School is an EnviroSchool and we ask that students come to school with waste free lunches (**Nood Food**) to show Kaitiakitanga/Respect to our school environment.



A waste free lunch means only packing items that can be composted or recycled. That means, **no plastic wrap, no foil, no zip lock bags and no packaged foods**. We have compost bins for food scraps which we feed to our worm farm which then fertilises our vegetable māra/gardens and fruit trees. Through this process we are teaching the students to be responsible for the waste they create and how they can make a difference to our planet. **If students bring waste to school, we ask them to please take this home.** Thank you for supporting our school value of Kaitiakitanga/Respect for the Environment.



NUDE FOOD: HEALTHY, FRESH & WASTE-FREE!

What is Nude Food?

Nude Food is simply food that is not wrapped in foil, plastic, or commercial packaging. It's all about fresh, healthy, and environmentally friendly choices!

Why Choose Nude Food?

- Encourages healthy eating habits
- Reduces waste and helps protect the environment
- Empowers students to make conscious food choices

Tips on How to Pack a Nude Food Lunch

- Use reusable containers for food and drinks
- Bring cutlery from home instead of using plastic utensils
- Choose a lunchbox with separate sections to keep food fresh

Try to Avoid These Items:

- ✗ Zip lock or plastic bags.
- ✗ Plastic wrap or aluminum foil

Tips for Packing a Nude Food Lunch

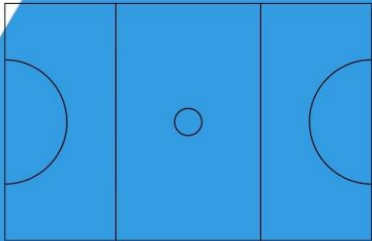
- ★ Get the kids involved in choosing their lunches to reduce food waste
- ★ Buy larger portions of yogurt or snacks and portion them into reusable containers
- ★ Choose in-season fruits and vegetables—they are fresher, more affordable, & better for the environment!

YR 5-8 PRE-SEASON NETBALL TRAINING



STARTS TUESDAY MARCH 4TH, 3PM - 4PM
(THEN EVERY TUESDAY UNTIL END OF TERM: LAST SESSION APRIL 8TH)

@ WHENUAPAI SCHOOL SENIOR CAMPUS
NETBALL COURT



All Yr 5-8 Whenuapai Students Welcome!

SIGN UP HERE

Kia ora to all Yr 5-8 students interested in playing netball this winter for Whenuapai School on Saturday mornings in the Wider West competition. To help our netballers get ready for the season, we are offering **6 free pre-season training sessions at our Senior Campus netball court (Tuesdays 3pm-4pm) from March 4th to April 8th.**

Our amazing **Year 8 AIMS netball team** will be running the sessions (including warm-ups, drills & skills and practice netball games) with Whaea Sarah's support. We would love some parents to help supervise the sessions too if possible.

Please complete this permission slip to ensure your child can join in these trainings to help them get ready for the netball season which starts in early May. Also, FYI: registrations for the netball teams will be via KINDO this year and you will be notified about these in March (**this form does NOT register your child for the school teams**, it is just to join in the pre-season training sessions).

As always, let me know if you have any questions (sbone@whenuapai.school.nz) and I look forward to supporting your child as they prepare for an awesome year of netball!!
Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou, Whaea Sarah (Teacher in charge of Netball)

Ramadan 2025



As we enter the month of Ramadan, we extend warm greetings to all of our families who are observing this significant time. Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar, marked by fasting from sunrise to sunset, prayers, spiritual reflection, humility and gratitude.

This year, Ramadan in New Zealand is expected to start on the evening of Friday, 28 February 2025, and conclude approximately on the evening of Saturday, 29 March 2025. During this period, many students, their families and some staff will be participating in fasting and engaging in acts of charity and kindness.

At Whenuapai School we recognise the importance of embracing diversity and understanding various cultural and religious practices. We encourage all members of our school community to show respect and support to those observing Ramadan.

As we celebrate the rich tapestry of cultures within our school, let us take this opportunity to foster understanding, empathy, and unity.

Wishing all those observing Ramadan a peaceful and fulfilling month ahead.



Ramadan Mubarak

School Notices:



For our Policies and Procedures please visit SchoolDocs at:

www.schooldocs.co.nz/

User – whenuapai
Password – airport

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MUSIC LESSONS at Whenuapai School

Would you like in-school lessons with a professional Music Tutor with many years of teaching experience? You can enrol your child in drum, trumpet, sax, clarinet, keyboard, guitar or ukulele lessons at Whenuapai School!

We deliver a fun, varied and structured curriculum. Students learn songs in styles ranging from traditional to contemporary during school hours.

For more information on Trumpet, Sax, Clarinet, Keyboard, Ukulele and Guitar lessons, contact **Gloria Arboleda Martinez**
gloria.arboleda@musiqhub.co.nz
Ph 0274 422 654

For more information on drum lessons, contact **Paul Barry**
paul.barry@musiqhub.co.nz
Ph 022 198 0044

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<https://swim.school.nz/>

5 Rawiri Place, Hobsonville.

Ph: 09 666 0240

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Onsite: 021 174 8473
(Only checked during opening hours)
www.skids.co.nz/whenuapai



Parent Portal

Linewize is a FREE online safety tool available to all our families and here's how it can help:

- **See What Your Child Sees:** Linewize allows you to see a filtered report of your child's browsing activity, including websites and search terms. This gives you a springboard for discussions about online content.
- **Spark Conversations:** Use Linewize reports to talk to your child about what they find interesting online. This is a great opportunity to teach critical thinking skills and discuss online dangers.
- **Set Boundaries Together:** Linewize allows you to set website filters and time limits for your child's internet use. Work with your child to create a safe and responsible online routine.

For more information, please visit <https://whenuapai.onlinesafetyhub.nz/>

Our school is proud of the work we do to foster and promote positive relationships and social skills through our restorative PB4L approach. We place great emphasis on our core values and provide engaging behaviour lessons to empower students to make positive choices.

With your help and support, we can continue to guide our tamariki on their journey towards responsible online behaviour and overall well-being.

Thank you for being an important part of our community.



Uniform Shop

Argyle Schoolwear now has a retail shop, where you can purchase our school uniform.

You will still be able to purchase your uniform online through their Argyle Online website, but you now also have the option to purchase in store, offering you a full retail experience.

Argyle's Retail Shop is located at:

- Unit 4 / 91 Central Park Drive in Henderson.

It is advisable that you book an appointment – please go to our school page on Argyle Online and click 'book a fitting'. Limited parking is available in front of the store.



[Click Here to Book](#)

Uniform Retail Store Opening 5th December 2024

WHENUAPAI SCHOOL

4/91 Central Park Drive, Henderson, Auckland
Book a fitting online through your school page at www.argyleonline.co.nz
Card payments only; no cash. WINZ quotes available.



FOOTBALL LUNCH PROGRAMME

KIWI KICK STARS

Whenuapai school

FUN FOOTBALL SESSIONS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS!!

TERM 1

Our awesome programme gets kids exercising through super fun activities based around football and storytelling. Kids build confidence while improving their motor skills and coordination, Learning how to play with others, focus on problem solving.

Our friendly, experienced coaches have a hands-on, relatable approach and a passion for fun!
Everyone's a winner at Kiwi Kick Stars!

Where: Whenuapai School fields
When: Wednesdays (starts on Wednesday 5th Febraury)
Time: Lunch time
Cost: \$135 per term (10 weeks)
 Second child discount of 10% applies!

TO REGISTER GO TO WWW.KIWIKICKSTARS.COM



GET READY FOR THE NEW THRILLING LUNCHTIME SCHOOL WORLD CUP PROGRAMME

YOUR CHANCE TO WIN THE WORLD CUP AWAITS!

Whenuapai Senior school Term 1

When: Every Tuesday, starting February 11th!
Where: Whenuapai senior school fields.
Time: Lunchtime
Duration: 8 Weeks
Fee: Just \$40!

Team up, earn points, and score extra points each game!!

EXCITING REWARDS:

- Certificates for every game!
- Collect 10 Certificates for a personalized FIFA Match Attax poster!
- Win a Kiwi Kick Stars Boot Bag!

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER GO TO WWW.KIWIKICKSTARS.COM

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about WHATSAPP



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With more than two billion active users, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Its end-to-end encryption only allows messages to be viewed by the sender and any recipients: not even WhatsApp itself can read them. The UK's Online Safety Bill proposes to end such encryption on private messaging, but for the time being, this controversial feature remains.

EVOLVING SCAMS

WhatsApp's popularity makes it a lucrative hunting ground for scammers. Recent examples include posing as the target's child, requesting a money transfer because of a spurious 'emergency' – plus a scam where fraudsters trigger a verification message by attempting to log in to your account, then (posing as WhatsApp) call or text to ask you to repeat the code back to them, giving them access.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a chat, someone only needs the mobile number of the WhatsApp user they want to message. Therefore, if a child has ever given their number out to someone they don't know, that person could then contact them via WhatsApp. It's also possible that the child might be added to a group chat or community (by one of their friends, for example) containing other people they don't know.

FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp's connectivity and ease of use allow news to be shared rapidly – whether it's true or not. To combat the spread of misinformation, messages forwarded more than five times on the app now display a "Forwarded many times" label and a double arrow icon. This makes users aware that the message they've just received is far from an original... and might not be entirely factual, either.

CHAT LOCK AND SECRET CODES

In 2023, WhatsApp introduced a feature that lets users keep their chats in a separate 'locked chats' folder, saved behind their phone's passcode, fingerprint or face ID. There is an additional feature – "Secret Code" – where users set a unique password for locked chats. Unfortunately, this creates the potential for young people to hide conversations and content they suspect their parents wouldn't approve of.

VIEW ONCE CONTENT

The ability to send images or messages that can only be viewed once has led to some WhatsApp users sharing inappropriate material or abusive texts, knowing that the recipient can't reopen them later to use as evidence of misconduct. People used to be able to screenshot this disappearing content – but a recently added WhatsApp feature now blocks this, citing protection of privacy.

VISIBLE LOCATION

WhatsApp's Live Location feature lets users share their current whereabouts, which can be helpful for friends meeting up or parents checking that their child is safe while out, for example. However, anyone in a user's contacts list or in a mutual group chat can also track their location – potentially letting strangers identify a child's home address or journeys that they make regularly.

Advice for Parents & Educators

EMPHASISE CAUTION

Encourage children to treat unexpected messages with caution; get them to consider whether it sounds like something a friend or relative would really send them. Make sure they know never to share personal details over WhatsApp, and to be wary of clicking on any links in messages. Setting up two-step verification adds a further layer of protection to their WhatsApp account.

ADJUST THE SETTINGS

It's wise to change a child's WhatsApp settings to specify which of their contacts can add them to group chats without needing approval. You can give permission to My Contacts or My Contacts Except... Additionally, if a child needs to use Live Location, emphasise that they should enable this function for only as long as they need – and then turn it off.

CHAT ABOUT PRIVACY

Check in with the child about how they're using WhatsApp, making sure they know you only have their safety at heart. If you spot a Locked Chats folder, you might want to talk about the sort of content they've stored in there, who they're talking to, and why they want to keep these chats hidden. Also, if children send any View Once content, it could be helpful to ask them why.

DISCUSS GROUP CHATS

Make children aware that there could be members of a group that they don't know well and that words can be misinterpreted. Encourage them to leave a good impression, to avoid joining in if conversations turn towards bullying, and to respond to such situations in an appropriate way. Make sure they know that it's OK to leave a group chat if it makes them uncomfortable – or for any reason, in fact.

THINK BEFORE SHARING

Help children understand why it's important to stop and think before posting or forwarding something on WhatsApp. It's easy – and all too common – for content that a user posts to be shared more widely, even publicly on social media. Encourage children to consider how an impulsive message or forwarding might damage their reputation or upset a friend who sent something to them in confidence.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/whatsapp-2025>

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