



Kia ora Parents and Whanau

We had a lovely fine day for our Agriculture day last Saturday and a great turn out of family/whanau to support and encourage our students in presenting their work and animals. Thank you everyone for your support. This week it is back to routine with a little bit of Halloween thrown in yesterday. There were lots of excited and interestingly dressed students running around and participating in the scary tunnel.

Welcome to the following new pupils and their families: Shannon Burhenne and Lily Spratt.



Agriculture Day

We would like to acknowledge the many people that work to make our Agriculture Day a success. These include our school organisers – Mrs Jo King and Mrs Michelle Ruddell, our caretaker Mr Allan Frost who had Mr Barry King (our previous caretaker) assist him to set up the fields and all the staff and support staff who assisted in a wide range of roles leading up to and on the day.

Thank you also to the great team of parents and students working in the food tent, this year organised by parent Mrs Andrea Thompson, with help from Mrs Kim Brown. Help from the PTA members to run activities and support the day was also great.

Thank you to the large team of judges who included the Mangakia Garden Club members, Quarry Arts members, Mrs Leanne Kemp, cake judges and the large team of lamb, goat, chicken, pet judges and their stewards. It is a big organisational task to bring everything together - so well done Jo and Michelle.

Congratulations to the following students for winning overall trophies:

LAMBS

Champion Lamb: Sam Provan

Reserve Champion Lamb: Carter Hanson

Champion Leading: Carter Hanson

Champion Calling: Sam Provan

Champion Rearing: Leah McRae

GOATS

Champion Goat: Charlie Morgan

Reserve Champion Goat: Riana Lane

Champion Leading: Grady Nops

Champion Calling: Charlie Morgan

Champion Rearing: Riana Lane

Well done to the Dads and Grandads who entered our cake competition and congratulations to our winners:

Best Decorated Cake: Jason Neuhold

Best Tasting Chocolate Cake: Adam Hoare

A reminder Central Day is Thursday 8 November at Barge Park and students are encouraged to take their lambs and goats along to compete against other Whangarei rural schools.

TIMSS Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study

As part of this international study, our Y5 students are participating in a series of questionnaires relating to Maths and Science in the week of 19 November. Parents will be sent information about the process and a questionnaire to complete and return before the end of the term. This study is run by the Ministry of Education and schools are randomly selected from across the country. Students are not required to do anything in preparation for the study.



Primary Teachers & Principals Agreement Negotiations

New Zealand's principals and primary teachers have recently voted about what to do to get government action on the current crisis in recruiting and retaining teachers. We have agreed - we can't in good conscience accept the Government's latest collective agreement offer because it does not begin to address the crisis. We have therefore voted for an unprecedented second strike, to be held this month. There will be nationwide rolling strikes over a week, and our region will be striking on **Tuesday 13 November** along with the rest of the North Island.

Our school will be closed on that date, as the Board has determined there will not be any staff on site to provide supervision. While we regret the inconvenience we know this will cause, we need to send a clear message to the Government that we are standing strong for our students.

Already children's education is suffering because of the difficulty in recruiting teachers and relievers, and we must take bold steps to turn this around. We need to build the profession so it is seen as a positive occupation again.

Through our union, NZEI Te Riu Roa, we are asking for:

- Smaller classes, so children can get more one-on-one attention
- More resources and staffing to adequately support children with additional learning needs – this will benefit all children because teachers will be freed to spend more one-on-one time with every student
- A significant increase in teachers' salaries so that they are properly valued for their qualifications and responsibilities, and as a country we can recruit and retain teachers.

We are continuing the bargaining process and have agreed to enter into Facilitation from next Monday to try to reach an agreement and will then consider the facilitators recommendation.

We appreciate your continued support on this important issue.

For more information, please go to <http://campaigns.nzei.org.nz/time/> or talk with your child's teacher. You can also support us by emailing or Facebooking messages to our local and national Educational Members of Parliament – Chris Hipkins, Winstone Peters, Shane Jones, Shane Reti.

If you have any questions or want to discuss what is happening, please talk with us at school.

Environmental School Activities

R1 and R6 returned today to carry out further planting on the Booth farm. They were rewarded with a sausage sizzle as a thank you for their help in planting the stream surrounds.

Thank you to the parents who helped out today with the planting and transport to and from the farm.

School Council

The council did a great job organising the scary tunnel in the hall yesterday for Halloween and had a good number of students going through. They modified it for the juniors so it was shorter and less scary and had a lot of fun in the process.

The council have also sent home a notice to families asking if anyone can help them replace the tyres by the PE shed. If you are able to assist in any way, please complete their response sheet and return it to school. The next step will be to work out a date.

BOT News

Our Board would like to acknowledge the great job our After School Care Programme does and the wonderful team who supervise a large number of students every afternoon. Our ASC programme is very well used by our school community and on some days we have well over 70 children and increasing. Wednesday and Thursday are particularly busy. A reminder to please let us know if your children do not need after school care so we can manage the staffing and payments accurately. If we are not notified or you collect your children around 3pm from ASC, you may be charged, especially for afternoon tea.

The Board have also taken the next step to try to get funding to improve the school carpark safety issues. This involves hiring consultants to prepare a case to improve the safety of the current carpark and submitting this to the Ministry of Education property section to have it included in our future 5 year property projects.

The Ministry have told us they are not purchasing any new land for schools and any improvements will need to use the land the school currently has. Whangarei District Council and NZTA will, we hope, be part of this as work also needs to be done on the roadside. As stated previously this will not be a quick fix!

In the meantime, we ask our school community to consider safety when entering and exiting the carpark and when taking your children to cars. Moving on as soon as you collect your children helps free parks for other families and keeping the area between the entry and exit clear enables safer visibility when exiting.

Secondary School Prize Givings

Currently many of our local secondary schools are holding senior academic, sports and end of year prize givings and it is great to hear the number of our former students who are receiving awards, prizes and school colours for a wide variety of reasons. Well done to everyone on their achievements.

Whanau Meeting

There will be no whanau meeting this term. Thank you to the whanau that have attended regularly and provided input. The focus has been on developing the kapa haka uniforms and these are well underway. The next meeting will be Term 1 next year when we look at our focus and development for the year.

Reminders

PTA Meeting - This will be next Monday 5 November. Mrs Judy Jenkins is going to talk about helping your children with their reading at home so please come along at 7pm. The PTA meeting will follow after that.

School Photos - Orders are due back by Tuesday 6 November.

Y7/8 Chocolate Fundraiser - Thank you to all those who returned an order form for chocolate. The chocolates will be sent home with children next Friday 9 November and we are looking to have money returned by Friday 23 November.

Summer Reading Programme

There will be tips and quotes in the newsletter this term aimed at helping parents to avoid their kid's summer slide (when reading gains are lost over the holidays).

- Get audio books from the library/internet
- Put subtitles on TV when watching a movie.
- Be a role model, let your children see you reading.
- Read maps and info about a trip your family is taking.



Maungatapere War Memorial Church Opening

Some of our school will be involved in the official reopening of the church on Sunday 11 November at 11am (Armistice Day). The kapa haka group has taken home a letter about the event to determine who will be able to attend. Please return this to either Miss Brooke Hepi or the school office so we can organise the group.

School Awards

Congratulations to the following pupils:

- * **Macie Beeston R3** - For trying really hard during writing to recall high frequency words. Keep it up Macie.
- * **Hayden Shelford R8** - For being a wonderful role model.
- * **Eva Smyth R11** - For trying hard to stay focused on her learning. Great job!
- * **Joe Sweeney R3** - For setting down learning goals to be successful in all areas. Great learning coach. Fantastic Joe.
- * **Phillipa Rolland R11** - For being a kind friend and encouraging others to stay cool and calm.
- * **Aleksandra McIvor R9** - For having a positive attitude towards her learning and persisting to always keep up with her mahi.

Key Dates/Coming Events - Term 4

Mon 5 Nov	-	PTA meeting & Reading talk 7pm
Thur 8	-	Central Day @ Barge Park
Mon 12	-	Athletics Y4-8 (pp 14 th)
Tues 13	-	Proposed Teacher Strike
Thur 15	-	Mangakahia Cultural Festival
Fri 16	-	WBHS Orientation Day
Mon 19	-	WGHS Orientation Day
Wed 21	-	Wheels Day / BOT Meeting
Wed 28 Nov	-	Y3/4 Marine Visit / WPSSA Y7-8 Athletics
Wed 5 Dec	-	PJ Day / WPSSA Y4-6 Athletics
Thur 6	-	Athletics Y0-3
Mon 10 - Fri 14	-	Classes Trip Week
Wed 12	-	BOT Meeting 7pm
Thur 13	-	School Disco
Fri 14	-	Y8 Graduation Dinner
Tues 18	-	2019 Class Swap / Portfolios home
Wed 19 Dec	-	Prizegiving / Early Closing/ End of Term

Community Notices

Wanted to Buy \$\$ - 2018 Ag Day pet ewe lambs for breeding purposes. Please see Ms Caddick R8 if you can help.

Rick Stolwerk, Nthld Regional Councillor - invites Kara and Kokopu residents for a mid-council term drinks/nibbles and question time at Kara-Kokopu Hall, Friday 9 Nov, come anytime from 5.30-6.45pm. A weed and pest management presentation begins at 6pm. RSVP by Nov 7 for catering purposes to 021-823770 or ricks@nrc.govt.nz.

Whg BMX Club School Challenge - Sat 1 Dec. Try your hand at BMX, race for your school and with your friends. You will need a good working bike with no pegs, stands or chain guards. Appropriate clothing and a helmet (full face if possible). Enquiries to Angela on 021-02452047.

Local Christmas Market - Sunday 16 December 9am-3pm. Local businesses/produce/craft stall holders wanted. To be a part of this local event text your email address to 027-2861782.

Love Grows Brains - Whg Life Education Trust fundraiser, Thur 22 Nov, 7pm at Kamo Intermediate, \$40pp @ www.ticketdirect.co.nz. Nathan Wallis, neuroscience educator will talk about how the brain works & how this knowledge can create better outcomes for our kids.

Fonterra - We're Opening Up Our Gates 11 Nov - Come and visit Greg and Janelle's farm to see what they do to care for NZ's environment. Have a chat, see what really happens on farm, fun activities for the kids also. Book your free farm visit now at opengates.co.nz.

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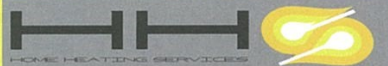
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