



AWHITU
DISTRICT SCHOOL



Empowering students to care, adapt and succeed with PRIDE

Monday 19th October 2026

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We would like to extend a warm welcome to Chevelle Malloy (Yr 8 student) and her family to Awhitu District School. Chevelle has joined Mrs O'Regan in Te Whaanau Kea. We hope you enjoy your time here and quickly feel part of our school community.

Calf Club Day - A Wonderful Celebration of Our School Community!

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who helped make Saturday's Calf Club Day such a fantastic success! We were blessed with a beautiful sunny day, spectacular animals, beautiful sand saucers, and some wonderful sunflowers and diaries proudly presented by our students. It was a joy to see so much enthusiasm, effort and pride on display!

A special congratulations to all our children and their families who have dedicated weeks of time, care and commitment to feeding, nurturing and training their animals. The hard work and love that goes into preparing for Calf Club Day is truly something to celebrate, and we are so proud of everyone's efforts.

Our sincere thanks go to Sarah Chitty and the Calf Club Committee for the incredible time and energy they put into organising such a memorable day for our school community. We are also very grateful to the parents and caregivers who generously donated raffle prizes and contributed food for the café, as well as to the many local businesses who supported the event.

Calf Club Day is a wonderful example of our school community coming together, and we are incredibly grateful for the generosity, teamwork and enthusiasm shown by so many. Your contributions, big and small, helped create such a special day for our children and families, and we truly appreciate every one of you.

We wish all our students competing at **Group Day Calf Club this Thursday, 22 October**, the very best of luck. Enjoy the experience, be proud of your hard work, and most importantly, have fun!

Book Fair: This will be open after school until 3pm tomorrow, 20th October for last minute purchases! This is a great time to buy books for Christmas presents! Every book sold builds up points for the school to purchase more books. There is always a great selection of new and traditional books available for all ages.

REMINDER:

Next Monday, 26th October is Labour Day and Tuesday, 27th October is a MoE approved Teacher Only Day. Students don't come to school until Wednesday 28th October.

Yummy Stickers: Please keep these stickers coming in! It's amazing how these add up and are converted to money that allow us to purchase sports equipment. Extra sheets are available from the school office. Thank you so much.

The first Yr 7/8 Technology Session at View Road School is this Friday 23rd October.

KEA RM 6 TRADE FAIR MARKET The Yr 7/8's have been busily making crafts for sale at their Trade Fair Market to be held this Wednesday 21st October from 10.30am - 12.00pm. Come along and see the amazing items they have made and have for sale!

Attendance Matters: The MoE has sent us our Term 3 2026 Attendance Report as follows:

50% of our students attended regularly
29% of our students attended irregularly
14% of our students had concerning absence
7% had very concerning absences

The MoE target is for 80% of students to attend regularly. That means to attend school more than 90% of the time.

Awhitu District School Attendance Comparison Data from 2024 - 2026				
Term 3	Regular Attendance	Irregular Attendance	Concerning Attendance	Chronic Attendance
2026	50%	29%	14%	7%
2025	39%	34%	14%	14%
2024	48%	28%	15%	9%

Colour Code Key
Regular Attendance: over 90% attendance. Missing fewer than 5 days across a term.
Irregular Absence: more than 80% and up to 90% attendance. Absent for between 5 and 9 days across a term.
Concerning Absence: more than 70% and up to 80% attendance. Absent for between 10 and 14.5 days across a term.
Chronic Absence: 70% attendance or less. Absent for 15 days or more across a school term.

CELEBRATING POSITIVE ATTENDANCE

It is wonderful to see the positive progress we have made in improving attendance over the past three years! Thank you to our families and whānau for your ongoing support and commitment to helping our tamariki make the most of their learning opportunities. Every day at school is valuable, and we really appreciate the partnership we share in supporting our children to thrive.

Alongside regular attendance, we also recognise the importance of keeping our school community healthy. If your child is unwell, please keep them at home to rest, recover and help prevent the spread of illness. In particular, if your child has been vomiting, they must remain at home for 48 hours after their last episode before returning to school.

Thank you once again for your continued support, understanding and care for our school community. By working together, **we can continue to build positive attendance habits while ensuring our tamariki and staff stay healthy and well!**

TOYS & VALUABLES

Please keep all toys, squishies and valuable or precious items at home as well. If your child wants to share a treasure with the class, the teacher will keep it inside for safety during the day.



Hats: In Term 1 and 4, all students are required to wear hats when outside. If your child doesn't have one, they will stay on the deck in the shade during break times.

Hats must be of a bucket or wide brimmed style to provide optimal protection from the sun. Sunscreen is also important. We do have some at school available to the students if they do not have their own. Please talk to your children about when they need to come and apply it.

What's Coming Up in Term 4?

Term 4 Dates so far:

Calf Club Group Day: Thursday 22nd October
Labour Day Holiday: Monday 26th October
Teacher Only Day: Tuesday 27th October
Halloween Disco: Friday 30th October
General Election: Saturday 7th November
Cruise to the Heads Fundraiser: Saturday 7th November
Colour Fun Run: Friday 27th November
Yr 8 Social Dance: Tuesday 8th December
Last day of Term 4: Tuesday 15th December

More dates to come as they are confirmed

Term 4 Yr 7/8 Technology Dates: *Friday 23rd October, Friday 6th November, Friday 20th November and Friday 4th December*

Last day of Term 4: Tuesday 15th December 2026

