

NEWSLETTER NO. 13 - 3rd September 2025

Nau mai haere mai, Greetings | Tena Koutou | ¡Hola! | Hallo | Kumusta | Konichiwa | Groete | Namaste | Talofa Lava | Malo e Lelei | Ni sa bula | Fakalofa lahi atu | Kia Orana

Welcome to week 8! It is hard to believe how quickly this year is passing us by. As we enter September and move towards the end of Term 3, the days are slowly stretching out again, the mornings are a little lighter, and it feels as though winter is finally beginning to loosen its grip.

As we head towards the end of the term, leaders, teachers, students, parents, whānau, PTA and the board continue to work hard with events yet to come. Highlights include the AIM's Games, Bay Conservation Field Trip (Years 5-8), NZSO Creative Music Workshops, Grandparents Day, and our parent / whānau mathematics evening - all of which will make this time of year especially memorable. It is also a wonderful opportunity to pause and celebrate the learning and achievements we've seen so far, while continuing to encourage our tamariki to give their best effort in these final weeks of the term.

Garden to Table

After 5 years as our garden expert for our Garden to Table programme, Amber has decided to hang up her gloves. The garden has had its fair share of trial and error (including the times of COVID), but with Amber leading the way, every hurdle turned into a chance to learn and grow, enriching the programme in countless ways.



The school community thanks Amber for everything she has poured into this role. Her commitment has made a difference, a real difference, to the experiences of our learners and community members who have worked alongside her. Her passion, dedication, and leadership have left a lasting mark for those that follow in her footsteps 🌸

Amber, we're really going to miss having you around - not just your expertise, but the way you've guided and supported everyone. We're so grateful for the solid roots you've helped establish for the programme.

Amber, do pop in for a quick peek at the garden anytime, and don't be shy about sharing a bit of that wisdom we've all come to love 😊



OnBoard

We'd like to take a moment to acknowledge and thank Matt and Mark who have concluded their term as board members. Their dedication to our school and community, their commitment to the growth and wellbeing of our rangatahi (our young people) and the time they have generously given has made a meaningful impact. They have made a lasting difference, and we are truly grateful for the time and wisdom they have shared. They will be greatly missed.

At the same time, we warmly welcome Alex and Barbara-Ann as they begin their journey on the school board. Having already participated in their first meeting, they have made a positive start to their governance roles. We look forward to seeing the board grow together as a strong and effective team, continuing to lead the way forward for our learners and for a school community we are so very proud of.

“Ko te manawa ū, kia rere, kia tīna”

'Actively involved learners, empowered and thriving'

Tall Poppies Speech Competition

Huge congratulations to Chloe (Year 7) and Shalomay (Year 8) for achieving 2nd place in their competitions at the Tall Poppies Speech competition 🎉🏆 Exceptional representation for Whakamārama School. Well done!



AIM's Games

Each year, the AIMS Games provide an exciting national platform for intermediate-age students to showcase their sporting talents. We are delighted to congratulate Isla A, Harry S, Chloe M and Jamie on their outstanding efforts in the bowls singles event held yesterday, 2 September. Having trained diligently well before the competition, they gave their absolute best across all four games they played.

Harry secured one win, Jamie and Chloe each triumphed in two games, and Isla advanced to the singles finals scheduled for today. We are incredibly proud of every one of our 2025 AIMS Games participants and celebrate their dedication and achievements with great joy. 😊

We wish our team all the very best for tomorrow, 4 September as they compete in the bowls pairs competition 🍀

Check out the game faces of Isla A, Harry S, Chloe M and Jamie (pictured left to right below)



Year 3 / 4 Speeches

What an inspiring display of courage and confidence from our Year 3 and 4 learners on Thursday, 28 August! From sparking an idea to bravely overcoming stage fright, each student truly impressed their teacher, classmates, parents, whānau and judges alike 😊

Our Year 3 and 4 speeches offered a supportive and purposeful learning experience, encouraging our learners to strengthen their communication skills, build self-belief, and grow personally. The effort and commitment shown by every participant was outstanding. Thank you to everyone who played a part in making this such a meaningful and memorable event for our learners.

SPEECH CONGRATULATIONS

Year 3	Year 4
1st Wolf 2nd Cohen 3rd	1st George 2nd Felix 3rd Zac



Parent/Family Information Evening - Mathematics and Statistics Curriculum Refresh

We know you have marked this event on your calendar and look forward to seeing you. A notice came home on Monday 1 September explaining the evening. To support the planning of light refreshments (...enjoy a glass of wine/beverage with us), please return your positive attendance response to the Office by Friday 5 September. If you did not receive a notice, please check your child's bag or request another one from the office.

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From the PTA

🥧 You Bought Pies. We Love You for It. 🥧 Whether you were in it for the mince and cheese, the butter chicken, or just because someone said "pie" and you blacked out and handed over your money – THANK YOU!

Because of you, Whakamārama School PTA is rolling in dough. Your support means we can keep doing great things for our tamariki, fuelled by flaky pastry and good vibes.

We hope you enjoyed your pies hot, your bellies are full, and your family didn't fight too much over the last one 😊

Whakamārama School Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

If you are interested in joining the PTA, go along and see how things work. There are a number of exciting events coming up to get involved in. The PTA is a great way to be involved in the school community and they welcome as much or as little help as you are able to give. Anyone is welcome to head along to see what the PTA is all about. The ongoing success of our PTA relies upon new members stepping in as other members step down when their child leaves. Your involvement, no matter how big or small, can make a difference.

Next Meeting - Mark Your Calendar

When: Monday 8 September 2025

Time: 7:00 pm

Where: Whakamārama Hall



Year 3/4 Neilson Football Tournament

Tomorrow our Year 3/4 football team will be heading to the Ōmokoroa Sports Grounds to take on fellow local schools in the annual battle for the Greig Neilson Trophy. We wish Maddie, Claudia, Ravreet, Harry R, Wolf, Forrest, Zac, Eben and Cairos the very best as they represent our kura with teamwork, determination, and school pride.

A special acknowledgement to Miss Johnstone (Theresa) for her time and energy in preparing our players.

Ngā mihi nui ki a koe Luka (Freja's Dad) for donating the generous donation of new footballs - they've been a fantastic asset in training sessions!

Show Day 2025

Show Day is calendared for **Saturday 18th October 2025**. Show Day is a very special day in our school calendar, and a learning opportunity for all our learners - animal rearing for visiting animals, presenting an animal diary (for animal visitors unable to attend) and artistic expression through art and craft.

A detailed information notice came home last week. If you have any questions around Show Day, please do not hesitate in contacting the school and we will guide you to the right person.

School Assembly

Whole school assemblies are held every three weeks and are a wonderful opportunity to showcase current classroom learning and celebrate our learners' achievements with class certificates. All parents and whānau are warmly invited and encouraged to attend. Our final assembly for Term 3 will be held Friday 12 September at 2:00 pm. Mark your calendar. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Out of Zone Ballot

Our school operates an enrolment scheme (school zone). This scheme helps to protect our school from overcrowding. If you live within the school zone, then your child / children are guaranteed a place at Whakamārama School. Out-of-zone applications for enrolment are considered through a ballot system, and are subject to available places in suitable classes.

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The board invites applications from parents who wish to enrol their sons and daughters at Whakamārama School for Term 1 2026. Enrolment at the school is governed by an enrolment scheme, details of which are available from the school office.

An out-of-home zone application is to be completed and returned to the school office. Applications can be emailed upon request. The deadline for receipt of applications for out-of-home zone places is 6 October 2025. The board has determined that 1 place is likely to be available for out-of-home zone students in Year 1.

If the number of out-of-zone applications exceeds the number of places available, applications will be sorted against Ministry priority criteria. If a ballot is required it will be held on 7 October 2025. Parents will be informed of the outcome of the ballot within three school days of the ballot being held.

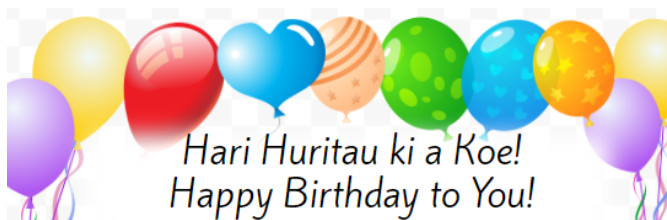
To enrol or find out more information please contact the school 07 552 5204 or email our enrolment officer office@whakamarama.school.nz

Teacher Only Day

Have you marked your calendar? **Teacher only days calendared for Friday 19 September and Friday 14 November 2025.** On these days, school will be closed for students. Thank you for your understanding and support as we continue to enhance our teaching and learning programmes 😊

Yummy Apple Stickers - End of this term is the deadline for Yummy Apple Stickers. The more stickers we have, the more FREE sports gear we get. More forms are available in the office if you need them. Keep on munching through those apples!

These children all have a September (Mahuru) birthday!!



6 Years Kieran
9 Years Benjamin B
10 Years Maxwell
13 Years Terence

SCHOOL NOTICEBOARD

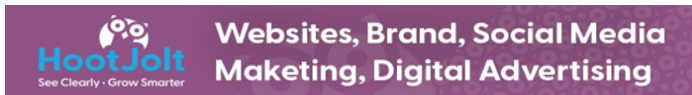
Please keep yourself up-to-date with the school newsboard that comes out fortnightly in the newsletter or on the the school website

September / Mahuru	
Thursday 4th	North Cluster Speeches Years 5 & 6
Monday 8th	Soil Habitat Field Trip Rooms 1 & 4
Monday 8th	PTA Meeting 7pm at the Whakamārama Community Centre
Tuesday 9th	Parent Evening; Maths Curriculum 6pm
Tuesday 9th	Tall Poppies Problem Solving 6.30am at AGC
Wednesday 10th	Wig Wednesday - Gold Coin Donation
Friday 12th	Assembly 2pm - Come join us!
Monday 15th	Grandparents Day 10am
Tuesday 16th	Board Meeting 6pm
Friday 19th	Teacher Only Day
Friday 19th	Last Day of Term 3
October / Whiringa-ā-nuku	
Monday 6th	Start of Term 4
Monday 13th	PTA Meeting 7pm at the Whakamārama Community Centre
Saturday 18th	Show Day
Tuesday 21st	Board Meeting 6pm

Thanks to the below businesses for sponsoring our school app Skool Loop:

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If you would like to advertise on the Whakamārama School Skool Loop App please email Content@skoolloop.com
download the app: In Google Play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose Whakamarama School once installed.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

TWO TOUCH FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Term 3 Registration OPEN

Two Touch Football is a elite, high-energy football training programme designed for young players who are passionate about the game.

We focus on developing real skill, speed, and game intelligence through fast-paced, technical sessions that challenge and inspire. If your child loves football and wants to take their game to the next level, Two Touch is the place to be.

Based in Omokoroa
Email: info@twotouch.co.nz
Visit: www.twotouch.co.nz

Yoga Classes

Slow Flow Yoga Class
Whakamārama Hall
Tuesdays, 9am

Casual Class \$20 pp
10x Class Pass \$170
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Leaves your body feeling longer, your mind more peaceful, and energy uplifted.

thepeacefulpausecollective@gmail.com

Events & Workshops
Planning a special day? I offer personalised yoga classes for events like hen's parties, weddings, birthdays and baby showers.

Alice Certified with Shiva Rea in Prana Vinyasa Flow.

WHAKAMARAMA HALL

Spacious sunny, multipurpose hall suitable for small to large events and gatherings. Commercially designed kitchen perfect for home and small business use.

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Just \$20 per hours using discount code SCHOOL

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Whakamarama Community Centre

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• A dispensed 2nd vaccination of Ultravac® 5 in 1 also free of charge

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Papamoa Village Vets 572 2334 Mount Maunganui Vets 242 4422

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AOEC HOLIDAY PROGRAM
FOR BOYS & GIRLS 7-12 YEARS OLD

DATES
• Tuesday 23rd Sept
• Wednesday 24th Sept
• Tuesday 30th Sept
• Wednesday 1st Oct
8.50am - 5.50pm

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BOOK BY EMAILING
TEAM@AOEC.ORG.NZ

16 Pukarangi Rd, Aongatete

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