

NEWSLETTER NO. 2 - 19th February 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

It is with great delight to inform parents / caregivers of the calm and settled learning tone that has been evident across our kura in the first weeks back at school - an atmosphere of enthusiasm, an atmosphere of curiosity and an atmosphere of a sense of belonging. Despite the heat (and unpredictable weather), our school is buzzing with learning energy. Our learners clearly love being at school! Our staff clearly love being at school. Thank you staff, students, parents and whānau for a great start to 2025!

Our New Classrooms

Lots of work has taken place over the last month. Our old septic system was removed and a new one has been installed. We have had a switchboard upgrade completed. The decking area outside the classrooms is currently being completed. The canopy team has been on site to complete measurements and they can now arrange for the canopy materials to be manufactured - and much more!

It is anticipated that our classrooms will be handed over to the school prior to the commencement of term 2 😊👉

Bay Conservation Alliance

We are extremely fortunate that our involvement with Bay Alliance Conservation continues into 2025. Our Year 4-8 learners enjoyed their first in-class session on Tuesday 18th February. This term, they are learning about the marine environment. The in-class session involved learning about the fish species found at our local beaches, harbours and estuaries, and finding out how scientists count for fish and monitor the health of their habitat.



Meet and Greet Picnic

All our families are invited to join the board and staff for a meet and greet picnic on **Thursday 20th February from 5 - 7 pm.**

Bring along a picnic blanket and a picnic style dinner to share with your family. Set yourself up under the trees at the front of the school and enjoy a relaxed afternoon with our school community - both new and not so new. We look forward to seeing you all!

The forecast has changed, and the weather is looking good, but if we need to cancel, you may be having a picnic on the lounge floor 😊



“Ko te manawa ū, kia rere, kia tīna”

'Actively involved learners, empowered and thriving'

Parent / Whānau Connect Meetings

Week 4 (25th & 26th February) hosts our parent / whānau connect meetings. We hope that you can attend one of our whanaungatanga hui (connection meetings) taking place, as these days give you, our school whānau, the opportunity to connect with your child's teacher, discuss your child, ask questions, share with us any potential goals you may have, or simply tell us anything else you may like us to know about your child. The teaching team is very excited!

Online bookings for our 'Whānau Connect' meetings can be made through the Skool Loop app. You can download the app on the App Store or get it on Google Play.

If you have any questions or require assistance in booking your meeting time(s), do not hesitate in contacting Sharon in the office.



BE AN ATTENDANCE H.E.R.O.

- ★ Here
- ★ Everyday
- ★ Ready
- ★ On Time

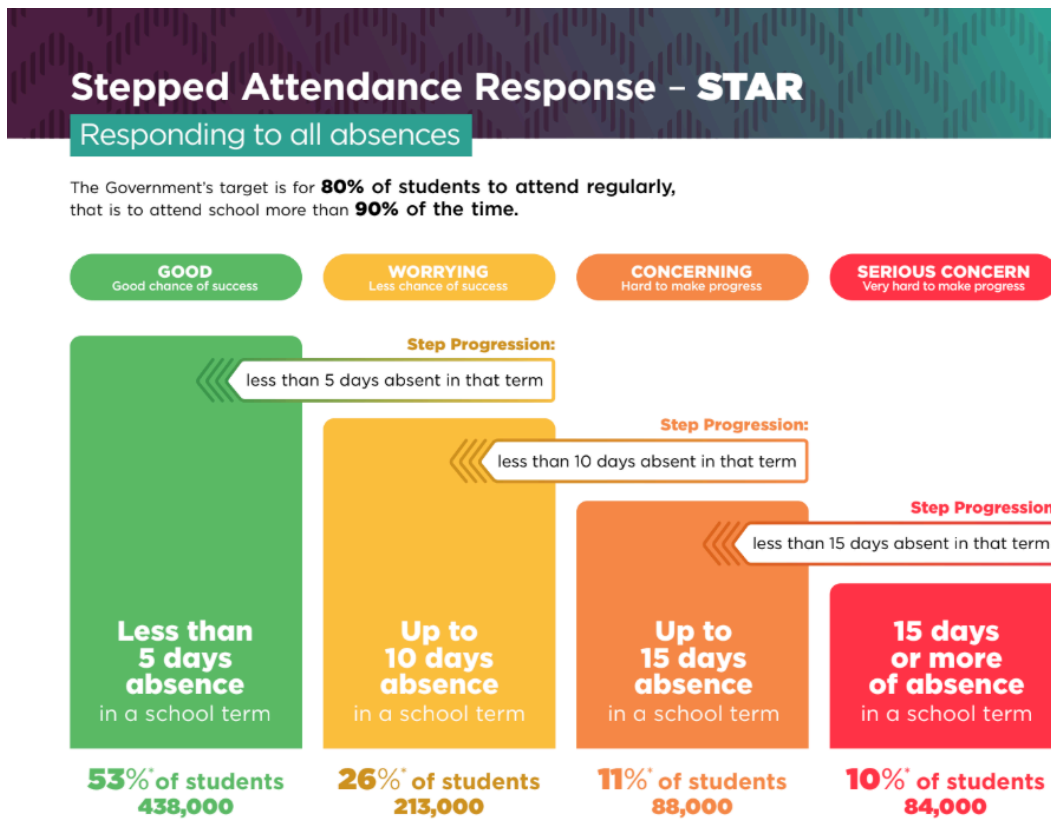


Attendance Matters

The school would like to thank parents and whānau for fostering the importance of attendance and ensuring that every day counts towards learning. Being engaged in learning matters, right from a child's first days in early learning, throughout primary schooling and secondary schooling. Aotearoa New Zealand's children need every opportunity to learn, participate, and flourish by regularly attending school.

STAR-Stepped Attendance Response

The Minister of Education has introduced the "Stepped Attendance Response (STAR)" process for schools to follow when managing poor student attendance. The basic premise of the STAR is that no child is left behind. Every student, parent, teacher and school has a role to play. Each school will be developing their own STAR system to suit their community and school. It will be mandatory for Whakamārama School to have an attendance management plan based on STAR from the beginning of the 2026 school year.



These approximate numbers are based on the number of students in the regular attendance categories in Term 2, 2024.

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The diagrams below support your awareness of the STAR-Stepped Attendance Response.

From Term 1, 2025, daily attendance must be recorded every day schools are open for instruction and entered into our management system by our staff by 6:00 p.m. each day with the correct codes.

If we do not have the correct information from you, we have to mark your child as unjustified or truant, depending on what information we have or have not received from you.

Details provided after an event will not alter the coding, so it is extremely important that we know beforehand.

- It is vital that you communicate with the school about why your child is not at school.
- You must specify the reason, simply saying that they are away is not sufficient
- Holidays during term time are coded as G, these are unjustified absences. It is required for permission to be sought in advance by emailing the principal

principal@whakamarama.school.nz



Rippa Rugby

Thank parents for your kindness and patience as we work around the new Rippa Rugby registrations this year 😊. If your child is a

member of the Lightning Bolts or Lightning & Thunder, a new link has been sent to your emails for you to retry registration.

Rippa Rugby modules commence on Monday 24th February at Maramatanga Park, Te Puna and will run for 5 weeks.



Teacher Only Days - A reminder to calendar 😊

Across the year, our teaching team will be undertaking structured mathematics professional learning development (PLD). To support our learning, two teacher only days have been set. Please mark your calendar and make arrangements for your child / children on Friday 28th March and Friday 16th May 2025.

Updates and Changes

If you have had a change of address, phone number, medical, etc please let us know so that we can change this on our system. It is VERY IMPORTANT to keep us up to date in case of an emergency.



Less than 5 days absence in a school term

PARENTS/GUARDIANS
Ensure attendance:

- Encourage good attendance habits
- Support other parents to encourage good attendance habits
- Open communication with school
- Follow school attendance management plan and associated policies and processes

SCHOOLS

- Clear communication to parents on attendance expectations on enrolment, at the start of school year, and each term
- Communicate to parents what steps the school will take in the event their child is absent from school
- Communicate good attendance habits to students and parents
- Monitor attendance
- Communicate to parents about every absence
- Maintain contact details of parents
- Provide students with regular updates on their own attendance
- Report regularly to parents on attendance of their child
- Support students getting to school
- Use school level approaches to promote good social and learning environment

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

- Monitor that schools have their attendance policy and attendance management plan on website and it is reviewed as required
- Monitor aggregate data and attendance patterns to identify challenges and opportunities at regional and national levels
- Maintain regular contact with schools and support policy development and interventions/supports
- Support schools to be inclusive and safe

53% of students. 438,000

Up to 10 days absence in a school term

PARENTS/GUARDIANS

- Return student to regular attendance
- Contact school to discuss reasons for absence
- Support student to catch up on missed learning
- Engage in supports offered

SCHOOLS

- Send formal notification and contact parent/guardian to discuss reasons for absence
- Support students to catch up missed learning where required
- Use in-school resources as appropriate to remove barriers e.g. counselor, 2nd hand uniform shop, PB4L

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

- Support school with formal notification where required

26% of students. 213,000

Up to 15 days absence in a school term

PARENTS/GUARDIANS

- Return student to regular attendance
- Attend meeting at the school to diagnose reason for absence and to collaborate on a support plan
- Implement strategies at home

SCHOOLS

- Send escalated formal notification to parents
- Hold meeting to diagnose reason for absence and to collaborate on a support plan
- Develop and implement a plan tailored to the diagnosis and circumstances around the child's absence
- Use in-school resources as appropriate to remove barriers and request support from Ministry or other agencies as needed

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

- Identify schools with a significant proportion of students at amber level and offer additional support
- Facilitate multi-agency response and support school to implement and monitor improvement plan
- Promote resources and services to support schools to return students to regular attendance
- Identify and respond to localised barriers
- Monitor regional interventions
- Facilitate involvement of other agencies
- Reprioritise regional support resources to where most needed/effective
- Develop new initiatives/policies if needed
- Support parent/guardian and school to resolve conflict if needed

11% of students. 88,000

15 days or more absence in a school term

PARENTS/GUARDIANS

- Return student to regular attendance
- Engage in improvement plan
- Participate in regular meetings

SCHOOLS

- Send warning notice and make contact to arrange meeting with parents
- Escalate to multi-agency response
- Participate in multi-agency response
- Implement and monitor improvement plan

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

- Identify schools with a significant proportion of students at red level and offer additional support
- Facilitate multi-agency response and support school to implement and monitor improvement plan
- Provide direct support to parents where required
- Coordinate regional response where required
- Consider system-wide initiatives for high-risk attendance
- Undertake Ministry-led prosecution if supports are offered and not taken up
- Support schools to undertake school-led prosecution as and when requested by schools

10% of students. 84,000



"Ko te manawa ū, kia rere, kia tīna"

Whakamarama School PTA presents

Mum's Magic Makeover

Join us for Fabulous Fun with Friends
Friday, 28 February 2025
6.00 to 10.00pm Whakamarama Hall

Tickets **\$40**
 Ticket price includes Dinner, glass of bubbles on arrival and entertainment



On sale now thru [Humanitix.com](https://www.humanitix.com)

Clothes Swap
 Bring along 2 to 5 items to donate, then browse for something new to take home

Dinner, Drinks and More
 Enjoy an Indian inspired dinner, drinks and entertainment

PTA

HAVE YOU GOT YOUR TICKETS?

Join the PTA for a fabulous evening of fun with friends.

A fabulous night not to be missed - dinner, fashion swap and entertainment!

Policies and Procedures

All school policies and procedures can be viewed at our SchoolDocs Site using the username and password below. The SchoolDocs Site contains a search tool allowing you to search for a topic or theme.

How to login:

1. Go to schooldocs.co.nz
2. Click Search for your school (top, right)
3. Start typing our school's name and select it from the dropdown list.
4. Enter our community username (whakamarama) and password (unity)



These children all have a February (Hui-tanguru) birthday!!



5 Years Eden, Frankie
 6 Years Thomas, Zikai, Detroit
 8 Years Claudia
 9 Years Cha-Leigh, Heidi,
 10 Years Otis, Teama
 13 Years Callaway

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

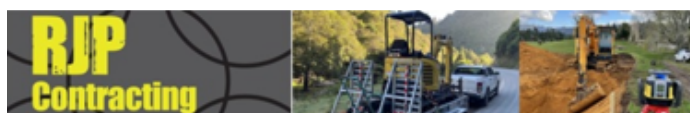
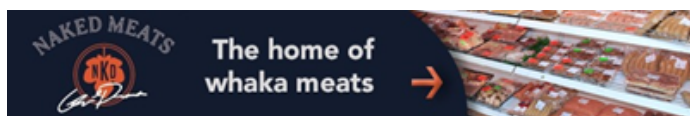
Hui-tanguru / February	
Thursday 20th	Family Picnic 5 - 7pm
Friday 21st	School Assembly 2pm - Come join us!
Tuesday 25th	Parent Connect Meetings
Wednesday 26th	Parent Connect Meetings
Friday 28th	PTA Event - Mums Magic Makeover 6pm-10pm
March	
3 - 7th March	Sea Week
Wednesday 5th	Year 5 - 8 Bay Conservation Alliance trip to Katikati
Friday 7th March	Super Smash Mixed Cricket Festival
Thursday 13th	Top Schools Competition Years 7 & 8
Thursday 13th	School Assembly - Come join us!
Friday 14th	Top Schools Competition Years 5 & 6
Friday 21st	Tall Poppies Swimming
Thursday 27th	North Cluster Swimming Champs - PP Friday 28th

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Friday 28th	TEACHER ONLY DAY - School Closed
April	
Friday 4th	School Assembly - Come join us!
Friday 11th	PTA School Lunch
Friday 11th	Last Day of Term 1
Monday 28th	TERM 2 Starts

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



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

HEY KIDS – COME AND PLAY TEE BALL AND SOFTBALL/BASEBALL IN TERM 1 2025!

SATURDAY MORNINGS U8 Teeball 9.00am, U13 Softball/Baseball 10.00am.

WBOP SOFTBALL ASSN. CARLTON RESERVE, BELLEVUE

8th February – 22nd March 2025. NO FEES!

Have a Go Day: Sunday 9th February 10am-12pm

Website: softballwbop.org.nz

Email: juniorsoftballwbop@gmail.com



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Pahoia School

Apata™

HAVE A GO TRY-ATHLON

Hosted by Pahoia School

Saturday 1st March 9am Omokoroa Domain

Early Bird Registration \$30

All 5-13 year olds welcome

*Early bird registration closes Wed 9th Feb. Registration on the day \$50

Event Day Fun: Epic raffles, awesome prizes, delicious food & drink!

Registration Includes: Event t-shirt, Participation medal, Chance to win a bike, mountain bike!

Scott Macdonald

BAYLEYS

ContainerCo

Hire & Sales

THE FIRM

Register NOW

www.pahoia.school.nz/tryathlon



TRIBE DANCE COLLECTIVE'S REGO'S FOR 2025 ARE OPEN!

HIPHOP*JAZZ*CONTEMPORARY*ACRO

ALL AGES*ALL LEVELS*

OMOKORO, AND KATIKATI'S VERY OWN DANCE FAMILY INVITES YOU:

WWW.TRIBEDANCECOLLECTIVE.CO.NZ

TRIBEDANCECOLLECTIVE@GMAIL.COM




EDVENTURE.CO.NZ

Young Explorers Camp

NGAMUWAHINE LODGE

BOOK NOW 14th-17th April, 2025

We have an amazing week lined up with bush walks, archery, air rifle, fire building and cooking, hut building, high rope activities, swimming, eeling, night activities and much more!

- Pick-up/drop off available from Hamilton, Tauranga & NOW Auckland
- Suitable for 7-13 years old
- OSCAR Subsidy available
- Ngamuwahine Lodge is set in the Kaimai Ranges (off SH29) in the beautiful Bay of Plenty

PRICE \$575 4 days Mon-Thu

MORE INFO:

Adventure Tauranga
todd@edventure.co.nz
+0275349849
www.edventure.co.nz

WEEK ONE OF THE APRIL HOLIDAYS!




Ready Set Spring

Stay in the Loop with the Skool Loop App

Download today to keep up to date with school information. Notices, Newsletters, Absentee Notification and much more

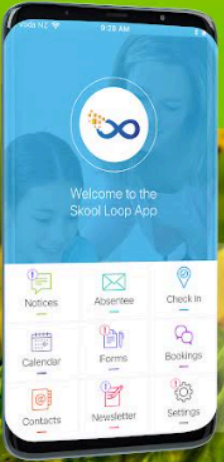
SKOOL LOOP

Welcome to the Skool Loop App

Simple Free Download: In Google play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose our school once installed.

GET IT ON Google Play

Download on the App Store


Bouncy Castle Hire

Right here on your doorstep in Ōmokoroa

Ready for your next event? Make it an unforgettable experience!

Our castles are great for birthday parties and family gatherings, but not suitable for public events.

Our castles are very easy to setup – It takes less than 5 minutes

Fits in the boot of a small car

BOOK NOW

For enquiries and bookings please email or call: BOPHOPNZ@outlook.com | 022 600 70 33

Jungle Bungle

Jump area | Slide | Climbing Wall

Calling all Monkeys, Adventurer's and Explorers up to 10yrs. Enter the wild world of adventure with our Jungle Bungle Castle. Bring our Jungle Bungle Castle home today and watch your monkey's Jungle adventure begin! Bounce, Climb, Slide, Repeat.

Age: Up to 10yrs | Players on at once: 1-5

Inflated dimensions (LxWxH): 3.90m x 3.30m x 2.75m

\$199.00 / day

Ember the Dragon

Jump area | Slide | Ball pit | Ball hoop

Calling all Knights, Princesses and Adventurer's up to 6yrs. Embark on a magical adventure with Ember the Dragon. Bring Ember the Dragon home today and watch your kids' faces light up with excitement as they enter the mystical world of Ember the Dragon!

Age: Up to 6yrs | Players on at once: 1-5

Inflated dimensions (LxWxH): 3.50m x 3.50m x 2.45m

\$179.00 / day




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