

NEWSLETTER NO. 7 - 22nd May 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's hard to believe we're already in Week 4! This term has shaped up to be a busy one, with plenty of events and activities on the calendar. We're fortunate to have such a fantastic team supporting our journey - students, teachers, parents, whānau, our Board, and the wider community all playing a vital role in our success. Let's continue working together to ensure a positive and productive term for everyone!

Over the coming weeks, we continue to have a range of events taking place. Please take the time to connect with our calendar and stay in the loop.

School Cross Country

A huge congratulations to all our learners for their fantastic efforts at school cross country on Thursday, 15 May! Every single one of them showed incredible determination to finish their race. More than just a competition, this event was a wonderful opportunity for all our learners to embrace being active and to recognise the importance of physical activity in our lives. We are SO proud of each and every one of our learners - not only for their perseverance, but also for the lovely acts of kindness and support they showed each other along the way. 😊

A heartfelt thank you to parents and whānau who joined us for our school cross country. Your presence truly brings magic to these events. Your claps, smiles, and encouragement at the finish line inspire our learners and help make these moments memorable. Together, we celebrated not just the finish lines crossed, but the community spirit that makes our school so special.



“Ko te manawa ū, kia rere, kia tīna”

'Actively involved learners, empowered and thriving'

Congratulations to Benjamin, George, Eben, Zac, Brayden, Micah, Noah G, Mia, Isla B, Oliver, Kingston, Ben W, Taylor, Lexi, Aaliyah, Chloe, Isla A, Connor, Jamie, Harry and Gemma who gained a place to participate in the North Cluster (Year 4-6) event.

Congratulations to Chloe, Isla A, Connor, Jamie, Harry and Gemma who gained a place to participate in the Tall Poppies (Year 7 / 8) event.

Our New Classrooms - Ribbon Opening Ceremony

To coincide with our school cross country event, it was truly heartwarming to celebrate the opening of Rooms 4 & 5. Luke and Gemma, proud third-generation students at Whakamārama School, had the honour of officially opening these new learning spaces.

These modern classrooms will provide an inspiring environment for our students to learn, grow, and thrive. It's wonderful to see the legacy of learning continue through families like Luke and Gemma's, connecting past, present, and future generations at our school.



North Cluster and Tall Poppies Cross Country

It has always been a privilege hosting the annual North Cluster and Tall Poppies events. The events provide Year 4-8 students across our local school community, and our wider community, with the opportunity to interact with other students of their own age in the sporting arena. The feedback that we received from our visitors and sports coordinators on the day was truly positive.

Congratulations to our runners who set ambitious goals for themselves. We are so proud of their achievement to reach this event. They gave it their all, showing dedication and determination every step of the way. When challenges arose, they were resilient—bouncing back, learning from setbacks, and never giving up. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them for their growth, effort, and spirit. Let our runners, and future runners, continue to set goals and give their best to future cross countries!



Congratulations to Eben (3rd Year 4 boys), Taylor (4th Year 6 girls) and Harry (7th Year 8 boys) who will be competing at the WBOP Primary Cross country Championships on Tuesday 10 June. We wish them all the very best 🍀

“Ko te manawa ū, kia rere, kia tīna”

In Appreciation 🙏

Hosting the North Cluster and Tall Poppies events was a significant milestone for our small school. The hard work, dedication, and teamwork that went into making this day a success did not go unnoticed. Every effort is truly recognised, valued, and deeply appreciated. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this day memorable and impactful!

The school would like to thank Kelly for the use of the neighbouring farmland. Kelly has supported bringing our schools together for cross country for many years now. In my time as principal, Kelly has supported cross country for 11 years. And before me, there are many years and stories that Kelly has shared with me. Kelly has recognised cross country and its importance as a value for our school community.

Super ★
★ **Huge**
Thank you

The school would also like to acknowledge and thank some key people to our day:

- Helen, Gerry, Darren, Maria, Fiona, Orla, Sharon and;
- Our dedicated teaching team

Their commitment, and hard work in fulfilling various roles, was undeniably a key ingredient to our success.



Our Outdoor Musical Instruments

A huge thank you to Barbara-Ann for leading the way with a successful grant application and organising the installation of our outdoor musical instruments. Her dedication and hard work have made this wonderful addition possible.

Thank you also to Matt and Ricki for preparing a special place for our instruments and expertly installing them. Their efforts have created a beautiful, inviting space that our learners can enjoy every day.

Our learners absolutely love music, and since arriving at school on 19 May (after installation), the instruments have been in constant use. It has been a joy to see not only our students but also our preschoolers delighting in music after finishing kindergarten. Their contribution has truly enriched our school community, and we are incredibly grateful for your support.

From the Presiding Member, Fraser Mills

Get Involved: [Whakamārama School Board Elections 2025](#)

Education in New Zealand is always evolving, and so is our kura! With the Whakamārama School Board elections coming up in September, now is the perfect time to get informed and consider playing a more active role in our school community.

Why Stand for the School Board?

Anyone in our community can become a board member. What matters is your passion for education and your desire to make a positive impact for our tamariki. School board members are active leaders, supporting strong professional leadership and ensuring effective teaching for all students through informed governance.

How You Can Make a Difference

- Give back to our amazing school community
- Support and guide the direction of our kura
- Use your skills and experiences for the benefit of our students
- Help shape the future of education at Whakamārama School

GET INVOLVED

Interested? Here's What to Do

- Contact us: If you'd like to know more, please reach out to myself (Fraser, Presiding Member frenzel@gmail.com), Mrs. Harty (Sharon, our returning officer office@whakamarama.school.nz) or Mrs Williams (Brenda, our staff representative brenda.williams@whakamarama.school.nz)

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- Attend a board meeting: Come along and see how the board operates. Meetings are usually held monthly, and it's a great way to learn about the governance of our school. Please let us know if you wish to attend so we can guide you through the attendance procedures.

Get involved—it's not hard, and your contribution will be valued!

Attendance Matters

The school would like to sincerely thank parents and whānau for fostering the importance of attendance and ensuring that every day counts towards learning. Being engaged in learning matters from a child's very first days in early learning, continuing through primary and secondary schooling.

In Aotearoa New Zealand, our tamariki need every opportunity to learn, participate, and flourish. Regular school attendance is key to unlocking these opportunities and helping our children thrive both academically and socially. Together, by valuing and prioritising attendance, we can support our children to build a strong foundation for their future success.



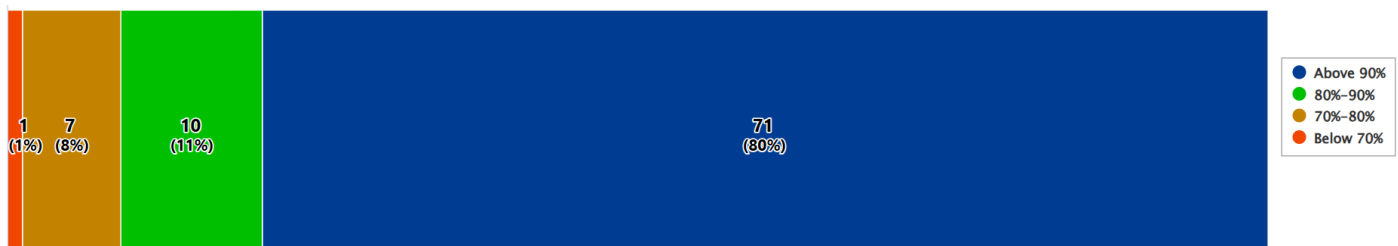
School Absence Notification Policy

If your child will be absent or late for school for any reason, please contact the school before 8:50 am to inform us of their absence. Important Details:

- When reporting a sickness absence, please provide a specific reason rather than just saying "My child is sick" or "Medical."
- Without a clear reason, the absence may be recorded as truant.
- Absence information is shared daily with the Ministry of Education.
- If your child is absent due to illness for more than five days, a medical certificate must be presented to the school office or principal.

Thank you for helping us keep accurate attendance records and ensuring your child's safety.

Looking at our current attendance below (year to date), you can see that there has been a commitment from parents / whānau to have their child / children at school - FANTASTIC JOB!



Teacher Only Day

A gentle reminder that we have **teacher only days calendared for Friday 19 September and Friday 14 November 2025**. On these days, school will be closed for students. We kindly ask you to mark these dates in your calendar and make alternative arrangements for your child/children.



Thank you for your understanding and support as we continue to enhance our teaching and learning programmes 😊



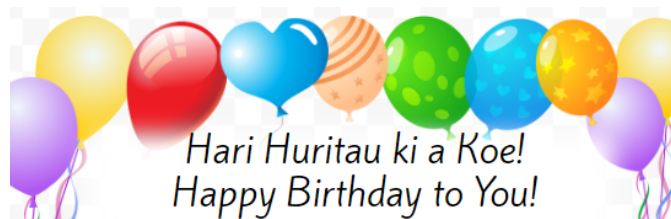
Yummy Apple Stickers

Are you all still munching through apples and collecting the stickers? The more stickers we get, the more FREE sports gear!

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These children all have a May (Haratua) birthday!!



6 Years Horijames
 8 Years Cohen, Cairos, Felix A
 10 Years Armani
 12 Years Tristan, Jamie

School Cross Country Acknowledgment of Achievement CONGRATULATIONS Mīharo! Awesome!

Room 3 Race	
Boys	1st Kieran, 2nd Jack B, 3rd Detroit
Girls	1st Dior, 2nd Jack, 3rd Kieran
YEAR 2	
Boys	1st Louie, 2nd Noah B, 3rd Thomas
Girls	1st Chloe C, 2nd Isabella, 3rd Lyla
YEAR 3	
Boys	1st Cohen, 2nd Harry R, 3rd Wolf
Girls	1st Ayla, 2nd Delia, 3rd Maddie
YEAR 4	
One Race	1st Eben, 2nd George, 3rd = Benjamin B / Zac
YEAR 5	
Boys	1st Micah, 2nd Noah G, 3rd Brayden
Girls	1st Heidi, 2nd Isla B, 3rd Mia
YEAR 6	
Boys	1st Ben W, 2nd Kingston, 3rd Oliver W
Girls	1st Aaliyah, 2nd Lexi, 3rd Taylor
YEAR 7	
One Race	1st Isla A, 2nd Chloe M, 3rd Tristan
YEAR 8	
One Race	1st Harry S, 2nd Jamie, 3rd Connor

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

May - Harata	
Thursday 29	Year 7 / 8 Technology Classes
June / Piripi	
Monday 2nd	Kings Birthday - school closed
Friday 6th	Assembly 2pm - Come join us!
Monday 9th	PTA Meeting 7pm at the Whakamārama Community Centre
Tuesday 24th	Board of Trustees Meeting 6pm
Thursday 26th	Assembly 2pm - Come join us!
Friday 27th	Last Day of Term 2
July / Hōngongoi	
Monday 14th July	First Day of Term 3
Monday 21st	PTA Meeting 7pm at the Whakamārama Community Centre

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

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NAKED MEATS

 The home of whaka meats →

ACCUMULUS ACCOUNTING
 Local accountants work better for local business

WHAKA
 SEAFOOD & TAKEAWAYS

WHAKAMARAMA EARTHWORKS
 021 765 112

Tall Poppy

 Linley Ward | 021 0260 4819 | Give me a call, I'm just around the corner

Residential and Lifestyle Sales Specialist

 Janelle Cairns **EVES**

RJP Contracting

GDE GRAYSON DALES
 ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONICS

THE EQUIPMENT CENTRE
 Whakamarama

WE'RE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

LIFESTYLE, HORTICULTURAL AND RURAL SPECIALIST
 Anton Terblanche | 021 324 702 **BAYLEYS**

Narellanpools

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

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




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**

HUME Katikati's Kiwifruit Company.
 Bringing our community together for over 40 years
Saturday 5th July
 8am-12pm

Dress in blue!
 Free face painting and sausage sizzle
 Open to all ages
 Spot prizes to be won

5K & 10K FUN WALK & RUN
 Start and finish at War Memorial Hall, Katikati

FREE REGISTRATION
 Scan the QR code or visit: HUMEPACK.CO.NZ/FUN-RUN

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



HIPHOP' JAZZ' CONTEMPORARY' ACRO'
ALL AGES' ALL LEVELS'
OMOKOROA, AND KATIKATI'S VERY OWN DANCE FAMILY INVITES YOU:

WWW.TRIBEDANCECOLLECTIVE.CO.NZ
TRIBEDANCECOLLECTIVE@GMAIL.COM

Week 1 GET OUT AND PLAY! | **Week 2 TRAIN LIKE A PRO**

LEVEL UP FOOTBALL X **OMOKOROA FC**

Register online at www.omokoroafc.co.nz/programmes

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