Kia ora koutou *16 November 2026*

Welcome to Week 6 of Term 4. Another busy week ahead as we look forward to our upcoming athletics day this Thursday. Our tamariki have been busy practising for the upcoming event. It has been great to see everyone out enjoying the afternoon sun and learning some new skills. Full details of the day are included later in the newsletter. Tamariki are also enjoying the pool in the improved weather, with our students making the most of the warm water and cooling down on a hot afternoon. Please encourage tamariki to bring their togs daily. We are very lucky here at Whau Valley to have our own school pool, as many schools do not. We can therefore teach your tamariki swim-safe skills for the upcoming hot summer months! It is an extremely valuable skill to have here in Northland!



We are working through our next planning stage for upcoming work projects around the school. Projects are identified for the next ten years, which may include several internal and external projects. We will have a number of contractors coming through the school to assess our buildings, roofing, plumbing, and electrical systems. We hope to begin planned roofing works this summer break, with major works including new roofing being installed, spouting upgraded, and roof painting completed. We will also complete toilet upgrade work to allow internal toilet access for a couple of syndicates.

Last week our road patrollers had a fantastic trip to the pools. The Police organised this event to thank road patrollers from local schools for their efforts throughout the year. Our road patrollers have been wonderful, keeping tamariki safe on Moody Ave each afternoon and ensuring that they cross the road safely. A huge thank you for giving up their time each day after school and keeping everyone safe. We look forward to seeing our group of students trained and on patrol in 2027. A number of our junior classes had a very special visit from the local fire team visiting these classes as part of the Firewise programme. This is always an exciting event for our junior students, particularly when they see the fire engine and its firefighting equipment. Photos and more details of both events are included later in the newsletter.

Finally, a big thank you to whanau who have contributed to the community survey online. We've received very positive feedback about our school so far, along with some ideas for moving forward. A reminder: any whanau who complete the survey will go into the draw to win one of two $250 grocery vouchers, which will be named at our end-of-year event. Digital copies are available via our Facebook page, Skool Loop App or School Website page. Paper copies are also available at the office if preferred.



Have a great week ahead whanau.

Ngā mihi, Steve Jenkins

Principal / Tumuaki

ATTENDANCE

Term 4 - Week 5	Monday 9 November	Tuesday 10 November	Wednesday 11 November	Thursday 12 November	Friday 13 November	Weekly Average
Daily attendance rate	84%	79%	88%	87%	78%	83%
Unexplained absences	24	28	14	14	32	22
100%			Room 6	Room 6		

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER	
Thursday 19 November	**WVS Athletics Day**
Tuesday 24 November	**Junior Beach Trip - Rms 3, 4, 5 (Kowharewa Bay)**
Thursday 26 November	**Junior Beach Trip - Te Rito, Rms 1 & 2 (Kowharewa Bay)** **Senior Beach Trip - Rms 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 (Whangaumu Bay)**
Wednesday 2 December	**Year 6 Graduation - 11:30am** **Reports due to go home**
Thursday 3 December	**End of Year Celebration 1:30pm - ALL whanau/family welcome** **Year 6 Raffle drawn**
Tuesday 8 December	**Last day for minder / after school care**
Wednesday 9 December	**Last school day for 2026 - 12:00pm finish (no minder)**

PRINCIPAL AWARD WINNERS



At Friday's good news assembly, three students were recognised for their efforts at school. Manaia from Room 1 was nominated for always doing the right thing and always helping others. She stands out as a great role model, consistently giving her best and demonstrating all of our 4B's daily. Ivy from Room 12 was nominated for an outstanding attitude towards trying new and hard things! She has shown consistent effort and a positive attitude towards her learning. She has also demonstrated personal risk-taking and stepping outside her comfort zone! Tumana, from Room 5, was nominated for always being such a lovely young man who shows amazing manners and respect towards everyone around him. He is kind, caring and polite, and always treats others the way he would like to be treated. He is a wonderful role model in Room 5 and someone who truly deserves to be recognised for the lovely person he is.

Once again, our tamariki have demonstrated some awesome qualities, and these nominations are very well deserved.

WHAU VALLEY SCHOOL ATHLETICS DAY

Get ready for a fun-filled day of athletics!

Athletics Day Timetable (Thursday 19 November)

- **9:00 am – 10:45 am:** Seniors (Rooms 7 - 13)
- **11:15 am – 12:30 pm:** Juniors (Te Rito - Room 6)
- **1:30 pm:** Senior Relays
- **2:00 pm:** Staff vs Students Relay

🌈 WHĀNAU COLOUR DAY!

Tamariki can come dressed in their whānau colours and show their team spirit! If you're unsure which whānau group your child is in, please ask the class teacher or at the office.

JUICES & SAUSAGE SIZZLE FOR SALE

Juices and a sausage sizzle will be available for purchase from 10 am.

We look forward to seeing our whānau come along to support our tamariki!

Let's make it a fantastic day!





COREBOARDS

As you may have seen, we have started installing Coreboards around the school. These boards support tamariki's communication by providing images they can use to communicate with others. You may also see these installed at some of our local playgrounds, like Mair Park and the Town Basin. They are a wonderful tool that empowers both non-speaking and speaking people to communicate with their peers.

A massive thank you to Sharif and Zaina for their generous donation, which supported the purchase of four Coreboards that will appear around the school over the next couple of weeks.



Fire Fighter visit with Te Rito and Rm's 1, 2 and 3.



Over the past couple of weeks, Te Rito, Rms 1, 2 and 3 have been learning about being Firewise. We have learnt about how important it is to have working smoke alarms in our homes. We also learnt what to do if there is a fire in our house, and that our whanau needs a safe place for us all to meet if there is a fire.
On Wednesday last week, the Brown watch team from the Whangarei Fire Department visited our Year 0-2 tamariki. We were all so excited to see the firefighters and show them what we had learnt. There was even more excitement when one of the trucks was called to an actual emergency - some of the firefighters had to quickly put their gear on and had to leave with the truck's sirens and lights going.











ROAD PATROL POOL TRIP REWARD

Last Thursday, our wonderful Road Patrollers received a special reward from the NZ Police. Constable Ewen mentioned that he has noticed how mature and responsible our Road Patrollers have been this year, especially when dealing with traffic and disruptions on Moody Ave and Weaver Street. I also want to thank the children for using their initiative and arranging cover whenever needed. All these children have been willing to step up and step in to help out, ensuring the safety of all our tamariki at the end of the day. Wonderful examples of leadership, tamariki ma!

We all had a fun and relaxing day at the pool, practising our manu jumps and challenging our swimming skills. A special thank you to the parents who came to support us and to Constable Ewen for our yummy sausage sizzle.

Our 2026 road patrollers, who deserve recognition for their hard work, are: JJ, Kal-el, Stratusfear, Norphea, Viana, Arya, Grayson, Miracle, Ruiha-Rose, Choppa, Luke, Katie, Adam, Leilani, Tia-Rose and Kairangi.













NGĀ KĀREAREA | BACK IN THE POOL!

With the pool open again, Ngā Kārearea are back in the water! It's been great to get straight into swimming and start developing our water skills. We've been encouraging tamariki to Be Prepared – Kia Rite by taking responsibility for their togs, towels and swimming gear.





With summer just around the corner, it's a great opportunity for tamariki to learn and practise important water skills like floating, treading water, swimming underwater, developing swimming techniques and keeping safe in and around the water.





A reminder for home: Please help your child remember to bring their named togs and towel each swimming day. Take wet gear home, hang it out to dry and pack it again for the next day. This helps everyone make the most of our school pool!



