



School Information



Nau Mai, Haere Mai

Kia pono ki to mahi kia whai hua ai

Tena Koutou e te whānau,
Nau mai, haere mai ki te kura o Whangamarino.

Welcome to Whangamarino School. We hope this is the beginning of a long, happy and successful association with our kura.

Whangamarino gives your child the opportunity to learn in either English or Te Reo Maori (total immersion) in our classes. We enjoy a unique Ngati Pikia identity which stems from years of being part of the local communities of Mourea, Otaramarae and Okere Falls. The staff are dedicated, committed and professional, work hard and have a passion for teaching. We have an 'open door' policy and we encourage you to communicate with us at any time. In order for us to easily contact you, it is most important that we have your current address and phone number.

Finally, this booklet is intended to give you basic information about school routines and our school expectations.

Nga mihi
Whangamarino Staff

Information

Postal Address:

Whangamarino School,
637 State Highway 33
Okere Falls
RD 4,
Rotorua, 3074

Phones:

Ph (07) 3624879

Email:

office@whangamarino.school.nz

Website:

www.whangamarino.school.nz

Facebook:

[Whangamarino School](#)

Skool loop app:

[Whangamarino school](#)

OPEN DOOR POLICY

We pride ourselves on being open and whanau friendly at Whangamarino! We hope that you will come in often, to spend time in the classroom, or have a cup of tea in the staffroom. If you have any queries or worries, come and discuss the matter. We hope your child's time here will be happy and filled with learning so that they may reach their full potential.

Whangamarino Teaching Staff – 2022

Principal

Whaea Lorraine Northey

Deputy Principal

Matua Rehua Mihaka

Assistant Principal

Whaea Miriata Oranje

Auraki - Mainstream

Whaea Miriata Oranje

Whaea Tiria Haylock

Whaea Tracy Bishop

Whaea Gaylene Jeffrey

Rumaki - Full Immersion

Matua Rehua Mihaka

Whaea Teina Mear

Whaea Rangi Te Kanawa

Thompson

Whaea Hariata Tapiata

Whaea Madeline Stoneham

Whaea Mikaela Waimotu

Support Staff

Denice Langendoen - Office
Administrator

Amanda Hunter - Teacher Aide

Catherine Kingi - Teacher Aide

Hilary Dewes-Green - Teacher Aide

Te Tai Cooper - Teacher Aide

Matarena Hay - Teacher Aide

Putiputi Moru - Teacher Aide

Harry Mihaka - Caretaker

Peata Mihaka - Cleaner

Matua Doug Bishop - Bus Driver

Matua William Kingi - Van Driver

Term Dates 2022

Term One

1st February - 14th April

Term Two

Monday 2 May to Friday 8 July

Term Three

Monday 25 July to Friday 30 September

Term Four

Monday 17th October - 14th December

TEACHER DEVELOPMENT DAYS We have arranged to have our teacher development days to be held during the school holiday breaks at the beginning, throughout the year and at the end of the year or on the Friday before a long weekend to minimise disruption.

As a part of the new NZEI Teachers collective agreement, there are a number of days that will be used to support teachers over the year. We will provide plenty of notice before we hold one of these days to ensure whānau are able to provide supervision for their children.

OFFICE Hours

Our Office Administrator works from Monday to Friday – (9 am to 2.40 pm). If we are unavailable, please leave a message on the answerphone and we will endeavour to get back to you a.s.a.p.

Bell Times - Daily

School entry	8.00 am
Classroom entry	8.30 am
Whanau Hui	8.50 am
School begins	9.00 am
Interval	10.45 – 11.00 am
Lunch	12.30 – 1.10 pm
Ends	2.40 pm

Attendance

By law, parents are required to ensure their child attends school every day. Your child needs to be at school before the 8.50 am bell, preferably a little earlier so that they have time to settle in and be ready for the day. If your child arrives late you need to notify the office at that time.

If your child is absent, please notify us through Skool Loop, email, send a text to your teacher, ring the office in the morning, or write a note when the child returns explaining the absence. Unexplained absences are taken seriously and if they become regular or prolonged they will be referred to the truancy officer.

Transport

The majority of children at Whangamarino travel to school by bus. There are three bus routes: Okere Falls / Otaramarae, Mourea and the town run. The town bus costs \$80 per term per whanau. This is such a minimal cost for the distance travelled. Once your child is assigned to a bus run they will travel on that bus daily. Any changes to your child's normal routine need to be given by phone, in person or in writing to the office. Messages regarding your child being picked up from school must be given to the office **NO LATER** than 12.00 noon. We do not accept children telling us when and where they are to get off the buses. This

is extremely important for the safety of your children and we take this responsibility seriously. We are responsible for your child until he / she reaches home. Please make sure your young child is adequately supervised or accompanied en-route to the pick-up point in the morning and on the return journey in the afternoon. Junior children are not old enough to cross roads or wait on the side of the road alone. We are a Road Sense school and have an ongoing road safety awareness programme throughout the school. We ask that you encourage and support this initiative with your child at home.

Bus/Van Agreement

Children who travel to and from school must sign our Bus Agreement at the beginning of every new school year. This ensures that appropriate bus behaviour is followed.

School Loop App - (This is our main source of getting out information to parents / whanau)

To access up to date information be sure to download our school app available on your app store. The app is called *skool loop* and you will need to select *Whangamarino school*. Once downloaded, you can use this app to check all newsletters, important information, log in an absentee and check our school notices.

School Website/Facebook

We have a school website which you can visit - www.whangamarino.school.nz & a school Facebook page called Whangamarino school

Free Healthy Lunches

We offer Free Healthy Lunches for all tamariki in our kura. However, we do ask that you supply morning tea everyday for your tamaiti.

Stationery

The school provides a free stationery pack at the beginning of the year for all tamariki. This is funded by Te Roopu Manaaki our local parent/whanau Fundraising committee. This allows every child in our kura to take full part in the classroom programmes from day 1.

Government's School Donation Scheme - No School Donations

We are part of the Government's school donation scheme, so we will not be asking for voluntary school donations from whanau.

What is the donation scheme? Decile 1–7 state and state-integrated schools/kura are able to choose to receive a \$150 per student, per year payment if we agreed not to ask parents and caregivers for donations, except for overnight camps. This initiative was designed to alleviate that pressure and expectation.

School Uniform

The school uniform is compulsory and can only be purchased from the school.

- School drifit polo shirt \$35.00
- School drifit tee shirt \$35.00
- School polar fleece \$45.00
- School Hat \$15.00

Black sandals are required for summer footwear. Black covered shoes with black ankle socks are required for cooler weather. These can be purchased anywhere in town. Children can also wear any tidy black bottoms such as skorts to wear with their school shirts

Payment of School Accounts

We understand that sometimes parents are unable to pay the full amount to cover uniform, bus fees, tech art and stationery at the start of the year. Part payments can be made in consultation with the Office. We prefer that parents pay directly into our school account, please just remember to indicate the name of your child/ren so we can identify the payment. Account details are:

- Account Name: Whangamarino School
- Bank: ASB
- Account number: **12 3155 0216707 00**

We expect all accounts for uniforms, bus fees and sport fees to be paid as soon as possible.

Health

Whangamarino is well supported by health agencies whenever necessary. The public health nurse visits our school each term and is available to discuss any problems or health issues pertaining to your child/ren.

Hearing advisers, speech therapists, psychologists, SWIS and other health supporters will make themselves available when the school or parents have identified that their child requires extra health assistance.

Covid 19

Please check the Ministry of Health website for updates.

Sickness

Please keep your child at home if he or she is sick or has wounds, infections, contagious illnesses or any cold and flu like symptoms. We have one sick bay and keeping your child home helps them recover sooner and minimises the risk of other children catching the same condition. Any medications required after returning to school should be taken at home. Where there are exceptional circumstances then please contact the office.

Mobile Dental Clinic

Once a year, the mobile dental clinic is parked at Whangamarino for almost four weeks. In this time your child will need a signed permission slip to receive free dental care in the caravan. We will let you know when it is in the school.

Mobile Ear Clinic

Whangamarino also gets regular visits from the ear clinic van. The technicians see children whose parents/teachers have concerns for and these children are checked and if necessary followed up with further checking. We will let you know when it is in the school.

Religious Instruction

We provide the opportunity for religious instruction for students whose parents approve of it. Parents are required to give written consent for a student to attend the programme and can withdraw this approval. Students without signed consents on file are deemed “non-consenting” and cannot take part. Our Bible in Schools, taught through Cool Bananaz, takes place every second Thursday starting in March.

Newsletters

This year a school newsletter will be published each fortnight on Thursday and posted onto our Skool Loop App and school website. Our fortnightly newsletter will keep you informed about all the wonderful things happening in our kura.

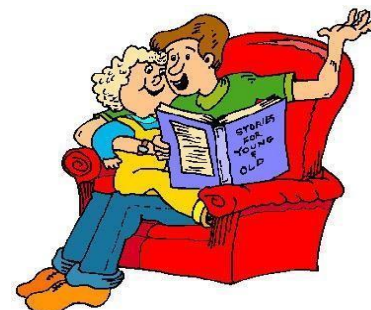
Lost Property

Clothing found lying around the kura will be sent to the administration area lost property table. All clothing should be named because often children do not recognise their own clothes or feel too whakama to collect their clothes. Any un-named clothing not claimed

after a reasonable time will be donated to a new owner. Unclaimed non uniform items will go to the trash at the end of each term.

Duffy Books in Homes

Whangamarino School is very fortunate to be part of the Duffy Books in Homes programme. This means that three times a year your child will get to choose their own books. These books are presented to them at special assemblies by visiting role models. This programme was established 18 years ago to encourage reading and books in the home. Help your child to value and look after these books by having a special place for them and reading them together.



Rumaki

Mā tōna reo te tangata e mōhio ana ki tōna ao.

Through one's language, one can acknowledge one's world.

Whangamarino offers total immersion in Te Reo Maori from Year 0 to Year 8. Children are taught a full curriculum, utilise mainstream resources and participate in school activities. The Rumaki is further supported by advisers who work with the kaiako and students. Students must have had some prior learning in Te Reo to be enrolled in the Rumaki Unit and we expect 100% support at

home to reinforce Te Reo with your child.

Trips out of School

We have a saying in our school – **“No slip, no trip”!** We always seek your permission to take your child on a trip. This is usually in the form of a pānui with the trip details and a return slip at the bottom. It is essential we have your written permission, but should you misplace the pānui, then a handwritten note will be accepted. We see this as part of the child's learning to take responsibility for them and expect them to deliver all pānui home. With your New Entrant please make a habit of checking their schoolbag daily for pānui. For all trips out of school children are expected to wear clean and tidy full school uniform, and we often leave them at school (with another teacher) if this is not the case.

We always need whanau helpers to come along on trips. It is a requirement that we have the correct ratios of adults to children when leaving the school. Every parent or caregiver must be police vetted before attending any school trips. Forms are at the school office to fill in. This can be a great opportunity for you to become involved in your child's school experience first hand. Other whanau members are welcome, provided they are over the age of 18 years. We rarely use whanau vehicles, but in the event that we need to use private vehicles, the

driver must have a full current licence and the vehicle must be warranted and registered. All passengers must be seat-belted.

Swimming

Swimming is an essential part of our school programme during the summer, especially as we have so many rivers and lakes in our area. We have our own beautiful swimming pool at the school and this is used in term 1 and late term 4 depending on the weather. All children are expected to participate in the swimming programme to gain confidence in the water. We ask that children wear appropriate swimming attire. Togs for girls, and shorts for boys. Please name their swimming attire, towel and provide a plastic bag for wet gear. If your child is not able to swim, a note is required please.



Assessment and Reporting to Parents

Parent Interviews/ Meet the Teacher Evening – Formal In Term 1 and Term 3 there is an opportunity to come to school for an interview with the classroom teacher about their child's progress and we need to encourage our parents to attend these interviews.

In Term 2 a report will be sent home and then in Term 4 the Final report will be sent home. Auraki (Mainstream) & Rumaki (Immersion Maori) intend to have Whanau hui at least once per term throughout the year.

There are a variety of assessment practices at Whangamarino School. The purpose of gathering assessment information impacts upon the assessment procedure that is to be used. At Whangamarino School assessment information is used at the classroom level, the school level and at the system level.

Mahi Kainga

Not compulsory but we expect all children to do homework each night from Monday to Thursday. This includes your five-year-old. Make homework time age appropriate. Five year olds can manage 10 minutes while older children can work for up to half an hour. Homework will usually consist of reading and a small activity in their homework exercise book. This might be reading a poem or completing a simple practice worksheet. Please establish a routine for doing homework and returning book bags and books to school each day. These books are used in the daily class programme so it is important that they come back to school each day and they are looked after and valued when at home. Please supervise your children during homework time.

Panui Pukapuka –Reading

Read with your child at home every day. This gives them another opportunity to practise books they have already been introduced to at school. We call this ‘reading for mileage’, the more they read the better they will become. Home reading should be easy for them and therefore enjoyable. Children enjoy reading the same books many times, even if you may have had enough!

Please take the time to read with and to your child, so that your child will get maximum benefits from the time they spend reading with you at home

Crisis Management

In the event of a serious emergency or a crisis *REST ASSURED*, we will take good care of your children. The school is a Civil Defence Post and each and every teacher is responsible for their class and the Principal is responsible for everyone. Our main communications will be through our Skool Loop App, School Website, Facebook page, school phone (07)362 4879, and the local radio station. If we need to evacuate the school, we will move the children across the top field, down the Morehu drive way and then out across to Taheke via the road. If this route proves inaccessible, then the route will be up over the hill to Paruahanui. We will hold all children until YOU (parent/caregiver) or the person you have delegated as the emergency contact when you enrolled collects them.

NO ONE ELSE WILL BE ALLOWED TO TAKE YOUR CHILD.

Evacuation Drills

It is a legal requirement that we practice emergency drills once per term. These will also include our staff and tamariki from Kohanga Reo ki Ohau.

Children ready to learn will:

- *Have had plenty of sleep. (Set a bedtime and be strong for the child)*
- *Have had some breakfast.*
- *Have brought a nutritious and filling morning tea. Lunch is provided*
- *Come to school happy because you are settled.*

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- *Know that you accept them as they are.*
 - *Know that you want them to listen to their teacher.*
 - *Know that you love them. Send them off with a hug, a smile and a gentle word.*

Then we can do wonders with them...

Guidance for parents in assisting their children during the first years at school.

1. Be interested in work children bring home.
2. Always share daily activities with your children; this includes sharing T.V. programmes, baking, gardening, ball games, walking the dog.
3. Give your child time to explain about pictures or work they bring home and have a very special place for them for a few days.
4. Warn your child about loitering on the way home or going to play without asking you first. Warn them about “stranger danger”.
5. Fill in the health card and see he/she has received booster injections at the correct time.
6. Select the safest way to the bus pick up point and show the child where and how to cross roads. Give practice with safety rules before he/she does this on his/her own. Make sure they know where to go after school.
7. Please do not discuss teachers in front of children, or use teachers as a threat.
8. Read and tell stories and ask child questions about the story and discuss it. Explain objects and pictures and background details in the book.
9. Supply picture books to look at and be interested in and have a few simple rules for reading e.g. not eating greasy food when handling books, turning pages carefully, no tearing of pages or scribbling on them.
10. Teach the child to recognise their home address and phone number if possible, and how to write and read his/her name (not in capitals).
11. Teach them how to wash their hands for 20 seconds, how to sneeze or cough into their elbow, how to blow their noses using tissues.
12. Be unemotional when leaving your child at school - do not creep away whilst the child is not looking. Say you will be back soon. Be firm.
13. Listen to speech and correct it if necessary.
14. Teach colours, red, green, blue, white, black, yellow, brown, orange.
15. Teach the child to put away things and to take off and put on outer clothing, shoes, etc.
16. Teach them how to use and flush the toilet and when and why to wash hands - (soap and water).
17. Teach them how to peel an orange, etc.
18. Mark all clothes and shoes and sew tape hangers on polar fleeces and coats. Teach the child to recognise their own clothing.

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19. Give practice in performing duties and following instructions. Giving jobs e.g. setting tables, bringing in groceries.
 20. Teach manners and insist on them.
 21. Teach how to dress and undress e.g. zips, buttons, coats, shoes
 22. Make their play lunch with them. Include some healthy foods e.g. fruit, cheese, dates, nuts, raisins, carrot etc preferably not biscuits or potato chips.
 23. Discuss when and how to use a toothbrush.
 24. Encourage alphabet knowledge and counting on to ten.
 25. Has your child had experience with crayons, drawing, colouring in, tracing, using paints, cutting with scissors and pasting, listening to stories, nursery rhymes, etc?
 26. Buy a school bag. How well prepared is he/she?

Motto

**Kia pono ki to mahi kia
whai hua ai**

Mission Statement

The children at Whangamarino School will stand tall and be caring and honest in all aspects of their life so they may strive to do their personal best.