

School Newsletter

Week 5, Term 1, 2025



Kia Ora Koutou

A special acknowledgement to Jackson Wiren and his whānau for the omission of his name from the list of certificate winners from our last learning celebration. Congratulations and apologies Jackson.

Congratulations to the following students who received a certificate in our last learning celebration - we celebrate our students who display our values of respect, connect, belong and resilience: Zoe Jenkins, Ollie Burnard, Harlo Shea, Indi Bayne, Kylo Burt, Kenzie Evans, Archie Evans, Iveagh Archbold, Annabelle Bruce, Troy Hicks, Brooke Helliwell, Dani Lowe, Jonny Palmer, Kobi Ingham, Mila Hannah, Samuel Eggers, Benj Fry, Charlotte Paddon.

Our next Learning Celebration is on Friday 14 March at 2.25pm

Reminders and Updates

School Tryathlon

Our Whole School Tryathlon and Splash & Dash is on Friday 7 March. Syndicate teams will take part at various times throughout the day. A separate email has been sent with further details. We look forward to seeing you at school on Friday to support your child. A sausage sizzle will be available at lunch time. Order forms for these have gone home.

PB4L - Our Expectations

Thank you for your support with our expectations for students; that they wear wide-brimmed hats when in the outside spaces of our school and walk wheels at school. For the next fortnight, our focus turns to the games being played in our school and what eating times look like. We play non-fighting and non-tackling games at our school. At eating times, we sit and eat until the duty teacher lets us go.

Goal Setting Conferences

These will take place on Tuesday 1 April and Thursday 3 April. This is an opportunity to share learning and social goals with your child and their teacher. Further details with booking options will be provided soon.

TERM DATES 2025

4 Feb to 11 Apr - Term 1
28 Apr - 27 June - Term 2
14 July - 19 Sept - Term 3
6 Oct - 17 Dec - Term 4

Please note the correction for the end of Term 2 and the start of Term 3.

Attendance

One of the things we are continuing to focus on in 2025 is student attendance.

If a student misses one day of school every two weeks, they miss more than a whole year of school by 16 years of age. As a parent or caregiver, you, alongside our school, play a key role in building strong habits of regular school attendance.

All students are legally required to attend school every day and it is a shared responsibility to make sure students attend and engage in learning from when they first start school.

You must let the school know if your child is going to be absent or intends to be absent for a portion of the school term for whatever reason, like a tangi or medical procedure. Family holidays or taking time off for extracurricular activities (not organised by school) are not acceptable reasons for being absent.

The Ministry of Education has changed how we are required to code specific absences. The information is then gathered from our system daily to provide school based, regional and New Zealand wide data. For your understanding, the codes are listed below:

Presence	A student is present if they; <ul style="list-style-type: none">P are physically present in class,L arrive late to class within school/kura determined thresholds,A are physically present in alternative provision,V are engaged in onsite exams or study,N are temporarily out of class either at school,D or in an appointment,G or are engaged in Board approved learning offsite.
Justified absence	A student is justifiably absent if they; <ul style="list-style-type: none">M are ill/unwell,U have been formally stood down or suspended,X are engaged in offsite study for exams,J or the school principal has approved their absence.
Unjustified absence	A student is unjustifiably absent if; <ul style="list-style-type: none">? the reason for the absence is not yet known,T they are absent without parent/caregiver permission,G they are taking a holiday during term time,E or their absence is explained but not approved by the principal.

The J Code:



Explained and approved

Student is absent due to explained and approved reasons (e.g. family emergencies, bereavement, representing in national / cultural events, approved exemptions, or accompanying parents on overseas diplomatic / military postings).

Lockdown Drill

Our lockdown drill was held last week - this proved very successful. The students managed the process very well and our communication channels were effective. It is important we regularly practice our emergency procedures to ensure the safety of everyone. Our consultants (Harrison Tew) supported the process and gave us positive feedback.

Parent Liaison Group (PLG) Update

We had a very productive meeting earlier this term, putting plans in place for fundraising throughout the year.

Main points as follows:

- Juicies, Moosies will be available for sale each Friday 3:00 - 3.30pm (thank you to Tasman Bay Foods for their support)
- Sausage sizzles will be held a couple of times a term - first one on Friday 7th March (School Tryathlon day)
- Disco - during Term 2 (date to be confirmed)
- Investigating community grants to support projects and learning
- Plant, produce, garden theme for our main fundraising event in Spring (e.g. plant sale, bulbs, vege plants, cut flowers, veges and produce, jams and preserves, bake sale, garden trail, kids entertainment etc)

Helpers and support with any of these initiatives would be appreciated. Meetings scheduled for every third Wednesday of the month at 9am - next meeting 19th of March. Minutes of each meeting are kept to share with those who can't make it to a meeting. To contact the PLG, email brightwaterschoolplg@gmail.com

Funding projects this year

- Shadehouse landscaping, paving, planting etc
- Classroom resources - digital technology etc
- STEAM
- Education Outside the Classroom
- The Arts - eg mural, container



Weetbix Kiwi Kids Tryathlon - Sunday 9th March

If you are signing up to participate in the Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon this weekend, don't forget to join our Brightwater School team!

You can find our school group and sign up here:

<https://raceroster.com/events/2025/93892/nelson-weet-bix-kids-tryathlon/register?team=714507>

We would love to see lots of our children get involved and give it a go - there are a range of events on the day, starting from the Splash & Dash for 6 Year Olds and team/individual events for 7 to 15 Year Olds.



Upcoming Events This Term

Event	Date	Detail
Whole School Tryathlon and Splash & Dash	7 March	Teams taking part throughout the day - more information to follow. This is a lead in for those taking part in the regional event at Tāhunanui.
Weetbix Tryathlon	9 March	Tāhunanui Beach
Bus Monitor Training	10 March	All bus pupils will work with Community Constable Hamish Wybrow regarding bus safety and then with year 6 bus students as monitors to support the safety of our students.
Cluster Swimming Sports - Waimea Team and some Wairoa	13 March	Wakefield School. Competition against other local schools.
Shark School - Rugby Sessions with Makos	20 and 27 March	Classes will have the opportunity to work with Makos players on rugby skills
Goal Setting Conferences	1 April and 3 April	Share priorities for your child's learning this year. Booking details will be shared next week.

SUBWAY LUNCHES – ONLINE

How easy is this??? – You can now logon to subway.co.nz/schools and order Monday subway lunches and they will be delivered to school. These can be ordered at any time during the week with a close off time of 9am on Monday morning. Here is how to do it:

On your PC or laptop go to:

- subway.co.nz/schools
- Subway express
- School lunch programme
- Register – takes a few minutes – but only has to be done once – next time ordering will be very simple
- Make your order by clicking through the selections and pages

Skool Loop - App

This is a free app that provides access to information, newsletters, sporting notices, permission forms etc and is a great communication channel between home and school. Please ensure you notify us of any absences before 9am - this can be done through the app or phoning the school. If you haven't already, please download it on to your phone.

