

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

WEST END TE  
KURA Ō MŌRERE



## WEEK 4 TERM 1 2025 PRINCIPAL'S KORERO

2025 is shaping up to be a big year of change for education in New Zealand.

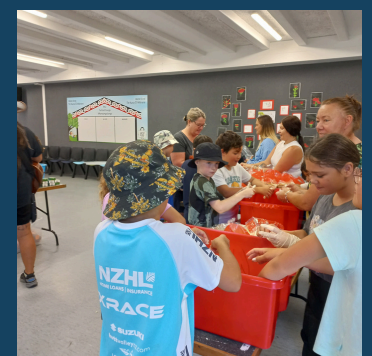
We have many big changes with English and Mathematics alongside attendance monitoring, assessment changes and learning support improvements. All these things put massive pressure on schools and staff. My staff are working hard to provide the best education possible for all our students. If you have any problems or concerns about learning please have a conversation with your child's teacher. Learning is our main purpose at school and we want all of our students to achieve the best they can.

### HANGI

We had an amazing event last week at our hangi evening. This was well attended and the whanaungatanga within our school community was evident. The kai was beautifully cooked and seeing the families and staff mixing together made us very proud. Thank you to the families who helped during the day and with the wetland working bee. A special mention to Carri Anne Stone who led the whole day and Matua Warren, Nelson Smart, Rhyss Taylor, Chris Kelly and Matua Jeff for cooking of the hangi. Thanks to the Ngaia whanau for the loan of their basket and trays.

## TEACHER ONLY DAYS COMING UP

We understand that teacher only days can be difficult to manage as a whanau. We are always reluctant to cause disruption. We have two new curriculum to embed and my staff need time to learn the large changes in content. The government has not given schools much time to make these changes happen and we want to do the best we can for our students. The two dates are **Friday 7th March** and **Monday 31st March**. These dates revolve around the availability of the facilitators. Thank you for your understanding.





## WEETBIX TRYATHLON

The weetbix Tryathlon is on Tuesday 25th March 2025. This is held at Ngamotu Beach and is well attended by students around Taranaki.

We will have our school gazebo up for our students to use during the day. If you are thinking about registering please link your child's entry to our school.



## FAREWELL DIANE SMITH

Sadly we are farewelling Diane Smith from our school this term. Diane has been a classroom teacher, reading recovery teacher and structured literacy support teacher over her time with us. Diane is heading away to live in the Waikato and we wish her all the best.

We will miss her expertise in literacy and her unwavering support of our school.

The school is currently looking to fill the vacancy so we can continue to support our students learning in literacy.

## OWAE MARAE TRIP

Information for our year 5 and 6 parents has been sent out on HERO earlier this month. This is around parents who want to come and help for the stay over.

Friday is the deadline for getting police vetting forms back to school so we can get them processed before the trip.

More information will be sent out soon.



# SCHOOL SPORTS TEAMS

## CRICKET AND SOCCER

We have had a wonderful start to 2025 with our sports teams. We have 28 students involved with cricket on a Friday afternoon and 46 involved with Summer Soccer. We would not be able to provide these opportunities without the wonderful support of our school whanau. I would like to thank all our coaches and managers who have made the decision to support our students. Seeing how happy our students are representing the school is very rewarding. If you would like to offer your help with cricket or soccer please see Mr Hislop.



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## DATES AND EVENTS

2025

Term 1

26 Feb

**7 March**

10 March

23 March

25 March

**31 March**

3 April

4 April

11 April

Be Bright, Eat Right magic show

**Teacher only day- maths**

Taranaki Anniversary Day

School Gala

Weetbix Tryathlon

Board Meeting

**Teacher Only day- writing**

Owae Marae visit yr 5/6

Owae Marae visit All School

End of term 1

## SCHOOL BOARD

### School Board Elections – 17 September 2025

Our triennial Board elections are in September, and we want to give potential members an opportunity between now and then to find out more about what it means to be on the School Board.

If you have thought about doing it and would like to find out more about what's involved, we'd love to chat! Just email [office@westend.school.nz](mailto:office@westend.school.nz), and we'll connect you with a current board member who can discuss the role and get you along to a Board meeting if you're interested.

Personally, this is my first term on a School Board (a Board term is three years) and it has taken me a while to get my head around the role of the Board, and what's needed from me in my role to have a positive impact on the School, the staff and most importantly the students. There are five parent representatives on the School Board and we will be looking for new members in September. What is also important is that as a Board we have a balance of expertise (Finance, Governance, Health and Safety, Property Management to name a few) and backgrounds to best represent our community. If you are interested, please get in touch.

Craig Thorne  
Parent Representative

In our next Board Meeting is on the 25th March. We will be deciding if we need to reduce the amount of elected parents on our Board. We currently have 6 parent reps, a Staff Rep and the Principal. If you would like to come along to hear the discussion our meetings start at 5.30pm.

# SCHOOL GALA 2025

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The social and Fundraising Committee, along with the School staff and Board are looking forward to our fun, action packed school gala.

Please share our event on Facebook

Planning is well underway with many fun activities booked.

Delicious food will be on offer too. Come along and enjoy our beautiful school and bring your friends and family.

## ACTIVITIES PLANNED

Activities on the day include:

Dunk the teacher- (Mr Hislop and some staff are in the firing line!)

bouncy castle

Lions Club train

Zorb balls

Police car ride

Tug of war

Classroom games

Toy and Book stall

Cafe in the hall

and many more



## CAN YOU HELP?

We will need so help from you to make this event a success.

The committee was asking if parents could donate some items for a raffles. They are after:

- Easter eggs
- boxed chocolates
- packets of biscuits
- bags of chips
- general food items

We are also after volunteers to help on the day. This will be for a short period of time supporting with stalls and sales. We also need helpers with setup and pack up.

If you are available please contact Tracy in the office- [office@westendnp.school.nz](mailto:office@westendnp.school.nz)