



Portland School Te Kura o Tikorangi

Portland School will provide the opportunity for everyone to reach their potential in a safe and caring environment.

HOT SHOT!!

Our tamariki absolutely love our new swings and trampolines — they are having so much fun, getting active, and enjoying every minute outside! The smiles and laughter say it all. 😊



KŌRERO TUMUAKI

Kia ora e te whānau,

Welcome back to a brand new year of learning at Te Kura o Tikorangi!

It is wonderful to see our kura full of energy again. A special welcome to our new whānau and ākonga joining us this year — we are so glad you are here. Each new family adds to the rich whakapapa of our school and strengthens the sense of community that makes our kura such a special place.

Our kaiako and staff have been busy preparing for the year ahead, creating engaging learning opportunities and supportive spaces where every tamaiti can feel confident, challenged, and successful. We are excited about the learning journey in front of us and the many opportunities for growth, connection, and celebration that 2026 will bring.

Our Term 1 whole-school inquiry is Putaiao (Science): Planet Earth and Beyond. This learning will focus on how water connects the land, sky, and all living things, and how our actions can either protect or harm these interconnected systems.

Our ākonga will explore: How natural features and resources are shaped by natural events and human actions, interacting systems within our environment and the water cycle and its effects on climate, landforms, and life.

Alongside academic learning, we remain committed to nurturing the social and emotional wellbeing of our students. Strong relationships, a sense of belonging, and student voice continue to sit at the heart of everything we do.

As a school community, we proudly uphold the values that guide us each day:

Kaitiaki — I am a guardian

Kawenga — I am the best I can be

Manaaki — I uplift the mana of others

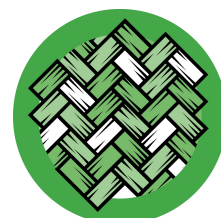
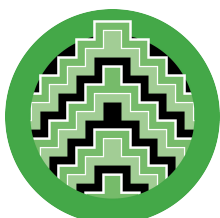
Pono — I am trustworthy

Thank you for your continued partnership and support — we are excited to share a wonderful year of learning and growth together.

Ngā manaakitanga,

Rachel Bycroft

Tumuaki



Pānui - WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW...

Property Work

As you are aware we have three major property projects underway at Te Kura o Tikorangi! These projects include repairing and replacing our drainage, updating classroom window joinery, refreshing sink areas, fixing roofing, repairing cladding, building decks, and completing other essential maintenance. In addition, our entire administration block will receive a full refurbishment.

This is a significant infrastructure upgrade that will benefit our kura for years to come, and we will need the support and understanding of our whānau and community while the work is happening.

During the refurbishment of the administration block in Term 1, our office will be temporarily relocated to the small space next to Whānau Tikorangi. This is where you will find the sign in/out iPad if you are signing in our out your tamariki. Please also note that we will not have a sick bay or shower facilities onsite, so whānau will need to pick up tamariki if they are unwell or require a shower while construction is underway.


Once all the work is complete, the kura will also be receiving a full repaint. By the middle of next year, our kura will be looking refreshed and amazing—ready for another fantastic year of learning and growth!

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

A massive ngā mihi to our awesome whānau for your support in getting your tamariki to school. Thanks to your efforts, we've had a fantastic start to our Term 1 attendance!

We also really appreciate how quickly you let the office know about absences and respond to messages — it makes a real difference. Just a wee reminder that any notification of an absence helps. Even a quick "sick" message is better than no message at all when it comes to supporting our attendance outcomes.

This year we are pleased to have Ngā Ratonga Tautoko working alongside our kura to support attendance and student wellbeing. We look forward to working together to keep building strong attendance habits and supporting our ākonga to succeed.



NGĀ RATONGA Tautoko
Student Support Services

THE RIGHT SUPPORT

FOR YOUR WHĀNAU

Ngā Ratonga Tautoko works alongside schools, whānau, and young people across Whangārei and Kaipara to support regular attendance and positive engagement with learning.

We understand that every child's situation is different. Our role is to listen first, build trusted relationships, and work together to remove the barriers that can make getting to school hard.

IF YOUR CHILD IS NOT ATTENDING AN EDUCATION CENTRE, WE MAY CONTACT YOU.

We can support you in this process to make sure rangatahi get back to school.

For more information:
www.nrt.org.nz
attendance@northable.org.nz

How we work:

- Young People at the Centre
- Valuing Relationships
- Collaboration
- Support and Strengthen
- Solutions Focused

Pānui - What's happening in our kura



Social Worker in Schools Bonnie Kiro



Our kura has a Social worker (Bonny Kiro) onsite every Monday. Bonny is part of Family Works in Whangarei which provides counseling, social work services and a range of group programmes for children, young people, parents/caregivers and families.

How can Bonny help and support you or your tamariki:

She can work on with you, your child and their school on:

- Social skills, self-esteem and confidence
- Family or peer relationships
- Behaviour issues
- Family violence
- Grief and loss
- Advocacy
- Referrals to other agencies

Contact our Special Education Needs Coordinator SENCO Rachel at principal@portland.school.nz or alternatively contact Bonny directly on **021348052**.

Teachers, principals or community members can refer children to SWiS.

Bonny has 2 Referral Spaces Available in Term 1

Please contact the office if you would like to discuss a referral.

SCHOOL Public Health Nurse: Demi Knight

Demi Night is our amazing Public Health Nurse that works with tamariki at Portland School. She provides a free health service including assistance with:

How can Demi help and support you or your tamariki:

- Health advice
- Skin conditions
- Breathing problems
- Behavioural and developmental concerns
- Wetting and soiling
- Vision and hearing concerns
- Mental health
- Child protection
- Absenteeism related to a health concern
- Referrals to specialist services

Please contact the office if you would like to see your Tamariki or if you require head lice treatment.

Pānui - What's happening in our kura

In-School Services

Mana Ake

Mana Ake are actively recruiting a new Kaimahi to continue supporting our kura in 2026.



What is Mana Ake?

Mana Ake - Stronger for Tomorrow Supports children aged 5 - 12 years old.

Mana Ake is for children who are experiencing circumstances that impact on their wellbeing or mental health.

The Mana Ake team works alongside schools and whānau when they have noticed a concern about a child's wellbeing or mental health.

What does Mana Ake do?

Mana Ake kaimahi (workers) can help children learn skills such as coping with change or challenges, managing their emotions, building positive relationships or overcoming grief and loss.

They:

- support teachers to deliver classroom programmes that promote wellbeing;
- work with children and their whānau at home and/or at school;
- connect schools and whānau to community resources that enhance wellbeing.

Counselling Service



Sad news: Due to funding cuts, the counselling service from Jigsaw North at our kura is coming to an end.

We are very sad to share that the counselling support provided by Kimberley and Bridget will no longer be available onsite. We would like to sincerely acknowledge the incredible mahi they have done throughout 2025. They created a safe and welcoming space for our tamariki to express themselves, build resilience, and develop healthy coping strategies. The Seasons for Growth programme they delivered has been especially valuable for many of our tamariki.

If you feel your child would benefit from continued counselling support, you can contact Jigsaw North directly at: contact@jigsawnorth.org.nz

Resourcing Teacher – Learning & Behaviour (RTLB)

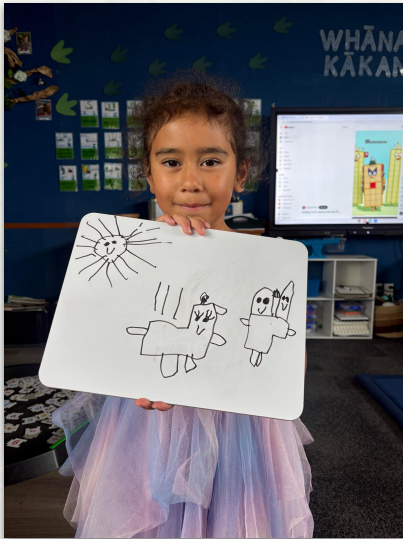
We are pleased to welcome back to our kura our RTLB, Fiona Harkness. Joining her in 2026 will be **Jessie Patch – welcome!** Fiona and Jessie will work alongside our staff and whānau to help identify local needs, connect us with resources, and plan evidence-based support to best support our students' learning and wellbeing. Their role is to collaborate with kaiako and whānau to develop strategies that help our ākonga thrive both in and out of the classroom.

We are excited to continue strengthening this partnership and look forward to the positive impact their mahi will have across our kura.

Pānui - What's happening in our kura



Pānui - What's happening in our kura



DO YOU HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT YOUR CHILD?

Term 1 2026

Te Manawa Tahī is a learning support hub where you can talk to educational professionals about your child's learning needs. This is a free service.

If you have a concern about your child's language development, learning progress, social and emotional well-being or behaviour, Te Manawa Tahī have specialists available so you can discuss your concerns directly with them.

All hubs are open from 9:00am until 12:00pm unless otherwise stated.

Te Manawa Tahī COMMUNITY TIMETABLE:
Whangārei, Bream Bay & Kaipara

Date	Hub Locations	Term 1 2026, Weeks 1 to 5
Thur 29 th Jan	Clark Road Chapel, 4-6 Clark Road, Kamo	
Wed 4 th Feb	Bream Bay Community Trust, 9 Takutai Place, Ruakākā	
Thur 5 th Feb	Ministry of Education, 24 Kaka St, Morningside	
Thur 12 th Feb	Onerahi Community House, 130 Onerahi Road, Onerahi	
Wed 18 th Feb	Early Years Hub, 28 Hokianga Road, Dargaville	
Thur 19 th Feb	Clark Road Chapel, 4-6 Clark Road, Kamo	
Wed 25 th Feb	Ministry of Education, 24 Kaka St, Morningside	

Drop into a hub or to see a Speech Language Therapist make an appointment by phoning 0800 524 842 or emailing TT.Support@education.govt.nz.

Te Mahau
[UNCLASSIFIED]

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Te Manawa Tahī COMMUNITY TIMETABLE:
Whangārei, Bream Bay & Kaipara

Date	Hub Locations	Term 1 2026, Weeks 6 to 10
Wed 4 th Mar	Bream Bay Community Trust, 9 Takutai Place, Ruakākā (10am - 12pm)	
Thurs 12 th Mar	Hikurangi Primary School, 4 Swan Ave, Hikurangi	
Wed 18 th Mar	St John Ōtamatea Ambulance Hall 172 Hurdall Street East, Maungaturoto	
Thurs 19 th Mar	Ministry of Education, 24 Kaka St, Morningside	
Wed 25 th Mar	Early Years Hub, 28 Hokianga Road, Dargaville	
Thurs 26 th Mar	Clark Road Chapel, 4-6 Clark Road, Kamo	
Thurs 26 th Mar	Ngunguru School (9am - 10.30am) Te Maika Road	

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Te Mahau
[UNCLASSIFIED]

Pānui - WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW...

Basketball hoops and Court

Some of you may be aware that we were waiting on replacements for our basketball hoops and court under warranty, due to excessive rust on the hoops and deterioration of the court surface. Unfortunately, the company responsible for these replacements has gone into liquidation.

We are working closely with the Ministry of Education to determine the next steps and what can be done to resolve this issue. In the meantime, we have been advised to remove the hoops for the safety of our tamariki and community.

To ensure basketball can continue, we have purchased temporary hoops so that our basketball enthusiasts and teams can continue playing while we work through a permanent solution. We will keep our community updated as soon as we have more information.



Update Contact Details

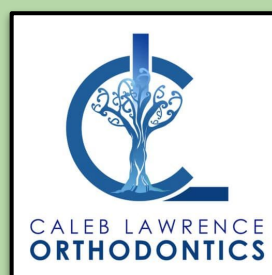
Don't forget to update your contact details with Carol in the office. It's important that we have your current information on file, including who to contact, phone numbers, home address, and emergency contacts.

You can text or call the school on 09 432 2897, or email admin@portland.school.nz to update any details. Keeping this information up to date helps us contact you quickly if needed.

COMING UP...

BOT Hui	Monday 23 February
Pōwhiri	Wednesday 25 February @ 9.15am
Whole School Triathlon	Friday 20 March
BOT Hui	Monday 23 March
End of Term 1 Celebration Hui	Wednesday 1 April @ 9.15am
Last day of Term 1	Thursday 2 April

Portland School Te Kura o Tikorangi Sponsors



Support from Others



CONTACT US

Te Kura o Tikorangi - Portland School
 10 Portland School Road
 Portland, Whangarei 0178
 Ph: 094322897 Mobile: 022 158 1553
 Email: admin@portland.school.nz
 Website: www.portland.school.nz