



1 February 2024

Dear Warkworth School Whānau

I am thrilled to extend a warm welcome to all our new and returning families as the newly appointed Principal of Te Kura o Puhinui/Warkworth School. My name is Karney Dawson and I am genuinely excited to be part of this special school and community.

Having been at Red Beach School which also shared a close link with its community, I am eager to continue fostering and strengthening this connection here in Warkworth. I am already deeply impressed by the warmth and dedication of our amazing staff, who collectively create an environment where children feel not only welcome but inspired to thrive. Warkworth School truly stands out as a place where children want to be, and I am honoured to be part of the journey.

As we start on this new school year, I am filled with enthusiasm and optimism for the exciting times ahead.

Open Day - Friday, 2 February

To kick off the school year on a positive note, we have organised an Open Day on 2 February from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. This day serves as a fantastic opportunity for you to see your child's class, meet their teachers, explore the school grounds and take a closer look at the amazing learning environments we have created. It's a day designed to ease any nerves, providing a smooth transition back into the school routine.

Additionally, at 10:00 am and 1:00 pm on the Open Day, we are offering special information sessions in the Senior staffroom for new parents (Year 2 and up). This will be a valuable chance to learn more about the school, including details about how the school runs, the school's structure and key people who contribute to our vibrant school community.

First Day of School - Wednesday, 7 February

The official first day of school is on 7 February. We are eager to welcome all students back and begin an exciting year of learning, growth, and achievement.

Welcome Pōwhiri - Friday, 16 February

Join us on 16 February at 9:15 am for a Pōwhiri, where we extend a warm welcome to new parents, students, and staff. This traditional Māori welcome ceremony is a beautiful way to embrace the rich culture of our school and build connections within our community.

Note Teacher Only Days for 2024

Please be aware that Teacher Only Days (when school is closed for students) are scheduled for the following dates:

- Friday 31 May
- Friday 30 August

On these days, our teachers engage in professional development, ensuring they are equipped with the latest tools and knowledge to provide the best education for your children.

I am genuinely looking forward to meeting each of you and creating lasting connections within our Warkworth School community. Here's to a fantastic year of learning and growth for our tamariki.

Ngā mihi



Karney Dawson
Principal
Warkworth School Te Kura o Puhinui