

## About Us

A 15 minute drive from Puhoi or Warkworth, Ahuroa School is a small, innovative country school, where learning is tailored to the individual needs of every student, in a nurturing and caring environment.

Families are recognised as being vital and active partners in students daily learning, and the entire community is recognised as the learning environment.

We promote academic excellence in reading, writing and maths. Catering for students year 1 through 8, we offer excellent teacher to pupil ratios and significant one to one support.

Students participate in a vast range of different learning experiences via our afternoon clubs program - including robotics, sewing, drama, creative writing, sport, cooking, enviro club and coding.

Our Discovery learning program enables each student to direct their own learning based around their own interests - and each teacher to encourage and nurture a life long enthusiasm for (and love of) learning in every student. Students use a wide range of technology to support their learning.

Students also participate in inter-school sports, art, science and kapa haka under the guidance of specialist teachers. Other highlights include our annual school production, Agricultural Day and camps.

One of the first things that strikes visitors to our school is the welcoming and positive atmosphere. Students are strongly encouraged to acknowledge and celebrate each others differences, and support each others weaknesses. We have an open door policy; parents and families are welcome to visit us at any time. Give us a call or pop in - we'd love to meet you.



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A photograph of a young child sitting at a red table, focused on working with green clay. The child is wearing a grey sweatshirt. Overlaid on the image is large, colorful text that reads "4 YEAR OLD FRIDAYS" in a bold, sans-serif font. In the bottom right corner, there is a large, stylized blue bird graphic. A yellow speech bubble in the bottom left contains the text: "A FREE 'learning through discovery' program for 4-year-olds in a nurturing country school environment". The overall theme is a promotional image for a special program for 4-year-olds.

# Fun, Family Fridays at Ahuroa School

Every Friday is 'Fun, Family Friday' at Ahuroa School. To help ease the transition into school, every Friday we open our year 0-1 Reggio inspired, discovery learning program to all four-year-olds and their families. Children are given opportunities to direct their own learning - based on their own interests - under the guidance of our two junior teachers. As well as growing their love of learning, four-year-old's receive an invaluable 'taste' of school in a gentle, nurturing and caring way.

## WHEN?

Every Friday during the term

## TIME

11.00am-12.30pm

## WHERE

Room 2, Sanderson Whānau, Ahuroa School

## WHO

All 4-year-olds and their families are welcome!



Parents and caregivers need to stay with their children during this important learning time. Parents and children are welcome to arrive earlier to join in with morning tea playtime at 10.40am, which begins with morning tea eating at 10.30am. Mums and dads with younger children are welcome to meet informally in our staff room for a coffee and chat during this time. This is a great opportunity to meet local families.



## What is Reggio inspired discovery learning?

- As active participants, each child directs their own learning.
- Children are allowed to follow their own interests. The teacher observes and notices what the children are interested in and then works with them to facilitate their further learning in this area.
- Teachers develop general goals and predict children's responses to activities and projects so that they can prepare the environment. Then the children take over and the curriculum emerges.
- Through a Reggio approach much of the curriculum takes the form of projects, and those projects may come from children or teachers. Sometimes, an event or a problem may result in a project.
- Projects are actually intensive constructions of knowledge—studies conducted by children guided by adults or with adult resources.

*"The 4-year-old Fridays were so useful for our son in preparing him for the realities of school and familiarising him with his future teacher and classmates. Once he did start school, the mentoring scheme was a huge benefit in helping him settle into school. A senior student mentors our son in reading and can also support him during playtimes."*