

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

7 February	School Closed – Waitangi Day holiday
15 February	5.30pm Board meeting

28 January 2022

Kia ora koutou
Ngā mihi kia koutou

It's been fantastic to see the children back at school for the last 2 days. We are absolutely delighted with the way they have 'bounced' in the gate! I thank each of you for the way you are supporting us with the tamariki coming into the buildings independently (or with staff support). While some schools are very strictly interpreting MOE guidelines and not allowing parents onto the grounds, we are very happy to have you walk in to your child's kete 'meet and greet' point and take the opportunity to introduce yourself to the teacher who is on duty.

Safety at school under RED traffic light settings. School is open and everyone is expected to attend

We have been instructed by the MOE to take all possible steps to avoid large groups of people mixing. We have created different break times for various kete, different play zones, and we are not undertaking any 'whole school' events or even events that mix the kete groups up.

You can play your part in the following ways:

- Ensure that we have current contact details. Please return the slip that came home today.
- Complete the brief on-line survey that will come to you soon regarding your capability for 'home based learning'.
- Please DO NOT leave your child unattended waiting for the 8.30am bell. We are not allowing anyone into buildings before 8.30am and we do not want them mixing with other children who may not be in the same kete.
- Please do not enter school buildings unless it is ESSENTIAL - you must come through the office first and complete sign in procedures. We need to have accurate contact track and trace systems in case they are needed.
- Drinking fountains are turned off, please bring a drink bottle (this can be refilled in the classroom).
- TKW and TKP pick up time is 2.45pm unless you have made a specific arrangement with the teacher for a 3pm pick up. Older siblings will be released at the same time.
- Children from Year 4 - 6 are required to wear a mask indoors (you can be sure we give them lots of mask breaks during the day). Year 3's in TKM are encouraged to wear a mask too.
- If your child has symptoms of a cold, please do not send them to school. We are required to send them home if they are unwell.

In the coming week we will share with you an outline of our school's detailed plan that will come into effect should we reach a situation where we have insufficient staff able to be at school OR so many children away from school that we need to be providing learning from home.

You can be confident that we will be doing our very best to keep routines strong and learning at school available for all tamariki, but (as we all have learnt in the last 2 challenging years), sometimes things are beyond our control. If we reach a point where we don't have enough staff on site to keep everyone safe, we may need to move to a brief period of time with a mixture of 'at school' and 'at home' learning.

SUMMER

Three quick reminders

- a school regulation sunhat is required for outdoors in Term 1. NO HAT, NO PLAY. Hats are available at the school office for \$12.00
- the sun is fierce at this time of the year. Please ensure sunscreen is applied before coming to school in the morning and pack sunscreen for your child to reapply at break times.
- our swimming pool is solar heated and covered at night. Swimming is part of the school curriculum - we expect everyone to take part. Children are to bring their togs/towel/rash top every day. Please email a note to your child's whānau teacher if they are unable to swim for medical reasons. Teachers will not take the tamariki swimming on days that are unsuitable and no child is ever made to stay in the pool after getting cold.

2022 TEACHING TEAMS

Te Kete Wakahuia: TKW - this kete is split into Waka and Huia

Waka: Mrs Tracey Orr and Miss Hannah Puts, Huia - Mrs Anna Blay and Mrs Kirstine Hintz

Te Kete Pounamu: TKP

Mrs Carlee Hodge, Mr Clayton Evans and Ms Stacey Tayler

Te Kete Manawa: TKM

Mrs Priscilla Gifford Moore, Miss Andrea Caldwell, Mr Andrew Shirley

Te Kete Aronui: TKA

Ms Hilary Salter, Mrs Amy Guerin, Mr Elisha Masoe

Te Kete Tangaroa: TKT

Mr Samuel Sloan, Mrs Liz Longley, Mrs Lisa Swale

In the coming weeks I will introduce our all-important part time teaching and support staff to you.

Wishing you all a lovely long weekend. We look forward to seeing everyone from 8.30am next Tuesday the 8th February.

Ngā mihi

Lin Dixon

SPORT

T-Ball

Term 1 Years 0-4

Games are played on Saturdays at Colquhoun Park, Fairs Road, Palmerston North.

The competition will commence on 12th February 2022.

Games begin at 9am.

Coaches and managers will be required for games. Practices are not essential.

Any queries please email c.hodge@hokowhitu.school.nz

REGISTRATIONS WILL CLOSE 8TH FEBRUARY.

Netball - Year 1 & 2

This is a 4 aside format played on MONDAY nights at Vautier Park. Times 3.45-4.45. The competition begins Monday 21st February and they will play for 6 weeks. The team will need a coach and the coach is expected to attend a coaching evening on 14th of February.

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE 12TH FEBRUARY

Netball - Year 3 & 4

This is a 5 aside format played on either a Tuesday or Wednesday at Vautier Park. The competition begins 15/16th February and they will play for 8 weeks. They will end with a small competition. The team will need a coach and the coach is expected to attend a coaching evening on 8th of February.

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE 6TH FEBRUARY

Any queries please email c.hodge@hokowhitu.school.nz

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Palmerston junior cricket club is looking for any young cricketers looking to join the game or practice some new skills. The grade is open to year 1-4 students.

Programme runs for 8 weeks. Every Wednesday 4-5 pm at Hokowhitu park starting 9th February. Cost \$40

More information is on the Palmerston junior cricket club facebook page.

Or like to register directly at

<https://registrations.crichq.com/register/262684>

Please any questions flick me a message.