

HOKOWHITU SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Friday the 7th of February 2025

Important Upcoming Events 2025

13 February	- 5.00 - 6.30pm Pool Party - everyone welcome! (see below for details)
14 February	- 8.30 - 8.50am Whānau Friday - come into the kete and enjoy looking at some learning - House meeting day - wear your house t-shirt today if you have one
18 February	- 5.30 pm Board meeting in the staffroom, everyone welcome
21 February	- 9.00am Whole school assembly, TKT sharing some of their learning
24 - 28 February	- EOTC week - education from outside the classroom
25 February	- 11.30am Year 4 - 6 triathlon
28 February	- Whole school 'Big Day Out' to Foxton
4 March	- 11.30am Year 3/4 swimming sports
6 March	- 1.30 - 2.30pm Year 1/2 swimming demonstration
7 March	- 9.00 Whole school assembly TKW sharing some of their learning - 11.30 Year 5/6 swimming sports
14 March	- House meeting day - wear your house t-shirt today if you have one
18/19 March	- Education Review Office (ERO) visit
21 March	- 9am Whole school assembly - TKA sharing some of their learning
25 March	- 5.30pm Board meeting in the staffroom, everyone welcome
3 April	- Cluster swimming sports
4 April	- 9am Whole school assembly - TKM sharing some of their learning - 11.40am Year 1 - 3 duathlon
11 April	- House meeting day - wear your house t-shirt today if you have one - 3pm Last day of school for Term 1

Please also look out for kete newsletters - these include additional specific dates/events for that kete.



UPDATE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Kia ora koutou
Ngā mihi kia koutou

Welcome to the new school year. It was lovely to see the excitement from the tamariki as they entered their classrooms and met up with friends again.

A very special welcome to all our new ākonga/whānau and our new learning coaches - **Whaea Emma** and **Matua Kobe**. We look forward to you all settling into our kura and trust that you will soon feel very much 'part' of our whānau.

To my hard-working staff, thanks so much for all the 'non-contact time' preparation you have put into having the classrooms and programmes 'ready to go'. I value each of you.

TEACHING TEAMS

TKW	Whaea Liz (Longley), Mrs Carlee Hodge/Mrs Merryn Hawkins, Miss Andrea Caldwell, Ms Anna Blay
TKP	Mrs Tracey Orr, Mrs Kirstine Hintz, Mr Andrew Shirley
TKM	Ms Hilary Salter, Mrs Kathryn O'Connor, Whaea Bree (White)
TKA	Mrs Priscilla Gifford Moore, Ms Stacey Tayler, Mr Clayton Evens/Mrs Michelle Mikkelsen
TKT	Mr Sam Sloan, Mr Elisha Masoe, Mrs Jenny Lovegrove
PART TIME TEACHING STAFF	Ms Gwenna Finikin, Mrs Jo Mullinger, Mrs Liz Easton, Whaea Hannah (McKeag), Whaea Hannah (Puts), Mrs Amy Westergaard, Mrs Helen Griffin

Next week I will introduce our all-important support staff team to you.

POOL PARTY - next Thursday 13th February, 5 pm start

We hope you have our first 'social event' for this year clearly marked on your calendar. The pool party is an informal way to mix and mingle with staff, meet other families, have the opportunity to meet Board/PTA members and generally have some fun.

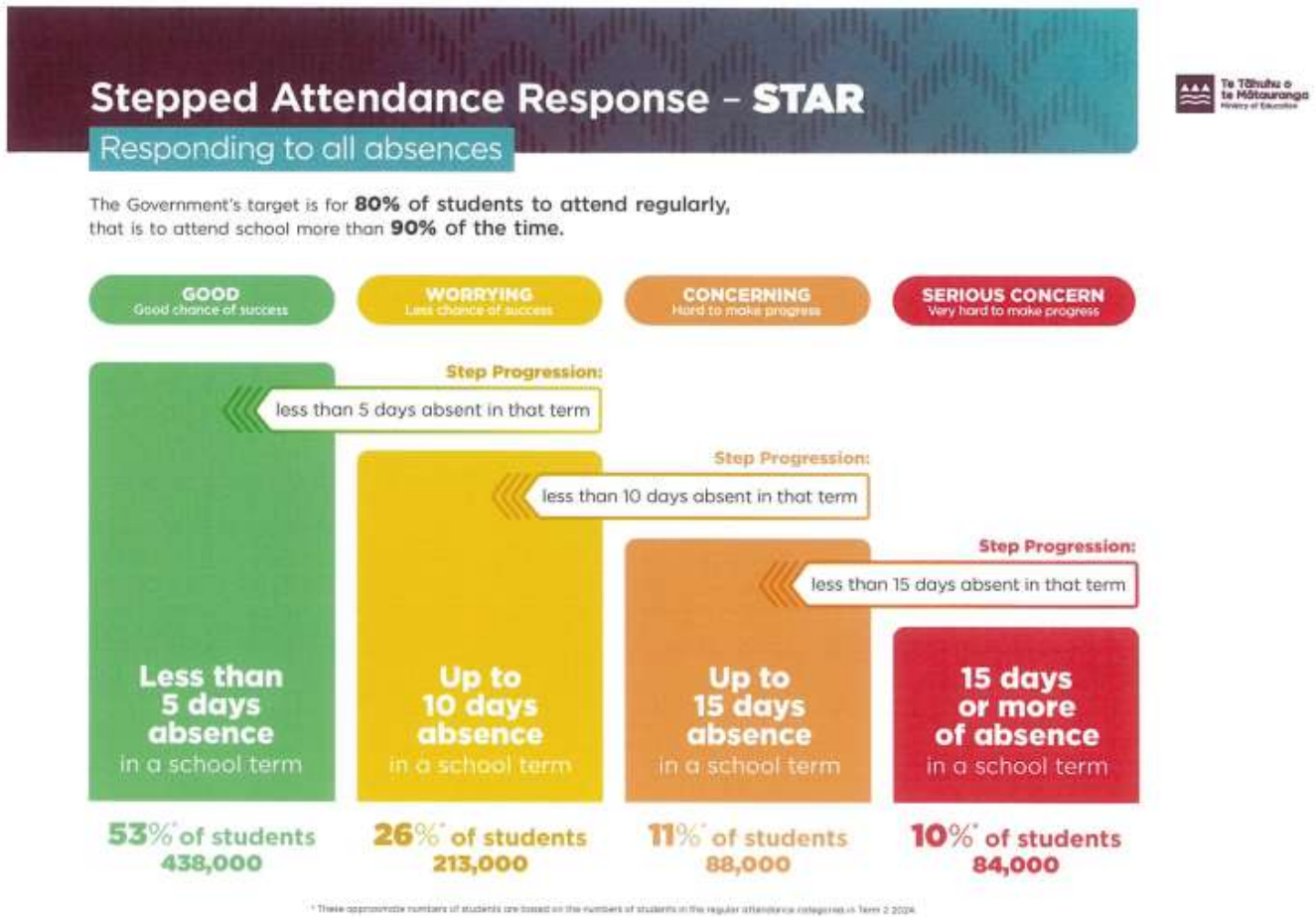
Every Hokowhitu School pupil will receive a ticket for a free sausage (cooked by our Board members), the PTA will be selling additional sausages (\$2.00), nacho's (\$5.00), something sweet (\$2.00), and bottled water (\$1.00). Bring the family, come along with some cash and enjoy an easy dinner.

The pool will be open for the children to have a swim, we will put out some sports equipment and staff will be available to chat. We hope to see you there.



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION UPDATES

2025 is a year of significant changes in education. Along with the introduction of new curriculum documents for both literacy and numeracy, the government has set a target for 80% of students to be attending school more than 90% of the time. The following diagram outlines the 'traffic light' Stepped Attendance Response that we have been given.



This clearly shows the correlation between regular attendance and likely success as a learner. School aged children should be at school every day, except when they are medically unwell (or in the case of exceptional circumstances such as bereavement).

We are setting goals for attendance here at school and our target for Term 1 is to have 80% of our ākongā attending regularly over the whole school. We have set this target by looking at trends of attendance at our kura in Term 1 over time.

YEAR	% REGULAR ATTENDANCE
2019	87%
2020	87%
2021	84%
2022	57%
2023	76%
2024	75%

It is clear that the COVID years impacted on attendance rates.

We are confident that we can get back into the 80% bands again - with just a little effort (and a small incentive).

Every week that we meet this 80% target will result in an extended morning tea break the following Monday.

As required, we will be proactive in making contact with whānau if we see patterns of non-attendance developing. This means we can work together to develop a plan to improve regular attendance. Please feel free to make contact with us if you would like to discuss any challenges that you have with getting your tamariki to school on a regular basis.

OTHER IMPORTANT REMINDERS FOR 2025

1. The Board has requested that we place ongoing emphasis on correct uniform footwear. Socks should be navy blue, shoes should be black or brown and 'school sensible'. If girls are wearing tights, they are to be plain navy blue tights with feet (NOT leggings). **Please ensure the tamariki are wearing these items daily.**
We want to take a positive approach to getting this right, so reminder notes will start coming home next week if tamariki are not wearing appropriate footwear.
2. Regulation sunhats are compulsory in Term 1. Hats are available from the school office for \$15.00. No hat, no play.
3. The school office hours are 8.30am - 4.00pm.
4. Togs (preferably sunsafe) and a towel should be sent to school daily - swimming is a part of the NZ curriculum, not something the children 'choose' to opt in or out of.
5. Cell phones are not permitted during the school day. If your child needs to have a cell phone it must be handed in at the start of the day and will be stored in the office until school ends.
6. Please do not arrive at school before 8.30am. Early arrivals - please wait by the noticeboard, not at your 'meet and greet' points.
7. While we encourage the tamariki to farewell their parents/caregiver at the meet and greet point each day, on Friday mornings we welcome everyone into the kete to look through books, enjoy classroom displays and chat with staff. Do take the time to pop in on a Friday morning if you'd like to.

END OF THE DAY TIMES

To minimise congestion with parking etc, we have a split 'end of the day' time. Generally, tamariki in TKW and TKP finish at 2.45pm and those in TKM, TKA and TKT finish at 3pm. We recognise this is not perfect for parents who have children in both areas of the school - we ask that you choose the most suitable time and let the teaching team know whether your children will be 2.45ers or 3pmers!

NB: Children leaving school at 2.45pm MUST be met by an adult as there are no road patrollers out until 3pm. Please try not to chop and change the times, regular routines work best for us all as they are easier to remember.

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Ngā mihi nui

Lin Dixon



SPORTS

SPORTS UNIFORMS - We hire out our sports uniforms for the calendar year. Please ensure when registering for a sport you also hire a sports uniform. You only need to do this once a year. All uniforms get returned at the end of the year. If they do not get returned, you will get invoiced the \$70 for a replacement uniform, thank you.

T- BALL - Good luck to our T-ball teams that start again tomorrow. Let's hope for better weather for more game time this season.

For more information on these sports game days, pricing etc please follow the Kindo link below...

SMASH YARD CRICKET - This is **OPEN** on Kindo **NOW**.

Smash Yard Cricket is for both year 5/6 girls and boys. It is played Thursday nights between 4pm and 5pm at Onley Park. The cost is \$20 per participant. This is all organised by Manawatu Cricket.

To register follow the link here - <https://shop.tgcl.co.nz/shop/q2.shtml?shop=Hokowhitu%20School>.

Registrations close at 12pm on Tuesday the 11th of February

Unfortunately no late registrations can be accepted.

SUMMER HOCKEY - This is **OPEN** on Kindo **NOW**.

To register follow the link here -

<https://shop.tgcl.co.nz/shop/q2.shtml?shop=Hokowhitu%20School>.

Registrations close at 12pm on Wednesday the 12th of February (unless teams are full prior to this date) Unfortunately no late registrations can be accepted.



NETBALL (YEAR 5 & 6) - This is **OPEN** on Kindo **NOW**.

To register follow the link here - <https://shop.tgcl.co.nz/shop/q2.shtml?shop=Hokowhitu%20School>.

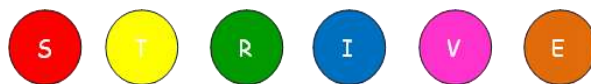
Registrations close at 12pm on Wednesday the 12th of February (unless teams are full prior to this date)

Unfortunately no late registrations can be accepted.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact Carlee Hodge - c.hodge@hokowhitu.school.nz



ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



Te Kete Wakahuia

A big Hokowhitu welcome to **Emily, Miller, Ezra, Arfad, Freddie, Thomas, Gemma, Pippa, Hania, Isabella, Ava, Ella, Lilly, Kiyarā, Coda, Suvarn** and **Nevaeh-Leigh**. All these wonderful children joined Waka this week.

What a wonderful year of learning we are going to have in Huia. Our treaty is terrific. Let's make sure we always follow it. A special welcome to **Nia, Linaya** and **Ruby**. We are delighted to have you with us and can't wait to get to know you.

Te Kete Pounamu

We have had a fantastic start to 2025 in TKP! We are learning lots of new routines and who our teachers are for specific learning. Thank you to those whānau that have popped in to say hi and introduce themselves. We are looking forward to a great year of learning and growing in TKP!

A big Hokowhitu welcome to **Eesa, Diyana, Worood, Hudson** and **Mili** who have joined us in TKP this year. We hope you have a great time at our kura!

Te Kete Manawa

Welcome to 2025! It has been so enjoyable meeting you and your whānau. We look forward to working together for a great year. It is lovely to see your enthusiasm to get into the school year and the kete routines and meeting these expectations. We are really looking forward to all the exciting things that have been planned and all the new learning that you will be doing. An extra special welcome to **Theo, Tejo, Abdu & Nora**.

Te Kete Aronui

A warm welcome to all our returning families for 2025! We're excited to reconnect and to meet those of you joining the TKA kete for the first time. To our new students, we would like to extend a warm welcome, we look forward to getting to know you: **Manik, Adrian, Logain, Mele, Joanna** and **Aliza**.

Staff and students have returned fresh and excited for this year's learning.

Te Kete Tangaroa

Kate - Super consistency in handwriting.

Ted - Impressive pattern artwork.

Amiria - Showing initiative and keeping our cloak bay area tidy.

Max - For outstanding creativity in Art.

Ajay - For showing Manawanui and making a great start to the year in TKT.

Isabella - For being an outstanding PA and using her initiative in class.

Senura - For showing kindness and support to his classmates.

Chase - For a positive start by showing leadership with our strive values.

Dwayne - For an outstanding start to Hokowhitu School and sharing new games with the class.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

Goju Ryu KARATE



沖繩剛柔流

沖繩剛柔流

www.karate.org.nz
New Students Welcome
2025 Classes Open Now

LOCATION: Hokowhitu School Hall
Albert St, Palmerston North
TIMES: Tuesday/Friday, Juniors 6:00-7:00pm
Adults 7:00-8:00pm

CONTACT: Clayton. 021-2082-012
EMAIL: claytonsensei@gmail.com
WEBSITE: www.karate.org.nz
FACEBOOK: Goju Ryu Karate Palmerston North

Ngā Tau Mīharo Parenting Programme

The Incredible Years®

Incredible Years is a **14 week** programme for parents who have a child between **3 to under 8 years old** and find some of their child's behaviour a real challenge. Parents gain confidence and start to enjoy parenting, grow a positive relationship with their child while in an understanding and relaxed group!

Learn effective strategies to support your child in:

- Strengthening social skills, self-control & problem solving skills
- Gaining emotional awareness, self-esteem & confidence
- School successes e.g., reading & social readiness
- Decreasing challenging behaviours

Start Dates/Times:

mornings **9.30- 12 noon**,
starting **Friday 28th February**

@ **Parentline Manawatu, Hancock Community House**

**Contact Parentline
Manawatu or MOE for
more information and/or
for a referral form**

0800 432 6459



Fun in the Sun with the award-winning Marist Hotshots Tennis Programme

Beginner skills development programme for 5-12-year-olds run by our amazing Hot Shots coaches. These 50-minute sessions run on Saturday mornings over Term 1 and will focus on improving strokes, footwork, and court strategies! This is our most popular tennis programme which will upskill and develop techniques, so you are ready to face challenges on the court this summer season. All levels catered for and all equipment provided. For more info contact Big John on 0274808808 or email johnsalisbury@xtra.co.nz

IgnitED

Active sessions for those with disabilities

BOXFIT

BOX FIT SESSIONS
ON MONDAY
3.30PM - 4PM
WITH A QUALIFIED
COACH AT ZENITH
GYM.

STARTS 10TH
FEBRUARY.

*\$5 PER PERSON, PER
SESSION.
WE ARE VERY
GRATEFUL TO HAVE
THIS HEAVILY
SUBSIDISED BY
SNAPBACK GYM*



AQUA AEROBICS

AQUA AEROBICS
SESSIONS AT THE
LIDO WILL BE ON
WEDNESDAYS
3.30PM - 4PM
WITH A QUALIFIED
INSTRUCTOR.

STARTS 12TH
FEBRUARY.

*\$5 PER PERSON, PER
SESSION. SUBSIDISED
BY IGNITED.*



CIRCUITS

HUMAN
MOVEMENTS GYM
CURRENTLY OFFERS
CIRCUIT SESSIONS
ON TUESDAYS AND
THURSDAYS FROM
1PM TO 1.45PM.

*\$5 PER PERSON, PER
SESSION.*

*WE ARE VERY
GRATEFUL TO HAVE
THIS SUBSIDISED BY
HUMAN MOVEMENTS
GYM*



Email Jackie at ignitededucationnz@gmail.com to register your interest as spaces are limited.

WANT TO PLAY CRICKET?

\$20 per term

**SMASH
CRICKET**

MON - PALMY NORTH
TUE - ASHURST
WED - FEILDING & P N
THU - DVIRKE & PAHIATUA
FRI - FEILDING

ARE YOU AGED 5-10?

For more info scan QR code



**Start your child's
musical journey
in 2025!**

Saturday Music offers affordable, accessible music lessons for children in the Manawātū. Our classes include:

Cello, Choir, Clarinet, Drums, Flute, French Horn, Guitar, Ukulele, Junior Flute (Fife), Keyboard, Music Basics, Recorder, Saxophone, Trombone, Trumpet and Violin

**\$150 per enrolment, for 26 lessons!
Enrol on our website before February 8th.**

www.saturdaymusic.org.nz
contact@saturdaymusic.org.nz



Great Fathering Programme

This 8 session Fathering Course covers topics:

- Why Fathers and fathering are important
- Being the Father you want to be
- Gender difference
- Guidance and discipline
- Working in partnership with Mothers and others
- Building your child's self esteem
- Fathering outside the child's home
- The future of your child



What Fathers have said about it:

'Enjoyed sharing with other fathers'

'Reaffirming was helpful for me as a father'

'I'm more patient and positive'

'I wasn't sure what to expect when I first turned up. I'm glad I attended. I have discovered that my health, wellbeing and mind-set have a huge impact on my parenting'

When?

Starts Tuesday 18 February 2025 for 8 weeks
 6.30pm – 9.00pm



Where?

Hancock Community house
 77-85 King St, Palmerston North

Supper provided

Ring Parentline Manawatu on 355 1655 or 08004FAMILY
 to register your interest!

RED KIWI SUMMER SPRINT SERIES

Courses for beginner
 and experienced
 orienteers

Events :

- **Event 1:** Friday, 7th of Feb, Awatapu college
- **Event 2:** Friday 14th of Feb, I. P. U
- **Event 3:** Friday 21st of Feb, Levin School/Intermediate
- **Event 4:** Friday 28th of Feb, Massey university

Please register through our website.
<https://www.redkiwi.org.nz/events>

**Starts between
 6 to 7 pm.
 Course closure at
 7:30pm.**

**Cost:
 Red kiwi members Free
 Everyone else \$2-\$4**

**Registrations open
 now!**

www.redkiwi.org.nz

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BOOK BY JULIAN FELLOWES LYRICS BY GLENN SLATER MUSIC BY ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER

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