

HOKOWHITU SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Friday the 2nd of May 2025

Important Upcoming Events 2025

2 May	- Report 1 for 2025 comes home today - 8.30 - 8.50am Whānau Friday. Everyone welcome to come into the kete and enjoy looking at the week's learning (and every Friday)
5 and 6 May 5.30pm - 6.30pm	- Celebrating Learning Evenings - a chance for you to pop into school on one of these nights, chat with kete teachers and enjoy looking at learning with your child Surnames A - L come on Monday, Surnames M - Z, come on Tuesday
NEW ITEM 9 May	- 9am School assembly - TKP sharing some of their learning. Everyone welcome
13 May	- 5.30pm Board meeting in the staffroom - everyone welcome Come along if you are interested in finding out more about the role of a trustee
16 May	- TKM - EOTC trip to Wildbase Recovery - House t-shirt day
19 May	- 11am School Cross Country races (postponement day is 21/5)
NEW ITEM 29 May	- TKP EOTC trip to Wildbase Recovery
30 May	- Teacher only day - SCHOOL IS CLOSED . Staff will be undertaking PLD in the new mathematics curriculum with our Kahui Ako colleagues
2 June	- SCHOOL CLOSED , public holiday for the King's Birthday
NEW ITEM 6 June	- School assembly - TKT sharing some of their learning. Everyone welcome
NEW ITEM 11 June	- Noon - 2.30pm Year 5/6 Interschool Cross Country for selected ākonga
NEW ITEM 13 June	- House t-shirt day
NEW ITEM 16 June	- Puanga/Matariki celebration evening - more detail to come but save this date!
NEW ITEM 17 June	- 5.30pm Board meeting in the staffroom - everyone welcome Come along if you are interested in finding out more about the role of a trustee
NEW ITEM 20 June	- Public holiday for Matariki. SCHOOL IS CLOSED
NEW ITEM 27 June	3pm School closes for the end of term 2



UPDATE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Kia ora koutou
Ngā mihi kia koutou

Welcome to term 2. I hope everyone got to do something enjoyable over the term break - we certainly enjoyed some lovely weather here in the mighty Manawatu.

A special welcome to the new ākonga and their whānau who have joined our kura this term. We hope that you feel very welcome. Please ask someone if you have any queries or things that need clarification.

We formally welcomed new children and staff with a mihi whakatau on Monday morning.

This is an example of us working within our second strategic goal - increasing ākonga and kaiako knowledge of and engagement with te ao Māori.

REPORTING TO PARENTS

This year we have made some changes to the way we report to parents on progress and 'next step' learning. This has come about by the Ministry of Education's new requirements about standardised testing being required twice per year from Years 3 - 6 (we have previously only used standardised tests once per year.) It made little sense to us to be administering these assessments in Nov/Dec and then retesting again in Feb/March (as there has been very little formal teaching happening between these dates).

In 2025 we have completed formal testing in Term 1, and have subsequently prepared our first written report that comes home today. We will follow this report up with 'Celebrating Learning' evenings next Monday and Tuesday evening.

The second round of standardised testing will occur towards the end of Term 3 and will be followed up with another written report. This will mean kaiako (teachers) can review and revisit unknown concepts in Term 4.

It is really important that you realise that the report comments around achievement are based on expectations FOR THE END OF THE YEAR, so we would not expect many ākonga (learners) to be AT or ABOVE their end of year expectation after only 10 weeks of the year. Therefore you should not be concerned if they are WORKING TOWARDS EXPECTATION at this stage. This means with ongoing progress over the year, we would expect they will meet the end of year expectations.

CELEBRATING LEARNING EVENINGS

We hope that everyone will take the opportunity to come to one of these evenings next week. It is a great way for you to informally chat with all the teachers that interact with your child on a daily basis. There is also time for you to have a good look at books, art work etc together. Come at any time between 5.30pm and 6.30pm - kaiako have prepared activities for you to enjoy with your tamariki while waiting for a chat with a teacher.

We request that those with surnames starting from A - L come on Monday, and M - Z come on Tuesday - this is to assist with even numbers each evening. However, it is ok to come on the other evening if you have prior commitments.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

1. The playground at Hokowhitu Park is NOT part of our school and is not supervised or monitored by anyone. We strongly discourage the children playing there either before or after school unless they have a parent/guardian actively supervising them - it simply isn't safe.
2. We are a 'water only' school, please don't send other drinks (unless there is a medical reason).
3. In the cooler months, some children like to wear 'layers' under the school uniform. If that layer is under a skort it should be navy blue stockings, NOT footless tights. Alternatively, If the layer is a thermal top under their t-shirt, this should be not visible OR be plain red or navy blue. Socks should be navy blue and shoes are to be plain black or brown and school sensible. We have been advised by Academy Apparel that the small sizes of navy shorts and pants will very soon be back in stock - hopefully as early as next week.



ANZAC DAY SERVICE

Some of our school Ambassadors represented our Hokowhitu School community at the Palmerston North Anzac Civic Service. They were a part of the Anzac parade and laid a wreath made by Hokowhitu School students during the service. Well done to these Ambassadors for representing us through their school holidays on such an important day.



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. Please see Term 1 newsletters for the diagram outlining the 'traffic light' Stepped Attendance Response that we have been given.

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 2 is to have 78% of our ākonga attending regularly over the whole school. We have set this target by making a small allowance for winter illnesses.

We achieved our school wide term 1 target with 80% of our ākonga attending school for 90% or more of the time. Ka pai - let's celebrate with an extended morning tea break next Monday!

You will be advised of your child's term one attendance in this year's first written report that came home today. We want to work together to develop a plan to improve regular attendance. Please 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.

Ngā mihi nui

Lin Dixon



Important Information for Parents & Guardians

- Please respect the privacy of all ākonga when taking photos or videos. Please do not publish any photos containing other children from any school event.

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

Ways to Contact The Office When Your Child Will Be Late Or Absent

Email - office@hokowhitu.school.nz

Phone (You can also leave a voicemail) - 06 357 9667

App - See how to download the App below

<https://hokowhituprimary.apps.school.nz/>

School cell phone (you can ring or text this number) - 027 357 9021

Please contact us as soon as you know your child will be late or is not coming to school as it can take a long time to contact everybody that doesn't contact us. We do this to ensure your child is safe and not a missing child. Please do not contact the teacher directly, they don't always see emails when they are teaching. Thank you.

Please download our school App if you haven't already, all **IMPORTANT/URGENT** notifications will come through this channel. Follow the directions as stated below

Stay up to date with a snap of your fingers

IT'S EASY!

Our School Communication All In One Spot

- School Alert Groups • Cancellations • Direct Absentees
- Contacts Directory • School Events • Daily Notices

Plus Much More!

School Apps NZ snApp mobile

Simple free download: In Google Play & App Store search 'SchoolAppsNZ' & choose **our school** once installed.

SPORTS

BASKETBALL: Well done to the families who all have registered with Basketball NZ. You can complete this yourself online via gameday or you had the opportunity, Thursday to go to Arena Manawatu and Tess Petley from Basketball Manawatu completed it for you. If you have not completed this yet we have Tess Petley coming into school on Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th May at 8am and she will be helping you through this process. You need to complete this registration for your child to PLAY. We would love all the families yet to complete registration here if possible. Basketball begins NEXT Thursday.

T-BALL

Hokowhitu Dolphins Under 7s

This Under 7s team consisted of Riley, Everly, Calvin, Adrit, Greta, William, Keepa, and Zac. The team played together really well. Starting with everyone wanting to field the ball, to working together to throw it to first base. Batting was our biggest improvement, with players hitting the ball well, and some even finding gaps in the opposition defence.



Hokowhitu Sharks Under 9s

At the start of the season prior to Christmas, the under 9s team include James, Ava, Delenaa, Te Kekerewai, Nate, Chase, Dylan and Benny. All played well and improved every game. Darcy was able to come join us after Christmas, as we lost a few players. With the help of some support from the Under 7s teams, we played some really good structured matches. By the end of the season, the players didn't want to use the Tee to hit the ball. Instead, they opted for the coach to deliver the ball in the air.

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.

If you have any sports related questions please feel free to contact

Carlee Hodge - c.hodge@hokowhitu.school.nz OR Stacey Tayler - s.tayler@hokowhitu.school.nz

Sports available at Hokowhitu School for 2025

We will let you know in upcoming newsletters when these sports are open on Kindo.

(Please note Rugby and Winter Soccer are CLUB sports, these ARE NOT offered at Hokowhitu School).

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Netball - Years 5 & 6	Basketball - Years 3 - 6	Futsal - Years 3 - 6	Summer Soccer - Years 0 - 6
Summer Hockey - Years 1 - 6	Winter Hockey - Years 1 - 6	T-Ball - Years 0 - 2	Netball - Years 0 - 4
Badminton - Years 5 & 6		Badminton - Years 4, 5 & 6	Summer Hockey - Years 0 - 6
			Touch Rugby - Years 0 - 6
			Volleyball - Years 4, 5 & 6
<i>These sports are available in term one and they close for registration in week 2 of term 1.</i>	<i>These sports are available in term two and three and they close for registration in week 9 of term 1.</i>	<i>These sports are available in terms three and/or four and registration closes in term 3.</i>	<i>These sports are available in term four and they close for registration in term 3.</i>

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



Te Kete Wakahuia

A big Hokowhitu and Waka welcome to **Zeen, Kaira, Finn and Japsimran**

Isabella - For always willing to help new children. Ka Pai!

Thomas - For being a super helper.

Xavier - Welcome to Hokowhitu School!

Reighleigh - For fantastic writing. Tino pai.

Calvin - For an excellent attitude towards all curriculum areas. You love learning!

Eva - For a brilliant start to the term. You are kind!

Te Kete Pounamu

A big Hokowhitu welcome to **Qawi** who has joined us in TKP this week!

Sam - Fantastic descriptive writing - Ka rawe.

Eli - For using punctuation in your writing!

Shay - Fantastic improvement in handwriting - Keep it up!

Lucy - For practising your amazing maths skills in the construction zone.

Carson - For showing atawhai with your buddy reading partner.

Zayn - For showing enthusiasm towards learning. Ka pai!

Jacob - For focusing well in maths and literacy. Ka pai!

Lusion - For exercising his maths brain and trying really hard at follow up.

Aisha - For putting great effort into your art work! Ka pai!

Te Kete Manawa

Emma - For an improvement in your basic facts including number bonds.

Theo - For your contributions to our inquiry discussion about kaitiakitanga.

Ivy - For creating an imaginative, thoughtful and fun room for your chick. Ka pai!

Mehar - For showing our maths class your impressive skip counting in 2s.

Zoe - For sharing your awesome ferry adventure to the kete.

Kiel - For correctly spelling and reading words with the spelling rule /oa/ during literacy.

Luke - For being a great role model during our buddy reading.

Hiku - For being a great scientist investigating your fingerprints.

Zara - For sharing your interesting photos of your horses.

Te Kete Aronui

Liam & Joanna - For summarising information well and putting it into your own words to show understanding.

Fred - For working hard to master equivalent fractions and showing great understanding!

Griffin - For an excellent start to our Kaitiakitanga inquiry.

Mia - For excellent spelling in writing lessons.

Doha - For beautiful cursive handwriting!

Eliza - For a great start to the term and being a super duper helper.

Georgia - For beautifully presented work during inquiry.

Te Kete Tangaroa

Welcome back to Term 2! You have all settled back into the routines well and are clearly ready to do some amazing learning this term.

A special welcome to **Rahman** who has joined us this term.



COMMUNITY NOTICES



FREE COMIC BOOK DAY
May 3, 2025



For Ages 9-13
Bookings Required

Ultrawild Future City **Comic Making Lab** with Steve Mushin

Join Steve for some wild design time making small comics or zines - about life in a super cool future imagined ultrawilded Palmerston North city.

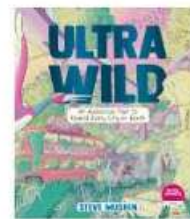
SATURDAY 3 MAY
10:30am-1pm

BOOKINGS REQUIRED email pncl@pncc.govt.nz

There are two Ultrawild workshops: Comic Making and Cardboard Modelling Lab - you may only register for one



FREE COMIC BOOK DAY
May 3, 2025



For Ages 9-13
Bookings Required

Ultrawild Future City **Cardboard Modelling Lab** with Steve Mushin

Join Steve for some wild design and construction time making your own ultrawilded buildings in an imagined ultrawilded Palmerston North city.

SATURDAY 3 MAY
2pm-4:30pm

BOOKINGS REQUIRED email pncl@pncc.govt.nz

There are two Ultrawild workshops: Comic Making and Cardboard Modelling Lab - you may only register for one

MOVED HOUSE?

Tell the
Electoral Commission,
so you can
vote!



VOTE.NZ/ENROL
0800 36 76 56

2025 BRICK BUILDING CHALLENGE

2025
Palmerston North
Brick Show

LET YOUR IMAGINATION RUN WILD AND
BUILD ANYTHING YOU LIKE WITHIN A
16X16 STUD BASEPLATE

Winners will receive an exclusive prize pack and
have the opportunity to have your build displayed
at the 2025 Palmy Brick Show. There will also be a
prize pack for the school with the most entries.

Entry Requirements:

- Primary School aged children (Year 0-8)
- Build on a 16X16 Stud Baseplate
- Max Height of 30cm
- Must include Child's Name, School and Year Group
- Max 3 Photos of build to be submitted.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRY: 18th May

Enter Now! Send your entry to:
palmybrickshow@well-lug.nz



31st May & 1st June

9am - 4:30pm

Arena 3

Presented by:



Sponsored by:



Supporting:



Get Tickets at
www.well-lug.nz/tickets
or at the door



MANAWATU SCHOOLS ORIENTEERING CHAMPS *Long Event*

SUNDAY 18TH OF MAY

Location:

**Northbrook-
Puketawa Farm
(near Colyton)**

Event fee:

**\$8 per student (SI hire
included)**

Categories :

- ▶ Secondary Senior Boys (Yr 12/13)
- ▶ Secondary Senior Girls (Yr 12/13)
- ▶ Secondary Intermediate Boys (Yr 10/11)
- ▶ Secondary Intermediate Girls (Yr 10/11)
- ▶ Secondary Junior Boys (Yr 9)
- ▶ Secondary Junior Girls (Yr 9)
- ▶ Year 7&8 Boys
- ▶ Year 7&8 Girls
- ▶ Primary Boys (Yr 5/6)
- ▶ Primary Girls (Yr 5/6)

Any further questions please email:
redkiwischoolstraining@gmail.com

Online entries open on Monday
the 7th of April and close on
Thursday the 8th of May.

**Register on the Red kiwi
orienteering website**



www.redkiwi.org.nz

PALMERSTON NORTH Preggy to Preschool + Primary

Garage Sale



**Bake
Sale
\$2**

**Gold
coin
entry.**

When?

10 May 2025
10am - 12noon

Where?

Palmerston North
Central Baptist Church,
190 Church St
(opposite The Warehouse)

Good quality pre-loved clothes,
equipment, accessories and toys
for pregnancy through to
0-5 year olds + primary.

Sold by local families at very
reasonable prices.

Raffle with great prizes
and our yummy Bake Sale.

STALLHOLDERS

Get in quick to secure
your spaces- bookings
made via humanitix.



www.facebook.com/palmyparentandchildexpo