



HOKOWHITU SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Friday 17th October 2025

Important Upcoming Events 2025

17 October	Final day for calendar/diary/notebook/fridge magnet art orders to be returned
21 October	5.30pm Board meeting - in the staffroom. Everyone welcome
23 October	NZEI (the Teacher's union) have called all eligible primary teachers/support staff/principals to strike on this day. See below for the information.
23/24 October	Year 4 sleepover and Ngā Manu visit
27 October	Labour Day public holiday, <u>School is closed</u>
30 October	TKW trip to the Michelle Robinson performance of The Magic Lamp
31 October	9am Whole school assembly - TKM sharing their learning. Everyone welcome
1 November	Kapa haka performance in the Square - 5pm
6 November	9am Years 4 - 6 athletic sports (postponement date is 10 November)
13 November	TKW ball. (Cuteness overload)
14 November	9am Whole school assembly TKP sharing some of their learning. Everyone welcome
21 November	House t-shirt day
25 November	Y1 - 3 fundamental skills display (postponement 27 November)
28 November	9am Whole school assembly - TKT sharing some of their learning, Everyone welcome
9 December (save this date)	5.00pm Christmas carnival 6.00pm Prizegiving 7.00pm Year 6 graduation
15 December	1.45pm Transition in 2026 classrooms
16 December	12.45pm Classes finish for 2025

Do keep checking this calendar, as there will be new items added as soon as possible!



UPDATE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Kia ora koutou,

PREPARATION FOR 2026

Preliminary work is now being done in placing children for next year. It is really helpful for you to let us know now if you are not planning to be at Hokowhitu School next year, or if there are any other considerations that you think we should be aware of. Once placements are made, it is not possible to make changes. Please don't assume all teachers will be in the same spaces as this year either - we often make changes.

Almost every kete in our school is composite -that means there are 2 year groups of children in each kete. A reminder that whether your child is (for example) a Year 5 in TKT or TKA, they will have the same experiences. The same applies to EACH of the other year levels. One of the reasons that we mostly have composite kete is to balance class numbers - no one wants their child in a class of 35 children (with only 22 in the class next door). Another important reason is getting the right social/emotional/academic balance - this way we can better meet individual needs.

EVERY child at our school spends 2 years in at least one kete area, they are not being held back or disadvantaged in any way. All the children know this - they just may need reminding from you.

Our class placement process is considerable - we certainly don't just pop names on a list. We gather data from teachers and create draft lists. These lists go back to the teams to see what the combinations look like to them. We then tweak and rework the lists until we have our final placements. We think about children who work well together and those who don't. We consider teacher strengths and personalities to match individuals. While we try hard to ensure everyone has children that they know with them, sometimes they may not be in the same kete as their best friend - this happens. They get an opportunity to work with different people and widen their friendship circles. We encourage you to be positive about class placements with your children, they take their cues from you.

Thanks so much in anticipation of your support.

CELEBRATING LEARNING

Thanks to everyone who made the time to come along to one of these evenings. It's a lovely time for you to spend some time 'engaging' with your tamariki - along with getting to look at some of their learning and chat with the kaiako that spend each day with them

KAPA HAKA PERFORMANCE

On Saturday 1st November our kapa haka group will be performing in the Square as part of the Diwali Mela. We are very excited about this amazing opportunity. A notice has gone home to those tamariki involved. Parents/caregivers please ensure that you have read the notice and return the permission form urgently - if your child would like to participate. Ngā mihi!

STRIKE ACTION

You may have seen recent media coverage about a planned NZEI Union teacher and support staff strike on Thursday 23rd October.

The formal strike notice has just been sent to school Boards. We have been advised that NZEI has decided to go ahead with the strike, it will officially issue the strike notice next Monday morning 20 October.

Our school Board will then review whether there are enough non-union staff available to safely offer (limited) supervision. If not, the Board may decide to fully close our school for the day on Thursday 23rd October. The Board will communicate its decision as soon as possible on Monday.

You have until 5pm today to complete the link below advising us that you will require supervision on Thursday. No registrations can be accepted after this time, as we need to make a final decision.

<https://forms.gle/Byyord3H1sGoUR699>

Thank you for your understanding and support.

PARKING AT PICK UP AND DROP OFF

Please remember not to stop or park on yellow lines around our crossings. When parents do this our road patrols find it very hard to see up the road. Also we have had incidents where people have parked over the dairy owner's driveway and blocked them in. Please be considerate and not park in the parks outside the dairy or block their driveway.

ATAWHAI AWARDS

At this morning's assembly the following people were recognised for showing atawhai (kindness) over recent weeks.

TKW: Finn - We love the way you have been kind to lots of different people. You are always willing to help the person by showing them to the toilet or where to put things exactly where they belong in the classroom. Nothing is ever a problem for you. Keep it up - this is a great trait to have.

TKP: Greta - is a quiet and diligent member of TKP. She has stepped up to be an active participant in class discussions and respectfully listens to others' ideas. Greta is a wonderful role model in our kete as she has amazing mat manners and uses her initiative. She is kind and helpful towards all children, with her gentle manner. Greta has built confidence in all areas of school this year. He whetu koe!

TKM: Romannah is kind and caring, always showing thoughtfulness toward others in the kete. She is a great friend. Romannah listens carefully, follows instructions well, and consistently gives her best effort. Her growth and positive attitude have been truly impressive and appreciated in Te Kete Manawa. Thank you for showing atawhai.

TKA: Brodie is a helpful and kind member of TKA. He shares his passions and hobbies with an enthusiasm that sparks thoughtful discussion. You can always rely on him to check on friends who may need a helping hand. We love to see your smiling face each day Brodie, keep up the good work.

TKT: Harrison brightens our kete with his kindness and positive attitude. He's always ready to lend a hand — whether it's helping teachers, supporting friends, or looking out for anyone who's hurt or needs a bit of care. His genuine thoughtfulness and cheerful nature make a real difference every day. Harrison, thank you for the warmth and kindness you bring to TKT — you make it a happier place for everyone.

STAFF: Mr Shirley - at the end of every day Mr Shirley shows atawhai towards all the turf football players by bringing in the goals and storing them safely inside. Thanks for showing atawhai in this way Andrew - they would NOT be safe without your mahi.

Ngā mihi kia koutou,
Lin Dixon

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Te Kete Wakahuia

Galaxie - We can see you stepping up Galaxie. It is great to see you showing enthusiasm and joining in with all learning. Ka pai!

Olivia - Ka rawe Olivia. You are sliding sounds together to read words and sentences. Keep up the great reading.

Freddie - for knowing how to play trash during maths - Ka Pai!

Tali - for coming up with a fantastic sentence during whole class writing

Nevaeh-Leigh - for great handwriting

Zeen - for great handwriting

Journey - for your beautiful letter formation with letters you know. Tino pai.

Zac - for reading your books with fluency and expression. Kā pai.

Madeline - for sharing facts about your favourite animal in oral language. Kā rawe.

Henry - for recalling your basic facts so fast! Tino pai.

Yoona - for reading with fluency. Kā Pai.



Te Kete Pounamu

Tanish - For sharing an original song with us at whānau mat time. Mahi tika ana!

Riley - For awesome enthusiasm when writing at literacy follow up. Ehara!

Emily - For being an amazing role model at our kete photographs. Ka pai!

Lily - for trying your best to write a dictated sentence independently. Tino pai!

Qawi - for trying your best to work out the tricky words when you are reading. Ka pai!

Greta - for being an active participant in whole class discussions. Ka rawe!

Harrison W - for your enthusiastic discussions and attention to detail during our firewise inquiry.

Amelia - for becoming faster, accurate and confident with your writing - Tino pai!

Eesa - for your thoughtful contributions to our firewise inquiry - Ka rawe!

Te Kete Manawa

Connor J - For great focus and time management skills in literacy.

Clyde Y - For having a great attitude and being a great role model in the kete.

Harper - For demonstrating a great improvement in your basic facts recall.

Oliver & Ansh - For awesome communication and teamwork during our STEAM challenge.

Adi - For showing honesty and handing in things that don't belong to you.

Ivy - For a great job articulating the when in an orientation for narrative writing.

Hanoch - For an eagerness to learn in maths.

Ashpreet - For confidently sharing your taonga of your grandparents with our class.

Maggie - For showing perseverance and determination with the multiplication algorithm.

Te Kete Aronui

Henry - for great teamwork skills in our group teamwork challenge.

Huatahi - for great teamwork skills in our group teamwork challenge.

Mia - for taking on your new Monitor Job with enthusiasm and reliability.

Griffin - for taking on your new Monitor Job with enthusiasm and reliability.

Congratulations to the following students who have improved their book work and earnt pen licences this week: **Pippa, Ali, Darcy, Leo Y, Lachie, Mia, Henry, Hanna, Anna, Joslyn.**

Te Kete Tangaroa

Ben - Writing a successful news article, using genre and context specific language

Lincoln - Enthusiasm and focus during learning time

Kate - Excellent work with volume and capacity

Carlos - Thoughtful contributions during health

K-J - Excellent work with reading comprehension

Rylan - Excellent work in geometry with 3D shapes

Matty - For outstanding effort in all things PE. You always go the extra mile (or lap!) - especially at fitness time this term!

Leon - For outstanding contribution to school duties with diligent flag duty

Mila L - For a great start to Term 4. You have been settled and focused in learning time. Well done!



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 **School cell phone** (txt or phone) - 027 357 9021

App - See how to download the App here: <https://hokowhituprimary.apps.school.nz/>



SPORT

Sports available at Hokowhitu School for 2025

All term 4 sports are now closed.

Coaches - If you would like to send through any player of the day's, photos or a summary of any of the games for the newsletter, we love to celebrate and share those in the newsletter. Please send through to office@hokowhitu.school.nz



THE EGG PROJECT



How to order:

- Jump onto the website www.theeggproject.co.nz
- Click up the top on the blue bit where it asks if you have a unique code.
- Use the code SCH-003 at to sign up, select what eggs you want as a one off or set up a subscription, confirm and pay.
- If you need help with anything—ordering, subscriptions, or just want to talk eggs—flick me an email. I'm just sitting here chatting with the eggs anyway (they're great listeners, but not so hot on tech support). Pip@theeggproject.co.nz

Hokowhitu School has fundraised more than \$2254.00 so far by having whānau purchase these eggs. Along with being so fresh, the eggs are also much cheaper than the equivalent at the supermarket.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

A poster for 'Tiny Turbos & Tiny Cyclones' rugby events. It features a background image of young children in rugby gear. The text includes: 'MANAWATU RUGBY' with a logo, 'TINY TURBOS & TINY CYCLONES' in large green letters, 'WHEN: WEDNESDAYS 5TH, 12TH, 19TH NOVEMBER', 'TIME: 3:30-4:30PM', 'WHERE: CET ARENA, FIELD 3', 'AGE: 3-6 YEARS OLD', and 'COST: FREE'. There is a QR code and the text 'Fill in the form to register interest'. At the bottom, it says 'ANY QUERIES, EMAIL: REBECCAA@MANAWATURUGBY.CO.NZ' and features logos for 'MANAWATU TURBOS' and 'CYCLONES'.



FUTURE TURBOS & FUTURE CYCLONES

WHEN: WEDNESDAYS

5TH, 12TH, 19TH NOVEMBER

TIME: 4:30-5:30PM

WHERE: CET ARENA, FIELD 3

AGE: 7-13 YEARS OLD

COST: FREE



Fill in the form to register interest



ANY QUERIES, EMAIL:

REBECCAA@MANAWATURUGBY.CO.NZ



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the children of Manawatu**