



HOKOWHITU SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Friday 24th October 2025

Important Upcoming Events 2025

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 (opening Diwali Mela) - 5pm
4 November	Vision and Hearing Visit (New Entrants who have not had/ completed their B4 School Check & Children who have no previous record.)
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) 5.30pm Board meeting in the staffroom - everyone welcome
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!

IMPORTANT
DATES



UPDATE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Kia ora koutou,

Thank you for your messages/actions of support regarding this week's industrial action. We very much appreciate the considerable effort so many of you took to be able to keep your tamariki with you (or whānau or friends) for the day yesterday.

DIWALI

Diwali, also called Deepavali or Deepawali, is the Hindu festival of lights, with variations celebrated in other Indian religions such as Jainism and Sikhism. It symbolises the spiritual victory of Dharma over Adharma, light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance.

As part of honouring our third strategic goal, ***'Recognising, supporting and celebrating the diversity of our ākonga'***, staff will give ākonga opportunities to share their experiences and celebrations at a time of the year that is significant to their culture.

Additionally, on Saturday 1st November our kapa haka group will be performing in the Square as part of the Diwali Mela opening celebrations. We are very excited about this amazing opportunity. Ngā mihi!

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 usually 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.

APPOINTMENTS WITH STAFF

If you wish to make an appointment to have a discussion with your child's whānau teacher regarding their progress or social interactions, please feel free to email them to set up a mutually convenient time.

'Goal setting' and 'Celebrating Learning' evenings were designed to give you the opportunity to speak with (potentially) the 2 or 3 kaiako (teachers) working with your child in the kete on a daily basis. They also offer the opportunity to spend some time for you and your child to enjoy looking over their books, enjoying art work on the walls, or simply interacting in a positive way together about their learning. We appreciate that work hours do not allow everyone to be able to do this before school on Whānau Fridays.

YEAR 4 SLEEPOVER AND TRIP TO NGA MANU

Everyone was in high spirits this morning at breakfast, and very excited to be getting on the bus to head to Ngā Manu for the day. It will be great to see them when they return this afternoon. I expect there will be some early nights in order for both tamariki, the parent helpers and kaiako!! My sincere thanks to the teaching team who have put many hours into the preparation of this event, and special thanks to the whānau support crew too. We simply couldn't manage without your help. Ngā mihi nui.



Ngā mihi kia koutou,
Wishing everyone a lovely long weekend. We look forward to seeing the ākonga on Tuesday morning!

Lin Dixon

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Te Kete Wakahuia

Welcome to school **Yazgül**. Waka Iti is very happy to have you.

Shinbee - Thanks for being a great leader and partner at Kete dance. Keep it up.

Ozias - Great work. You are trying hard to form letters correctly and neatly. Ka pai!

Ella - for amazing handwriting this week. Ka pai!

Maple - for amazing progress in handwriting. Whetū nui!

Finn - for always being willing to help someone with their learning. Ka Pai!

Manaki-Vai - for always giving new learning a try. Kia Kaha.

Lojain - for working hard in writing. Tino pai.

Hannah - for speaking clearly and sharing interesting facts at oral language time.

Bai - for modelling the correct dance sequences. Tino pai.

Methila - for sharing the Sri Lanka flag and national anthem. Ka Pai!



Te Kete Pounamu

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

Oakley - for trying hard to write neatly in all literacy activities!

Ahmad - for sharing your knowledge in class discussions - Tino pai!

Mila - for being a switched on mathematician - we love hearing your contributions!

Navya - for trying very hard to segment words when reading. Ka rawe!

Reeyana - for always listening well to instructions and being a diligent worker. Ka pai!

Kirill - for awesome story writing and editing at literacy follow up. Ehara!

Arlo - for sharing about your axolotl and what you feed it. Tino pai!

Sasha - for being a role model on the whāriki at whole class literacy. Ka rawe!

Kete Manawa

Madi, Thea, Frankie - For great teamwork in that each person had a role to play in their team for STEM.

Clyde V - For working hard during wordy study and trying hard to apply new spelling rules into your writing.

Sadie - For confidently sharing your thinking during maths and working hard on the speed of your basic facts knowledge.

Ayson - For showing kindness and always saying good morning and greeting teachers.

Ava - For awesome work learning and practicing her basic facts at home.

James - For a fantastic job with our 'Number of the Week' and working with an eight digit number.

Dan - For challenging herself in math and not giving up.

Claudia - For a great effort adding and subtracting fractions with the same denominator.

Sid - For working hard during word study and trying hard to apply new spelling rules into your writing.

Te Kete Aronui

Congratulations to the following students for getting their 'Pen Licence' for excellent book work: **Joy, Grisha, Ihaia, Joud.**

Te Whakaira - for writing an excellent 'topic sentence' in his paragraph writing.

Leo Z - for using the TIDE structure to write a well organised and informative paragraph.

Hanna - for using the TIDE structure to write a well organised and informative paragraph.

Tawhai - For showing kindness to your peers.

Te Kete Tangaroa

Ruby - For being a proactive P.A. in Turitea. You are always looking for ways to help others and be organised!

Baxter - For fantastic work measuring and estimating angles this week.

Maleigha-Rose - For working hard in maths and making great progress with your understanding of angles.

Max B - For his kindness when teaching a friend how to skateboard!

Ruiling - For caring for our new learner in TKT and making sure she feels supported.

Maxwell - For an awesome attitude and effort in his learning

Harrison - Improvement in cursive handwriting.

Tyler - Identify different writing forms and crafting sentences fit for purpose.

Samuel - Showing manawanui. Being prepared for learning and the attitude to match.



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



Hockey - Hokowhitu Hitters

It was a great start to the season for the Hokowhitu Hitters taking their first win against Whakaronga 5-nil.

They started the season wearing their shirts inside out as the other teams uniform was very similar to ours! They took it in their stride, played a fierce, but fair game. They communicated with each other well, and found strength in playing different positions on the turf throughout their game.

This week's players of the day went to both **Tyler** and **Harry**. Both absolute hurricanes on the turf!

Well done team!

- Nicole (Coach)



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



Measles in Manawatū - advice from Health NZ

You may be aware that there have been recent measles exposures in Manawatū. Please Click the link for more information [Measles Information Sheet](#).



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



TINY TURBOS & TINY CYCLONES

WHEN: WEDNESDAYS

5TH, 12TH, 19TH NOVEMBER

TIME: 3:30-4:30PM

WHERE: CET ARENA, FIELD 3

AGE: 3-6 YEARS OLD

COST: FREE



Fill in the form to register interest



ANY QUERIES, EMAIL:

REBECCAA@MANAWATURUGBY.CO.NZ





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