



HOKOWHITU SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Friday 15 August 2025

Important Upcoming Events 2025

20 August	RICOH sports tournament for selected players
23 August	Jump jam competition for selected teams
22 August	9am School assembly, TKW sharing some of their learning. Everyone welcome 1.30pm Y 4-6 Poetry and Speech finals
27 August	Kapa Haka Mini Fest at PNINS for Y 3 - 6 kapa haka roopu
29 August	Daffodil day, gold coin donation, wear yellow or green!
2 September	5.30pm Board meeting in the staffroom, everyone welcome
4 September	Northern Cluster - Performing Arts Festival for selected ākonga
5 September	House t-shirt day
9 September	Ballot (if required) for out of zone enrolments for Terms 1 and 2 2026
10 September	Final day for voting in Board elections
11 September	Market day- the ākonga will be selling items/goods/activities that they have made within their kete. More details to come
19 September	Scholastic book orders due
15 - 21 September	Māori language week
19 September	9am School assembly, TKA sharing some of their learning Last day of Term 3
6 October	8.50am School opens for Term 4

TIN CANS PLEASE

TKW tamariki are making some pencil tins to sell at market day. We are asking if you could please send any washed tin cans, with safe edges to school next week. There will be a bright green container on the deck to put them in.



UPDATE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Kia ora koutou

'Mālō e lelei'

Next week we will be celebrating Tongan Language week. The 2025 theme for Tonga Language Week is 'Ko 'etau lea, ko e fe'unu mahu'inga ia ki he mo'ui 'a e Tonga - Our language is a vital strand of our Tongan culture.'

This is an example of us honouring our third strategic goal: *Recognising, supporting and celebrating the diversity of our ākonga.*

BOOK WEEK

Book Week 2025 has been loads of fun! The 'dress as your favourite book character' day today was an absolute highlight. Thank you to everyone who participated in the fun!



MATHEX

On Friday, August 8th, we sent four teams to Mathex. This included two Year 5 teams and two Year 6 teams. This was held at the Awapuni Racecourse. The Year 5s were first, from 11 am to 12 pm. Our Year 5 A team did an amazing job to get sixth, with the challenge team also doing very well, earning a gold award. Our Year 6 A team got seventh, whilst our Year 6 challenge team was amazing, earning a gold award! This was held from 12 pm to 1 pm. The Mathex competition consists of two rounds: the creative and the quick fire. The quick fire has 20 questions and you have 15 minutes to solve them, whilst for the practical, we had six questions and we had 20 minutes to solve them. These questions were extremely hard.

Thanks to Mr Sloan for training the entire 2025 mathex squad.

By: Donnacha F and Amos S

MANAWATU ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS

This event was also held last Friday and our kura was represented by 5 teams. While the weather conditions were wet and cool, the Hokowhitu teams were 'on fire'.

Congratulations to everyone who represented us, and special congratulations to Maximus, Maggie and Mila L who took out FIRST place in the Year 5/6 division of the competition. This is an outstanding achievement! Thanks to Mr Hawkins who trained the teams for this event.



PAID UNION MEETINGS

NZEI, the primary teachers' union, has called teachers to attend meetings to discuss the current offers for their new collective agreement. These meetings are from 1.30pm on the 27th or 29th August. Our staff have decided to split up and attend these meetings over both days - this means we can have sufficient staff to operate within each kete without needing to ask you to take your tamariki home early. We may need to run a slightly modified programme for these afternoons, however the usual 2.45 or 3.00pm pick ups will apply.

ATTENDANCE

A reminder, that once a child has enrolled in a school, the law requires them to attend regularly every day (unless unwell or special circumstances apply). This is unlike early childhood settings where you can take your child out when it is convenient. Please avoid term time holidays where you can - the Ministry does not consider them to be justified absences.

Last week we had 75% of the ākonga attending regularly (MOE considers regular attendance to be 90%). Our winter target is 78%. Of course winter illness is a factor, and we absolutely don't expect unwell children to come to school, but please focus on them being here every single day so that they are well enough to be here. Every day does count, continuity in attendance is a factor in both social and academic success at school. If you are having difficulty with your child's attendance, please let us know - we will do our best to help.

BOARD ELECTIONS

Have you received your voting forms yet? If so, please remember to cast your vote and deliver the form to the ballot box placed in the office area. Election day voting closes at the end of the day on Wednesday 10th September.

Ngā mihi kia koutou,

Lin

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

SPORTS

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 Registration coming up soon	Summer Soccer - Years 0 - 6
Summer Hockey - Years 1 - 6	Winter Hockey - Years 1 - 6	Badminton - Years - 4, 5 & 6	Netball - Years 0 - 4
Badminton - Years 5 & 6		Volleyball - Years 4,5& 6 Registration is open now!	Summer Hockey - Years 0 - 6
			Touch Rugby - Years 0 - 6
			Volleyball Years 4, 5 & 6 T-Ball - Under 7s and under 9s
<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>

If you have any sports related questions please feel free to contact our sports coordinator Carlee Hodge - c.hodge@hokowhitu.school.nz OR Stacey Tayler - s.tayler@hokowhitu.school.nz

Volleyball Year 4, 5 & 6 2025

\$40.00

Volleyball is being offered in term 4 this year for years 4, 5 & 6 students.

Term 4 Dates: WEDNESDAYS

October: 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th

November: 5th, 12th, 19th

This change to Wednesdays is to help with any clashes with other summer sports.

Venue: Central Energy Trust Arena 3

Game Time: Wednesdays, 3:45–5:00pm (7 weeks of play)

Games will now be 30 minutes. 13 minutes game play, 4 minute break, 13 minute gameplay.

Scoring rules: 3 sets to 25. We have made this change to more closely mimic the transition into intermediate level games.

Fee for season is \$40 per player (Doesn't include uniform hire)

Registrations will close on 29th August 12pm (unless teams fill up prior).

NO late entries will be accepted.

If you need a uniform, please make sure you put the Uniform Hire option in your cart.



Cricket

For younger tamariki (school Years 1-4)

Smash Play or Smash IT! programmes

Information can be found on our website -

<https://www.sporty.co.nz/mca/smash-cricket/smash-cricket?em=1>

Players will register directly with MCA.

For older tamariki (school years 5-8)

Smash Yard! & Yeah! Girl's Smash Cricket

Register via school system.

Manawātū Cricket Association

Yeah! Girls Smash

Yeah! Girls is a girls only programme developed by New Zealand Cricket which promotes girls playing cricket - but not as you know it! Yeah! Girls Smash is a modified programme that mixes the confidence and the skills building activities that Yeah! Girls is widely known for, with games of Smash Yard! Cricket. The best part of the programme is the girls get to choose what they do! Our experienced activators will facilitate a session based on what the girls want.

Yeah! Girls Smash is being offered in Term 4 2025 is open to all girls in Year 5&6 or 7&8 at school. You can register via your school!!



Palmerston North HUB

Year 7&8s, Tuesdays at Onley Park, Park Road from 4-5pm, Tuesday 14th October - Tuesday 18th November

Year 5&6s, Thursdays at Ongley Park, Park Road from 4-5pm, Thursday 16th October - Thursday 20th November

Feilding HUB

Year 5&6 & Year 7&8's Fridays at Kowhai Park from 5.15pm - 6.15pm, Friday 17th October - Friday 21st November




SMASH YARD! CRICKET IS BACK.....

TERM 4 2025

SIGN UP AT SCHOOL
NO COACHES NEEDED
NO MANAGERS NEEDED
\$25 PER PLAYER
6 WEEKS OF GAMES

GIRLS ONLY YEAH! GIRLS
SMASH, SAME TIME & PLACE

YEAR 7&8

TUESDAY, ASHHURST 3.30-4.30PM
OR ONGLEY PARK 4-5PM
FRIDAY, KOWHAI PARK 5.15-6.15PM

YEAR 5&6

TUESDAY, ASHHURST 3.30-4.30PM
THURSDAY, ONGLEY PARK 4-5PM
FRIDAY, KOWHAI PARK 5.15-6.15PM

WANT TO PLAY CRICKET?

\$25 per term

SMASH CRICKET

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

ARE YOU AGED 5-10?

For more info scan QR code





Any questions please email Carlee Hodge or Stacey Tayler c.hodge@hokowhitu.school.nz or s.tayler@hokowhitu.school.nz

Hockey

Hokowhitu Redsticks Year 3&4s:

The season started off with 11 kids with a good mix of year 3 & 4's. This was also an introduction for the year 3's playing twice the length of the field from the previous year (a big jump). At first, it was all about who wanted to score a goal, everyone rushed after the ball like a swarm, and a little bit of interesting tackling by swinging their sticks, hoping to get the ball. So, we set out some goals of working together to pass the ball to each other. Running and playing in positions and learning how to tackle safely with a flat stick. During the season, all players improved and started to show some really good hockey skills and team work. It was pleasing to see them knowing that if they can't push the ball forward on one side, they would pass the ball back to our defenders to then pass across to the other side, and pass up to the strikers (transferring the ball). This resulted in the team scoring half their goals from these set plays. And both myself and the parents really enjoyed seeing the team structure coming together. Big improvements from Rita and Te Kekerewai over the season, as well as Connor, always giving their best. Our year 3's worked well to adjust to the bigger field, and had some really good understanding of structure from their experience of playing soccer. Looking forward to seeing their progress for next year's winter season, and good luck for the players moving up to the year 5 & 6 grade.



Hokowhitu Pups Year 1&2s:

The pups consisted of 6 players with their manager Alex (Freya's mother). They were a bunch of excited kids that had to play every Sunday morning at 8:00 am.

Like with any first timers, they all wanted to rush after the ball like a swarm, and chop wood at the hockey ball. With a bit of guidance of positioning and hearing their names of who can contest the ball, it started to work really well.

Towards the end of the season, players weren't just trying to hit the ball once they got it, but actually carrying the ball towards the goal, and also looking for their team mates to make some good passes.

There were some great moments of the team working together to get the ball through the opposition and then running with the ball to score a goal, as well as some good defending and tackling.

All kids had their good games and special moments, but special mention to Mischka for always playing consistently well throughout the whole time she played.

Good luck for the year 2s moving up to the next grade, and looking forward to seeing the development with the year 1's for next year's winter season.



ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Te Kete Wakahuia

Waka Iti has been very lucky to have three new students join our class this week. Wishing **Shinbee**, **Layla** and **Nina** a very warm welcome to Hokowhitu School.

Ozias - For showing a fantastic attitude and lots of enthusiasm towards learning.

Amy - Well done on learning letters sounds and blending these to read words.

Honatana - for sliding his sounds together to read words.

Thomas - for fantastic handwriting!

Emily - for joining in when on the mat.

Hania - for speaking clearly and loudly about the cupcake she made.

Keepa - for working so hard on your writing. Tino pai.

Linaya - for super maths work. Kā pai.

Bai - for sensational spelling. Tino pai.

Henry - for fluent reading. Kā pai!



Te Kete Pounamu

Worood - For creating a wonderful natural Māori pattern collage. Ka rawe!

Navya - For showing the 'e' for enthusiasm in STRIVE during body percussion at assembly. Tino pai!

Namish - For creating excellent shapes using different objects in his natural Māori pattern collage. Ka pai!

Tanish - For stepping up and showing resilience when he accidentally dropped his waka. Ka rawe!

Jacob - For showing atawhai towards our kete by tidying the play equipment in the green bin most days. Mahi tika ana!

Harrison W - For amazing pronunciation and delivery of your pepeha - Ka rawe!

Carson - For trying hard with your writing - Keep it up!

Lily - For participating and contributing to class discussions- we love having you in TKP Lily!

Ivan - For using materials in maths to work out solutions to problems!

Te Kete Manawa

Abdu - For showing great understanding when adding 2 digit numbers with regrouping.

Adi - For working hard to form letters correctly and use a consistent handwriting style.

Uatala - For working hard in maths to add numbers together with accuracy.

Vanshika - For showing great understanding when adding 2 digit numbers with regrouping.

Clyde Y - For your willingness to take on and action feedback in handwriting.

Eli - For working hard during literacy time and sharing your thoughts and opinions during discussion time.

Mehar - For trying hard to start with the biggest numbers when adding in math.

Ashpreet - For trying hard to listen in math instruction so you can correctly add 2 digit numbers.

Blake - For working hard in maths by sharing your opinion when explaining the likelihood of different events occurring

Te Kete Aronui

Amendment: The following students were omitted from the newsletter last week:

Daeun & Qasim - For amazing work with timestables and multiplication.

Joy, Georgia & Madison - For great work in art when creating your pounamu pieces.

Isla F - For excellent reasoning and justification in maths discussion.

Hanna - For an excellent Pounamu design.

Pippa - For confidence when using multiplication strategies with 2 digit numbers.

Week 5 - certificates are as follows:

Ryder, Leo Y, Lukson - For showing courage and commitment by stepping up to deliver great speeches.

Kinza - For creating an amazing comic book in literacy!

Henry - For a very entertaining and well presented poem!

Leo Z & Manik - For excellence in written multiplication methods.

Te Kete Tangaroa

Benjamin B - For excellent work on getting his speech ready

Shahzain - For presenting his speech about wolves

Haouxuan - For presenting his speech about pandas

Isabella - For consistently striving in Maths

Bailey - For being proactive in learning and asking for help when unsure.

Jordyn - For settling into TKT. You know our routines and are working hard to be organised and ready for each subject.

Chase - For consistently stepping up. You are a positive and hard working member of TKT

Mason M - For your commitment to improve your skills in touch typing. Your hard work is paying off!

Yummy Sticker Collection

We are once again collecting yummy stickers here at school, sticker charts are available to download on the yummy fruit website - www.yummyfruit.co.nz OR we have some copies in the school office. You can hand these to Mrs Orr or the school office.

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 \$2176.00 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



