

# HOKOWHITU SCHOOL

## Newsletter

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026



### Upcoming Events

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 29 <sup>th</sup> May   | School Assembly 9am - TKW<br>Final day for Lucky Book Club orders  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> June   | Public holiday for the King's Birthday. <b>SCHOOL CLOSED</b>   |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> June   | Year 3 Marae Visit   |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> June   | Year 2 Marae Visit   |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> June   | 11.30am - 2.30pm Year 5/6 Interschool Cross Country for selected ākonga<br>House Meetings  |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> 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 |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> June  | School Assembly 9am - TKM  |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> June  | School Production - More details to follow   |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> July   | End of Term 2  |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> July  | Term 3 begins  |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> August | Year 5 Kind Hearts Trip  |

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



# Update from the Principal



Kia ora koutou,

A huge congratulations to our chess team, who won the local Chess Competition on Tuesday! This is the third year in a row that Hokowhitu School has taken out this title—an incredible achievement. A massive thank you to Mr Evans for the time he spends running the chess club, coaching, and supporting our players. Your dedication makes a huge difference.

## School Production Update

Our Kete teachers are officially starting to prepare for the school production! Rehearsals for main and supporting roles are already underway, and dance practices will begin this coming week. Please keep a lookout for emails or notes in school bags with extra information regarding what your child may need for their costume.

## Consultation Survey

The first part of our community consultation process begins today with our community survey, which has been emailed out to all whānau. You can also access it directly via this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KQ3YKYN>

We highly value your input as we shape our future direction. To say thank you for your time, everyone who completes the survey can enter their children into a draw to win one of several **\$20 Warehouse Stationery vouchers**. Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts with us!

## Professional Learning Update

Our staff put our recent Teacher Only Day to excellent use. Teachers engaged in highly valuable professional learning focused on the revised Mathematics and Statistics Curriculum, which complemented and built upon our team's previous training. Meanwhile, our learning support staff completed a vital workshop on "Understanding Behaviour and Responding Safely."

Additionally, several staff members recently attended an intensive two-day course on Writing and are already sharing their insights with the rest of the teaching team. As a school, we heavily invest in staff development to ensure we are continually refining our practices to best meet the needs of our tamariki.

## In Memory - Philippa Youngs

On a sad note, former Hokowhitu classroom teacher and dedicated volunteer **Philippa Youngs** has passed away. As a school, we want to acknowledge Philippa's vast contributions to our Kura, which spanned many years. A special thank you to Mrs Gifford-Moore, who has written a tribute (read below). We send our deepest condolences to Philippa's family and friends during this time.

Ngā mihi nui,

Reece Hawkins  
Tumuaki / Principal



## TRIBUTE - PHILLIPA YOUNGS

It is with sadness that we share the passing of retired teacher Philippa Youngs, who passed away on Saturday evening.

Philippa was a valued member of the Hokowhitu School community from 1988 to 2005 where she dedicated many years to teaching and supporting our tamariki with care and commitment.

After retiring, Philippa continued to contribute to the school as a volunteer. She spent many hours making learning resources and supporting students who required extra assistance. Philippa regularly purchased resources to support learners and used her initiative to create practical materials and opportunities that benefited both students and staff.

Philippa's dedication to education and the support she provided to the many students she taught at Hokowhitu School will leave a lasting impact and she will be remembered by many.

- Priscilla Gifford Moore

## MANAWATU CHESS TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS

On Tuesday we sent two teams to compete in the Manawatu Chess Teams Championships. Both teams competed very well with all players showing their skills after weeks of trials and coaching here at school. Our B team performed especially well placing 6th, an amazing effort for many first time competition players! Meanwhile our A team was in a super tight battle with Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Tamaki Nui a Rua (from Dannevirke). We were trailing by a single match point going into the last round but managed to level the score with 10 match points each. As the final results were announced... We won by countback!! That makes 3 championships in a row for Hokowhitu School Chess!! Huge congratulations to all the players, and the parents for their support on the day.

Mr Evan - Chess Coach



# Achievement Awards



## Te Kete Wakahuia

**Amy** - For working hard on your learning at home and at school. Tino pai rawa.

**Nina** - For working hard to learn your basic facts to 10. Ka pai.

**Zeen** - For fantastic handwriting. Ka pai.

**Aquila** - For fantastic handwriting. Ka pai.

**Hunter** - For teaching us a game.

**Gurrehmat** - For super neat handwriting.

## Te Kete Pounamu

**Lana** - For displaying excellent rhythm when using rākau.

**Emily** - For a wonderful improvement with your independent writing - Ka rawe!

**Aarav** - For showing a positive attitude towards learning in maths. Ka pai!

**Ava** - For demonstrating your coordination skills while using rākau. Ka mau te wehi!

**Casey** - For being a focused and 'switched on' mathematician. Ka pai!

**Mila** - For keeping to the beat and using the correct actions while using the rākau. Tino pai!

## Te Kete Manawa

**Alex** - For your enthusiasm and engagement in our drama sessions.

**Hanoch** - For demonstrating awesome self-management skills and being a great role model.

**Namish** - For working well and listening to instructions and taking note of the vowel patterns in literacy.

**Carson** - For great music reading and playing the boomwhackers.

**Quan** - For working hard to manage yourself and your belongings in the classroom.

**Yarik** - For listening carefully in literacy and recalling previous learning.

**Ahmad** - For your wonderful effort in our daily word study by using your sound knowledge to spell words

**Eli** - For your fast and accurate recall of multiplication facts.

**Worood** - For great addition with regrouping.

## Te Kete Aronui

**Benny** - For showing outstanding perseverance during literacy, especially during the code and handwriting.

**Ansh** - For always doing the right thing and working hard during writing.

**Manha** - For showing enthusiasm for learning about our school production item.

**Finley** - For writing an informative report about trees.

**Eli** - For showing enthusiasm when learning Japanese writing and vocabulary.

## Te Kete Tangaroa

**Annie** - Making great connections with our reading topic.

**Yolisa** - For always stepping up and showing manawanui!

**Afokoula** - Adding decimal numbers correctly using an algorithm.

**Eugene** - For being extra helpful in the classroom before school each day.

**Tyson** - Stunning work on Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) in Manawatu.

**Grisha** - For always being prepared for learning throughout the day.

**Zareesh** - For a fantastic effort in the Chess Competition. Congratulations.

**Vladimir** - For fantastic paragraph writing this term.

**Noah** - For showing respect and responsibility. You are an excellent PA!



# Sport

| <b>Term 1</b><br><b>Wed 4/2-Thur</b><br><b>2/4</b> | <b>Term 2</b><br><b>Mon 20/4-Fri</b><br><b>3/7</b> | <b>Term 3</b><br><b>Mon 20/7-Fri</b><br><b>25/9</b> | <b>Term 4</b><br><b>Mon 12/10-Fri 16/12</b> |
|--|--|---|---|
|--|--|---|---|

Sports you will register through **kindo** to play for Hokowhitu School -

<https://shop.kindo.co.nz/>

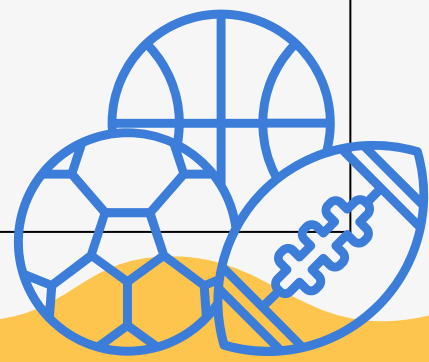
\*Uniform hire is required for all sports except Netball

**COACHES** - If you can, please send through a photo of the players of the day for the newsletter. We love to share the kids achievements! [office@hokowhitu.school.nz](mailto:office@hokowhitu.school.nz)

|   |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|
| <p><b>Badminton - yrs 5 and 6</b><br/>(Registration - kindo beginning term 1)</p> <p><b>Summer Hockey - All yrs</b><br/>(Registration - kindo beginning term 1)</p> <p><b>Netball - All yrs</b><br/>(Registration -kindo beginning term 1)</p> <p><b>T-Ball - yrs 1-3</b><br/>(This team is continued from Term 4)</p> <p><b>*All Term 1 Sports registration's are now closed</b></p> | <p><b>Basketball - yrs 3-6</b><br/>(Registration - kindo term 1)</p> <p><b>Winter hockey - All yrs</b><br/>(Registration - kindo term 1)</p> <p><b>Table Tennis - yrs 4-6</b><br/>(Registration - kindo term 1)</p> <p><b>*All Term 2 Sports registration's are now CLOSED</b></p> | <p><b>Badminton - yrs 4-6</b><br/>(Registration - kindo term 2)</p> <p><b>Basketball and winter hockey carry on this term.</b></p> | <p><b>T-Ball - yrs 1-3</b><br/>(Registration - kindo term 3)</p> <p><b>Summer hockey - All yrs</b><br/>(Registration - kindo term 3)</p> <p><b>Summer soccer - All yrs</b><br/>(Registration - kindo term 3)</p> <p><b>Volleyball - yrs 4-6</b><br/>(Registration - kindo term 3)</p> <p><b>Futsal - yrs 3-6</b><br/>(Registration - kindo term 3)</p> <p><b>Netball - All yrs</b><br/>(Registration - kindo term 3)</p> <p><b>Touch - All yrs</b><br/>(Registration - kindo term 3)</p> |
|---|--|--|--|

Sports available through outside agencies  
See this link for ALL sports in the Manawatu -  
<https://www.sportmanawatu.org.nz/findasport>

|  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
| <p><b>Junior rugby</b><br/><a href="https://www.manawaturugby.co.nz/community-rugby-1/junior-1">https://www.manawaturugby.co.nz/community-rugby-1/junior-1</a></p> <p><b>Winter soccer</b><br/><a href="https://www.centralfootball.co.nz/competitions-1/fixturesresults-1/manawatu-2">https://www.centralfootball.co.nz/competitions-1/fixturesresults-1/manawatu-2</a></p> |  |  | <p><b>Tennis</b><br/><a href="https://clubspark.kiwi/TennisManawatu">https://clubspark.kiwi/TennisManawatu</a></p> <p><b>Cricket</b><br/><a href="http://www.sporty.co.nz/mca">www.sporty.co.nz/mca</a></p> |
|--|--|--|---|





Mrs Hodge and Ms Wills were excited to be able to get along and see Hokowhitu's basketball team play this week. It was wonderful seeing the team working together, playing hard and showing fabulous sportsmanship at the conclusion of the game. Thank you to everyone involved in the coaching, transport and support of this terrific team.



## 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](mailto: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/>

## FREE COUNSELLING AT SCHOOL



In partnership with Gumboot Friday, your child can receive up to four free counselling sessions - right here at school. This support can only be accessed once per child.



I'm Counsellor Dave. I've worked with children of all ages since 2007, supporting tamariki with anxiety, anger, low mood, and big feelings in a safe and caring way.

Sessions take place at school, but bookings must be made by whānau through Naomi Thompson, Learning Support Coordinator.

To arrange support for your child in 2026. Please contact Naomi Thompson [n.thompson@hokowhitu.school.nz](mailto:n.thompson@hokowhitu.school.nz) for more information and the referral documents.

<https://www.talkingworks.co.nz/listing/dave-dawber/>





all things good



**JOIN THE EGG PROJECT FUNDRAISER TODAY!**

FREE RANGE DOZEN - \$9.50  
CERTIFIED ORGANIC DOZEN \$11.50

SET UP A SUBSCRIPTION OR ORDER YOUR EGGS ON THE WEBSITE BEFORE TUESDAY AND THEY WILL BE READY FOR COLLECTION FROM THE OFFICE ON THURSDAY AFTER SCHOOL. WE WILL GIVE THE SCHOOL BACK \$100 PER DOZEN.

YOUR UNIQUE CODE SCH-003

**WWW.THEEGGPROJECT.CO.NZ**

# The Egg Project

- Jump onto the website [www.theeggproject.co.nz](http://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](mailto:Pip@theeggproject.co.nz)

Hokowhitu School has fundraised more than \$3862 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



IN ASSOCIATION WITH **PALMY**  
PAPAKOIA  
SOUTH  
ISLAND

PLATINUM SPONSOR  
**TOYWORLD**  
where the best toys come from

**2026  
Palmerston North  
Brick Show**

**BLOCK OUT YOUR WEEKEND  
THIS KING'S BIRTHDAY!**

Kind Hearts

|  |  |  |   |
|--|--|--|---|
| <p>SATURDAY<br/><b>30<br/>MAY</b><br/>9AM - 4.30PM</p> | <p>SUNDAY<br/><b>31<br/>MAY</b><br/>9AM - 4.30PM</p> | <p><b>ARENA 3, PASCAL ST,<br/>PALMERSTON NORTH</b></p> <p>CHILD \$5   ADULT \$7<br/>FAMILY PASS \$20<br/>DOOR SALES   EFTPOS AVAILABLE</p> | <p><b>WELL-LUG</b> A WELLINGTON LEGO®<br/>USER GROUP EVENT</p> <p>ONLINE<br/>TICKETS<br/>AVAILABLE<br/>WELL-LUG.NZ/PNS</p> <p>FOLLOW US<br/><b>WELL-LUG</b></p> |
|--|--|--|---|



Manawatu's Matariki Winter Festival

## Month-Long Light Festival

**27 June to 31 July 2026**



- **27 June**  
**Grand Launch**  
Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June 5pm to 7pm  
Feilding town Square. **FREE ENTRY**
- **25 July**  
**Drone Light Show**  
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July 5pm to 7pm  
Manfeild Oval. **GOLD COIN DONATION**
- **PLUS A MONTH of Events & Activities**

Community Light Project  
Matariki Star Hunt  
Business Window Lighting Trail  
Hospitality Challenge:  
People's Choice - The Brightest Dish  
Matariki Farmers Market **10 July**  
Late Night Thursdays & More to come!



## NEW ZEALAND RED CROSS BOOK SALE

### King's Birthday Weekend 2026

Friday 29 May, 10am-8pm  
Saturday 30 May, 10am-6pm  
Sunday 31 May 10am-4pm  
Monday 1 June, 10am-2pm

### Barber/ Bell Hall

Waldegrave Street, Palmerston North

**100,000+ books** Games, DVDs, Jigsaws, Music, comics and more!



*All proceeds go to New Zealand Red Cross in their mission to help improve the lives of vulnerable people here in New Zealand and overseas.*



# TINY TOTS FOOTBALL

Monday 8th June - Monday 6th July  
(5 weeks)

Venue: Barber Hall, Palmerston North

Session 1 - 4:00pm - 4:45pm  
Session 2 - 5:00pm - 5:45pm

Ages: 2-4 years | COST \$60

SCAN ME!



For more info:  
caitlin@centralfootball.co.nz

2026 New Year  
New Students  
Welcome

Goju Ryu  
**KARATE**



沖繩剛柔流

**www.karate.org.nz**  
**GOJU RYU KARATE**  
**PALMERSTON NORTH**

LOCATION: Hokowhitu School Hall  
Albert St, Palmerston North

TIMES: Tue / Fri Juniors 6pm-7pm  
Seniors 7pm - 8pm  
(advanced - 8:30pm)

CONTACT: Clayton, 021 2082 012  
EMAIL: claytonsensei@gmail.com  
WEB: www.karate.org.nz

沖繩剛柔流