HOKOWHITU SCHOOL

Newsletter

Friday 23rd October 2026

HOKOWHITU SCHOOL

Upcoming Events

26th October	Labour Day - Public holiday - **School Closed**
27th October	Board Meeting
30th October	House T-Shirt Day
3rd November	TKT trip to PNINS Production at The Regent
5th November	School Athletics Day - Year 4-6
6th November	School Assembly - TKM
20th November	School Assembly - TKP
26th November	Parent Information Evening - Reporting to Parents 5:15pm Ross Orientation for Year 6 Students
1st December	Fundamentals - Year 1-3 Board Meeting
4th December	School Assembly - TKW
8th December	Christmas Carnival & Prizegiving
11th December	Reports go home
16th December	Term 4 Ends at **12.45pm**

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

Update from the Principal



Kia ora koutou e te whānau,

Week 2 of Term 4 has put on some fantastic weather for us! Many of our classes have been out making the most of the sunshine to hone their athletics skills in preparation for our Year 4–6 Athletics Day on **Thursday 5th November.**

With this great weather and heading into summer the students do spend more time outside, so please make sure your child has a pōtae (Hat). You may even want to sunblock them up in the morning before coming to school.

STRIVE Focus: Ngā Whakapuke – Enthusiasm There is a huge amount of enthusiasm around the school at the moment, which is wonderful to see! Ngā Whakapuke (Enthusiasm) is our STRIVE focus for the next couple of weeks. We want our learners to love learning and actively participate in a positive way. This value is all about mindset focusing on the bright side and looking for the positive qualities in yourself, your peers, and everything you interact with throughout the day. When we approach life with enthusiasm and a positive outlook, it sets us up for a great day!

Year 4 Sleepover & Ngā Manu Trip On Thursday night, the school was full of excitement for our annual Year 4 sleepover! When I arrived at school this morning, our tamariki, teachers, and parent helpers were all up enjoying breakfast together, getting ready for an awesome day down at Ngā Manu. A huge thank you to the teachers who put so much effort into organising this event and staying overnight to make it possible. Also, a massive thank you to our amazing parent helpers who gave up their time to stay the night and support our tamariki and kaiako on the trip.

Friendly Reminders

- **2027 Planning & Class Organisation:** We are beginning the process of sorting classes for next year. Please let the office know as soon as possible if your child will not be returning to Hokowhitu in 2027. Likewise, if you know of anyone moving into our area, or have preschool-aged children looking to enrol for 2027, please encourage them to get in touch with us!
- **Parent Information Evening:** Mark your calendars for Thursday 26th November at 5:15pm for our Parent Information Evening focused on reporting to parents.
- **Labour Day Holiday:** A reminder that the school is closed on Monday for Labour Day.

I hope this great weather stays around for the long weekend so everyone can get out and about enjoying quality time with whānau.

Ngā mihi nui,

Reece Hawkins

ATAWHAI AWARDS

At this morning's assembly the following people were recognised for showing atawhai (kindness) towards others.

TKW: Amy - Amy is a kind and caring member of our kete who always shows atawhai. Amy is always willing to help both kaiako and the children. She quietly keeps our classroom and kete tidy. Amy also shows atawhai by always following our instructions and doing the right thing. She is a natural leader and role model for listening. Thank you for always showing atawhai at Hokowhitu School Amy. We are so lucky to have you.

TKP: Samu - Samu displays atawhai every single day in our kete. He is the first one who will give a genuine compliment to his peers for doing great work, being an awesome team member or recognising the effort someone has made to complete an activitiy. Samu has exceptional manners. He always says thank you, please and excuse me to both kaiako and his peers. Samu is the first to volunteer when any jobs need to be completed in the classroom, and often does this before being asked! Thank you for displaying atawhai in so many ways Samu - He whētu koe!

TKM: Everly - Everly, with your bright smile and a positive attitude every day, she shows wonderful manaakitanga (kindness and care) by always helping and encouraging her classmates. When someone moves up a level in Lexia she is always cheering them on. Her dedication and hard work bring so much joy to our kete—awesome mahi!

TKA: Darcy T - Darcy is a wonderful example of atawhai in Te Kete Aronui. She has started Term 4 exceptionally well, stepping up with a warm, caring heart to take our new student under her wing and show her the ropes at Hokowhitu School. Darcy has consistently gone out of her way to help teach her, demonstrating endless patience, kindness, and respect. Whether she is comforting a peer or leading by example, Darcy brings a bright, helpful, and inclusive energy to our classroom every single day. Thank you for being such a thoughtful role model, Darcy, we are so lucky to have you in TKA!

TKT: Noah - Noah is a true example of atawhai at Hokowhitu School. He always treats others with kindness, friendliness and respect. His gentle, caring nature helps those around him feel welcome and valued. He brings a happy, enthusiastic attitude to our kete and spreads kindness through his thoughtful actions and warm smile. Ka pai for being such a kind and caring member of TKT!



Achievement Awards

Te Kete Wakahuia

Olivia - For being able to write your sentences on your own. Tino pai.
Taiamoni - For working so hard on your writing this week. Ka pai!
Ocean - For fantastic handwriting. Ka rawe.
Aquila - For showing perseverance when weaving during kete play. Ka rawe.
Yazgul - For writing an interesting sentence at writing time. Tino pai!
Mikaere - WOW! You have been finishing set learning tasks with Whaea Lela. Tino pai rawa.
Finn - You are striving to always do your best with all your written and colouring tasks. The standard of your work is outstanding!
Leon - You are working hard to form letters and numbers correctly. Ka rawe!
Kaia - Thank you for being a fantastic role model to the new children in our class. Tino pai!
Carter - Awesome job for striving to form letters correctly and sit them on the line. Ka pai!

Te Kete Pounamu

Heela - For reading with increased fluency - Tino pai!
Manaki-Vai - For being focused during buddy reading - keep it up!
Pippa - For your amazing knowledge about fractions - you are a fraction master!
Ellie R - For fantastic writing at literacy follow up using your imagination. Ka pai!
Methila - For sharing your awesome knowledge about the solar system with us. Ka mau te wehi!
Tiesha - For excellent sentence construction at literacy workshop using heart words. Ka wani kē!
Mizgine - For being a 'whizz' at reading the heart words. Ka pai!
Reighleigh - For adding extra interesting ideas into your writing. Tino pai!
Sanumi - For focusing well in mathematatics and being a super star at division. Ka rawe!

Te Kete Manawa

Tanish - For stepping up and trying to complete work quickly.
Jacob - For trying to work out more answers in his maths review independently.
Alex - For listening to feedback and making necessary changes in literacy.
Arlo - For reading instructions and knowing the properties of 3D shapes.
Hazel - For being able to make a prediction and then adjust it based on additional information.
Cyrus - For working really hard to slope your letters in handwriting.
Eli - For doing a great job identifying and retelling stories using the key elements of a narrative.
Sia - For being a kind, caring class member, who will take the time to help others out.
Worood - For your determination and perseverance when skateboarding.

Te Kete Aronui

Tejo - For your amazing mahi with multi-digit division methods!
Max - For your great piece of narrative writing!
Oakley - For an entertaining piece of creative writing!
Cara - For an entertaining piece of creative writing.
Luke - For an entertaining piece of creative writing.
Vanshika - For consistently being focused and ready to learn.
Rita - Working hard to master spelling patterns.
Aditya - For working to improve writing and check punctuation.
Emily, Louis and **Abdu** - For excellent work with chance and probabilty in maths.
Piar - Great effort reading and sounding out words.

Te Kete Tangaroa

Freddie - Awesome work on your Confidential Dossier creature creation!
Isabella - Amazing work on your Confidential Dossier mapping task. Your island is awesome!
Ryder - Your description of the features of your creature you created was so detailed and interesting.
Hamish - Excellent detail and creativity in our Dossier project.
Hakaraia - Exceptional vocabulary use in our creative writing.
Joel - Fantastic enthusiasm developing his creative writing dossier.
Eugene - Amazing sharing of his Pepeha in front of the kete.
Isabella W - Excellent creative writing describing her animal discovery.

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



Hockey/Touch Practice

Hockey practice on the turf on Monday's 2.45-3.45pm. Happy to have another team of Y1/2 join us if their team doesn't do a practice.

Touch Rugby practice on the field by the bike track Tuesday's 3-3.45pm
Those who missed out on registering for U8 Touch can join for a run around too.
-Coach (Merrin)

Gifted soccer boots

We have kindly been gifted a pairs of boots
Blue Pair - Sz US3 (UK2)
If you are would like these for your child, please pop into the office to collect.



Sport results

Well done to the **Hokowhitu Steppers** (Touch, U8s) for their first game(s) of the season at Monrad Park on Friday! So much enthusiasm and a huge effort was put in by all the kids. Player of the day was **Samu** who showed great focus and leadership. Thanks to the parents for their supportive comments and positive vibes on the sideline. - Coach (Merrin)

A great first game for the **Hokowhitu Tigers** (Hockey) on Tuesday with lots of fun had ending in a win against the Riverdale Whales. POTD went to **Ozias** for his focus and footwork. Thanks to the parents for their support! Coach (Merrin)

Coaches - If you would like to send through any results or players of the day, please email to office@hokowhitu.school.nz to feature in the newsletter.

Marist Junior Football Club is excited to be welcoming registrations for our MILO Fantails programme!

Designed especially for girls aged **4-12**, MILO Fantails is the perfect introduction to football in a fun, relaxed, and supportive environment. Whether they've never kicked a ball before or are just looking to build confidence, every girl is welcome.

Our sessions focus on:

- Having fun in a female-only environment
- Learning football through games and activities
- Making new friends
- Building confidence and enjoying being active

There are no trials, no pressure, and no experience required. Just come along, have fun, and discover why so many girls fall in love with football.

The full 7-week programme is just $35, making it an affordable way for girls to give football a go in a welcoming community environment.

We'd really appreciate it if you could share the attached poster with your school community.

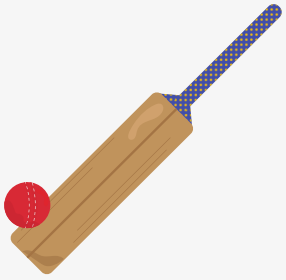
Register here:
https://www.sporty.co.nz/viewform/471790



Smash Play Cricket (Years 1–4)
Smash Play is New Zealand Cricket's fun, game-based programme for young tamariki. It's all about fun, games and making mates, with no experience or gear needed.

Palmerston North Hub
📍 Ongley Park, Palmerston North
📅 Mondays 4 – 5pm, starting 2 November
📅 Wednesdays 5 – 6pm, starting 4 November
💲 $30 for Term 4, or $50 for Term 4 + Term 1
Register here: https://www.playhq.com/new-zealand-cricket/register/cddcf6

Dual Pitch Smash (Years 3–6)
Two pitches running at once, so more batting, more bowling and no standing around waiting for a turn.
📍 Manawaroa Park, Palmerston North
📅 Thursdays 4 – 5.15pm, starting 5 November
💲 $30 for Term 4, or $50 for Term 4 + Term 1
Register here: https://www.playhq.com/new-zealand-cricket/register/7a597e



If you have any sports queries please email our Sports Coordinator c.hodge@hokowhitu.school.nz

Community Notices



The Egg Project

- 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.

