

HOKOWHITU SCHOOL

Newsletter

Friday 20th Feb 2026



Upcoming Events

24th February	9:30am Triathlon - Years 4, 5 & 6
3rd March	11:30 Swimming Sports - Year 3 & 4 2pm - Water Confidence Display - Year 1
4th March	Interschool Triathlon - Yr 5/6
5th March	2pm - Swimming Demo- Year 2
6th March	9am - School Assembly TKM
9th March	TKA Year 5 off to Camp
11th March	TKA Year 5 come back from Camp TKT Year 5/6 off to Camp
12th March	Library Bus
13th March	TKT back from Camp

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



Update from the principal



Kia ora koutou,

Time is flying by and we are at week three already. Teaching and learning programmes are well underway and tamariki have settled back into their classroom routines and expectations. Our STRIVE focus at the moment is STEP UP - Manawanui. This has certainly been evident around our kura as students show commitment, dedication, determination and perseverance. I was particularly proud to show some visitors around our kura, who commented on the calm and focused learning environments. They also noticed the excellent manners our students demonstrated. What a great start to the school year!

We have lots of school events in the next couple of weeks including swimming sports, swimming demonstrations and school triathlon and camp. A large number of tamariki have taken up one or more of the sports on offer. This is a great way to build confidence and develop social skills. It's also a great opportunity for whānau to connect on the sideline!

Attendance continues to be a strong focus across NZ. Regular attendance is critical so that strong foundations in learning are built. Students who attend school consistently are more engaged, make steady progress and are better able to thrive. In the coming weeks I will share with you our school attendance targets and report to you on how we are meeting these.

If you haven't had a chance to say hello yet please do. I have enjoyed connecting with whānau over the past few weeks.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Ngā mihi nui
Reece Hawkins

UNIFORM EXPECTATION

Thank you to whānau for ensuring that you are sending your children to school in the correct uniform. Hokowhitu School is a uniform school. The uniform reinforces in students pride in their own appearance, instils recognition of themselves as an integral part of the school community, and assists in developing pride in representing the school.

**THANK
YOU!**

EL RANCHO YEAR 5/6 CAMP

We are only two weeks away from our camp!
Camp 1: TKA - 9-11th March.
Camp 2: TKT - 11-13th March
Reminder: A Parent Camp meeting is to be held **on Thursday 26 February at 5:30pm in Te Kete Aronui**. This meeting is for all parents attending camp, and all interested parents of children going on camp.

Please ensure all consent and medical forms have been returned!





ATAWHAI AWARDS



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

TKW: Amaaya K - You are so kind to others. We have spotted you sharing counters at maths when somebody needed a certain colour, letting other people go through the door before you and we like how you smile at others when you say 'Good Morning' to them. We love your kind actions. Thank you Amaaya.

TKP: Toby C - Toby has made a fantastic start in Te Kete Pounamu. Although he is new himself to the change of routines and expectations, in our kete, he has stepped up to be a leader in our class. He is the first one to volunteer to help his peers and demonstrates authentic manaakitanga (kindness and respect) to everyone, including kāiako (teachers). Thank you for being so awesome Toby, we are lucky to have you in TKP!

TKM: Alex M - Alex shows quiet initiative and maturity. He is welcoming to his peers and always has a friendly smile. Alex is able to step up to help without being asked. His ability to be both a reliable leader and a supportive friend makes him a role model in the kete.

TKA: Dan Francis C - Dan is a student we are lucky to have in Te Kete Aronui. She has stood out this week because of her patience. When she had device (computer issues) she wasn't bothered. She was happy to wait and share until the issue was sorted. She is kind and considerate toward other students and happy to work with anyone. Thank you for setting a great example of STRIVE values in TKA Dan!

TKT: Harry S - Harry, you are a supportive, kind and thoughtful member of Te Kete Tangaora to both peers and teachers alike. You show integrity everyday, and support others to do the right thing. Your happy disposition and gentle nature make you an amazing asset to your kete. We really appreciate you.

STAFF: A big thank you to ALL staff for your hard work!



Achievement Awards



Te Kete Wakahuia

Indigo - for always showing respect when on the mat and trying her best with all her work. Ka pai.

Aquila - for being a great role model in our classroom and trying his best with all his work. Ka pai.

Nina - for always using your manners on the mat and around the classroom. Tino pai.

Danyal - for being a respectful buddy in oral language. Ka pai.

Ollie - For blending sounds to read a word. Tino Pai!

Oaklyn - for writing words. Tino Pai!

Te Kete Pounamu

Coda - What a super start you have made in TKP, we love you sharing all you know about the world!

Hania - For showing the 'R' in STRIVE everyday!. You are a role model to others. Tino pai!

Journey - For listening carefully and following instructions straight away - Ka rawe!

Casey - For sharing your amazing knowledge during oral language time. Mahi pai!

Kyrie - For showing amazing mat manners right from the start of the day. Ka pai!

Yoona - For 'stepping up' at swimming and showing resilience. Tino pai!

Gemma - you have been a fantastic role model at mat times. Tino pai!

Wyatt - For being a great karakia leader this week. Ka pai!

Reighleigh - for showing respect at all times in our Tūi whanau class. Ka rawe!

Te Kete Manawa

Jacob - For taking responsibility for your learning and seeking clarification when unsure.

Oakley - For following instructions and working hard on your portrait art.

Rhyan - For listening carefully and recording words correctly in literacy.

Juliette - For being able to identify common and proper nouns correctly.

Jack - For sharing your great thinking on a range of topics.

Cyrus - For amazing book work in maths and awesome following instructions.

Ivan - For working hard in maths and trying even when things are hard.

Everly - For always being kind to others and showing empathy.

Aisha - For listening carefully in maths and showing you can do it.wa and Hokowhitu School. We are glad to have you here.

Te Kete Aronui

Harper - For settling in beautifully to class and giving everything a really good go.

Zara - For your amazing commitment to your artwork this week and for being confident enough to present and share it at assembly.

Rita - Huatahi - clever maths problem solving!

Liana - For sharing ideas in class discussions

Ayson - for awesome skills with solving your near doubles.

Clyde Y - For always being focused, on task and ready to learn.

Deekyn - For your awesome positive participation in workshop groups.

Axel - For stepping up, getting things done and making good choices.

Thea - For being in the right place at the right time. Thank you for stepping up.

Joshua - For excellent bookwork and attitude to learning. I love hearing your thinking and ideas.

Te Kete Tangaroa

Lucy - For showing responsibility and volunteering for class duties. Great to see you stepping up!

Vova - For a great start in TKT. You are respectful and kind, and have settled into our routines well. Ka pai!

Emelia - For a great start in TKT. You are respectful and kind, and have settled into our routines well. Ka pai!

Jacob - making a great start settling into new routines at Hokowhitu School

Oscar - For excellence in measurement.

Ava - For an impressive improvement in measurement

Hakaraia - Always helping others and never expecting anything in return

Jamie - For being a kete leader, leading by example

Mason - For being a kete leader, leading by example

Joud - Showing manawanui during independent tasks and shows kindness by helping others



Sport

Term 1 Wed 4/2-Thur 2/4	Term 2 Mon 20/4-Fri 3/7	Term 3 Mon 20/7-Fri 25/9	Term 4 Mon 12/10-Fri 16/12
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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

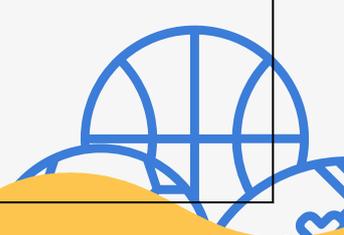
<p>Badminton - yrs 5 and 6 (Registration - kindo beginning term 1)</p> <p>Summer Hockey - All yrs (Registration - kindo beginning term 1)</p> <p>Netball - All yrs (Registration - kindo beginning term 1)</p> <p>T-Ball - yrs 1-3 (This team is continued from Term 4)</p> <p>*All Term 1 Sports registration's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

See this link for ALL sports in the Manawatu -

<https://www.sportmanawatu.org.nz/findasport>

<p>Junior rugby https://www.manawaturugby.co.nz/community-rugby-1/junior-1</p> <p>Winter soccer https://www.centralfootball.co.nz/competitions-1/fixturesresults-1/manawatu-2</p>			<p>Tennis https://clubspark.kiwi/TennisManawatu</p> <p>Cricket www.sporty.co.nz/mca</p>
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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 \$1.00 PER DOZEN.

YOUR UNIQUE CODE SCH-003

WWW.THEEGGPROJECT.CO.NZ

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 \$2689 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

School Community Officer

Kia ora,

I'm Constable Nikita, your School Community Officer for the Palmerston North Area.

I truly enjoy working with our schools to support positive engagement and learning! I've been a Police Officer for the past 12 years working across several different workgroups, including on the frontline.

As your School Community Officer, I'm here to build strong relationships with the wider school community and offer key support, including:

- Providing tailored crime prevention advice for students, staff, and whānau.
- Delivering valuable police educational programmes on topics like online safety, Keeping Ourselves Safe, and road safety.
- Being a consistent, friendly police presence in your school community.

I was born and raised in the Chatham Islands and I have been living in the Manawatū for many years with my husband and children.

I look forward to meeting you all. Please say hi if you see me around and don't hesitate to contact me if I can be of any help to your school community.



Contact info –
Nikita.Joyce@police.govt.nz
/ 021 192 0906

2026 New Year
New Students
Welcome

Goju Ryu
KARATE



沖繩剛柔流

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

沖繩剛柔流

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



Music lessons for children aged 4 - 13

Enrolments open!

Teaching the following instruments:

cello, choir, clarinet, drums, flute, french horn, guitar, ukulele,
junior flute (fife), keyboard, music basics, orchestra, recorder,
saxophone, trombone, trumpet and violin.

Enrol now for 2026!

www.saturdaymusic.org.nz

Email: contact@saturdaymusic.org.nz

**Providing affordable Music education for
the children of Manawatū**



world
fair day
21
feb 10:30AM - 3:30PM
Te Mame o Hine
- The Square

world
fair day



teas, coffees
+ beverages
of the world
22
feb 2PM - 5PM
Caccia Birch

teas, coffees
+ beverages of the
world



Important Update – Multicultural Family Movie Night

Due to the weather forecast for tomorrow, we have postponed the Multicultural Family Movie Night from Thursday 19 February to Friday 20 February 2026.

Updated Event Details:

Date: Friday, 20 February 2026

Time: 6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

Location: The Square, Palmerston North

Film: Encanto on the big screen

Activities: Interactive fun for children, food trucks, and more

Bring your chairs or picnic blanket and enjoy a relaxed evening with your whānau in the heart of the city.

Thank you for your understanding. Please keep an eye on the Manawatu Multicultural Council Facebook page for any further updates.



multicultural family movie night
19 feb 6PM - 8:30PM
Te Marae o Hine
- The Square

multicultural family movie
night

 Welcoming Communities
Te Marae o Hine

 Manawatu
Multicultural Council Inc.

 PALMY

SMASH CRICKET
YEAR 1-4

REGISTER HERE!

SMASHplay Smash it!

COST: \$25

DAYS, HUBS & TIMES:
scan the QR code to find out further information

juniorcc@mca.org.nz

SMASH CRICKET

TERM 1 2026

DUAL PITCH

YEAR 3 - 6 GIRLS & BOYS
THURSDAY AFTERNOONS
4.00 - 5.15PM
FITZHERBERT PARK

A FAST, FUN FORMAT THAT
MAXIMISES TIME ON TASK,
ENSURING EVERYONE'S
ENJOYMENT

SMASH

19TH FEB - 26TH MARCH

REGISTER NOW

WELCOME TO THE MARIST "HOT SHOTS" TENNIS PROGRAMME!

Tennis played on kid's terms!

Smaller courts and rackets! Softer tennis balls! A fun challenging programme with lots of friends! Thanks for checking out the award winning "Hot Shots" Coaching Programme at the Marist Tennis Club (Vautier Park). It is open to any junior player of any ability, 5 years and older. It is run by our Hotshots coach, Neeve Harbott.

The programme is a structured skill development program which focuses on maximum participation and having fun, whilst teaching the fundamental skills of the game. The programme is delivered in 2 coloured stages. The children all move through each colour with skill drills and games which increase in complexity and movement.

It is a Saturday morning programme where we offer a 50 minute group lesson in Term 1 2026. It is a 6 week programme at Vautier Park commencing on **Saturday 21st February 2026**.

- **Stage 1 - Red Squads (5-8 years) – 9am - 9.50am**
- **Stage 2 – Orange Squads (9- 12 years) – 10am – 10.50am**

To confirm your child's place in the programme for Term 1 a \$ 100 fee is required. Payment via internet banking: ANZ 01-0745-0198533-00 Reference: Child's name. Could you also please email Neeve confirming your child's participation and colour squad and that payment has been made. Please enrol A.S.A.P (neeve.harbott@gmail.com)

Don't panic if you don't have a racket, we have them for you to use free of charge until you are ready to purchase your own. We will provide the other equipment, just bring yourself and a friend and we will put you in a draw to win an awesome spot prize!!

The wet weather rule is to phone Neeve before you leave home, if you are unsure if the coaching is on, contact her on 02040789264.

The Marist "Hot Shot" Team -Manawatu's #1 Hot Shot Club!
Neeve Harbott
Hot Shots Coach
02040789264
neeve.harbott@gmail.com

