HOKOWHITU SCHOOL

Newsletter

Upcoming Events

HOKOWHITU SCHOOL

Friday 30th October 2026

3rd November	TKT trip to PNINS Production at PNINS (not The Regent as incorrectly stated last newsletter)
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,

I hope everyone has enjoyed the short week even though the weather has not been that great.

STRIVE Focus: Ngā Whakapuke – Enthusiasm. As I have been out in the classrooms and around the playground, I have seen lots of enthusiasm. Ākonga are eager to show me what they have learnt or are in the process of learning. It is fantastic to see them feeling proud of their achievements and progress.

Celebrating Diwali: Diwali (also known as Deepavali) will be celebrated in the coming weeks. Known as the Hindu festival of lights, variations are also celebrated across other Indian religions, including Jainism and Sikhism. It symbolises the spiritual victory of 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'*** our staff will be providing opportunities for ākonga to share their cultural experiences and celebrations during this significant time.

Christmas Carnival: Planning is officially underway for our end-of-year Christmas Carnival! This event is all about connecting as a community and celebrating our year together. We will have a range of food stalls available where you can buy dinner before we gather for our school prize giving and performances from our school groups. To make this event a success, we will be asking for donations and parent support, please keep an eye out in upcoming newsletters for more details.

Curriculum Planning Update: We continue to prepare for next year. Yesterday, Miss Wills, Mrs Hodge, and I attended a Ministry workshop focused on the refreshed Science and Social Sciences curricula, which will be implemented next year. This was a valuable opportunity to collaborate with other school leaders and plan our implementation approach. I will keep you updated as our plans progress.

Reminder: Parking Outside the Dairy. Please avoid using the carparks directly in front of the local dairy during drop-off and pick-up times, as these are reserved strictly for dairy customers. We have had a few recent incidents where customer parking was blocked. While we understand that parking around school during peak hours can be challenging, we appreciate your cooperation and support for our local business partners.

Have a fantastic weekend, and fingers crossed this week's variable weather is behind us as our senior ākonga prepare for Athletic Sports next Thursday!

Ngā mihi nui,

Reece Hawkins

Tumuaki / Principal

Year 4 Sleepover and Ngā Manu Trip

Last Thursday and Friday, the year fours from TKM and TKA had a sleepover at school. The next day we went to the Ngā Manu Nature Reserve. When we got to school we set our beds up in the classrooms. We gathered together to sing a farewell song to tell our parents that we'll be alright! We did some spectacular rotations throughout TKP. After that we had a scrumptious supper. Finally we got ready for bed and went to sleep (most of us!!).
The next day we took a long and exciting bus journey to Ngā Manu. At Ngā Manu we had an excellent time exploring the animals and nature. Most of our highlights were the lookout tower and the eel feeding. Some people were disgusted because of the stuff the eels were eating. After all the fun and adventures, we were sad to return to school but we were ready for a long and quiet good nights sleep.

By Sadie and Claudia - (Y4 Students)



Achievement Awards

Te Kete Wakahuia

Ira - For working collaboratively to create a piece of artwork. Tino pai.
Amy - For adding detail to your writing and making it interesting to read. Ka rawe.
Ollie - For fast basic fact work. Ka rawe.
Nurmahammad - For great handwriting this week.
Indigo - For interesting ideas at writing time. Tino pai.
Esom - You are learning to use letter sounds to work out words in reading and spell words in writing. AMAZING!
Wikitoria - You are using letter sounds to work out words in reading and spell words in your writing. FANTASTIC!
Remy - For being a kind friend and working hard to form his numbers. Ka pai tō mahi!
Marley - For enthusiastically joining in with learning at fitness time.
Cece - For using your spelling fingers to work out the sounds when spelling words.
Maisie - For joining in Maths learning time. You are great at counting. Ka pai!

Te Kete Pounamu

Jack - Wow Jack! Your literacy learning is on fire!! Keep up the great effort!
Reyansh - For taking your time to complete follow ups in maths and literacy.
Olive - For being a switched on mathematician!
Linaya - For writing awesome instructions during literacy follow up. Ka rawe!
Henry - For consistently sharing your personal knowledge about texts at literacy workshops. Tino pai!
Emily - For acting like a mathematician by taking risks and celebrating your mistakes. Ka wani kē!
Mila - For showing the skills of a true mathematician. You are checking you working out to ensure you get the correct answers. Ka pai!
Breaana - You are always listening well and willing to share you ideas with the class. Tino pai!
Eva - Stepping up and putting effort into writing interesting ideas and using spelling rules correctly. Ka rawe!

Te Kete Manawa

Harrison W - For using great adjectives and making good word choices in sentences.
Ina - For listening carefully to instructions when using her computer.
Mehar - For following instructions and being able to log on to her computer correctly.
Lucia - For great contributions when talking about a 'positive sense of self' for inquiry.
Jack - For working hard by taking time with formation and ensuring legibility in handwriting.
Zia - For reading instructions and telling time accurately.
Ahmad - For an improved effort with his knowledge of numbers in maths.
Lyla - For striving to do your best in all areas as well as learning a new language.
Mila - For being really brave, developing confidence on the skateboard.

Te Kete Aronui

Meilah - For amazing progress in your spelling and maths number knowledge.
Jude - For amazing progress in your maths number knowledge.
Ayson - For amazing progress in your spelling and maths number knowledge.
Sid - For amazing progress in your spelling.
Te Kekerewai - For enthusiasm in maths tasks!
Dan - For always working hard and listening carefully in class.
Vanshika - For writing descriptively and re-reading to check punctuation.

Te Kete Tangaroa

Deondrej - Exceptional work creating a detailed map for literacy.
Quinn - Producing a quality piece of writing - My Story.
Joud - Showing kindness and being a positive vibe.
Georgia - Great work in coordinate geometry.
Joanna - Excellent autobiography.
Madison - Great work in coordinate geometry.
Isla - For focused work in literacy this week. You work hard to complete tasks and keep up to date. Well done!
Zareesh - For a great effort on your writing this week. It has been fantastic to hear 'Your Story'.
Emelia - For fantastic writing this week. Your experiences are so interesting, thank you for sharing with us.

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

Soccer

Hokowhitu Raptors - Great game this week 1-1 draw, everyone played a great game with **Zara** chosen as player of the day.
- Talia (coach)

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.

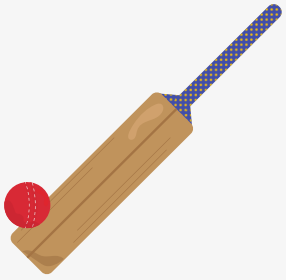
Register here:
https://www.sporty.co.nz/viewform/471790



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.

OUT OF SCHOOL CARE

aPlus operate from our hall before and after school. Enrol online at www.aplus.kiwi.nz. If you have any questions please phone 0800 423 400 or email: admin@aplus.kiwi.nz

aPlus out of school

LIGHT PARTY

AT THE ESPLANADE

RAILWAY STATION CARPARK



FREE LIVE MUSIC, SAUSAGE SIZZLE, LOLLY BAGS, BOUNCY CASTLE, GIVEAWAYS, FACE-PAINTING, ROCK-PAINTING AND MORE!

FOOD TRUCKS AVAILABLE FOR THE PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL FOOD & BEVERAGES

ALSO FEATURING

THE LIGHT TRAIN

($2 PER RIDE)

SATURDAY 31 OCT 5-9PM

UPCOMING EVENTS

