

HOKOWHITU SCHOOL

Newsletter

Friday 15th May 2026



Upcoming Events

29 th May	School Assembly 9am - TKW
1 st June	Public holiday for the King's Birthday. SCHOOL CLOSED
5 th June	11.30am - 2.30pm Year 5/6 Interschool Cross Country for selected ākonga House Meetings
9 th 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 th June	School Assembly 9am - TKM
30 th June	School Production - More details to follow
3 rd July	End of Term 2
20 th July	Term 3 begins

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





Update from the Principal



Kia ora koutou,

It was fantastic to see all our tamariki giving it their best at Cross Country on Monday. It was also wonderful to see so many parents there cheering the children on and supporting the school spirit.

Support staff week - While we appreciate our support staff every day, this week we wanted to go the extra mile to show them how much they truly mean to us.

We are incredibly lucky to have such an excellent team. From our learning coaches and office managers to our volunteers and caretaker, these individuals are the ones who help make our kura such an amazing place for our tamariki. They go above and beyond every single day, and I would like to personally thank them for their tireless mahi and their unwavering **commitment** to our students. I hope you all had a wonderful week—you certainly deserved it!

Pink Shirt Day & Atawhai - On Thursday, we recognised Pink Shirt Day by wearing pink - focusing on standing against bullying, celebrating diversity, and promoting kindness. This aligned perfectly with our current **STRIVE** value focus: **Atawhai – Valuing Others**. This value reminds us to look after one another and treat people the way we want to be treated. While teaching Kī o Rahi at lunchtime this week, I witnessed many students living this value by being supportive, inclusive, and kind to their peers.

PTA Information Afternoon - A big thank you to Amy Westergaard for running our PTA parent information afternoon. It was great to see a number of whānau attending and sharing their ideas. The PTA is a fantastic way to connect with other parents and support the growth of our school.

Consultation Please keep an eye out for our community survey, which will be sent out later next week. It is vital that we capture your voice as we "investigate" our future direction. We want to gain a clear understanding of what we are doing well and identify areas where we can continue to grow and improve.

Attendance Every day at school counts. The Ministry of Education monitors our attendance daily and is looking for improved attendance statistics nationwide. School-aged children should be at school every day, except when they are medically unwell or in the case of exceptional circumstances (such as bereavement). Please ensure you contact the office before 8:50am if your child is going to be absent.

Before and After School Routines A friendly reminder that students are unable to enter classrooms before 8:30am, and there is no formal supervision for your child until that time.

Additionally, for the safety of our tamariki, please ensure you do not walk across the staff car park. It is important that we all set a safe example for our students by using the main entrance. Let's work together to keep everyone safe.

Have a great weekend everyone!

Ngā mihi nui,

Reece Hawkins





CROSS COUNTRY



Monday of week 4, saw the annual Hokowhitu School Cross Country event being held. All year groups took part, running different distances. Cross country running in schools teaches students mental toughness, resilience and perseverance. It encourages students to push through physical discomfort and overcome mental hurdles, while promoting physical health through increased cardiovascular endurance and strength.

Huge congratulations to all the students who took part and as always, it was great to see so many whānau supporting the event.

Here is the list of the top 3 placings in each year group.

	Year 1	Year 1	Year 2	Year 2	Year 3	Year 3
Place	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
1st	Madeline	Charlie	Eva	Reighleigh	Juliette	Ryder
2nd	Nina	Aquila	Freya	Toby	Worood	Cyrus
3rd	Jasmine	Thomas	Hania	Uriah	Karen	Remy

	Year 4	Year 4	Year 5	Year 5	Year 6	Year 6
Place	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys
1st	Darcy	Abdu	Evie	Ihaia	Joslyn	Edward
2nd	Zoe	Jaxxon	Eliza	Lachie	Logain	Freddie
3rd	Ivy	Conor	Rita	Carter	Yuleena	Oscar

TOTALS	Kowhai	177		PLACINGS	1st	Kowhai
	Kahurangi	164			2nd	Whero
	Kakariki	151			3rd	Kahurangi
	Whero	168			4th	Kakariki



PINK SHIRT DAY

On the 14th of May, Hokowhitu School marked Pink Shirt Day a day early by wearing pink shirts to support the anti-bullying message. Our student councillors led the campaign promoting kindness and standing up against bullying.

Thank you to all the students and teachers who wore pink to show their support and send the message that bullying is not okay.

TKT held its first assembly of the year, where we were reminded to speak up, stand together, and stop bullying. Remembering what Mrs Dixon would always say: If everyone did one act of atawhai (kindness), Hokowhitu would be a great place to be for all.

Olivia and Isabella (Student Councillors)



Kindness
MATTERS!





ATAWHAI AWARDS



ATAWHAI AWARDS

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

TKW: Shinbee - Shinbee shows atawhai in so many ways. She always starts her day with a smile on her face. Shinbee helps in the classroom before school starts, by tidying up and making sure our resources are back where they need to be. She helps new tamariki to our classroom by playing with them and showing them what to do at Hokowhitu School. Thank you for being so kind Shinbee. He whetu koe.

TKP: Te Paia - Te Paia is a fantastic role model for her peers in Te Kete Pounamu. She has wonderful mat manners and always strives to reach the top of the maunga. Te Paia is helpful towards other tamariki in need by using her quiet and calm manner to check up on their well being if she senses they are upset. She takes pride in the tidyness of our classroom and volunteers her time to take on extra duties to ensure our class runs smoothly. Thank-you Te Paia for helping us in TKP and showing atawhai. He whetu koe!

TKM: Hazel - Hazel approaches every challenge with a focused spirit, consistently giving her best while maintaining a level of maturity that grounds those around her. She treats everyone with genuine aroha and respect. She greets others with a bright smile and a positive wairua that makes Te Kete Manawa a better place.

TKA: Sadie - Sadie is a shining example of Atawhai and STRIVE in TKA. She is always willing to help teachers and other students. Working hard in class and finishing work early, she then steps up to assist other students with completing their work, always without any complaints. She often extends herself by doing extra research at home, and brings this back into the classroom to share. Thank you Sadie for always sharing your knowledge with the class and supporting everyone to succeed in class. We love having you in TKA.

TKT: Deondrej - Deondrej is a quiet and unassuming member of TKT, but the way he shows Atawhai speaks loudly through his actions. Although he may not say much, he has a special way of making the ordinary feel extraordinary. He consistently uses his manners, greeting teachers with a smile and a kind "good morning." Deondrej notices when things are not quite right and quietly uses his initiative to help fix them; not for praise or reward, but simply because he cares about our kete and the people in it. Thank you, Deondrej, for the amazing example of Atawhai you show every day.



Achievement Awards



Te Kete Wakahuia

Saint - Welcome to Hokowhitu School!

Layla - For working so hard on your writing. Kā rawe!

Galaxie - For trying hard in reading. Ka pai.

Ozias - For great sentences in oral language. Ka rawe!

Oaklyn - For great drumming and keeping to the beat. Ka pai.

Aarav - For following the classroom rules and being a super learner.

Serena - For drumming to the beat at kete play.

Te Kete Pounamu

Freddie - All the best at your new school in Australia Freddie! We will miss your enthusiasm in TKP!

Coda - We loved your enthusiasm at cross country Coda! Ka rawe.

Akein - Amazing running at our cross country Akein! We were all so proud of you!!

Methila - For teaching our whānau class a new Sinhalese greeting. Ayubowan to you! Kei runga noa atu!

Bentley - For stepping up and being a responsible whānau class member that takes care of others. Tino pai!

Reyansh - For helping us to learn a new greeting in Hindi. Ram Ram to you! Anō te pai!

Celine - For having the confidence to explain your thinking for the class using maths language. He kaimātai pāngarau koe!

Suvarn - For stepping up and showing Perseverance when completing the maths follow up. Ka pai!

Isabella - For the lovely morning greetings you give to kaiako and ākonga at school. Ka mau te wehi!

Te Kete Manawa

Congratulations to all those amazing students who competed in the annual Hokowhitu School Cross Country. We are so proud that you all gave it your all!

Karen - For your active engagement in our drama sessions and willingness to try acting out emotions.

Muhammad - For a great effort converting between centimetres and metres.

Kirill - For correctly measuring shapes and then working out the perimeter.

Amelia - For a great effort 'throwing your voice' and trying the 'Emotion Line' in drama.

Arlo - For managing himself well with a musical instrument and reading music.

Lucia - For managing herself well with a musical instrument and reading music.

Gian - For lovely formation in handwriting and great set up in word study.

Greta - For your willingness to engage in drama and taking on the 'Hot Seat'.

Aisha - For working hard to use basic facts when adding 2 digit numbers.

Te Kete Aronui

Clyde Y - For solving subtraction problems with regrouping.

Mila-Mae - For solving 3 digit subtraction problems using the vertical method.

Romaan - For using the opposite operation accurately to check subtraction work.

Evie - For writing wonderful sentences with verbs and adverbs.

Abel - For being a kind and helpful friend.

Lachie - For always being ready to learn and for being kind and helpful in the classroom. Well done!

Te Kete Tangaroa

Skye - Exceptional rhythm and execution during line dancing.

Isla - Stepping up by volunteering to speak in front of others.

Mason - Showing manawanui leading by example.

Madison - Excellent focus in maths; being brave and seeking help.

Rory - Incredible focus at maths when simplifying fractions.

Maryam - Attention to detail and presentation during poster making.

Yuleena - For being able to answer questions when we worked on complex sentences during Applied Literacy.

Joslyn - For being a fantastic helper during cross country.

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/>

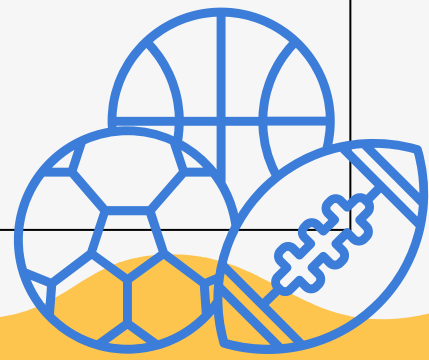
*Uniform hire is required for all sports except Netball

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

<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>Table Tennis - yrs 4-6 (Registration - kindo term 1)</p> <p>*All Term 2 Sports registration's are now CLOSED</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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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/>

THE EGG PROJECT
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 \$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 \$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



GROWING TOGETHER LEARNING COMMUNITY HUB 2026

Supporting parents of children with diverse learning needs.
No diagnosis required.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- FREE sessions covering 8 Informative Topics
- Expert Advice & Guidance
- Peer Support & Networking
- Resources Sharing
- Complimentary Refreshments

FIRST SESSION

Topic

Welcoming & MoE Support

Speaker: Ministry of Education

Date: 21 May 2026

Time: 3:30 to 4:30pm

Location: Wilkins Theatrette,
Te Manawa Museum, Palmy

[REGISTER HERE](#)



FURTHER SESSIONS: June - Oct, Thursdays 12 - 2pm
Dates will be confirmed

CONTACT: Manawatū Multicultural Council
Ph: 06 358 1572
Email: este@mmcnz.org.nz

TOGETHER WE GROW STRONGER

Time to COLLECT Yummy stickers for our School's share of

\$200,000 SPORTS GEAR

Download extra sticker sheets at yummyfruit.co.nz

EAT YUMMY APPLES & BRING YOUR STICKERS TO SCHOOL!

Rhino Only from Carpet Court

JUNIOR TOUGH GUY AND GAL CHALLENGE

EXTREME OFF ROAD RUNNING EVENT

PALMERSTON NORTH 25 & 26 MAY 2026

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Ph: (07) 348 3301 Email: info@eventpromotions.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



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.