

HOKOWHITU SCHOOL

Newsletter

Friday 13th March 2026



Upcoming Events

18 March	Free Ice Block Day for those who have signed up and ordered through KINDO
19th March	Duathlon Practice - Years 1,2 and 3
20th March	9am School Assembly - TKM 11.35-12.30 Duathlon - Years 1,2 and 3
24th March	Board Meeting
26th March	Northern Cluster Swimming competition
27th March	House Meeting (House t-shirt can be worn today)
2nd April	Last day of Term 1
20th April	First Day of Term 2 begins at 8.50am
5th May	Board meeting
6th May	5:30pm - 6:30pm Celebration of Learning

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



Update from the principal



Kia ora koutou,

Summer is back!!! Well, it certainly was for Thursday and Friday. It has been an incredibly busy week, with our Year 5 and 6 students returning from a fantastic week at camp. A huge thank you again to the parents and teachers whose support made this experience possible, we couldn't do it without you. Meanwhile, our younger tamariki have been just as busy on-site. On Wednesday, our Year 2-4s enjoyed a "Global Passport School Tour," and Waka Huia took their learning outdoors to the forest at the corner of Hokowhitu Park.

T in STRIVE - Kia Kaha Try new things. This has been a major focus over the last couple of weeks. Throughout our EOTC (Education Outside the Classroom) week, our tamariki had countless opportunities to "have a go." Learning new skills or stepping into unknown activities can be challenging, but we encourage our students to be strong and persevere. Things are rarely easy when you're just starting out, but as we grow and learn, they slowly get easier. Kia Kaha—Try new things!

Our overall regular attendance is currently tracking at 89% for the term. This means 89% of our students have had fewer than five days off so far. Attendance remains a top priority at Hokowhitu School because being here every day has a direct impact on achievement, wellbeing, and social connection. If getting to school is becoming difficult for any reason, please reach out to us. The earlier we connect, the easier it is to support improvement.

You may have noticed some temporary fencing around the junior playground. This has been put in place to support our newest tamariki as they settle into our kura and learn our school boundaries. We are currently awaiting an upgrade to our perimeter fencing to meet Ministry of Education requirements. This project will be completed in stages, Stage One: Installing sections between the buildings at the front of the school. Stage Two: Fencing the entirety of our school boundaries. I will continue to keep the community updated as these physical works progress.

Have a great weekend.

Ngā mihi nui,
Reece Hawkins



YEAR 5 CAMP

We started our camp with light rain at the Levin Adventure Park before moving to the Waikanae pools for a swim. Upon arrival at camp we settled into our cabins before a quick camp briefing around safety procedures. The afternoon started with an activity similar to orienteering, finding our way around El Rancho. Dinner was nacho's then we completed the Night Trail (a blindfolded obstacle course where we held a rope and each others' shoulders to complete the task). We finished the evening with torches, singing and dancing in the hall. Tuesday was an early start with students' awake from 5:30am! The day was jam packed with activities: 'Animal Survival' (a mud course), 'Go Karting', followed in the afternoon by 'Making Damper' and cooking it in a fire and 'Rock Climbing'. We had butter chicken with rice for dinner then went to the hall for a game of 'Glow in the Dark Dodgeball. We finished the evening with quiet time in the hall.

Wednesday was a much slower start! We got up at 7:00am, had a great breakfast then packed and cleaned our cabins. We went to the playground and used the trampolines, played mini golf and the teachers took team games until lunchtime when TKT arrived and we took the bus to the Levin Adventure Park before heading back to school at 2:30pm.



GLOBAL PASSPORT



We were lucky enough to have some wonderful tutors from the Global Passport initiative working with classes in TKP, TKM and TKA this week. This involved interactive learning about famous landmarks, food, clothing, currency and greetings from around the world!



BALLOT FOR OUT OF ZONE TERM 3 AND 4 ENROLMENTS 2026

A ballot (if required) will be held on 1 April for new entrants who reside out of our school zone, but wish to enrol at our kura, starting in Terms 3 or 4 of this year.

Do you have a child turning 5 over this period? Do you know someone else who wishes to enrol with us, but we do not yet have their enrolment details?

Everyone (including siblings) who reside outside our enrolment zone **MUST** have enrolment information into the office by the 27 March so that we can accurately gauge how many spaces we have.





FREE ICE BLOCK!



Sign up for the KINDO APP by the 16th March for your child to receive a free ice block on the 18th March!

If you already have a KINDO account, your child can also get the ice block - Just go to the shop and select the free ice block in KINDO.

<https://shop.kindo.co.nz/shop/handshake.shtml?shop=Hokowhitu%20School>

kindo.

Making School Payments Simple

One Account. All Your Schools

Whether you're new to Kindo or already using it, managing school payments is easy.



New to Kindo?

- Scan the QR code to create your account
- Enter your details and add your student (s)
- Browse the school shop, purchase and check out.

FREE Ice Block on sign up

- Sign up to Kindo before **16th March 2026**
- Add a "Free Ice block" to your cart.
- If you have 2 children, please select X2 at checkout
- Ensure to checkout
- An ice block will be delivered to your child at school on Wednesday 18th March.



Have questions?
Our friendly team is here for you.

0508 4 KINDO (0508 454 636)
hello@mykindo.co.nz

Achievement Awards



Te Kete Wakahuia

Shinbee - for forming your letters the correct way.
Kā rawe.

Kyson - for fantastic biking on Wheels day. Tino pai.

Finn - for great spotting of things on our sensory walk. Tino pai

Ozias - for showing atawhai when sharing his scooter on Wheels Day. Kā rawe.

Violet - for writing her name. Kā rawe.

Phoenix - Blending sounds to read. Tino pai.

Te Kete Pounamu

Nia - for having excellent manners and for greeting kaiako with a cheery 'good morning' every day!

Aaravdeep - for reading with accuracy and expression - Tino pai!

Evie - for including interesting detail in your writing - Ka rawe!

Bentley - for showing atawhai to others when they have left things behind. Ka mau te wehi!

Akein - for explaining his thinking to a buddy during whole class maths. Tino pai!

Ellie R - for completing an amazing literacy follow up using 'ck' words. He tino pai tō mahi!

Tali - for having a positive attitude towards your learning. Kia kaha, keep it up!

Te Paia - for being a super role model in Te Kete Pounamu. Ka pai!

Freya - for being a 'switched on' mathematician. Tino pai!

Te Kete Manawa

Ashpreet - For showing good running skills and a can do it attitude!

Cooper - For helping and thinking about others.

Kirill - For demonstrating great focus in literacy.

Sasha - For working hard to complete written tasks quickly and independently.

Carson - For working hard on his handwriting and forming letters at the correct size

Arlo - For joining in during class discussions and sharing your thinking

Greta - For being able to round numbers to the nearest 10 and 100

Eli - For following instructions well in maths and being able to programme a Beebot.

Harrison B - For developing a quick recall of combinations to 10 and 100.

Te Kete Aronui

Claudia - for introducing your narrative with a back story.

Eli - for great skills with solving addition problems with regrouping.

Manha - for showing the I in STRIVE when you investigated the features on google slides.

This week at camp, all of our **Year 5 students** were presented with their camp certificates to celebrate their participation and efforts. It was fantastic to see the students step outside their comfort zones, try new activities, and support one another throughout the experience. They truly made the most of every opportunity and had an amazing time.

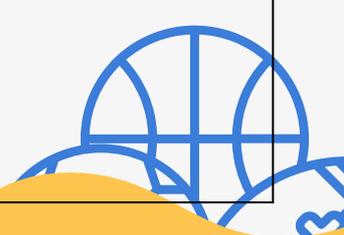
Te Kete Tangaroa

Congratulations to the all the children that were able to attend camp. You all demonstrated many of the Hokowhitu STRIVE values throughout camp. In particular, you demonstrated the T - Try New Things. Each and everyone one of you tried and experienced something new. Many children set themselves goals and achieved them or overcame fears and demonstrated success. We are very proud of you all.



Sport

<p>Term 1 Wed 4/2-Thur 2/4</p>	<p>Term 2 Mon 20/4-Fri 3/7</p>	<p>Term 3 Mon 20/7-Fri 25/9</p>	<p>Term 4 Mon 12/10-Fri 16/12</p>
<p>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>			
<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 open</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>
<p>Sports available through outside agencies See this link for ALL sports in the Manawatu - https://www.sportmanawatu.org.nz/findasport</p>			
<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>



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 poster features a central image of a wicker basket filled with fresh brown eggs on a wooden surface. To the left, there is a logo for 'THE EGG PROJECT' with the tagline 'all things good'. Below the image, the text reads: 'JOIN THE EGG PROJECT FUNDRAISER TODAY!' followed by 'FREE RANGE DOZEN - \$9.50' and 'CERTIFIED ORGANIC DOZEN \$11.50'. Further down, it says: '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.' At the bottom, it provides 'YOUR UNIQUE CODE SCH-003' and the website 'WWW.THEEGGPROJECT.CO.NZ'. The background is yellow with illustrations of cracked eggs.

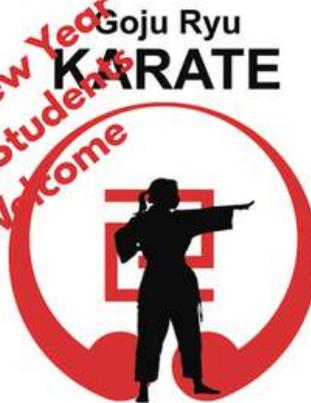
The Egg Project

- 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 \$3102 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

2026 New Year
New Students
Welcome



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**

Festival of Colours

📍 [Te Marae o Hine - The Square](#), Te Marae o Hine, The Square, Palmerston North

📅 Friday 20 March 2026 5:00pm - 8:00pm



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 Manawātū 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