

HOKOWHITU SCHOOL

Newsletter

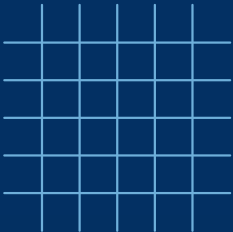
Friday 28th August 2026



Upcoming Events

31 st August	Teacher only day - SCHOOL CLOSED
4 th September	Lucky Book Club orders close House T-Shirt day Orienteering Team Champs Y5&6
8 th September	Board Meeting
9 th September	Ricoh Sports Tournament - Y5&6
10 th September	Year 4-6 Kapa Haka Mini Fest at PNINS
11 th September	School Assembly - TKA ROSS Intermediate & PNINS enrolments closing date
15 & 16 th September	Celebration of learning evenings 5:30 - 6:30pm
24 th September	PNINS Information evening for students attending 5:45 - 7pm
25 th September	Term 3 Ends
12 th October	Term 4 Begins
22 nd October	Year 4 Sleepover & Ngā Manu

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



Update from the Principal



Kia ora koutou,

We welcomed ten more 5 year olds to Hokowhitu on Monday! It's been great to see our youngest tamariki settle into the routines of school. We hope you have all had a great first week, and we extend a warm welcome to all of our new whānau.

It was fantastic to see more tamariki back at school after a tough couple of weeks of illness. There are still a few bugs floating around, so please remember that if your child is unwell, keep them home to rest and recover.

We had a wonderful splash of yellow around the school yesterday for Daffodil Day. Thank you to the school councillors collecting donations and everyone for donating to such an important cause!

Technology Day - On Monday I had the pleasure of taking eight lucky Year 5 and 6 students to participate in a Technology Day. The day was packed with hands-on learning, including EPro8 challenges, design and coding with LEGO Spike, and even a visit from the Freyberg High School Robotics Team, who brought along some of their equipment for our students to test out. It was an exciting day where our students truly put our STRIVE value of Whakataki (Investigate) at the forefront.

STRIVE Focus: Atawhai - Value Others - Our STRIVE focus for the next couple of weeks is Atawhai - Value Others. This is an essential focus and something we work on continuously at Hokowhitu School. Olive from TKP wrote a fantastic piece about what her class learned with Harold during Life Education around Atawhai:

"I like Tim and Harold because they are funny. I like Tim and Harold, but they are silly. Tim and Harold taught us to be kind friends. A kind friend includes others. We want to be a good person because we want other people to feel valued."

Great writing, Olive! What a fantastic message you have conveyed.

You can help your child develop this value at home by asking them what small actions they could take to make others feel valued at school, at home, and in our wider community. These can be simple things like holding a door open, waiting to let someone pass, or greeting people with a warm hello.

Reminder: Teacher Only Day (School Closed Monday) Please remember that **Monday is a Teacher Only Day, and the school will be closed.** Our teaching staff will be spending the day working with a maths facilitator as we explore and unpack the new Maths Curriculum.

Enjoy the extra long weekend with your tamariki, and we look forward to seeing everyone back on Tuesday!

Ngā mihi nui,

Reece Hawkins

Tumuaki / Principal



Technology day

DAFFODIL DAY

Our school looked awesome yesterday with everyone dressed up in bright green and yellow for Daffodil Day!

It was so cool seeing all the bright colours around the school. A massive thank you to everyone who brought in a donation. Together we raised **\$522.10!** All this money is going straight to the Cancer Society to help with cancer research and support people and families who are dealing with cancer.

Thanks so much for helping out and bringing your awesome school spirit. You guys are amazing!

-Written by Aaryan & KJ (Student Councillors)





ATAWHAI AWARDS

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

TKW: Joseph - Joseph is a role model for kindness at our school. He starts his day by greeting his kaiako and by checking how she is feeling. When someone is hurt or feeling sad, Joseph will check on them regularly to make sure they are ok. He offers to help in the classroom and likes to keep things tidy for us. We recently had a visitor in our classroom and Joseph checked on our visitor to see if there was anything he needed during his time with us. He uses impeccable manners at all times and is a role model to others. Thank you for always showing atawhai to your peers and adults Joseph. He whetu koe, you are a star.

TKP: Saanvika - What a superstar you are Saanvika. You are a shining example of what atawhai stands for in Te Kete Pounamu. You look after your peers and kaiako by asking how they are and noticing when they are upset or hurt. Saanvika is a kaitiaki in our classroom by looking after resources and putting things away in the correct place. You have stepped up this year to be a role model to others. Your infectious smile and impeccable manners brings a calmness to our kete. Thank you for showing atawhai everyday Saanvika - He whetu koe!

TKM: Inamandla - Ina shows kindness, warmth, and a quiet strength in Te Kete Manawa. Her calm and even temperament creates a peaceful environment for everyone around her, while her outstanding listening skills and dedication to always giving her best make her an absolute joy to teach. Thank you, Ina, for leading by example with your atawhai and exceptional work ethic!

TKA: Zhaydhen - Zhaydhen has quickly become a deeply valued member of our Hokowhitu whānau since joining us this year. She consistently demonstrates atawhai through her respectful, polite manner and the unwavering positivity she brings to our environment. Zhaydhen leads by example—never speaking ill of others and always ensuring everyone feels included by warmly inviting them to join in. Alongside her inclusive nature, she generously shares her talent as an amazing artist, freely giving her time and encouragement to help her peers with their own creative work. Zhaydhen's kindness, humility, and willingness to lift others up make her a fantastic role model and a true asset to our school.

TKT: Oliver - Oliver is an exceptionally kind and considerate student who consistently offers support to all of his peers. He brings a warm, positive influence to our kete every day. Oliver acts with genuine empathy, thoughtful consideration, and care for those around him. These qualities make him a superb Wellbeing Warrior and a truly valued asset to our kete. Thank you, Oliver, for your inspiring atawhai!

Achievement Awards

Te Kete Wakahuia

Shinbee - For fantastic subtraction work in maths. Tino pai.

Ocean - For working hard to blend sounds as you read. Ka rawe!

Diyon - For being a great fluency buddy reader. Tino pai.

Yazgul - For great work when reading stories. Ka pai.
Rūma Toru would like to welcome **Malachi, Archie, Ahad, Carter, Lucas, Hayzel-Leigh, Maraea, Elijah, Marley** and **Maisie**. You have all had a wonderful first week at school trying lots of new things. Happy school days!

Reign - Fabulous Reading!! Tino pai. Haratua - Fabulous Reading!! Ka rawe!

Te Kete Pounamu

Gloria - Safe travels home to China. Thanks for being with us in TKP.

Manaki-Vai - For becoming an independent writer with fantastic spelling - Tino pai.

Maddie - For being an enthusiastic and accurate mathematician - Kā rawe.

Nevaeh-Leigh - For creating awesome texture art out of nature. Ka pai!

Yoona - For creating tremendous textural art using many different natural items. Tino pai!

Wyatt - For excellent mahi at Enviroteam. You are a great gardener. Ka mau te wehi!

Tali - For focusing well in whole class literacy and displaying wonderful phonics knowledge. Tino pai!

Te Paia - For participating in class discussions more regularly. Ka pai!

Te Kete Manawa

Cooper - For making more of an effort during maths sessions.

Zoe - Well done on your confident presentation of your poem and for doing such a great job memorising it!

Unga - For your ongoing resilience with managing your current situation.

Cyrus - For being a great listener in math and being able to complete tasks correctly.

Zane - For stepping up and listening to instructions during math.

Amelia - For an awesome effort recognising the punctuation required when editing sentences.

Lusion - For a good effort working out the volume as part of our measurement unit.

Ivan - For working well in literacy, following instructions and completing work.

Isaac - For actively engaging in discussions during inquiry sessions.

POETRY

Congratulations to our Year 3 poetry finalists that presented in the kete - **Harrison, Willow, Evie, Marley, Jack, Neave, Emily, Juliette & Arlo**.

Our winners were as follows: 1st Place - **Arlo**; 2nd Place - **Juliette**; 3rd equal - **Willow & Jack**.

Congratulations to our Year 4 poetry finalists that presented in the kete - **Alex, Namish, Zoe, Reeyana**.

A special congratulations to Zoe and Reeyana who have moved to the finals.

Te Kete Aronui

Our Year 5 students have been working incredibly hard to write and present their speeches. It has been fantastic to see the effort, creativity and confidence they have shown, with every student producing a quality speech and sharing their ideas with enthusiasm.

A huge shout out to the following students who made the semi-finals.

Romaan, Darcy T, Lachie, Aditya, Anna, Junoo, Eliza.

A special congratulations to the students who achieved highly commended:

Evie, Hanna, Connor, Adrian, Paikea, Mia, Isaiah, Max and Tejo.

Manha - For an amazing piece of symmetry art.

Sadie & Sid - For your excellent presentation of your poems.

Darcy C, Eddie and Ivy - Congratulations on making the finals for speeches. Great presenting skills.

Nina and Conor - Great job presenting your poems. Ka Pai!

Te Kete Tangaroa

Pippa - Persevering with percentages in math.

Mason - Making positive choices.

James - Seeking help when unsure.

Joanna - Excellent persuasive paragraph writing.

Oliver - Excellent explaining of his thinking in Maths.

Tyson - Great work changing tenses in writing.

Well done!

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

REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN VIA KINDO



Summer Soccer - All years
Registrations are now **open**.
Closes - 16th Sep 12 midday

T-Ball - Under 7's & 9's
Registrations are now **open**.
Closes - 17th Sept midday



Summer Hockey - All years
Registrations are now **open**
Closes - 18th Sep midday



Touch Rugby - All years
Registrations are now **open**
Closes - 11th Sept midday

Volleyball - Year 4, 5 & 6
Registrations are now **open**
Closes - 4th Sept midday



<https://shop.kindo.co.nz/>

TENNIS

Programme Details: Tennis Manawatu
 Eligibility: Students in School - **Year 6 Students ONLY.**
 Duration: 6 weeks
 Day/Time: Tuesdays, 3.45pm – 5pm
 Venue: Vautier Park, Puriri Terrace, Roslyn, Palmerston North
 Start Date: Tuesday, 20th October 2026
 Finish Date: Tuesday, 24th November 2026
 Entries close: Wednesday, **14th October 2026**

Please click the link for more information and to register with Tennis Manawatu - [Tennis Manawatu](https://clubspark.kiwi/TennisManawatu)



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

Badminton - yrs 5 and 6 (Registration - kindo beginning term 1) Summer Hockey - All yrs (Registration - kindo beginning term 1) Netball - All yrs (Registration -kindo beginning term 1) T-Ball - yrs 1-3 (This team is continued from Term 4) *All Term 1 Sports registration's are now closed	Basketball - yrs 3-6 (Registration - kindo term 1) Winter hockey - All yrs (Registration - kindo term 1) Table Tennis - yrs 4-6 (Registration - kindo term 1) *All Term 2 Sports registration's are now CLOSED	Badminton - yrs 4-6 (Registration - kindo term 2) - Registration NOW CLOSED Winter hockey carry on this term for two weeks.	T-Ball - yrs 1-3 (Registrations Now Open) Summer hockey - All yrs (Registrations Now Open) Summer soccer - All yrs (Registrations Now Open) Volleyball - yrs 4-6 (Registrations Now Open) Futsal - yrs 3-6 (Registrations open soon) Netball - All yrs (Registrations now closed) Touch - All yrs (Registrations now open)
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Sports available through outside agencies
 See this link for ALL sports in the Manawatu -
<https://www.sportmanawatu.org.nz/findasport>

Junior rugby https://www.manawaturugby.co.nz/community-rugby-1/junior-1 Winter soccer https://www.centralfootball.co.nz/competitions-1/fixturesresults-1/manawatu-2			Tennis https://clubspark.kiwi/TennisManawatu Cricket www.sporty.co.nz/mca
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If you have any sports queries please email our Sports Coordinator
c.hodge@hokowhitu.school.nz





Community Notices



THE FLU (INFLUENZA)

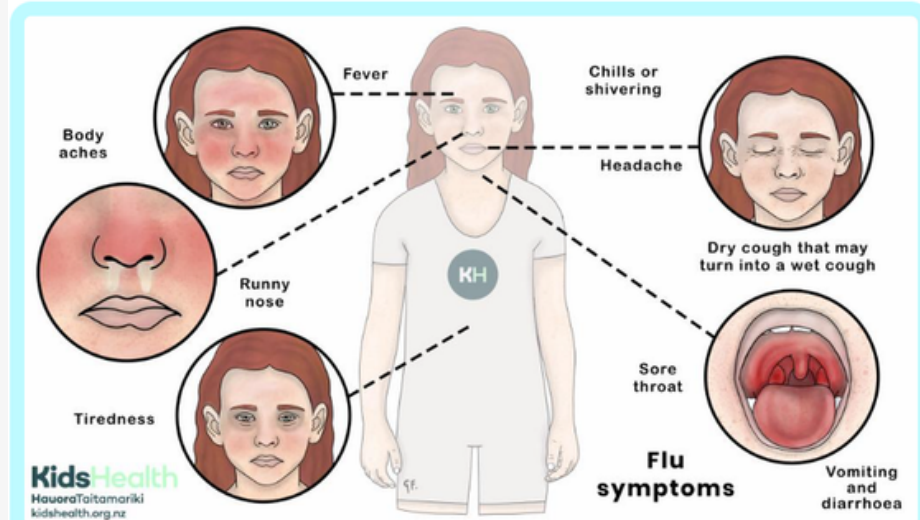
The Flu (influenza) has been surging across schools in the Manawatu and around New Zealand

The flu (influenza) is a virus that spreads quickly between people. Flu causes symptoms like a fever, runny nose, cough or upset stomach. There can be different types or strains of flu that can make you sick each year.

Please follow the link for more information and treatment.

- [Flu in Children](#)

Symptoms of the flu



An illustration showing common flu symptoms in children.

Source: [KidsHealth](#)

A CONCERT EXPERIENCE FOR FAMILIES

Sonic Boom

10% OFF

EXCLUSIVE CODE

"SCHOOLSPECIAL"

PALMY VENUE + EVENTS

6 OCTOBER, 4PM

QUEEN • KATSEYE • SHAKIRA • KPOP DEMON HUNTERS
MICHAEL JACKSON • BRUNO MARS & ROSE • TAYLOR SWIFT



Open Day!

Saturday 5 September | 9:00 to 11:30 AM
PNINS Auditorium (Te Tihi)

Come and explore our affordable, accessible music classes for children in the Manawatū! We offer classes for:

Cello, Choir, Clarinet, Drums, Flute, French Horn, Guitar, Ukulele, Junior Flute (Fife), Keyboard, Music Basics, Recorder, Saxophone, Trombone, Trumpet and Violin

www.saturdaymusic.org.nz
contact@saturdaymusic.org.nz



FREE



**Build with
dad, grab
a snag**



Father's Day Family Event

Thursday 3rd September

Food offering may differ store to store,
check your local store booking page for more details.

Activities and fun for the whole family

5:00pm – 7:00pm

Celebrate Father's day with the Palmy Bunnings team and local community groups. Enjoy an evening packed with FREE family-friendly activities including face painting, DIY projects, kids crafts, games, tasty treats and more!
Book online now!

**Don't miss out,
register now!**

Scan
Me



BUNNINGS
warehouse



aPlus School Holiday Programme 2026



Hokowhitu School

227 Albert Street, Palmerston North



School Holidays:

28 September – 9 October 2026



Book now: aplus.kiwi.nz



WINZ subsidies available

SMALL FRY

Ages 5–6 • from \$32 per day

28 SEP **Spring Lambs** \$32
lamb games, crafts & stories 

29 SEP **Rainbow Rangers** \$32
colour mixing & rainbow fun 

30 SEP **Make it Yellow** \$32
sunshine sorting & yellow play 

1 OCT **Round and Round** \$32
circles, spinning & rolling fun 

2 OCT **Mix and Match** \$32
matching, monsters & easy drawing 

5 OCT **Born to be an Owl** \$32
owl matching & crafts 

6 OCT **How Many Ants** \$32
counting, observation & teamwork 

7 OCT **The Golden Fish** \$32
underwater art & games 

8 OCT **aPlus Festival of Spring** \$40
festival games, magician & ice cream truck 

9 OCT **Creative Balloons** \$32
balloon games, challenges & art 

HOLIDAY FUN

7 years & up • from \$35 per day

28 SEP **Tops and Tails** \$35
animal play, movement & art 

29 SEP **The Blue Duck** \$35
discover the whio 

30 SEP **What I Didn't Do Today** \$35
an upside-down imagination day 

1 OCT **The Twist and Grow Tree** \$35
nature, growth & creation 

2 OCT **Wooden Wonders** \$35
build, balance & invent 

5 OCT **Crazy T-Shirt Day** \$35
decorate and design 

6 OCT **Bats in the Cave** \$35
cave fun, art & stories 

7 OCT **Gecko or Skink** \$35
3D lizards & native species 

8 OCT **aPlus Festival of Spring** \$40
festival games, magician & ice cream truck 

7 OCT **Landscapes** \$35
paper scenes, weather & places 

EXPLORERS

7 years & up • from \$38 per day

28 SEP **Steampunk** \$38
gears, goggles & inventions 

29 SEP **Plan, Shop, Cook to Win** \$45
cooking teamwork challenge 

30 SEP **Star Wars** \$38
lightsabres & galactic creativity 

1 OCT **Movies – Events Cinema** \$45
snacks and a movie 

2 OCT **Purrfect** \$38
cats, art, treats & storytime 

5 OCT **Flamingo Flamenco** \$38
music, movement & pink fun 

6 OCT **Hector the Dolphin** \$38
rare NZ dolphin discovery 

7 OCT **Mystery Trip** \$48
a surprise adventure 

8 OCT **aPlus Festival of Spring** \$40
festival games, magician & ice cream truck 

9 OCT **Puppet Parade** \$38
make puppets & perform 