

HOKOWHITU SCHOOL

Newsletter

Friday 5th June 2026



Upcoming Events

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
24 th June	Primary School Ki o Rahi Tournament
25 th June	Library Bus
30 th June	School Production
3 rd July	End of Term 2
20 th July	Term 3 begins
22/23 July	Te Pae Tamariki - More details to follow
5 th August	Year 5 Kind Hearts Trip

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



Update from the Principal



Talofa lava,

It has been a short but incredibly busy week across our Kura. Our Year 3 students had a wonderful, enriching time visiting Te Hotu Manawa o Rangitāne o Manawatu Marae. Unfortunately, the Year 2 trip had to be postponed due to a tangihanga taking place at the marae. We send our thoughts to the whānau, and we will work on rescheduling this valuable experience for our Year 2 tamariki when the time is right.

Our Year 5 and 6 runners represented Hokowhitu School with immense determination and commitment at the **Manawatu Interschool Cross Country** on Friday. You made us very proud! Meanwhile, back at school, all Kete are thoroughly enjoying learning their dance routines for the upcoming production.

Te Pae Tamariki 2026

Kapa Haka are getting ready to prepare for this. Te Pae Tamariki will be held at The Regent Theatre on Wednesday 22nd July and Thursday 23rd July. We will be taking our Year 2-6 kapa haka tamariki to perform on the stage on one of these days. A permission slip will be sent home next week for those tamariki who are interested in participating. Further information will be sent out as soon as we have it. Please contact Ms Blay or Mr Masoe if you have any questions.

I would like to acknowledge the extra time our staff are putting into organising these events, as well as the parents who come along to support and transport our students. Thank you so much - these opportunities simply wouldn't happen without you.

Samoan Language Week

This week, many of our Kete have been busy practising Samoan language (Gagana Sāmoa) and participating in cultural activities to celebrate Samoan Language Week. It has been fantastic to see our tamariki embracing the beautiful culture of our Pacific neighbours.

Morning tea with the Principal

I enjoyed a wonderful morning tea this week with Luke, our STRIVE award winner from last week's assembly. Over a cup of Milo and a custard square, we had a great discussion about how we could improve our school grounds. Luke had some fantastic insights and thought some big soccer goals out on the field would be a brilliant addition. I love hearing directly from our students!

STRIVE Value Focus: Enthusiasm — Ngā Whakapuke

We continue to focus on the value of Enthusiasm | Ngā Whakapuke over the coming weeks. This value is all about maintaining a positive attitude and mindset. When we bring enthusiasm to what we do, challenges become much easier and far more enjoyable. We can support this mindset by focusing on the bright side of things and being mindful of how we speak to one another. We are in charge of our own attitudes - let's keep building each other up and keeping things in a positive perspective!

Strategic Consultation Survey Update

A huge thank you to everyone who completed our community survey - it is now closed. We are currently in the process of analysing the data and feedback. We will draw the lucky winners of the \$20 Warehouse Stationery vouchers at next week's assembly, so keep an ear out!

As the next step in our consultation, we will be hosting some parent focus groups to dive a bit deeper into your ideas. Please keep an eye out for invitations to these sessions in the coming days.

I hope you all have a safe, wonderful weekend with your whānau.

Tōfa soifua,
Reece Hawkins
Tumuaki / Principal



2026 ICAS ASSESSMENTS

We are pleased to inform you that our school will be participating in the 2026 ICAS Assessments. These assessments are designed to recognise academic excellence, challenging students to apply their classroom learning to new contexts using higher-order thinking and problem-solving skills.

2026 ICAS Sitting Windows:

- **Digital Technologies:** 3 Aug – 7 Aug 2026
- **Writing:** 3 Aug – 7 Aug 2026
- **English:** 10 Aug – 14 Aug 2026
- **Science:** 17 Aug – 21 Aug 2026
- **Spelling Bee:** 17 Aug – 21 Aug 2026
- **Mathematics:** 24 Aug – 28 Aug 2026

How to Order and Pay:

We use the Parent Payment System (PPS) to streamline the registration process. You can purchase assessments directly for your child using the details below:

Parent Payment Link: [ICAS ASSESSMENTS](#)

School Access Code: WIE149

Please select the subjects you wish for your child to participate in by **Monday 27th July**.

Please Note:

All orders must be placed via the online shop prior to the closing date for each subject. For more information regarding ICAS and fees please visit the ICAS website. These assessments will be held/supervised at school within the sitting windows.

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/>

IF YOU ARE EMAILING THE TEACHER DIRECTLY REGARDING AN ABSCENT - PLEASE REMEMBER TO CC THE OFFICE.

Achievement Awards



Te Kete Wakahuia

Kyrie - For working so hard to blend sounds when reading words. Kā rawe!

Olivia - For trying hard with your letter formation. Tino pai.

Ollie - Working hard to slide sounds together. Tino pai.

Yazgul - For trying hard in literacy. Kā rawe!

Rūma Whā welcomes **Danah, Wikitoria, Haratua** and **Esom** to Hokowhitu School. You have all started with a wonderful attitude to learning. Kā rawe!

Te Kete Pounamu

Kaira - For fantastic concentration when learning our dance for production.

Ellie R - Excellent focus and attitude in maths. Ka rawe!

Ruby - For focusing well in your literacy workshops and putting great effort into learning your heart words. Ka pai!

Eva - For taking pride in the neatness of your handwriting. Ka rawe!

Kiaan - For amazing mahi when naming parts of the marae. Ka mau te wehi!

Freya - You were fantastic at doing the actions for our Samoan welcome song. Malo lava!

Te Kete Manawa

Oakley - For working to maintain focus during tasks and getting work completed in literacy.

Ashpreet - For trying to work faster in order to get tasks completed in literacy.

Umar - For demonstrating great skills in hockey with dribbling and pushing the ball.

Hui-tanguru - For showing a more positive mindset in maths, and completing tasks with increased effort.

Lenylenhle - For participating enthusiastically on our marae trip and being respectful.

Zia - For a super job embracing Maori cultural and tikanga at the marae.

William - For demonstrating a consistent effort when practising basketball skills.

Ivan - For joining in all the activities during the marae trip and showing respect.

Harrison - For participating in the different activities on the marae trip.

Te Kete Aronui

Pray - For making great progress with word study skills.

Aditya S - For working hard to master angles.

Huatahi - Amazing work with verbs and adverbs to make your writing more idescriptive.

Max - For making great progress in your information report.

Emma - For your amazing work and progress in word study.

Luke - For creating awesome reflections in geometry.

Asher - For creating awesome reflections in geometry.

Te Kete Tangaroa

Inwoo - Working hard to be organised.

Hamish - Including others in card making.

Antonella - Persevering in maths.

Ajay - For stepping up and organising his equipment in a much more responsible way.

Joel - For taking enormous care and pride with your artwork to achieve a result which you are proud of.

Edward - For being upbeat and polite with your greeting, each morning, before school.





HEAD LICE NOTICE



Unfortunately, head lice have been appearing at our school recently and it is possible that your child may have contracted the condition.

Looking for head lice

Look over the scalp for insects or eggs, especially around the back of the neck, behind the ears & on the crown.

When to treat

If you find a LIVE insect on the scalp or if you find eggs within 1cm of the scalp.

How to treat

Speak to your pharmacist/doctor/practice nurse or public health nurse.

- You can use shampoo or lotion available only from your chemist or doctor to kill both in insects and eggs. Always follow the manufacturer's recommendations.
- Recheck your child's head after a week and make sure they brush their hair every night OR wet combing if done properly is a cheaper option.
- This involves wetting the child's hair and covering in conditioner, then using a fine tooth nit comb and combing through small sections of the hair - white conditioner is perfect as any head lice or nits can be seen easily.
- Repeat every few days until there is no evidence of head lice or nits.

To prevent head lice and reduce the spread

It is impossible to prevent head lice completely but you can reduce the spread by:

- Brushing hair with a firm bristle brush every evening to kill or injure the lice and stop them from laying eggs.
- Not sharing brushes and combs.
- Treating all affected family members at the same time.

Because head lice do not live beyond 48 hours it is rarely necessary for additional washing and cleaning of other articles.

FREE COUNSELLING AT SCHOOL

In partnership with Gumboot Friday, your child can receive up to four free counselling sessions - right here at school. This support can only be accessed once per child.

I'm Counsellor Dave. I've worked with children of all ages since 2007, supporting tamariki with anxiety, anger, low mood, and big feelings in a safe and caring way.

Sessions take place at school, but bookings must be made by whānau through Naomi Thompson, Learning Support Coordinator.

To arrange support for your child in 2026. Please contact Naomi Thompson n.thompson@hokowhitu.school.nz for more information and the referral documents.

<https://www.talkingworks.co.nz/listing/dave-dawber/>



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/>

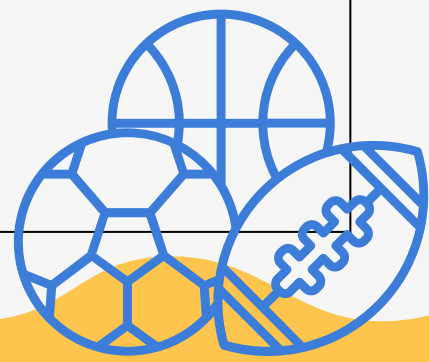
*Uniform hire is required for all sports except Netball

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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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 \$100 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



Manawatu's Matariki Winter Festival

Month-Long Light Festival
27 June to 31 July 2026

- **27 June Grand Launch**
Saturday 27th June 5pm to 7pm
Feilding town Square. FREE ENTRY
- **25 July Drone Light Show**
Saturday 25th July 5pm to 7pm
Manfeild Oval. GOLD COIN DONATION
- **PLUS A MONTH of Events & Activities**
Community Light Project
Matariki Star Hunt
Business Window Lighting Trail
Hospitality Challenge:
People's Choice - The Brightest Dish
Matariki Farmers Market 10 July
Late Night Thursdays & More to come!

COMING TO TOWN!

JAMES RUSSELL

FREE EVENT!

The First Chapter Tour

Where: Palmerston North Library
When: 3:45pm, Wednesday, June 17

Meet author James Russell and hear him read the first chapter of his critically acclaimed new junior fiction novel!

RAILX 2026 MODEL RAILWAY SHOW

Saturday 4th & 5th July 2026
Barber Hall, Waldegrave Street
Palmerston North
10.00am to 4.00pm Daily

& Radio Control
Truck Display in Bell
Hall!



Over Twenty Train Layouts, huge Radio-controlled truck display, working Meccano and Lego exhibits, modelling demonstrations and a wide range of trade stands.

Adults \$10.00, Children (4 -14 years) \$5.00,
Family Pass (2 adults & up to 4 children) \$30.00.
EFTPOS OR CASH ONLY.

NEW ZEALAND'S OWN

CIRCUS OF ILLUSION

MAGIC SHOW



PALMERSTON NORTH

**REGENT ON BROADWAY
TUESDAY 7TH JULY 6PM**

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North



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