

HOKOWHITU SCHOOL

Newsletter

Friday 27th March 20220



Upcoming Events

1st April	Out of Zone Enrolment Ballot Drawn
2nd April	Last day of Term 1 Cultural Day STRIVE AWARD - Non uniform day, you could wear something that identifies with your culture
20th April	First Day of Term 2 begins at 8.50am
23rd April	Library Bus
1st May	Reports go home
5th May	Board Meeting
6th May	5:30pm - 6:30pm Celebration of Learning
7th May	5:30pm - 6:30pm Celebration of Learning
11th May	School Cross Country
14th May	Pink Shirt Day
15th May	Teachers Only Day

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

Update from the principal



Kia ora koutou,

I had a lovely start to the week on Monday having morning tea with Maple, our STRIVE award winner from last week's assembly. She won 'Morning Tea with the Principal' and was an absolute delight. I really enjoyed our chat and learned so much about drone fishing!"

We continue to have a number of exciting events happening across the school. We sent a strong squad of swimmers to the Northern Cluster swimming sports on Thursday and were the top primary school with a number of placings (see results and write-up below). A huge thank you to the parents who helped out, and especially to Ms. Salter, who organised the entire event. Well done to all the students who represented Hokowhitu with pride!

We also had two Rippa Rugby teams represent our school at the annual Manawatu competition. It was great to see them working together and giving it their best. Thank you again to the parents for your support—these events truly couldn't happen without you.

Attendance is currently tracking at 85% for the term. This means 85% of our students have had fewer than 5 days off school this term. With only four days to go, let's see if we can maintain that 85% to finish the term!

The Board is currently reviewing its Complaints policy, as noted below in the Presiding Member's message. I thought this would also be a timely opportunity to share our **Concerns Process**, which sits alongside this policy. You can find the details here: [Concerns Process](#)

Respect – Ngā Whakaute is our current STRIVE focus. We have seen many fantastic examples of this in action recently, with students demonstrating:

- **Good manners:** Listening to and speaking appropriately to others.
- **Care for the environment:** Picking up litter and looking after equipment.
- **Personal pride:** Taking care of their own bags, hats, and stationery.

Cultural Celebration & Non-Uniform Day To celebrate our STRIVE goals, we are having a Non-Uniform Day next Thursday. This is also a day to celebrate the many cultures within our school. Students are welcome to dress in traditional cultural attire, wear a specific cultural item, or simply wear the colors of their flag.

We will have a number of performances during our morning assembly. Parents are more than welcome to come along at 10am and watch!

Have a great weekend.

Ngā mihi nui,

Reece Hawkins

UPDATE FROM THE SCHOOL BOARD

Tēnā koutou,

The Board recently held its second meeting for the year this week and as is often the case we covered a wide range of business.

We were able to review the data on the recent PAT assessments in mathematics, reading comprehension, and reading vocabulary. We were delighted to see that across almost all year levels and demographic groups our results are above or even well above national norms.

On the property front we agreed to begin work on replacing and upgrading the decks outside Te Kete Aronui and Te Kete Tangaroa. These structures are reaching the end of their life, and we want to take the chance to transform these into exciting outdoor learning spaces. This project will be outside of the school's regular property upgrade programme and is able to be funded from our accumulated reserves. Over the holidays there will also be an upgrade to our drinking fountains.

At each meeting we also review some of the school's policies, and this time we were scheduled to undertake our two-yearly review the Child Protection and Complaints and Concerns policies. Following our discussion, we would like to invite any feedback on the revised policies before approving a final version at our next meeting. You can access the documents via the links:

[Hokowhitu School Child Protection Policy \(2026\)](#).

[Hokowhitu School Complaints and Concerns Policy \(2026\)](#).

and are invited to send feedback to us at board@hokowhitu.school.nz by Anzac Day, 27 April.

Ngā mihi nui,

Philip Steer



CULTURAL CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Thursday 2 April

Families are warmly invited to join us on **Thursday, 2nd of April at 10:00 am** for our Cultural Celebration Assembly, where we will celebrate our term theme Tūrangawaewae: Ko wai au? (Who am I?).

Thank you to the students and whānau who have put their hands up to perform. We feel very lucky and are excited to see the range of cultures and talents being shared.

We are currently finalising the performance list. If there are more performances than we can fit into the assembly, we will provide time within kete for students to still share their performances.

Performers will be contacted by Mr Masoe with details about logistics for the day.

INTER-SCHOOL SWIMMING COMPETITION



On Thursday, 12 swimmers from Years 5 & 6 represented Hokowhitu School at the 2026 Inter-school Swimming competition. Our swimmers were AMAZING! Showing great support for each other, and swimming hard. The team achieved some excellent results, which gave us the overall win for the day! Isla D, set a new Inter-school record for the Yr6 Girls, 100m Individual Medley race - woo hoo! Congratulations to all our talented swimmers, and a BIG thank you to the whānau who helped with transport, support and looking after our team.

Yr 5 Girls 25m Freestyle - **Isla F** 3rd place
Yr 6 Boys 25m Freestyle - **Tyson Y** 1st place

Yr 5 Girls 25m Breaststroke - **Joy L-B** 1st place
Yr 5 Boys 25m Breaststroke - **Lachie C** 2nd place
Yr 6 Girls 25m Breaststroke - **Isla D** 1st place
Yr 6 Boys 25m Breaststroke - **Tyson Y** 2nd place

Yr 5 Girls 25m Backstroke - **Eliza** 2nd place
Yr 6 Girls 25m Backstroke - **Daeun C** 1st place
Yr 6 Boys 25m Backstroke - **Edward W** 2nd place

Yr 5 Girls 25m Butterfly - **Joy L-B** 3rd place
Yr 6 Girls 25m Butterfly - **Isla D** 1st place
Yr 6 Boys 25m Butterfly - **James Z** 3rd place

Yr 5 Girls 50m Freestyle - **Isla F** - 2nd place
Yr 5 Boys 50m Freestyle - **Junoo H** - 2nd place
Yr 6 Girls 50m Freestyle - **Daeun C** - 1st place
Yr 6 Boys 50m Freestyle - **Junoo H** - 2nd place

Yr 6 Girls 100 Individual Medley - **Isla D** - **1st place (Interschool record broken)**

Yr 5 & 6 Girls 4 x 25m Freestyle relay - **Isla D, Madison T, Daeun C & Joy L-B** - 1st place
Yr 5 & 6 Boys 4 x 25m Freestyle relay - **Edward W, Tyson Y, Lachie C & James Z** - 2nd place

1st place overall school - Yr 5 & 6



Achievement Awards



Te Kete Wakahuia

Harvin - for trying hard to form your letters the right way. Tino pai.

Amy - for being a super star learner! Ka rawe.

Ira - for fantastic work in maths. Ka pai.

Achindra - for great moving to the colour dance song. Ka pai

Maple - for super sliding of sounds together when reading. Kā rawe.

Reign - for writing your name so neatly. Ka Pai!

Sage - for making an excellent effort in all areas. Ka rawe!

Te Kete Pounamu

Olive - for fantastic neat handwriting - Ataahua!

Manaki-Vai - for displaying atawhai to your friends and kaiako - He whetū koe!

Zac - for stepping up and focusing on your learning. Ka pai!

Thomas - for being a focused mathematician and for noticing horizontal and vertical lines in symmetry. Tino pai!

Imogen - for fantastic use of a mirror on the line of symmetry during maths workshop. Tino pai!

Linaya - for showing amazing mat manners and using your listening body. Ka pai tō mahi!

Te Kete Manawa

Hanoch - For your willingness to challenge yourself in maths.

Harrison W - For being a focused learner in maths. Ka pai!

Tanish - For quietly getting on with his work.

Ansh - For working well on his visual pepeha.

Zayn - For your willingness to share your thinking in maths.

Shay - For being quicker when completing tasks.

Navya - For sounding out words when reading.

Lucia - For thinking of ways to solve big and little problems .

Sia - For challenging yourself in homework with the additional spelling words. Ka pai!

Isaac - For being a focussed learner in literacy, Keep it up!

Remy - For making good choices in math and completing tasks well because of this.

Worood - For adding addition in columns successfully.

Mila - For great work in your afternoon session with Sheree.

Aryan - For good focus during handwriting and taking time on your formation.

Te Kete Aronui

Nina & Theo - For great work in maths with irregular and regular polygons and parrallel lines.

Conor - For great work in literacy with narrative writing.

Jaxxon - For an awesome effort in literacy when writing your story.

Ansh - For doing an awesome job settling back into TKA after being away.

Isaiah - For doing a great job learning about fractions in maths.

Tejo - For working really hard on your narrative writing.

Aditya S - Working hard to complete tasks quickly and working on them more to make improvements.

Connor - Great questions about equivalent fractions!

Carter N - Working hard in tasks and presenting work well!

Adrian - Great narrative writing.

Joy - For being a great role model and for working well in group activities.

Te Kete Tangaroa

Joslyn - For great subtraction and addition work in maths. Also, your book presentation in maths is setting you up for success.

Isla D - For your great attitude to school. You are focused at learning time and you lend a hand to help our class run smoothly.

K-J - For outstanding writing. The way you add detail to draw your reader in is impressive.

Maryam -For being super organised for learning and showing kindness by helping others

Joanna - For using new expert words accurately and effectively.

Charlie - Leading by example with humility and grace

Lorrenzo - Excellent commitment to kapa haka

Olivia - Improvement in subtraction strategies

Hamish - Always showing kindness to others.





CELEBRATING SUCCESS



Rory, one of our Year 6 students traveled to Taranaki to compete in the Bagpiping Nationals with his band - Manawatū Scottish.

Day 1

Nationals is the hardest bagpiping event in New Zealand. Nearly 70 different bands compete in different events spread over 2 days.

We played in two Grade 4b events on Friday. The first event was called the MSR, or March, Strathspey and Reel. We arrived in Inglewood around seven in the morning, and we walked over to the band tent. We were representing the Manawatū Scottish Pipe Band. We warmed up our pipes, and walked over to the circle ready to play. After the performance we congratulated each other because we were happy and no one made mistakes.

A couple of hours later we played our medley, which is the hardest event at nationals. The medley consists of 8 tunes with 1 march, 2 jigs, 1 slow march, 2 strathspeys and 2 reels. We lined up at the line and marched into the circle. I thought we played really well and was happy about the performance.

Day 2

Today we were competing in the street march and juvenile. The street march took about 10 minutes and we thought we played pretty well. We had a couple of hours till the juvenile event started so I watched other bands play their tunes and watched the grade 1 Manawatu band play. After a few hours passed we warmed up our pipes again for the juvenile. This juvenile competition was special because it was the biggest juvenile competition in the world. We walked out of the circle and we were pretty happy about our performance.

Soon we left for prizegiving. The president of the RNZPBA announced, "And the winner of the grade 4b is..... **MANAWATU SCOTTISH!**"

- Rory



Well done Rory & the Manawatu Scottish Pipe Band!



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 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>
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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 \$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

Rhino Only from Carpet Court
JUNIOR TOUGH GUY AND GAL CHALLENGE
EXTREME OFF ROAD RUNNING EVENT
PALMERSTON NORTH 25 & 26 MAY 2026



ENTER NOW www.eventpromotions.co.nz
Ph: (07) 348 3301 Email: info@eventpromotions.co.nz

REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN!!

First Kicks: 4th - 6th Grade (4 to 6 yr olds)
Junior: 7th - 13th Grade (7 to 13 yr olds)

Registrations close 2nd April (season starts in May)



Scan me!

Join Ruahine Football Club - proud to be the sole 'Junior Only' club in the Manawatu!

www.ruahineafc.co.nz

Girls and Women's Month

Intermediate and Primary Girls Only Futsal Festival



📅 Wednesday 1 April
🕒 10:00 am – 2:00 pm (games begin at 10:30 am)
📍 B&M Centre, CET Arena, Pascal Street, Palmerston North

Age Groups & Formats

- Year 3-4**
 - 3v3, small courts, no goalkeepers
 - \$25 per team
→ Select *7th Grade* when registering
- Year 5-6**
 - 5v5, full courts with goalkeepers
 - \$50 per team
→ Select *9th Grade* when registering
- Year 7-8**
 - 5v5, full courts with goalkeepers
 - \$50 per team
→ Select *12th Grade* when registering



Please note: The grade selection is for registration purposes only and will not impact the age group your team plays in on the day.

Important Information

- Please include your school's name in your team's name when registering so we can easily identify teams.
- Schools are welcome to combine to form teams — just nominate one team contact and select "Central Football" under organisation.

This festival is perfect for first-time players, social teams, and anyone keen to experience futsal in a relaxed and positive setting.

Open to wāhine of all abilities – this is a girls-only festival.

- ☐ Register here: <https://www.sporty.co.nz/viewform/497794>
- ☐ Registrations close Friday 25 March — be sure to secure your school's spot!



aPlus School Holiday Programme, 6th April - 17th April 2026

Hokowhitu School 227 Albert St, PNth - Book Now at aplus.kiwi.nz

SMALL FRY- AGES 5 & 6 \$28.00 per day (8.30am to 3.00pm) -MYSTERY PRO-

Mon 6th Apr	Tue 7th Apr	Wed 8th Apr	Thu 9th Apr	Fri 10th Apr
PUBLIC HOLIDAY	AUTUMN CRUNCH Crunchyautumnleaves,smiley scarecrows, and then there is the Wet Sponge Game - bring some	BUBBLE BURP Bubble mixologyfor children. Experimenting with bubbles in burps, sheep and more - it's a bubble	CLOWN ANTICS The best of clowns, design your own clown hat, BOOM CLAP SNATCH!!	TIGER TIGER Grrrrr, grab the tiger bythe tail and then cool down with an awesome tiger fan.
Mon 13th Apr	Tue 14th Apr	Wed 15th Apr	Thu 16th Apr	Fri 17th Apr
LITTLE EXPERIMENTS An introductiontocolourful and cool experiments for Small Fry. The results will have the children mesmerised!	FROGS AND TURTLES Whatdo frogs and turtles have in common - they are green, small and so clever!	AHOY PIRATES Find thepirate flag, dressup like pirates and off we go to the Pirate Ship!!	GET THE TRASH IN Apple cores, old CDs and much more = all ours to create something new!	Bears are Coming to aPlus \$48.00 Builda Bear is comingtoaPlus for a Teddy Bears Picnic. There is a bear for everyone and you can decorate your bears t-shirt!!

HOLIDAY FUN 7 YEARS & UP \$32.00 per in-house day (8.30am to 3.00pm)

Mon 6th Apr	Tue 7th Apr	Wed 8th Apr	Thu 9th Apr	Fri 10th Apr
PUBLIC HOLIDAY	JUST FOR ME Fireworks inajar, Dodgeball with socks, ping pong bounce - all so we can have a day of fun!	M DAY If it starts withM then we will probably be looking at it today - you will love all the different activities that we have planned.	MOON SAND Silky smoothmoon sand!Spider races and Volcano Boom! Too much fun but let's do it anyway!	CRAFT ROLL BONANZA Create,paintand recycleatthe same Øme. Hands on restoration of craft rolls for FUN!
Mon 13th Apr	Tue 14th Apr	Wed 15th Apr	Thu 16th Apr	Fri 17th Apr
TOY FACTORY Chooseyour toys tomake and then swap with your friends until you have tried them all out!!	AUTUMN FOR ALL We loveAutumn with allthe colours and the crisp air, great group acØviØes and games.	GLOW BUGS Turn on thelightswith our Glow Bugs and then bash around with our noodle hockey!	THINGS WITH WINGS Ifithaswings,insects, planes, helicopters - that's for us today!	Bears are Coming to aPlus \$48.00 BuildaBearis coming toaPlus for a Teddy Bears Picnic. There is a bear for everyone and you can deccorate your bears t-shirt!!

EXPLORERS -7 YEARS & UPFrom \$38.00 per in-house day (8.30am to 3.00pm)

Mon 6th Apr	Tue 7th Apr	Wed 8th Apr	Thu 9th Apr	Fri 10th Apr
PUBLIC HOLIDAY	THE LOLLY FACTORY - \$45.00 Visitourlocal lollyshopsand sample some of their wares. It's research, well maybe not re-search, collecØng info, no?	BUTTER THE BREAD We are goingto be sobusythere is bread and butter to make, games to play, and a couple of challenges to complete!!	DANCE PARTY \$45.00 Ourfavourite dance teacher is back with us these holidays - learn a couple of new dances and put on show!!	OK CHALLENGE ME Areyou upfor a challenge today? There are some things you will not believe and others that will make you laugh
Mon 13th Apr	Tue 14th Apr	Wed 15th Apr	Thu 16th Apr	Fri 17th Apr
DRAGONFLY DIRECT Ifdragonfly landed on your head - what would you do? These dragonflies look so real youwillthinkthattheycanjust take off and fly away.	MOVIES MOVIES MOVIES \$45.00 Bagup thepopcorn and grab your friends, because we are off to the movies!!	THE GIANT OCTOPUS You willneed toget out our screwdrivers, battery packs and then into our dream crafts - how does it all go together - come and see.	ICE SKATING IN THE SQUARE \$48.00 Theice rinkis back intheSquare & we're going to be there!! Pizza for lunch, thenwarming up at the centre!	PICTURE WITHIN A PICTURE Look at thepicture, it isnot all there is to see - do you have the special knack to see everything?

AWATEA 9 YEARS & UP From \$42.00 per in-house day (8.30am to 3.00pm)

TRIPS ARE IN RED				
	Tue 7th Apr	Wed 8th Apr	Thu 9th Apr	Fri 10th Apr
PUBLIC HOLIDAY	THE LOLLY FACTORY - \$45.00 Visit our local lolly shops and sample some of their wares. It's research, well maybe not re-search, collecØng info, no?	CANNED CREATIONS Cans & cans of ideasfor us tocreate. Kick the can is not for us today - it's about the can, it's true, but whether the can will look like a can when you are finished is another quesØon.	DANCE PARTY - \$45.00 Learn a dance with our favourite dance teacher! Then put on a show for everyone!	DESIGN IT WEAR IT Create your owndesigns out of newspaper - suits, fancy dresses and more - - then rip them apart for a ball throwing game!
Mon 13th Apr	Tue 14th Apr	Wed 15th Apr	Thu 16th Apr	Fri 17th Apr
THROUGH THE KEYHOLE Ifyoucould lookthrough a keyhole to another world, what do you think you could see?	MOVIES MOVIES MOVIES \$45.00 Bagup thepopcornandgrabyour friends, becausewe are off to the movies!!	BAG A BIGFOOT CrypØds are creatures thatare part of folklore or legends, or animals that scienØsts haven't officially discovered or confirmed just like Bigfoot	ICE SKATING IN THE SQUARE \$48.00 The ice rink is back in the Square & we're going to be there!! Pizza for lunch, thenwarming up at the	PURRFECT The bestcat programme in town - laugh at the cats in hats, create3Dcatartandmake a turball of your own.



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 Manawatū 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