

HOKOWHITU SCHOOL

Newsletter

Friday 11th September 2026



Upcoming Events

15 & 16 th September	Celebration of learning evenings 5:30 - 6:30pm
18 th September	Pizza Lunch Day
24 th September	PNINS Information evening for students attending 5:45 - 7pm
25 th September	Term 3 Ends Yummy sticker sheets - last day to return
12 th October	Term 4 Begins
22 nd October	Year 4 Sleepover & Ngā Manu
27 nd October	Board Meeting
5 th November	School Athletics Day - Year 4-6
26 th November	Ross Orientation for Year 6 Students

 Yummy sticker sheets to be returned to school by September 25th please!



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

\$200,000

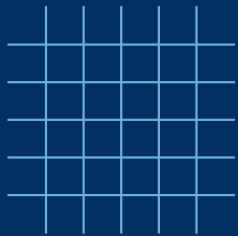
SPORTS Gear

Download extra sticker sheets at yummyfruit.co.nz

EAT YUMMY APPLES & BRING YOUR STICKERS TO SCHOOL!



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



Update from the Principal



Kia ora koutou,

Spring is slowly arriving, bringing brighter mornings, warmer and longer days, and a few more opportunities to get outside and enjoy the sunshine!

This was especially true on Wednesday when a number of our Year 5 and 6 students represented Hokowhitu School at the annual RICOH Sports Tournament, competing against eight primary schools from across Palmerston North. Our students competed across five sports: Football, Rugby, Basketball, Netball, and Hockey. Everyone put their best foot forward, and a special congratulations goes to our football team, who finished 2nd overall in their competition! A huge thank you to all the teachers who made this event happen and to the parents who came along to help out on the day.

Our Kapa Haka group also performed at PNINS on Thursday as part of our annual Kapa Haka festival alongside PNINS and two other local schools. They represented our kura with immense pride.

On Thursday evening, Zareesh represented Hokowhitu School at the Northern Cluster Speech Competition. She did an amazing job and should be very proud of her effort and delivery!

Back at school, TKT had a fantastic creative day on Wednesday designing and building chariots, culminating in a series of races in the hall. There were some incredibly creative designs and very competitive racing!

STRIVE Focus: Ngā Whakapuke – Enthusiasm Our STRIVE focus on **Ngā Whakapuke (Enthusiasm)** has been very evident across the school all week. It has been great to see our ākonga eagerly throwing themselves into their learning, taking up new opportunities across different activities and events, and giving everything their best effort!

Te Wiki o te Reo Māori (Māori Language Week) Next week is Te Wiki o te Reo Māori! Running from Monday 14th September, the theme for 2026 focuses on celebrating te reo in our local towns and communities (**Te Reo Towns**). We look forward to engaging our tamariki in special learning and activities throughout the week.

Celebrating Learning Evenings (Next Week) A reminder that our Celebrating Learning Evenings will be held next week on **Tuesday 15th and Wednesday 16th September from 5:30pm to 6:30pm**. These evenings are all about celebrating the learning journey your child has been on throughout the year. It is a wonderful time for your child to lead the conversation, show you what they have been working on, and engage you in their classroom environment. Teachers will be on hand to touch base, but if you have specific concerns or questions that require a longer discussion, please arrange a separate meeting time with your child's teacher.

Please note: TKW classrooms will only be open on Tuesday evening, as TKW teachers will be conducting scheduled 20-week and 40-week parent meetings.

Our Board members will also be available in the staff room on both Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. We would love for you to drop in, have a catch-up! Board members will be sharing insights into the role of the Board and would love to hear your thoughts on key topics such as school property and our strategic direction.

Important Reminder: Morning Drop-Offs Please ensure that children are **not dropped off at school before 8:30am**. This is for the safety and well-being of all students. Teachers are busy preparing for the day prior to 8:30am, so children are not supervised before this time. If you require early drop-offs, aPlus before-school care is available on site.

Have a fantastic weekend, and we look forward to seeing you all at school on Tuesday or Wednesday evening!

Ngā mihi nui,

Reece Hawkins

Tumuaki / Principal



PIZZA DAY

Reminder that the PTA are running a pizza day next week, **Friday 18th September**. All orders need to be placed through **KINDO** by **midday Wednesday 16th September** - [Pizza Day - KINDO](#). If you need any help with the app, please get in touch with the office staff who are happy to assist. Pepperoni, cheese, vegetarian & hawaiian available.

\$2 per slice

\$3 per slice for the gluten free option



RICOH SPORTS

On Wednesday 9th of September, 38 children were chosen to participate in a sports tournament called Ricoh from 8 different schools in the Manawatu - Whanganui region. The 8 schools were Ashhurst, Central Normal, College Street, Roslyn, Russell Street, Riverdale, Cloverlea and, of course, Hokowhitu. There were 5 sports: Hockey, Basketball, Netball, Rugby, and Football. It was an absolute blast.

Results

Hockey - Equal 7th

Rugby - 8th

Football - 2nd

Netball - 8th

Basketball - 7th

Thank you to everyone who tried and participated, and to all the staff and coaches. Without them, this wouldn't have been possible for Hokowhitu School.

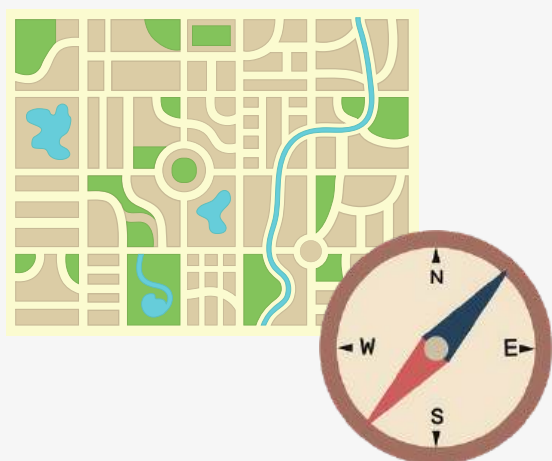
- Ihaia H



MANAWATU ORIENTEERING COMPETITION

On the 4th of September 5 teams competed in the Manawatu orienteering competition. When we arrived at Massey University, we were given maps, a stopwatch, and an SI-card. We ate morning tea and listened to the briefing, and the organisers told us all of the rules and boundaries. We had 15 minutes to plan where we were going to run, and we had 45 minutes to find the flags. The harder the spot was hidden, the more points you got. You could get 40 points, 30, 20 or 10. IT WAS HARD. Even though it was cold we still had the best time. We ran about 7 kilometres overall, but it wasn't that tiring. All of the teams went really well considering we only had one practice. After that, we came back and had prizegiving and lunch. Our favourite parts were rolling down the hill after we finished and feeling sick! We got back to school at 12:20 just in time for maths.

- Written by Edward and Rory



KAPA HAKA MINI FEST

On Thursday, we went to PNINS for our annual kapa haka trip. This year it was hosted by PNINS students and the amazing Pa Gillan. It was fun watching all the different schools perform their waiata, and we got to perform our own waiata and haka. The schools that came were College St and Riverdale. We really enjoyed learning two new waiata, Taringa Whakarongo and Uia. It was really cool to see some of our old classmates there too. When we came back to school, we had had so much fun that we kept practising one of our new waiata until lunchtime.

- Lorenzo & Mason O





ATAWHAI AWARDS

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

TKW: Clara - You consistently take wonderful care of our classroom by helping with jobs and tidying up. You were a fantastic role model during fitness time this week, eagerly showing others what to do with a positive attitude. You are always willing to help others. Thank you for showing a atawhai and making our classroom a happier place.

TKP: Isabella - You are a super role model in Te Kete Pounamu. You greet the teachers in the morning with enthusiasm and an infectious smile. This continues into our classrooms. You always demonstrate atawhai towards other tamariki and are a kaitiaki by taking pride in keeping our classroom tidy. During class discussions you are keen to share your knowledge but always have the patience to listen to others. Thank you for having a calming effect on other children with your gentle manner. You are always striving to be the best you can be in all areas of learning. He whetu koe!

TKM: Kirill - Is a kind, caring and sensible student who is always considerate and shows atawhai to others. He is a wonderful friend, a positive role model to his peers, and someone who can always be relied upon to do the right thing. We appreciate you in Te Kete Manawa.

TKA: Ivy - Ivy is a real life super hero. She is a role model for her peers, always stepping up to be the absolute best she can be. Ivy finishes her work to an excellent standard then she will always see what is next or who she can assist. She is never one to just sit around and wait, she is full of initiative. She offers to help, clean and support everyone around her, even her teacher. Ivy, you are such a pleasure to teach and we are lucky to have you in TKA. Thank you for stepping up and showing Manawanui.

TKT: Leo - Leo is a superstar who oozes atawhai! He brings a bright smile and a positive attitude to everything he does, showing kindness to everyone around him. Whether it's helping with jobs around our kete, filling in for school-wide duties, or supporting his peers with their schoolwork, Leo is always the first to step up. Thank you, Leo, for consistently showing atawhai and making our learning community a warmer, brighter place!



Achievement Awards

Te Kete Wakahuia

Madeline - For fantastic progress with your phonemic awareness. Kawe rawe.

Jasmine - For great work with fast math facts. Tino pai.

Kyson - For being able to write some sentences on your own. Ka rawe!

Remai - For working so hard on your reading. Tino pai rawa!

Mikaere - For super neat handwriting. Ka rawe!

Sage - For reading with expression. Tino pai!

Te Kete Pounamu

Reighleigh - For focus and participation in maths - Tino pai.

Saanvika - For fluent reading and excellent comprehension - Ka rawe!

Kaira - For writing your numbers to 20 correctly and showing enthusiasm towards maths. Tino pai!

Mila - For using fantastic ideas and vocabulary in your writing. Ka pai!

Kiaan - For sharing about his trip to Wellington, both in writing and orally. Tino pai!

Ezra - For creating awesome art with nature! Ka mau te wehi!

Te Kete Manawa

Hanoch - For being brave to offer his thinking in literacy even when he is not sure.

Hanna-Moana - For a good effort with the use of conjunctions because, but and so.

Ryder - For a good effort with your recall of your basic facts.

Emily - A good job of reflecting shapes across a line of symmetry.

Evie - For working well on your calendar art.

Te Kete Aronui

Congratulations to the following students who were allocated their pen licence for consistently neat book work; **Alaa, Vanshika, Hanna, Junoo, Joy, Anna, Madi, Eliza, Dan, Eve, Mia, William, Emma.**

Laylahne & Darcy - For your amazing effort at Ricoh Netball.

Ansh - For great work with review writing.

Isaiah - For your hard work with multiplication methods during workshops!

Dontae - For great participation in Maths games.

Vivaan - For awesome work on your reading pace.

Oakley - For an amazing Space Station design.

Axel & Nina - Excellent work on your "Library Magic" bookmarks.

Te Kete Tangaroa

Skye - Stepping up and being a leader.

Carter - Focused learning during literacy.

Quinn - Great work during our statistics investigation.

Yuleena - For focused learning in Maths.

Nehan - For using new vocabulary when describing climates of New Zealand regions.

Rijan - Making a great start at Hokowhitu School.

Joel - Great design and craft building his Sphero Chariot.

Georgia - Excellent speech for her bird of the year campaign.



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



Futsal - Yrs 3-6
Registrations are now **open**
Closes - 17th Sep midday

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



SPORTS UNIFORMS - Sports uniforms are hired termly. If you have signed up for either hockey, Touch or soccer you will need to hire a sports uniform via kindo. If you completed a winter sport you will still need to hire a uniform for TERM 4. Thank you to the people who have hired one early.

<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) - 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 Closed) Futsal - yrs 3-6 (Registrations Now Open) Netball - All yrs (Registrations now Closed) Touch - All yrs (Registrations now Closed)
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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



A CONCERT EXPERIENCE FOR FAMILIES



10% OFF
EXCLUSIVE CODE
"SCHOOLSPECIAL"

PALMY VENUE + EVENTS
6 OCTOBER, 4PM

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



HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

OCT 2026

DAY 1

Monday 5th October 2026

8.30am- 3.00pm (4.00pm for late collections for an extra \$10.00 per day)

DAY 2

Tuesday 6th October 2026

8.30am- 3.00pm (4.00pm for late collections for an extra \$10.00 per day)

DAY 3

Wednesday 7th October 2026

8.30am- 3.00pm (4.00pm for late collections for an extra \$10.00 per day)

REGISTER

netballmanawatu.org.nz

Netball
Manawatu



NFL FLAG

FREE COME & TRY DAY

SUPPORTED BY: **PALMY**
PALMY PALMERSTON NORTH

SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER

CENTRAL ENERGY TRUST ARENA, PALMERSTON NORTH

10AM - 2PM

[HTTPS://WWW.NFLFLAG.COM.AU/PALMERSTONNORTHCOME](https://www.nflflag.com.au/palmerstonnorthcomeandtry)

ANDTRY

MALES AND FEMALES OF ALL AGES WELCOME

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 who 

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 

9 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 

IPU NEW ZEALAND

SAKURA DAY

Saturday, 19th September

10 AM - 3 PM

57 AOKAUTERE DRIVE, FITZHERBERT,
PALMERSTON NORTH



Face painting
E-Game Challenge
Indoor Games



Cherry blossoms
Performances
Cultural displays



Food trucks
Haunted house
And more!



Cherry Blossom FEST 2026

20 SEPTEMBER | 11.30AM - 2.30PM
COLEMAN PLACE - PALMY

FEATURING

KODAMA DRUM TEAM * SORAN DANCE TEAM HANA
MATCHA TEA MAKING * PAPER CRANE ORIGAMI
THEMED FACE PAINTING * CANDY FLOSS MACHINE
SHODO JAPANESE CALLIGRAPHY * SPOT PRIZES
TRADITIONAL JAPANESE GOWN DRESS UP PHOTO BOOTH

BE IN TO WIN

- * A KODAMA DRUM TEAM SCHOOL PERFORMANCE *
- * 1 OF 2 \$400 PLAZA VOUCHERS *
- * A CHERRY BLOSSOM TREE *

FOLLOW PALMY BID & IPU NZ SOCIALS FOR DETAILS ON HOW TO
WIN THE ABOVE PRIZES IN OUR CHERRY BLOSSOM FEST PROMOS!

