HOKOWHITU SCHOOL

Newsletter

Friday 2nd April 2026

HOKOWHITU SCHOOL

Upcoming Events

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,

Ngā mihi nui. Thank you to our whānau for your incredible contributions to our Cultural Day. We were treated to a spectacular assembly that showcased the many cultures within our community. It was wonderful to see so many children wearing clothing that represents their heritage with such pride.

Today's celebration was the perfect culmination of our term-wide learning on **Tūrangawaewae** (A Place to Stand). At Hokowhitu School, we don't just acknowledge our diversity—we value and treasure it deeply. Thank you to Mr Masoe for his efficient organisation to make this day special.

Respect – Ngā Whakaute continued to be our main STRIVE focus this week. This was beautifully demonstrated by our students as they showed genuine curiosity and appreciation for the diverse cultures of their classmates, creating an environment where everyone felt they belonged.

Reporting Update - Our teachers are hard at work writing reports for our ākonga. We are in a transition period as we align our reporting processes with the refreshed curriculum and the latest government guidelines. Consequently, you will notice some changes to our report format. To help you navigate these updates, an explanation will be included with your child's report. These will be sent home at the end of **Week 2, Term 2.**

We would like to congratulate **Mr Sam Sloan** who has been awarded a teaching sabbatical. He will be away from school from the end of Week 1, Term 2 and will return in Term 3. Mrs Mikkelsen will be teaching in his place while he is away. Mr Masoe will be acting as Kete Leader for Te Kete Tangaroa in Sam's absence.

Save the date - we are very excited to announce that a date has been set aside for our biannual school production. Please add **Tuesday 30th June** to your calendar. This will be an evening event at the Regent. More details to follow closer to the time.

The upgrade to our perimeter fencing in order to meet Ministry of Education requirements has been approved and is ready to begin. Both stages of this project will be completed during the school holidays and the entirety of our school boundary will be fenced. Please be mindful that the school grounds will be a busy place with our fencing contractors on-site.

It has been a real privilege to lead Hokowhitu School this term. I am incredibly grateful for the unwavering support of our staff - particularly during my first term as Principal - and to you, our whānau and community, for walking alongside us. **He waka eke noa** - we are all in this together. I deeply value the connection we share as we work for the best outcomes for our tamariki.
Wishing you all a wonderful break with your whānau.

All the best - Noho ora mai,

Reece Hawkins

CULTURAL CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

What a special day we shared at our Cultural Celebration Assembly as we celebrated our term theme, Tūrangawaewae.

A heartfelt thank you to all the talented students who bravely stepped forward to perform and share a part of their culture with our school community. We are also incredibly proud of our Kapa Haka group, whose performance reflected the spirit and pride of Aotearoa.

A special shout-out goes to our wonderful soloists: Rory (bagpipes), Annie (Irish jig), Aavyan (Indian dance), Aditya (Nepali dance), Karen (Chinese violin piece), Emelia (Tamil dance), and Afokoula (Tongan dance). Thank you also to Maryam, Yolisa, and Ina for their South African song, and to our Korean Fashion Show group: Daeun, Junoo, Sia, Gian, Yoona, and Shinbee Hong, for proudly showcasing the beautiful hanbok.

It was truly wonderful to see so many students dressed in their traditional clothing, sharing their heritage and celebrating the diversity that makes Hokowhitu School such a vibrant and welcoming community. Moments like these remind us how lucky we are to learn from one another.

Thank you all for making the day so memorable.

Ia manuia, Comment end

Mr Masoe

CELEBRATE DIVERSITY

RIPPA RUGBY TOURNAMENT

At the end of Week 8, twenty-one Year 5 & 6 students spent the day at the Junior Rippa Rugby Tournament, which was held at Coronation Park.
It was a great day, and our two teams showed grit and resilience (as well as showcasing some amazing Rippa Rugby skills!).
Thank you to Mr Masoe and Mr Duvenhage for coaching us on the day, Mr Hawkins for training us before the tournament and all the whānau for helping with transport and supporting us on the day.

HOKOWHITU BLACK STICKS

The Black Sticks capped off an outstanding summer season yesterday with a hard-fought 4–2 win over West End School.

Throughout the season, the team consistently displayed impressive skill and teamwork, dominating many of their games. Their ability to move the ball around the field — and their confidence to pass backwards to maintain possession — was particularly impressive, showcasing a level of maturity well beyond their years. These strengths position them strongly for this year's Ricoh Tournament.

The positive sideline support made a real difference, providing the players with great encouragement throughout the season. It's fantastic to have such a supportive community behind the team.
A special mention also goes to ex-Hokowhitu student Lily, who once again supported the team as umpire, offering valuable advice and guidance along the way.

Well done, everyone — a fantastic season to be proud of.

Achievement Awards

Te Kete Wakahuia

Vy - A big Hokowhitu welcome to Ruma Tahi. We are loving having you in our classroom.
Thomas - for fantastic reading. Tino pai.
Olivia - for super work in maths. Ka pai.
Alexander - for working hard to write letters on the line. Ka pai.
Sophia - for fantastic reading. Tino pai.
Celeste - for blending sounds to read words. Tino Pai!
Ollie - for writing letter-sounds so neatly. Ka pai!

Te Kete Pounamu

All the best to Pippa who is leaving Hokowhitu School this term.

Kiyara - for fantastic decoding and blending when reading.
Kiaan, Maddie, Manaaki - for putting extra effort into keeping his handwriting neat and completing his work on time. Ka pai!
Ezra - for stepping up and trying hard to listen to instructions and join in with class discussions. Tino pai!
Ruby - for being a kind friend and a helpful member of our classroom. He whetū koe!

We have had a very busy term in TKP. Thank you to each and every one of you for stepping up and trying new things in our kete. Have a great holiday and we will see you back for term 2!

Te Kete Manawa

Quan - Welcome to Hokowhitu School we are really excited to have you join us in Te Kete Manawa.

TKM - Thank you for a great first term. We have really enjoyed learning about you all and the hard mahi you have been doing over the term. Have a great break and we will see you in a couple of weeks. Have fun, be kind and stay safe.

Te Kete Aronui

Kiel - For always showing respect and being focused in class.
Louis & Suyog - For great work in maths with equivalent fractions.
Madi - Always helping others and never expecting anything in return
Manik - For making an effort to be more focused and organised
Paikea - For great work with fractions in maths
Vanshika - For great narrative writing!
Mason and Abel - For great narrative writing!
Qasim - For always being there when other students need help in maths
Benny - For always having a postive attitude and working hard across all areas
Harley - For having a positive attitude and working hard in maths
Max - For always having a postive attitude and working hard in all areas

Te Kete Tangaroa

TKT – You've had an epic term! We've loved seeing you shine at camp and step up with your leadership duties. You've already achieved some cool things, but there are so many more opportunities coming your way next term. Have a great break, stay safe, and we'll see you soon!

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

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) **Basketball and winter hockey carry on this term.**	**T-Ball - yrs 1-3** (Registration - kindo term 3) **Summer hockey - All yrs** (Registration - kindo term 3) **Summer soccer - All yrs** (Registration - kindo term 3) **Volleyball - yrs 4-6** (Registration - kindo term 3) **Futsal - yrs 3-6** (Registration - kindo term 3) **Netball - All yrs** (Registration - kindo term 3) **Touch - All yrs** (Registration - kindo term 3)

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

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

- 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.

aPlus School Holiday Programme, 6 th 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 Ɵme. 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 acƟviƟes 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 deocrate your bears t-shirt!!

EXPLORERS -7 YEARS & UP .....From $38.00 per in-house day (8.30am to

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 research, collecƟng info, no?	BUTTER THE BREAD We are goingto be sobusy there 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 Ifadragonfly 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 research, collecƟng 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 quesƟon.	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 Bagupthepopcornandgrabyour friends, becauseweare off to the movies!!	BAG A BIGFOOT CrypƟds are creatures thatare part of folklore or legends, or animals that scienƟsts haven't officially discovered or confirmed just like Bigfoot	ICE SKATING IN THE SQUARE $48.00 The ice rink is backin 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 furball 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