

HOKOWHITU SCHOOL

Newsletter

Friday 18th September 2026



Upcoming Events

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
27nd October	Board Meeting
5 th November	School Athletics Day - Year 4-6
26 th November	Ross Orientation for Year 6 Students
1 st December	Fundamentals - Year 1-3 Board Meeting
8 th December	Christmas Carnival & Prizegiving

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



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



Update from the Principal



Kia ora koutou,



Thank you to everyone who made the time to come along to our Celebrating Learning Evenings this week. It is always such a special time to spend engaging with your tamariki seeing them take pride in sharing their learning and having a touch-base with their kaiako. A big thank you also to those who popped into the staffroom for a kōrero with our Board members and myself. It was fantastic listening to your thoughts, feedback, and ideas for our kura!

We have all had a wonderful extra focus on te reo this week for **Te Wiki o te Reo Māori!** The students had a heap of fun in the quad yesterday using chalk to write te reo words and draw pictures. A special thank you to Miss Wills for organising the fun morning tea activities that gave our students a chance to test and share their te reo.

STRIVE Focus: Ngā Whakapuke – Enthusiasm It has been fantastic to see so much enthusiasm (Ngā Whakapuke) across the kura, especially as we head into the last week of term! This value is all about maintaining a positive attitude and mindset, which we know can sometimes be tricky at the end of term as we all get tired. You can help build enthusiasm and a positive mindset about school at home by focusing on all the great things your child is doing, reflecting on what they have achieved (no matter how small!), and staying positive about upcoming events. Keep up the great effort, everyone!

Important Reminders

- **Date Change** – Christmas Carnival & Prizegiving: Please note in your calendars that the date for our end-of-year Christmas Carnival and Prizegiving has changed to **Tuesday 8th December**.
- **Sunhats Required for Term 4:** Our school policy requires all tamariki to wear our regulation navy blue bucket sunhat during Terms 1 and 4. The New Zealand sun can be very fierce, and sunburn is both uncomfortable and dangerous. Now is the time to dig through the drawers at home and make sure your child has their sunhat ready to go for the start of next term! Sunhats can be purchased at the school office or kindo.

Have a wonderful, relaxing weekend!

Ngā mihi nui,
Reece Hawkins
Tumuaki / Principal





Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori

This week, Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori was celebrated all over Aotearoa. Hokowhitu School had activities run by student leaders each day, to give our students the opportunity to learn about and engage with Te Reo Māori. We focused on colours, place names around Aotearoa, creating collaborative chalk art, singing waiata and having a go at saying the longest place name in the world! Thank you to the student leaders for running the activities and a huge thank you to the staff and students that had a go at our activities during the week.



Achievement Awards

Te Kete Wakahuia

Olivia - For fantastic reading. Tino pai.

Ira - For adding detail to your writing. Ka rawe.

Emily - For working hard on your reading. Ka pai.

Finn - For being a great buddy when we are doing whole class learning. Ka pai.

Ozias - For using your imagination when using building equipment. Ka pai.

Archie R - For fantastic reading. Tino pai.

Celeste - For sharing her thinking out loud. Ka rawe.

Poutū - For showing fantastic creative skills in play. Ka pai!

Lucas - Great job for joining in Maths learning time. You are great at counting. Ka rawe!

Hayzel-Leigh - For joining in with all of our learning and trying hard at everything you do.

Marley - For working hard to form letters correctly in handwriting.

Te Kete Pounamu

Zac - For being such a super star at saying the longest place name in Aotearoa off by heart! Ka pai!

Hania - For huge improvements with reading and contributing to discussions about the texts we read - Tino pai!

Gemma - For taking pride in the neatness of your writing. Ka rawe!

Akein - For reading with fluency and accuracy - Kau mau te wehi.

Aaravdeep - For contributing in whole class literacy - Keep it up!

Te Kete Manawa

A heartfelt thank you to all the whānau who were able to join us for our Celebration of Learning evenings this week. It was an absolute joy to see the kete buzzing with energy as our tamariki proudly showcased their work. The children were thrilled to lead these conversations and share their learning directly with you. Your presence, encouragement, and continued partnership mean the world to Te Kete Manawa.

Te Kete Aronui

Clyde V - For great work with number sentences in maths.

Ange - For great progress in your handwriting.

Henry - For your great work with equivalent fractions!

Qasim - For your amazing fluency with your reading, keep it up!

Zara - For working hard with me figuring out problem solving questions in maths.

Adrian - For working hard to write a great review that met our criteria.

Manik - Fantastic problem solving skills!

Carter - For impressive book work.

Te Kete Tangaroa

Deondrej - Getting involved and contributing to class discussions.

Ihaia - Excellent work on RnR.

Ranvir - For your focus and attention to detail when reading about different regions in New Zealand.

Ali - For an eye-catching Agamograph.

Imogen - Excellent work in reading.

Madison - Excellent work finding percentages of an amount.



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 \$4211 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.

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) - Winter hockey carry on this term for two weeks.	T-Ball - yrs 1-3 (Registrations Now Closed) Summer hockey - All yrs (Registrations Now Closed) Summer soccer - All yrs (Registrations Now Closed) Volleyball - yrs 4-6 (Registrations Now Closed) Futsal - yrs 3-6 (Registrations Now Closed) Netball - All yrs (Registrations now Closed) Touch - All yrs (Registrations now Closed)
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

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**
PALMYA PALMERSTON NORTH CITY

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 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 

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!

