

HOKOWHITU SCHOOL

Newsletter

Friday 31st July 2026



Upcoming Events

31 st July	School Disco
3 rd August	Palmerston North Intermediate Year 7 Enrolments open
4 th August	Palmerston North Intermediate North Open Day 9:15am, 11:15am & 1.45pm tour times. Board meeting - 5:30pm
5 th August	Year 5 Kind Hearts Trip
10-19 th August	Life Ed Bus
14 th August	Mathex
31 st August	Teacher only day - SCHOOL CLOSED
11 th September	Palmerston North Intermediate enrolments closing date

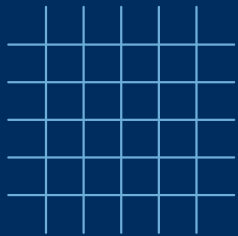
Do keep checking this calendar, as there will be new items added as soon as possible!

LOST PROPERTY



We currently have a lot of lost property, including several pairs of shoes! We are overflowing with fleece jackets as well. If your child is missing anything, please pop into the office to have a look through the lost property.

PLEASE label all of your child's uniform items, this way they can easily be returned if they are misplaced.



Update from the Principal



Kia ora koutou,

I felt very special on Wednesday when lots of children gave me cards and the staff put on morning tea for tumuaki appreciation day. I love being the principal of Hokowhitu School and work with such awesome children, staff and community.

What a fantastic week! Huge congratulations to our two Book Battle teams, who came third overall. Thank you to Mrs Gifford Moore, who prepared the teams for this event. Your passion and enthusiasm contributed greatly to their success.

Our Year 2s had an awesome time at the marae on Tuesday. It was wonderful for them to experience tikanga marae in practice after learning about it in class last term. Tikanga marae refers to the traditional customs, protocols, and rules of conduct practiced on a marae. Thank you to Mrs Orr and her team for planning and making sure this trip ran so smoothly.

Our Cohort 6 New Entrants had their first ELF visit on Wednesday afternoon, we look forward to officially welcoming them later in the term! At the other end of the school, our Year 6 students had a visit to Palmerston North Intermediate Normal, and in the coming weeks, we will also have Ross Intermediate visiting. **Year 6 Parents:** Please make sure you check these intermediate school websites for enrolment information, especially regarding closing dates for applications.

It is our **School Disco tonight!** I hope to see our tamariki out on the dance floor in their fluro having a blast. A massive thank you to Mr Masoe, Mrs Westergaard (PTA), and our Student Council for putting this together, as well as to our staff and community for supporting the event.

STRIVE Focus: Manawanui Step Up

Over the next two weeks, our STRIVE focus is Manawanui – Step Up. We are encouraging our ākonga to do their best, take the lead, and keep working hard to better themselves. Things are not always easy, but when we stay persistent, aim high, and refuse to give up, we truly step up and achieve.

Attendance Update

In Term 2, **80% of our students attended school regularly.** The Ministry classifies "regular attendance" as having fewer than 5 days off in a term. We even received an email from the Ministry of Education acknowledging and commending our school on our Term 2 attendance! Well done to everyone for making sure your child attends school regularly. I know it isn't always easy during the colder winter months, which is why it's so important that when children are well, they are here. Let's see if we can hit the Ministry target again this term. If you ever need support around attendance, please reach out - we are always here to help.

Have a relaxing weekend everyone.

Ngā mihi nui,

Reece Hawkins

Tumuaki / Principal



TUMUAKI/PRINCIPAL APPRECIATION DAY!

Wednesday this week was NZ Principal Appreciation Day!

The staff had a nice morning tea for Mr Hawkins and Ms Salter gave a wonderful speech. Hokowhitu School staff feel so lucky to have Mr Hawkins as their Principal. He is a kind, thoughtful person who leads with integrity and care.

Mr Hawkins, we appreciate you every day!



BALLOT FOR OUT OF ZONE TERM 1 AND 2 ENROLMENTS 2026

A ballot (if required) will be held on Wednesday 9 September 2026 for new entrants who reside out of our school zone, but wish to enrol at our kura, starting in Terms 1 or 2 of next year. We also have a number of spaces available in year 4 and 6 for 2027.

Do you have a child turning 5 over this period? Do you know someone else who wishes to enrol with us, but we do not yet have their enrolment details?

Everyone (including siblings) who reside outside our enrolment zone **MUST** have enrolment information into the office **Tuesday 8 September 2026** so that we can accurately gauge how many spaces we have.



BOOK BATTLE SUCCESS!

On Tuesday 28 July, two teams of four students represented Hokowhitu School at the annual Book Battle competition in Levin.

Over the past two terms, the students have worked incredibly hard reading the eight prescribed novels in preparation for the competition. They were then tested on their knowledge against forty Year 5 and 6 teams from schools across the region.

We are thrilled to announce that one of our Hokowhitu teams finished equal second, earning a place in a sudden-death tie-breaker for second place. Although they were narrowly defeated by a single question, they achieved an outstanding third place overall, taking home a trophy and a \$100 book voucher.

Adding to the excitement, two of our students also won spot prizes, each receiving a delicious chocolate cake of chocolate. Congratulations to all of our Book Battle students for their commitment, teamwork, enthusiasm, and love of reading. Their dedication over the past two terms has been outstanding, and we are incredibly proud of their achievements!

Well done **Isa F, Annie, Pippa, Anna, Leo Z, Paxton, Anita and Georgia.**

- Mrs Gifford Moore



YEAR 3 MARAE VISIT

Te Kete Pounamu visited Te Hotu Manawa o Rangitane Manawatū marae on Maxwell's line on Tuesday 28th of July. We were very lucky that the day we visited was a clear, crisp winters day which allowed our kete to be able to get outside to eat and play between activities. Ākonga were treated to a traditional pōwhiri welcome onto the marae. A big thank you to Ms Finikin for her karanga and to Mr Shirley who spoke our whaikōrero so confidently. Everyone participated in the hongi which was a very new experience for lots of children (and adults). After our pōwhiri we shared kai, participated in waiata and kapa haka, made poi, played games with them and learnt some skills with mau rākau. A big thank you to those parents that accompanied us to make our trip successful.

- Mrs Orr





ATAWHAI AWARDS

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

TKW: Sage - Sage is an exceptionally kind and welcoming classmate who consistently includes others, regardless of who they are. She patiently helps peers learn school routines and leads by example with a calm, gentle, and inviting attitude. Thank you Sage.

TKP: Henry W - Henry is a caring, friendly person who shows atawhai by consistently volunteering to assist others in need. He helps out in a kind, unobtrusive way. When conflicts do arise, Henry is fantastic at talking the matter through to find a solution and then moving on. We appreciate how he enthusiastically celebrates the learning achievements of others too. Ngā mihi nui for being a great role model Henry. Ka mau te wehi!

TKM: Juliette - Juliette is the kind of person who naturally makes everyone around her feel welcomed and valued. Whenever group dynamic issues or disagreements crop up, she approaches them with a remarkable, calm maturity that instantly diffuses any tension. She listens thoughtfully and helps everyone find a fair, peaceful way forward. Thank you for showing atawhai.

TKA: Lachie - Lachie is a caring and dependable member of TKA who consistently leads by example. He is always willing to lend a hand to those around him and has a kind, welcoming nature that makes others feel included and valued. Lachie quietly gets on with his learning, understands the expectations of him, and demonstrates responsibility without needing to be reminded. His positive attitude, thoughtful actions, and respectful manner make him a wonderful role model and a valued member of our kete.

TKT: Rohan - Rohan is a deserving recipient of the Atawhai Award. His genuine kindness, thoughtfulness, and consideration for others bring positivity to our kete every day. He consistently goes out of his way to make those around him feel valued, happy, and confident with his gentle encouragement and inclusive nature. His beautiful manners and polite disposition are constant, whether interacting with teachers or classmates. Thank you for showing atawhai.



Achievement Awards



Te Kete Wakahuia

Layla - For fantastic maths work. Kā rawe!

Phoenix - For trying so hard with your reading.

Aquila - For being a wonderful role model in Ruma Tahi. Tino pai rawa!

Indigo - For being someone who always STRIVES to do your best. Tino pai rawa!

Wikitoria - For blending sounds to decode words. Ka pai!

Aarav - For blending sounds to decode words. Kā rawe.

Kaia - For looking and listening so attentively at mat times. Great effort!

Boston - For learning to say the correct sound for letters. Ka pai!

Te Kete Pounamu

Lana - For your enthusiasm and participation in our marae activities - Tino pai!

Calvin - For understanding and explaining the different jobs sentences do - Ka rawe!

Colin - For being fast and accurate when answering maths equations!

Mizgine - For showing enthusiasm on our marae visit. Ka pai!

Kyrie - For stepping up and showing great enthusiasm and focus during workshops. Tino pai!

Tiesha - For stepping up and trying new things on our marae visit. Ka pai!

Keepa - For amazing kapa haka in the wharenuī during our marae visit. Ka mau te wehi!

Casey - For awesome whakarongo taringa in the wharenuī during our marae visit. Tino pai!

Bentley - For showing respect to tangata whenua by using his kanohi (eyes) during our trip to the marae. Ka pai!



Te Kete Manawa

Ben - For excellent following of instruction during literacy and completing tasks correctly.

Ina - For being a great caring friend to all your classmates.

Umar - For a good effort at working out subtraction with regrouping.

Riley - For stepping up in maths and listening to show what you are capable of.

Sasha - For great subtraction work with regrouping.

Hui-Tanguru - For being focused and completing work successfully in literacy.

Yoochan - Welcome to Hokowhitu School and Te Kete Manawa.

William - For working hard and challenging yourself to write numbers to one million.

Lily - For great work reading the music when playing with boomwhackers.

Gian - For working hard to identify how many 10s, 100s or 1000s in a whole number as well as including a remainder.

Te Kete Aronui

Mia - For your great effort with starting speech writing.

Tejo - For your amazing maths workshops this week, keep it up!

Cara, Asher & Eli - For an awesome start to your inquiry art.

Anna - Amazing book battle contestant!

Aditya S - Neat bookwork and impressive inquiry work.

Adam - Still the one to beat with times table recall!

Aaden, Max and Joshua - Excellent recall of times tables to 12.

Te Kete Tangaroa

Anita - For continuing to step up in TKT. You continue to involve yourself in a variety of school activities and events with lots of enthusiasm!

Isla - For your focus and attention at reading and spelling time. You are always on task and trying your best!

Afo - For a huge improvement with multiplication and division facts.

Hamish - For a creative art border.

Charlie - For excellent work finding the factors of given numbers.

Eugene - For great work finding the lowest common multiple of two given numbers.

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

At the last weekend of the Holidays **Eddie D** competed in the Pure Shredders kids Ski and Snowboard event at Turoa.

He came away with a new set of ski goggles for "Best Crash" off the ski ramp so was extremely happy with himself. We were proud of the "Step Up" and "Try New Things" as he is only new to skiing and had lessons the day before so he wanted to put them into practice! **Ka pai Eddie.**



Netball registrations now open via KINDO -
[Kindo Sports](#)



An opportunity for school aged tamariki aged year 1 - 6

- ✓ **Monday:** Year 1 - 2, starting 14 Sep
- ✓ **Tuesday:** Year 3 - 4, starting 15 Sep
- ✓ **Thursday:** Year 5 - 6, starting 17 Sep
- ✓ Improve the netball experience for everyone
- ✓ Positive Sidelines, Positive Experiences

Registrations close 4 September

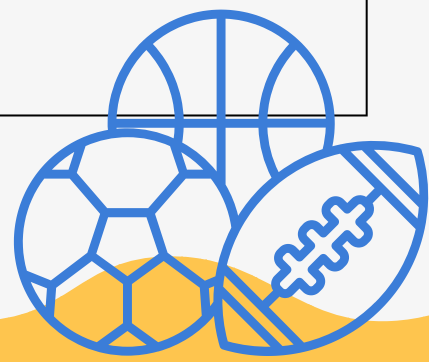


WWW.NETBALLMANAWATU.ORG.NZ



SCHOOLS CAN
NOW REGISTER
VIA SPORTY IN
TEAM BUILDER

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) - Registration NOW CLOSED Winter hockey carry on this term for two weeks.	T-Ball - yrs 1-3 (Registrations open soon) Summer hockey - All yrs (Registrations open soon) Summer soccer - All yrs (Registrations open soon) Volleyball - yrs 4-6 (Registrations open soon) Futsal - yrs 3-6 (Registrations open soon) Netball - All yrs (Registrations now open on KINDO) Touch - All yrs (Registrations open soon)
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





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.



Community Notices





PNINS OPEN DAY 2026

TUESDAY 4 AUGUST



9.15AM TOUR



11.15AM TOUR



1.45PM TOUR



MEETING POINT

MEET AT TE TIHI: Performing Arts Centre.
Please arrive just prior to your chosen time.

Reach Your **PEAK**: Hiwinui School Intermediate Open Day

Tuesday, 18th August 2026 | 6:00 PM Start

Join us at 198 Watershed Road to see our action-packed learning space.



- Specialised Technology & Academic Innovation**
Weekly IGNITE covering Hard Materials, Food Tech, Coding, and Engineering; plus EProB/Evolocity.

Specialised Technology Innovation
Legendary covering alternating camps, Food Tech, Coding, and Engineering; plus EProB/Evolocity.

Adventure & Leadership Opportunities
Legendary island-alternating camps, mountain adventures, and the tiered Ruahine Summit Medal.

Deep Rural Heritage
Mastering agricultural science through Future Farmers livestock monitoring and environmental stewardship.



Charlie and the Chocolate Factory – Grab your golden ticket!

From the award-winning producers of Matilda the Musical (2024) comes Roald Dahl's magical Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, coming to the Regent on Broadway this August.

Join Charlie Bucket on an unforgettable journey into Willy Wonka's extraordinary chocolate factory, filled with spectacular music, incredible sets, larger-than-life characters, and plenty of pure imagination. It's the perfect family outing this winter.

Book your golden tickets today:
<https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/show.aspx?sh=CHARCHOC26>

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!