



Newsletter

Wisdom begins with Wonder



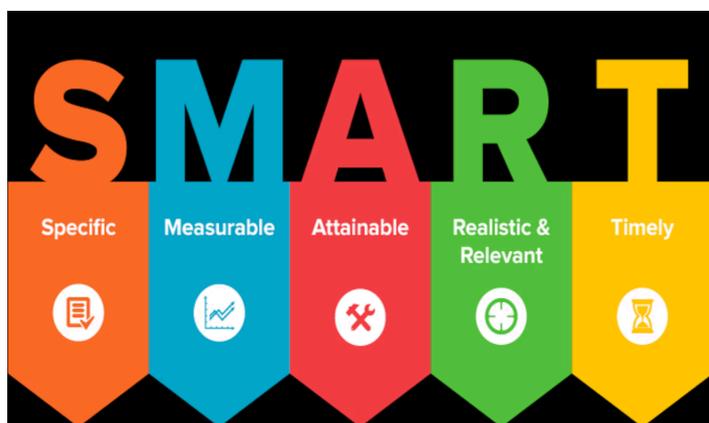
Week 4 Term 1 2026

Thursday 26 February

Conferences

This term is a short nine weeks in duration, and it is flying by! The team are building towards Student Goal Setting Conferences next week. This is something we've been wanting to implement for some time, and we're excited to be heading in this direction.

Teachers have been collaborating with students to develop goals and actions for reading, writing, and maths, along with a values or key competencies goal and a personal goal. These goals will be refined with input from parents and whānau at the conferences, and they will be reviewed each term, with new goals identified as needed.



To do this well, teachers have been teaching students the importance of setting SMART Goals, a skill that will be valuable moving forward.

'Farewell,' Mrs Sowman

As this week comes to an end, I'd like to take the opportunity to thank Bron, Mrs Sowman, for taking the reins in Kea class. They have hit the ground running and have had a great start to the year under her care and guidance. Ms McDowell, Fleur, is excited to be coming back and has been working with Bron to ensure there is a smooth transition. Bron will be here for the conferences, and I'm sure she'll be back to help out during the year, too!

Bouquets

I'm excited about how our teaching team is working together this year to meet the needs of our learners. Teachers across the motu are unequivocal in their belief that a Teacher Aide in every class would make a meaningful difference. We're blessed to have two exceptional Teacher Aides here at Pukehou School, Laura and Michelle.

This week in Kea, as I walked through the classes, there was an audible hum of children learning! Bron was working with the majority of the class on their writing. Laura was working with a small group in Kōtare class, Michelle with another two students, and our Student Teacher, Savannah, was working one-on-one with another student. The effect of explicit instruction like this can't be undervalued.

Likewise, later in the week, our Learning Support Coordinator visited to observe teaching in classes. She focused on our targeted support programme and Structured Literacy, which Laura facilitates in collaboration with classroom teachers. She was glowing in her praise of Laura's ability and her approach.

WANTED!!

While it's still some way off, we will be holding an 'I am the Artist' exhibition next term. Part of the process will involve students preparing their art to exhibit. So, if you have any old picture frames hoarded away that are still usable, could you please drop them in or send them to school.

2025 Achievement & Progress

Analysis of our end-of-year data highlighted some areas we are doing well, and others where we need to continue striving for progress. Students continued to make good year-on-year progress, although we still need to accelerate the learning of others. This is why we have set up our Targeted Support programme this year.

2025 judgements were made using the NZ Curriculum (2007), and this year we have moved to the refreshed curriculum scope and sequence for English and Mathematics.

Reading At or above expectations	Writing At or above expectations	Maths At or above expectations
75%	68.1%	81.7%

Māori student achievement is a concern, with 56% for Reading, 51% for Writing, and 75% working at or above expectations. We are still waiting to confirm this term's Whānau Hui date at Pukehou Marae where we will be able to consult with our Māori families about how we can improve progress and achievement together.

2026 Leadership Opportunities

We will be working closely with students to develop their leadership skills this year. Kāhu students are applying for positions as Cultural (including the Arts), Enviro, and Sports Leaders. Kea students will also be provided the opportunity to support them as Ambassadors.

CAN YOU BE A PUKEHOU SCHOOL SUPERHERO?



We are focusing on recognising positive behaviour this term. Many of our students are mild-mannered superheroes who calmly go about each day, demonstrating our values in and out of the classroom. Golden Tickets are given to those students caught being great, and at each assembly, one student from each class will be drawn to choose a prize from the mystery box. At the end of the term, two movie vouchers are up for grabs!! There will also be a pizza lunch for all students who have made great choices across the whole term!!

Rob Pratt (Principal)



Assembly Superstars, Kaoru, Waevyn, Marnix, and Hudson.



Kea Certificates for amazing mahi for Miley and Carter.



Kāhu Certificates for amazing mahi for Maja and Henry.



Principal Certificates for Leo and Holly, for showing our values and a positive can-do attitude.

SPECIAL EDITION FEBRUARY 23RD 2026

WANTED

Do you have the skills and qualities to make a difference?
Have you got a "can-do" attitude? Are you willing to grow?

STUDENT LEADER

CULTURAL LEADER
AS A CULTURAL LEADER, YOU WILL PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN CELEBRATING AND PROMOTING THE ARTS AND CULTURE.

ENVIRO LEADER
AS AN ENVIRONMENTAL LEADER, YOU WILL PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE IN PROTECTING AND ENHANCING OUR LOCAL ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY PRACTICES.

SPORTS LEADER
AS A SPORTING LEADER, YOU WILL PLAY AN INTEGRAL ROLE IN PROMOTING HEALTHY, ACTIVE LIVING THAT ENHANCES HAUORA-WELLBEING.

REWARD

DEVELOP LEADERSHIP SKILLS AND BUILD CONFIDENCE

CONTRIBUTE POSITIVELY TO THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

PLEASE APPLY IN WRITING, OR BY VIDEO, TO EITHER MR P OR MRS STRONG BY **MONDAY, 2ND MARCH.**

JOB DESCRIPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE ON REQUEST FOR STUDENTS IN KĀHU. THERE WILL BE OPPORTUNITIES TO MENTOR KEA AMBASSADORS TOO.



Ditmar and Zoe: this week's winners in our Golden Ticket prize draw!

Tennis:

Well done to our team of Stella, Camille, Jonny and Sam (from Argyll East) who are competing in the A Grade CHB Inter School Tennis Competition. They had their first games yesterday and all played very well. Keep up the great tennis and enjoy the season. Thank you to JP for managing the team!

<u>IMPORTANT DATES:</u>	
<i>(Check updates on the HERO Calendar)</i>	
<u>MARCH</u>	
Sun 1	Children's Day at Russell Park
Tues 3rd)	Goal Setting Conferences
Wed 4th)	" " "
Tues 10th	Whole School Swimming Sports
Fri 20th	CHB Inter School Swimming Sports
Tues 24th	WPC#2 (Yr 7 & 8) - Mountain Biking
<u>APRIL</u>	
Thurs 2nd	End of Term 1
Fri 3rd	Good Friday

Our Kids Online

2-Minute Tuesdays - Parenting Tips and Tricks!

with Rob Cop

How Much Tablet Time Is Safe for Growing Brains?

With developmental delays in children skyrocketing, this video asks a crucial question every parent needs to consider: How much tablet time is actually safe for our children's young, developing brains?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BdYE3CaVLYY>

Find us here <https://www.ourkidsonline.info>

HOCKEY: [Quality Coaching Services](#) is bringing you two holiday programmes in the upcoming April school holidays. One will be in Napier during the first week and one in Hastings during the second week.



These programmes are always popular so make sure you get in quick to avoid missing a place.

\$55 a day Payable upon registration please

9am - 3pm each day

Year 3 - 8

All abilities welcome

Park Island Napier 8/9/10th April - <https://www.playhq.com/hockey-new-zealand/register/ef6716>

Hastings Hockey Stadium 15/16/17th April - <https://www.playhq.com/hockey-new-zealand/register/4879d6>

For more info please get in touch with Todd

qualitycoachingservices@gmail.com



Following on from the last newsletter, over the page is a list of Pukehou Bus Group Sponsors that we wish to thank and acknowledge.

Apologies in advance if we have missed any!

Centralines
 Stevenson & Taylor Ltd
 Kanapu Hemp Foods Ltd
 NH Packing Ltd
 Figure It Out Limited

Tractortech HB
 LMS Insure
 Kahotea Farming Ltd
 Brownrigg Agricultural

Hammond Ag Contractors Limited
 Cooper Agriculture Limited
 Vet Services Hawke's Bay
 Power Farming Limited



'Stages of Life' takes audiences on a heartfelt journey through childhood, youth, adulthood, and reflection, all told through iconic songs from beloved Broadway musicals. Audiences can expect a moving, relatable, and emotionally rich experience, brought to life by our talented cast of 25, **** (including Marnix from Pukehou School!)** You can expect to hear well-known musical theatre favourites, including songs from... The Sound of Music, Matilda the Musical, Waitress, Cabaret, Fiddler on the Roof, Rent, Annie, Wicked ... and so many more! This isn't just a revue, it's a journey, a reflection and a celebration of every stage of life — told through the music

we all know and love.

Ticket Link: <https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2026/stages-of-life/waipawa>

ANNUAL BOOKARAMA IS BACK

CHB Lions annual Bookarama sale is being held in April. Donations are now being taken for the event, which will once again be held at the CHB Municipal Theatre in Waipawa from Friday 10th to Sunday 12th April. Thousands of books – filling hundred of banana boxes – will be on offer once again, with the Bookarama typically raising more than \$10,000 annually. Volunteers spend countless hours sorting through donations and setting up the venue. Spokesman Mike Tod says the Bookarama will run from 9am to 4pm on Friday 10th and Saturday 11th April, and from 9am to 2pm on Sunday the 12th of April. He says as well as books for all ages and categories, they also welcome donations of puzzles, DVD's, CD's, vinyl records and children's games. Donation drop off points are : 100% Winloves Waipukurau and Tim Chote Appliances Waipawa. Mike says people requiring collection, can call him on 021 464 962 to arrange pick-up. He says people will once again be able to find incredible deals while supporting our community.

Junior Gatsby 2026

Last Friday, we were again excited to be invited to the Junior Gatsby as part of the Art Deco Festival.



The whole school went to celebrate Art Deco at the Napier Soundshell, along with schools from Hastings and Napier.



The students looked amazing and we had a blast! Our picnic was spectacular (thanks to our families), and it was a lovely experience to be part of. A special thank you to the Napier Art Deco Trust who make it all possible.

WOMEN & GIRLS Table Topings International Women's Day

Have-A-Go-Session

SERVE, RALLY AND SMASH YOUR WAY TO FUN.

EVENT INFO: From beginners to pros, all women and girls are welcome. Meet new people and have a blast with friends.

Hosted By: Table Topings Hawke's Bay Women & Girls Have-A-Go Session (Free) 7 March 2025 1:30pm - 4:00pm Venue: The Napier Soundshell, 300 Karama Road, Napier, Hawke's Bay 4101. Contact: @tabletopings@gmail.com

SCAN HERE

