

# Newsletter 8

3 June 2025

Last Friday our Hillcrest Kāhui Ako had our annual Teacher Only Day. This was the last time we will join together as a Kāhui Ako as the funding will be stopping as of the end of this year. Our Hillcrest Kāhui Ako has been running since 2015. It initially comprised Hillcrest High School, Berkley Normal Middle School, Hillcrest Normal School, Silverdale Normal School, Newstead Model Country Model School, Matangi School, Tauwhare School, and Tamahere Model Country School. Peachgrove Intermediate, Hamilton East Primary School, and Knighton Normal School joined later. Kāhui Ako were a way of schools sharing their expertise and best practice and we've certainly been exposed to some wonderful learning over the years. While it will be sad to bid farewell to the Kāhui Ako, we will make sure that our local cluster of schools continue to work together to share best practice.

Today we welcomed our new cohort of 5 year olds to our school. It doesn't seem that long ago that I was bringing my two children to Knighton to start their first day. Time goes quickly. We hope they all feel welcome at our kura and have a great start to their school life.



## Parent Conversations

**School Interview bookings are now OPEN!**

**Parent/teacher conversations will be held on 23rd, 24th and 25th June.**

**Bookings for parents/caregivers to meet with their child/ren's teacher close on June 18th.**

**To make a booking, click the link below:**

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/df7t4>

**If you are asked for a code, it is: df7t4**

## Break Times

**If you need to collect your tamariki/child during the school day for an appointment please take note of the break times below:**

**Morning tea: 10:50 - 11:20am Playtime**

**11:20 - 11:35am Kai/eating time**

**Lunch time: 1:00 - 1:30pm Playtime**

**1:30 - 1:45pm Kai/eating time**

**They must be signed out at the office before being collected from the classroom. If you come during a break time you will need to find them on the playground (quite a challenge with 680 students at our kura). If they are coming back to kura after their appointment you must sign them back in at the office.**



## Playtime Visits

Enrolled preschoolers can attend Playtime sessions with their parents/caregivers once they are enrolled with us. These sessions are held each Wednesday from 1:50 pm to 2:45 pm for up to 4 weeks prior to starting school. The next sessions will begin on Wednesday, 11th June 2025. This will be for children starting school on Monday 14th July's cohort entry.



## Spare Clothing

We have very limited spare clothing available for children. We ask that you keep a change of clothes in your child's school bag in a waterproof plastic bag at all times.

If your child comes home with clothes borrowed from school please wash and return them as soon as possible.



\*If you have good condition shorts and leggings in smaller sizes we would be happy to receive them.



## Focus on Attendance

**ALL** absences must be explained to the school. If a child is absent due to illness, specialist appointment or bereavement, parents must notify the school by 9.00am. These are noted in the classroom attendance register as "acceptable" absences.

For absences other than those listed above, a letter, email or message sent on [Schoolappsnz](https://www.schoolapps.nz) is required in advance explaining the reason and length of time a student will be absent. These are noted in the classroom attendance register as "unacceptable" absences.

If the school does not receive an explanation for absences these are entered on the roll as "unexplained absences". Where a consistent pattern of unexplained absences becomes apparent the school is required to contact the Truancy Officer.

### **N.B: These are Ministry of Education requirements in relation to student attendance.**

Please notify the school if your child is going to be late for a particular reason. All students who are late must report to the School Office to collect a late slip.

When regular latenesses occur the school will notify parents by letter. Should the pattern of unacceptable lateness continue, the school is required to contact the Truancy Officer.



## Lost Property

Please come and look through the lost property outside Mrs Cowie's office regularly. Named items can be returned to children but unfortunately most of the clothing and shoes that are lost by children are unnamed. All unnamed belongings that are not claimed are donated.

PLEASE name ALL your children's clothing and footwear.

*All lost property will be on display tomorrow, Wednesday 4th June, outside Mrs Cowie's office next to the court.*



## School Photos

Class and individual photos were taken last month. You will receive a Photo Keycode from Photolife directly to your email address this month. You will then be able to see the photo/s of your child that were taken and decide if you wish to purchase a pack.

\*Please note that payment is made directly to Photolife.

### Showquest

This show will be performed at Globox Arena on the evening of Thursday 26 June, 6:30pm.

Tickets can be purchased through Ticketek:

<https://premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/Show.aspx?sh=sqwaikat25>

Tamariki who are in the show do NOT need a ticket as they will be backstage but whānau who want to attend will need to purchase tickets.



### Note your calendar

**3 June** - Parent Conversation bookings open

**5 June** - Arbor Day - Minogue Park

**5 June** - Winter Sports Day - back up day

**6 June** - 9:00am Learning Community Hub

**16 June** - 6:00pm - Board of Trustees Hui

**18 June** - Parent Conversation bookings close

**19 June** - 1:45 - 3:00pm Mānawatia a Matariki - Whole school Matariki Moment on the courts

**20 June** - **SCHOOL CLOSED** - Rā Whakanuia a Matariki

**23, 24 & 25 June** - Parent Conversations

**26 June** - 6:30pm - Show Quest - Glowbox Arena

**27 June** - 3pm - End of term 2

**14 July** - 9:00am - Term 3 starts

**Ngā mihi nui**

**Andrew Campbell**  
Principal