

# Newsletter 11

5 August 2025

Last week we celebrated our Showquest team gaining **third place nationally** in the Junior National Finals. We were up against 13 primary and intermediate schools from over the country. The first two placegetters were both intermediates so we were the top primary school in the country. This is a great achievement for our team of dedicated ākonga/students, kaiako/teachers and kaiawhina/supporting staff. I'd also like to acknowledge the whānau of all the students for everything they did to support their kids.

This week is the last session of our Learning Community Hub Programme. This has been the second year we have done this and it has been very successful. The Learning Community Hub is a Ministry of Education funded programme run by the school for many of our new families to Aotearoa/New Zealand. It is a great opportunity for staff and outside agencies to talk to families about what goes on in the New Zealand education system and why. For many of our families, the New Zealand education system is very different to the education system in their country of origin so it's important to have discussion around what, how, and why we teach certain things. A huge thank you to Diane Cooper, Bao Hoang and the ELL team for running the programme, and to all the presenters.

You will be getting a letter soon informing you that **school will be closed for instruction on the afternoon of Tuesday 19th August** so support and teaching staff can attend Paid Union Meetings.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### Internet Outage Week 5: 11th - 15th August

Knighton Normal School is getting an internet upgrade as part of a government programme. During this week there will be one or two days where we have no internet at Knighton School.

This means that during this time we cannot receive or send any messages via email or on [SchoolAppsNZ](#) Class Dojo or Seesaw.

**If you need to communicate with the school about a child's absence or any urgent matter please leave a message on our answer phone 07 856 5393; text or call our school mobile phone 027 352 2089; or call our landline 07 856 5399.**

We will send out another app message when we know the exact date of the outage.

Unfortunately, we cannot have this upgrade during the holiday break so we ask your patience during this period.

# THANKS

Newstead Orchard kindly donated apples last week  
[www.newsteadorchard.co.nz](http://www.newsteadorchard.co.nz)



Sam Waddell, the owner of Four Square, Clyde Street, continues to generously donate food daily for children's lunches.



Please support these businesses to say thank you for their koha to our kura.



## Focus on Attendance

### APPOINTMENTS:

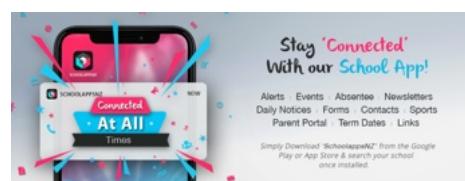
We kindly remind parents and carers that, where possible, medical or other appointments should be scheduled outside of school hours. If an appointment must occur during the school day, we ask that your child only be signed out for the necessary time, not the entire day. Every minute your child spends at school is valuable - help us to support your child's learning.

### EARLY PICK UP:

To minimise disruption to your child/ren's learning, they should not be collected before 3:00pm

### WINTER WEATHER:

Poor weather is not a reason to stay away from school. Students now have a lovely KidsCan jacket to keep them warm and dry.



## Wacky Wheels Day



Tomorrow, Wednesday 6th August the Student Counsellors are organising a Wheels Day for fun on the courts. Years 0 - 3 are going to be in break 1 and years 4 - 6 will be in break 2. You can bring skates, skate boards or scooters (no bikes).




REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR HELMET

## Showquest Nationals – We Placed Third in the Country!



Last Thursday marked the National Digital Finals of *Showquest*, and our talented team of performers represented the Waikato region after already being crowned **Junior Regional Champions** earlier this year.

With excitement and nerves, we watched the final entries online and eagerly awaited the results. To our delight, we received three special awards:

-  *Recognition in Art*
-  *Recognition in Drama*
-  *Recognition in Lighting*

And then came the best news of all—we were announced as the **Third Place Winners** in the **National Junior Competition of Showquest!**


Out of approximately 65 schools, and competing against 13 finalists—many with older tamariki—we were the only primary school to place. What an incredible achievement, powered by hard work, creativity and enthusiasm.

As this incredible journey comes to a close, we want to give a huge shout-out to our amazing performers, lighting assistants, and background designers—you were all TUMEKE. We wouldn't be surprised to see your names in lights one day!

A massive thank you also to our dedicated team behind the scenes: Jane, Briar, Amber, Ally and Amy and our wonderful helpers on the day: Jess, Harmony, Manaia, Arielle, Mical, and Steph. This success wouldn't have been possible without your time, talent, and support.

Ngā mihi nui,

*Ms A and Mrs GW*

 **P.S.** We were even mentioned in the news! Both Hamilton finalists placed at nationals. Check out the article here <https://www.waikatotimes.co.nz/nz-news/360775496/waikato-schools-shine-national-stage>

## Kicky Choppy

*In kicky choppy we do martial arts such as Boxing, BJJ, Judo and many more. We get the mats out so we don't hurt ourselves on the floor. When we start the training we have to greet each other by bowing. Then we move on to some punches such as jab, straight, right hook, left hook, body rip. Then we do cool moves where you can make someone fall, but you need to make sure you don't hurt the people you are practising on. My favourite move is osoto otoshi.*

*By Aidan Hanson*



## Lost Property

All lost property will be on display tomorrow, Wednesday 6th August, outside Mrs Cowie's office next to the courts. Please name all property, clothing and shoes. All unnamed belongings that are not claimed are donated.

## Protect against measles

Confirmed measles cases linked to overseas travel have recently been identified in Aotearoa.

Low immunity, and the close contact nature of education settings, means one infected person could expose and spread measles to many others.

To be immune, you must have had measles before or have had two doses of a measles vaccine after the age of 12 months.

Te Whatu Ora | Health New Zealand is encouraging school kaimahi to look for the signs and symptoms of measles and to check their immunisation status.

## Note your calendar

- 6 August - 12 noon Board of Trustees election, nominations close
- 8 August - 8:45am - Learning Community Hub - Final
- 11 - 14 August - Pāngarau (Maths) Week
- 14 August - 9:15am Senior Recitation Finals - Year 5  
11:40am Senior Recitation Finals - Year 6
- 18 August - New Entrant cohort start date
- 19 August - Paid Union Meeting - **SCHOOL CLOSED FOR INSTRUCTION from 12.30pm**
- 20 August - School cross country, fun run/walk
- 4 September - Interschool cross country
- 10 September - Board of Trustees election day
- 12 September - Ministry Accord Teacher Only Day  
**SCHOOL CLOSED**
- 19 Sept - End of term 3 **School closed for the holidays**

Ngā mihi nui

**Andrew Campbell**  
Principal