Te Kura o Hau Karetu

He waka eke noa: *We're all in this waka together*
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10th November 2026 Week 5, Term 4, 2026

Kia ora, Talofa Lava, Mālō e lelei, Kia orana, Namaste, Kumusta, and now สวัสดี *Sawasdee and Xin chào*

I cannot believe it's the middle of the term already – time is flying!

Nau mai, Haere mai to Violet, Kadesh and Kage who started in Te Waipuna, Te Awa and Ngā Pōtiki this week. We are delighted to have you both at our kura and hope you will make lots of great friends.

An update on photos:

- Student photos are now live and ready to view and order.
- **Keycodes** have been sent via email to you. As this is a new system, please check your **junk, spam, or promotions folders**, in case the message was filtered.
- **Free delivery** applies to orders placed before **midnight on Sunday, 22 November 2026**.
- Please note that we have made some changes to the **family/sibling photo ordering process**. Please ensure that you go through the below:
    - **Family/Sibling Process:**
        - With the new sibling process, once the caregiver/parent clicks on the link, it will automatically preview all their children's codes including their sibling/family code.
- For parent enquiries:
  enquiries@photolife.co.nz

UHUB – Managing Emotions in our Children:

We had some great advice from our UHUB team last week. Thank you to those parents who attended the event. The general advice from them for **Supporting Emotional Growth Through Boundaries** was:

- Children are naturally wired to test boundaries to see how the world works. When adults maintain consistent limits, it helps children learn emotional regulation and appropriate social responses—such as accepting "no" without a meltdown. Consistency between home and school gives children the safety and clarity they need to navigate these big feelings.

We appreciate your support whenever we have some challenging behaviours at school, and we will always try to be understanding of your child's needs. Let us know if there are any behaviours at home you are trying to navigate that you require some support with. We may be able to help.



Diwali:

Did you know that Diwali celebrations started on the 5th of November and will end on the 11th this year? Diwali is the Indian festival of lights and celebrates the triumph of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance—commemorating Lord Rama's return to Ayodhya, the worship of Goddess Lakshmi, and Sikh Bandi Chhorh Divas. It is a very special occasion to some of our families at Te Kura o Hau Karetu, and we would like to wish you a happy Diwali.

Attendance:

We are always trying to improve our attendance rate, and we are definitely making progress from last year with our attendance currently at 87.4% compared with 85.9% this time last year. Thank you so much to everyone for making such a huge effort, despite the costs of petrol and illnesses that have been going around.

Making the Most of the School Day:

Did you know that our end-of-day celebrations are a special part of how we wrap up our learning and connect before heading home? If you ever need to pick your child up early, please check in with their teacher first and stop by the office to sign them out. Because school finishes at 3:00 PM, these little end-of-day moments really help them feel included and settled. Thank you for helping us keep our daily routine smooth for everyone!



UHUB –

If you are wondering about what services UHUB can provide, they are open at the Upper Hutt City Library on Monday 30th November between 9.30am-12pm for a chat.

Swimming -

Swimming is due to start next week, on the 16th November. However, we've struck an issue with our pump, and we are working hard to make sure we start our swimming on time! I know there'll be some very disappointed children if not! Please make sure you have your togs ready for the 16th!

Notices:

- **Potae/Sunhats**: A reminder for all children to bring a full brimmed sunhat/potae to school each day this term. While there hasn't always been sun out, there's still a lot of UV rays in the atmosphere.
- **Drink bottles** – please make sure your child brings a drink bottle to school each day. We have noticed children are becoming headachy and have sore tummies – a sure sign that they're dehydrated. Water only please.
- **Google permissions**: - have you signed your online form to allow your child permission to use Google at school? If not, please check your emails and complete the form.
- **School Photos**: emails to parents on how to purchase photos have been sent.

Important Events for Term 4:

Week 5 9-13 Nov	Friday – Road Patrollers Party **Wednesday 11th Nov – Fundraising Sausage Sizzle at Touch Rugby – volunteers required. Please advise Roseanne if you're able to help.**
Week 6 16-20 Nov	Swimming Starts – bring togs (no t-shirts) and a towel each day. Tuesday – Interschool Athletics **IHAD event Saturday 21st November**
Week 8 30 Nov-4 Dec	EOTC Week – Events on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. Notices coming soon. Years 1-4 – various events Years 5&6 - Camp
Week 9 7-11 Dec	Friday – special event for our students
Week 10 14-16 Dec	Monday – Celebrations Assembly, Leaver's Dinner Wednesday – Final Assembly & Christmas Raffle drawn



Whakaahua Spotlight

Kahimou received POD for touch, repping Te Haukaretu. Rawe Kahimou – way to show Kotahitanga, Atawhai and Whakaute to not only his team but to the opposition as well. It was a tough game playing yr 5/6 but the effort the whole team put in was awesome. Kia Kaha Te Haukaretu Kikorangi!

I spied these four guys sitting together the other day. They have been such good mates since a long time ago and I'm sure they'll be great mates throughout their lives. I know these dudes have loads of fun together. What a great pic Reid, Kyzar, Christian and Shem!







Thank you to Whaea Michelle, Whaea Jewel, Te Akau, Olivia, Winter, Nova Bella, Millie, Olivia, Poorvi, Harper, Jaq Jaq, Pippi-Rose and Kaitiaki who have painted this beautiful kereru. It will be displayed around town in Upper Hutt as part of the Upper Hutt City Council Christmas displays. We are so fortunate to have such talented artists in our midst!



Tangiora and Apereira came down with whānau to do some voting on Saturday. How lucky are we to live in a country with a democracy and that we all have the opportunity to vote every three years?!
Let's hope there will be some positive changes over the next three years with a newly formed government.



Health Hub:

Water is Brain Fuel - Mild dehydration can drop a child's concentration and mood faster than you'd think! Keeping a fun, reusable water bottle filled and accessible throughout the day is an easy way to help them stay sharp, energised, and ready to learn.

A Gentle Safety Reminder: Buckle Up Every Time

Nothing matters more to us than keeping your children safe, both inside our classrooms and on the road. We've recently noticed a few children unbuckled during car pick-up. We know after-school pick-up can be chaotic and rushed, but please take that extra moment to ensure every child is securely buckled in before pulling away. Thank you for partnering with us to keep our little ones safe on every single journey!

Ngā mihi nui
Karen Wellington
Tumuaki/Principal