

Solway School Newsletter - Term 4, Week 1

Tuesday 7th October, 2025



Upcoming Events Dates & Reminders

- ★ Pet and Flower day
10th October
- ★ Basic-fact-a-thon
5th Nov

☎ 06 377 4850

☎ 022 105 3218

f Facebook



office@solway.school.nz



principal@solway.school.nz



[School Web Page](http://www.solway.school.nz)

Tēnā koutou, Talofa lava, Mālō e Lelei, Namaste, Kia Orana, Bula.

Tēnā koutou e te whānau o te kura o Solway,



Welcome back Solway, I hope everyone had a great break. A very warm welcome to our 5 new 5 year olds who started school yesterday and also to Viv Booth and Valmai Holmes who are teaching in Kanuka this term. Simona Wharekawa has also returned from maternity leave and will be teaching part time in the junior classes.

Solway School Flower and Pet Day Friday 10th October

This Friday is our annual Flower and Pet day. Parents and families are most welcome to join us with pets at 1pm for a picnic lunch and events. **We will have a fundraising Sausage Sizzle at \$2 a sausage.**

Any animals other than those who eat children or teachers are most welcome, the weather is looking good at this stage.

Timetable of the day below

Morning – students to make and share their flower and vegetable creations

1 - 1:45 - lunch with families, classes will be open to look at the flower & vegetable creations.

2pm all on field for parade and then go home either with families or back to class.

The pets are in the following places:

Dogs: *Southern trees on the field* **Cats:** *Hall* **Birds / Fish:** *Hall verandah*

Lambs: *Trees at the end of the field under the trees before the pool*

Cows/Calves: *under the start of the macrocarpa hedge*

Goats: *By the swimming pool* **Horses / ponies:** *Plantation*

Rodents: *Hall verandah* **Other pets (pet rocks etc)** *Hall verandah*

The long range weather forecast isn't looking great but it looks good enough to go ahead. If we need to cancel due to weather we will make the call before the end of the day on Thursday and continue with the flower morning activities regardless.

WHEELS DAY Wednesday - this Wednesday is a wheels day. Bikes, scooters, skateboards or roller blades are most welcome but all children on wheels must have a helmet.

EARRINGS at School! An increasing number of students are coming to school wearing dangly earrings. These are very dangerous and not appropriate for school. We are going to start confiscating these and require the parents to pick them up. Split ear lobes are no fun, nor is sitting in the A & E for 12 hours waiting for the stitches. Only plain studs are allowed.

Teachers Strike: The NZEI (Primary Teachers Union) has voted to strike on **Thursday 23rd October**. This means the school will need to close on that day unless the strike gets called off which is always a possibility. The strike means Labour Weekend will become a 5 day weekend for Solway students due to Friday being a teachers only day. We have held a teacher only day on the Friday before Labour weekend for decades and had booked a ministry run maths course for that day earlier in the year. The majority of Solway staff voted not to strike and we consider striking prior to a long weekend being a very bad look and not helping our cause but this is a decision made across the country, not just at Solway.

2026 Class Placement. If you have a particular request regarding friendship combinations or learning styles please put it in writing to myself, either on paper or by email to principal@solway.school.nz before Friday October 17th. We do not allow requests for specific teachers. Children will be informed of their 2026 classes and teachers in December.

Year 6 students to MIS

If you intend sending your child to MIS can you please fill in the form by following the link. If you have difficulty, please let us know. bit.ly/46HvCTS

SPECIAL EVENTS in Term 4

- Pet & Flower Day Friday October 10th
- TEACHERS STRIKE Thursday 23rd October (planned)
- Teacher only day Friday 24th October
- Lots of trips
- Athletics Friday November 7th
- School Disco December 4th
- Year 5 Camp Thursday & Friday 13th & 14th November
- Year 6 Graduation Wednesday 10th December
- Prize Giving Friday December 12th
- Last day of school Tuesday December 16th. *(Please note that Prize giving isn't on the last day this year simply due to the availability of the Wairarapa College Hall).*

Hats from after Labour Weekend, we consider it to be summer (ish) after Labour weekend meaning all students will need to bring their hats everyday. Hats should be navy blue without logos. Children can also wear sandals. Black or Navy Blue Crocs are also acceptable but they need to be free from any jibbitz.

RETURN OF CUPS. Any students who were awarded cups or shields at last year's prize giving, could these please be returned to the school office asap so we can get them engraved for the 2025 recipients. Thank you to those who have returned them already.

WANTED! : Do you have a child turning 5 in 2025 or 2026? We are aware that many of our existing students have younger siblings. It's a huge help to us if parents enrol their four year olds up to a year prior to them starting. These pre enrolments can be used by us to gain more teachers for the school which in turn lowers our class sizes, even if they are not 5 for another year, please help us out by enrolling them now. Enrolment forms are available at the office.

Touch Rugby starts this Thursday.
Have a great week

Ngā mihi
Mark Bridges

School Notices



Solway School Basic-fact-a thon 2025



Next Monday every child will be given a basic-fact-a thon pack. The Solway Basic-fact-a thon is when children bring home some basic facts to learn at their level. You gather sponsorship for the Basic-fact-a thon which is on 5th Nov. Children have 3 weeks to practise their basic facts at home.

If the questions are too hard or too easy please let your child's teacher know asap and they can give you a different level.

This is a fantastic opportunity to help your child/ren with their basic facts knowledge and speed. There will be class spot prizes and prizes for the most money raised. In 2023 we raised \$6000.

FUNDRAISING - Beeswax wraps

Handmade Beeswax Wraps

\$ 5

Cash or bank transfer

Buy from the school office

All proceeds will go towards purchasing picture books

A Harakeke initiative

Community Notices

TOTS TO TEENS

Here is the link to the latest issue of Tots to Teens

Spring is upon us, and our latest issue is jam-packed with content to help Kiwi parents: issue2509.totstoteens.co.nz



Masterton
Red Star
CRICKET

Email: mark.sheryn@xtra.co.nz to register your Junior player for Term 4!

RED STAR
SPORTS ASSOCIATION

2025/2026 SEASON

Friday Evenings Term 4:
Games & Smash Hubs commence 5.30pm

Smash Play Hubs - (Junior primary school)
Kids new to cricket. Focus on fundamentals through fun games and activities.

Super 6s (6 per side) - All kids bat and bowl.
Super 8s (8 per side) - All kids bat and bowl.

Saturday Morning: 9.00am (Senior Primary)
Junior Hardball - 9 per side
2 ability grades



Ka nui te mihi, ā, kia pai te wiki