

Solway School Newsletter - Term 1, Week 2

Tuesday 10th February



Upcoming Events Dates & Reminders

Feb 12th 5-6:30pm Meet the teachers Picnic

March 2nd 5:30pm Solway Triathlon

March 10-13 Year 6 Camp

March 24&25 Learning Conferences

April 2nd Last Day of Term 1

☎ 06 377 4850

☎ 022 105 3218

f Facebook

✉ office@solway.school.nz

✉ principal@solway.school.nz

🌐 [School Web Page](#)

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

Tēnā koutou e te whānau o te kura o Solway,

The sun is back, lots going on this week.

Meet the Teacher Picnic Evening: Thursday 12 February | 5:00–6:30pm. We warmly invite families to our Meet the Teacher Picnic Evening. From 5:00pm, bring a BYO picnic dinner and enjoy time together on the main playground court. This is a relaxed opportunity to reconnect with our school community and meet your child's teaching team.

- Junior Team (Rangitumau):
5:30–5:45pm in the Pōhutukawa Classroom
- Senior Team (Tararua):
5:45–6:00pm in the Manuka Classroom

These are short team meetings, not one-on-one interviews, but parents will have the chance to say hello and hear key information for the year ahead. Children will be supervised in the playground while parents attend meetings. The evening will finish by 6:30pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

ICE BLOCKS :

The Friends of Solway will be selling Iceblocks again on Friday at lunchtime for \$1.

Stationery: All children have been provided with a full set of stationery at the start of the year. Families will be invoiced for this shortly. We try as hard as we can to keep the cost affordable.

No students at school before 8am - Just a reminder that no students should be at school before 8am. School starts at 8:55am.

Road Patrol - A teacher and signage comes out from 8:30am-8:50am daily for safe road crossing. Everyone must use the crossing to cross the road both in the morning and afternoon even if you do not have your child with you when you cross.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE : We are all committed to ensuring that our children get the most out of their education. Students who attend school regularly learn more and achieve better results. Researchers estimate that for every day of learning a child is absent, it will take 2 days to catch up. Burnside High School in Christchurch recently released research showing that students who had more than 90% attendance also had a 98% pass rate - it just goes to show that 90% of success can be down to just showing up.

As parents, you have an important role in ensuring that your child attends school whenever it is open, unless there is a good reason for his/her absence. As of 2026 all schools must have an attendance plan in place. If a student's attendance falls below 90% a letter will be sent home as per the Ministry's new guidelines. If poor attendance continues, this will be followed by a visit from truancy services. Obviously the school allows for special circumstances and will continue to apply common sense.

Expectations for Absence rates across the year

ACCEPTABLE	5% absence	approx 10 days per year (1 day per month)
A CONCERN	10% absence	approx 4 weeks per year (2 days per month)
CRITICAL CONCERN	15% absence	approx 6 weeks per year (3 days per month)
VERY SERIOUS	20% absence	approx 8 weeks per year (1 day per week)

2026 Classroom Teachers and contacts

Kanuka	Salome Le Roux Hannah Doherty	salome@solway.school.nz hannah@solway.school.nz
Pohutukawa	Rosie Milne Sarah Booth	rosie@solway.school.nz sarahb@solway.school.nz
Rimu	Tessa Southey	tessa@solway.school.nz
Harakeke	Sarah Booth Julie Van der Veen	sarahb@solway.school.nz julie@solway.school.nz
Titoki	Kirsty Hull	kirsty@solway.school.nz
Kauri	Jenny Rees	jenny.l@solway.school.nz
Totara	Jo Gibson	jo.g@solway.school.nz
Matai	Niheta Veale Penny Thomson	niheta@solway.school.nz penny@solway.school.nz
Manuka	Steve Hornby Penny Thomson	steve@solway.school.nz penny@solway.school.nz
Rata	Ellaine Hurdell Simona Wharekawa	ellaine@solway.school.nz simona@solway.school.nz
Literacy Support	Martha Brienza	martha@solway.school.nz
Numeracy Support / ORS / STEM	Juliet Bridges	juliet@solway.school.nz
Deputy Principal / SENCO	Hannah Doherty	hannah@solway.school.nz
Principal	Mark Bridges	principal@solway.school.nz
Office	Viv Nicol Selina Wyeth	office@solway.school.nz
Learning Support Coordinator	Nikki Irwin	lsc@solway.school.nz

Please note communication with any teacher aides needs to go through either the classroom teacher, Hannah Doherty or myself.

Ngā mihi Mark Bridges,

Ma te Atua koe e manaaki me to whanau

School Notices

Week 2 Ako Card Winners!!!

Congratulations to Isaac, Ngatokorua, Frankie, Abel, Annabel, Jed, Ellie, Ollie and Isla!



School Lunches are available from this Friday each week ordering on the....

kindo.co.nz website.

Families that previously had a lunch online account and any unused balance has been transferred to kindo, Pop in and update your details and carry on. There are a few different options to choose from. New families can set up a user friendly account in a few short steps. We are happier with some of the options than we are with others but we are making it available to our school community to see what you think. We are not locked into a contract and may look at changing our Friday lunch offerings at some point in the future.

Thanks DKSH



Katrina has been working hard sorting all the products we have been sent by DKSH (a food distribution company in New Zealand). These products are going to be used to support our PB4L - Positive Behaviour For Learning initiatives.

Term 1 Sport

Just a reminder to register for:

- Junior Netball (Year 0-4)
- Tee Ball (Year 0-2) and Mod Softball (Year 3-6)

Swimming Sports is going to be in Week 4, Thursday the 26th February, 1pm at the town pool.





STARS OF THE WEEK



Pōhutukawa: Louis has had a fantastic first week of school. He settled in quickly, came to school with a happy attitude, and showed great confidence joining in with class routines and activities. Well done Louis, we are so proud of how you've started the year!

Kānuka: Isla Wilton - Isla is a wonderful role model for the new tamariki in Kānuka. She includes other people in her games and she's made everyone feel welcome on their first day. Ka pai Isla! We love the positivity you bring to Kānuka.

Rimu: Lily has had a wonderful start to the year. She has come back to school confident, smiling and chatting with all her classmates. She has settled in well and is showing an amazing attitude. Well done Lily!

Harakeke: Grace who has had an amazing start to the school year. She is engaged and has already demonstrated all of our school values. What a super role model you are Grace, we can see the effort that you're putting in.

Tītoki: Archie has had a fantastic start to the year. He is showing all the school values and has been especially kind to our new students. Ka pai rawa, Archie.

Kauri: Robyn has made a fantastic start in her new class at Solway! She shows lots of Manaakitanga by being ready to learn and always keen to give things a go. She has settled in beautifully, and we love having her in Kauri!

Tōtara: Penny and Eden are our stars this week. They've adjusted to Solway as their new school, so incredibly well. They have made new friends already and have already shown some great progress in just a few days! Manawanui - in terms of resilience and Manaakitanga, in terms of respect and responsibility, have been their really big deals!

Matai: Zara has shown Manaakitanga at the start of the year. She is so helpful and caring towards others. She wants to help others do their best and sets a good example. Tu meke, Zara.

Mānuka: Olivia for being an awesome digital helper in the classroom.

Rata: Millie-Rose is our star this week for giving everything a go with a big smile. Your positivity is awesome, Millie! Ngā mihi nui ki a koe!

Community Notices



BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

6.45AM-8.45AM
2.30PM-5.45PM

Breakfast & Afternoon tea provided
Swimming Tuesday & Thursday afternoons
Homework help
Friendly, trained and educated staff
Drop off and pick up to Swim Tangaroa lessons



NEW LOCATION:
2 DIXON ST MASTERTON (TRUST HOUSE POOLS - LOCATED IN STADIUM)

CONTACT US:
mastertonchillout@clmnz.co.nz
027 467 7156
or pop in and see us!



Ka nui te mihi, ā, kia pai te wiki