

Newsletter 5

21 April 2026

Welcome back everyone to the new term. I hope you all had a relaxing Easter break and some time to spend with family and friends.

We had a great start to the term yesterday and it was awesome to see all the children again. We are already enjoying the new basketball hoops that were installed over the break by Ammon and his team from Nathan Construction.

A special welcome to our new students and their families. We hope you have settled in well to life at Knighton.

Last term we farewelled Nell Harrison, who retired from her position of Office Administrator after 30 years of service to the school. We will miss Nell a lot but we're very happy for her as she embarks on her next chapter in life. Amber Daniels, who has worked in Te Hihiri as Kaiāwhina for the last couple of years, is now working in the office. I would like to welcome Whaea Nish who has replaced Amber as Kaiāwhina in Te Hihiri.

A friendly reminder that school will be closed for instruction on Monday 27th April (ANZAC Day) and Monday 4th May (Ministry Accord Teacher Only Day). Schools were given two Teacher Only Days by the Ministry of Education to work on the new curriculum changes. These days do not need to be made up at the end of the year. Our staff will be working with Emma Nahna on the 4th May on the implementation of the new English Curriculum. Emma is an expert in Literacy and we are really looking forward to spending time with her.



Nell planting the apple tree she donated to the mara kai

Learning Community Hub

There will be an information session for the Learning Community Hub on Friday 24th April from 9:00 - 10:50am.

This programme is designed for the parents and caregivers of migrant families and focuses on the New Zealand education system.

If you want to be involved you need to be able to commit to 10 weeks of learning on a Friday morning.



You will find translated information in English, Telugu, Hindi & Mandarin on our website - [Newsletters | Knighton Normal School](#)

School Book Fair – Advance Notice



We are excited to let you know that our annual School Book Fair will be held in Week 11 of this term. This is earlier in the year than usual, so we wanted to give families plenty of notice to allow time to plan or save

In addition, Scholastic Book Club catalogues will be coming home with students this week. If you would like to place an order, please note that all orders must be completed online via the Scholastic website or app. The school and office will not be accepting any cash or paper orders.

Thank you for your support in helping us foster a love of reading in our students.

Celebrating Culture at Knighton



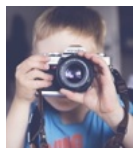
As Pōtatau, the first Māori King, said, *“There is but one eye of the needle through which the red, black and white threads must pass.”*

This whakataukī is written in te reo Māori at the centre of our mural. Around it are beautiful pictures and designs—flowers, animals, and even flags—created by tamariki from Years 3 and up. Each piece represents something special from their family’s country of origin.

Our mural shows how proud we are to be a multicultural school, where we truly value the richness every family brings to our community.

Pauline Gardener Ward

Kaiako Akomanga 2



School Photos

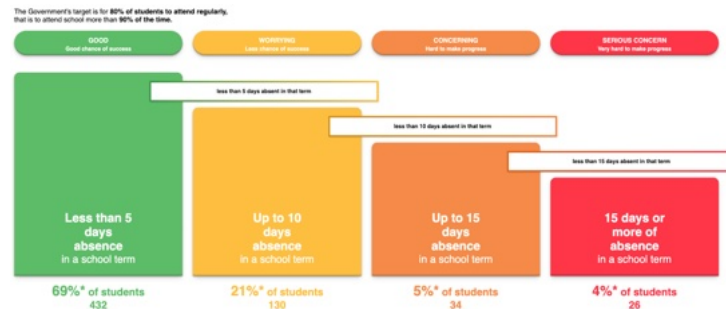
Class and individual photos will be taken on **Friday 15th May** - you will receive more information soon but it is important we have your correct email address so your photo key code can be sent to you after the photos are taken. You can send updated email addresses to -knighton@kns.ac.nz

***PLEASE NOTE - Only children who are currently attending Knighton can have their photos taken, no preschoolers or older siblings.**



Focus on Attendance

The table below shows the Knighton statistics for attendance during term 1 as calculated by the Ministry of Education. We will put these in the newsletter regularly so you can see how we are tracking as a school.



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 clothes and footwear.

Journey Kids

Journey Kids will be running a programme on Monday 4th May when school is closed for the Teacher Only Day. It will be live and bookable on their website www.journeykids.co.nz by Wednesday 22nd April.

For more information contact admin@journeykids.co.nz



Note your calendar

- 24 April - 9:00am - Learning Community Hub
- 27 April - ANZAC Day - **SCHOOL CLOSED**
- 1 May - 9:00am - Learning Community Hub
- 4 May - 6:00pm - Board of Trustees Hui
- 4 May - Ministry Accord Teacher Only Day - **SCHOOL CLOSED**
- 7 May - 5:30pm - Whānau hui
- 15 May - Photolife school photo day

Ngā mihi nui

Andrew Campbell

Principal