

Yesterday the staff had a wonderful day working with Emma Nahna on the new English Curriculum. We have started trialling the 'Releasing Writers' programme in a number of our classrooms and we're already seeing significant and exciting improvements in the children's writing. This approach and programme is something we're looking to use right throughout the school in the near future.

We also started our Learning Community Hub initiative which runs on Fridays from 9.00 - 10.30am. This Ministry of Education funded programme is aimed at families who are new to Aotearoa/New Zealand and are wanting to find out more about education in our country. Last week we looked into the important role Te Tiriti plays in education and our country. We will be spending the next few weeks looking into the way our curriculum works and why we teach the way we do. If you are relatively new to our country and would like to take part in these sessions, please contact Bao Hoang at bhoang@kns.ac.nz or Diane Cooper at dcooper@kns.ac.nz.

Over the last couple of months, we have become increasingly concerned with the number of adults picking up and dropping off children by the pedestrian crossing on Knighton Road. This is very dangerous as the road is extremely busy between 8.30 - 9.00 am and 3.00 - 3.15pm. Please don't do this for the welfare and safety of our tamariki.

Thank you to everyone for working hard on getting our children to school everyday and on time (unless there was a legitimate reason for not attending). The Ministry of Education recently contacted the school to congratulate us on the significant improvement we've made with our 'regular' attendance rate. It is really important children attend school as this has a direct impact on their learning and sense of wellbeing.

We have recently welcomed Deb Forrester (staff representative) and welcomed back Maro Arcus (parent representative - casual vacancy) to our school board. They replace Nicole Antoniadis and Anuj Datta who have left the board. I would like to sincerely thank both Nicole and Anuj for the work they've put into the board. It was very much appreciated.



As the sun shone on my face my excitement rose. It was my first time laying a wreath on ANZAC Day for Knighton. STOMP! STOMP! STOMP! Soldiers were marching down the road, music playing, it was magical to watch. I waited and suddenly it was time for the schools to lay the wreaths. They shouted Knighton, we were first, now my nerves were starting to affect me so without a doubt I threw my nerves away and stepped out with Levi to lay the wreath.

Sasmi - Akomanga 5



Collaborative artwork by Akomanga 7



School Book Fair – Advance Notice

We are excited to let you know that our annual School Book Fair will be held in **Week 10** of this term (22nd June - 25th June). This is earlier in the year than usual, so we wanted to give families plenty of notice to allow time to plan or save.

***Please note this is a week earlier than we first advertised.**

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

CHARACTER DAY!



During Book Week, we will be holding our annual Character Parade - all students are encouraged to dress up. Any one who dresses up will go into the draw to win a prize! There's no need to buy anything new—we love seeing the creative costumes students can put together using items from home!

★ **Matariki Star Competition** ★

We will also be running a creative competition during Book Week for students who are keen to get involved. Students will have the opportunity to design their very own Matariki star, featuring their favourite book character, a scene from a book, or even a book cover. Entry forms for this will be given out closer to the time.

Book Amnesty Box

Do you have any school library books or readers at home? Simply return them to the bucket at the Smile Window—no questions asked!



School Photos

Photo day. Save the date.

Your child's school photos will be taken at:

School name: **Knighton Normal School**

Date: **Friday 15th May 2026**

Class and individual photos will be taken on **Friday 15th May** - you will receive a PhotoLife flyer this week regarding **sibling** photos.

You only need to return the signed flyer to school if you want a sibling/whanau photo taken - return one form per family by Wednesday 13th May.

All students have their photo taken. A Photo Keycode will be emailed to you by PhotoLife after the photos are taken. You will then be able to see the photo/s of your child that were taken and decide if you wish to purchase them. Payment is made directly to PhotoLife.

*** Check we have your correct email address**

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



Spare Clothing

We have very limited spare clothing available for children. We ask that you keep a change of clothes in your child's school bag in a waterproof plastic bag at all times.

If your child comes home with clothes borrowed from school please wash and return them as soon as possible.

***If you have spare clothes in good condition to donate, particularly shorts and leggings in all sizes, we would be very grateful to receive them.**



Cohort Entry

We have a cohort entry policy for new entrant students at our school. We believe this brings numerous benefits to our students and their families/whānau. Cohort entry refers to the practice of having children of a similar age group starting school together at set intervals throughout the year. In this regard, we offer two entry points per term, specifically during weeks 1 and 6. This means your child will start school on the first entry date after they have turned five and they have been enrolled.

It is important you put your children's name on our register so the office can keep you informed about the pre-school visits that prepare them for starting school. These sessions are for the child starting school and a caregiver only, no younger siblings please. We will contact you regarding completing the enrolment forms in the term before they are due to start school.

Our next cohort entry date is Monday, 25th May. If you have a child who is eligible to start on this date please complete an enrolment form at the office. You can find all the entry dates for 2026 on our website:

[Enrolments | Knighton Normal School](#)



Updating Contact Details

Do we have your most recent:

- Telephone number
- Email address
- Physical address

It is very important we are able to contact families, especially if your tamariki/children are unwell. We also need at least one additional emergency contact person for each student.

Come in to the office to check your details or email us at: knighton@kns.ac.nz



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.



Note your calendar

7 May: 5:30pm - Whānau hui

8 May: 9:00 - 10:50am Learning Community Hub

15 May: Photolife school photo day

15 May: 9:00 - 10:50am Learning Community Hub

19 May: Moorrinsville Netball & Runny Tournament

21 May: Winter Sports Day

22 May: 9:00 - 10:50am Learning Community Hub

25 May: New Entrant Cohort Entry Day

29 May: 9:00 - 10:50am Learning Community Hub

1 June: King's Birthday Public Holiday - **SCHOOL CLOSED**

5 June: Arbor Day

5 June: 9:00 - 10:50am Learning Community Hub

Ngā mihi nui

Andrew Campbell

Principal