



# Huia Range School

Term 1 Week 6 Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Website: [www.huiarange.school.nz](http://www.huiarange.school.nz)

School Phone Numbers 027 781 2224 06 374 6444

## Attendance

### Last week's attendance:

Term 1 Week 5 **69% attendance**

Our 2026 attendance target is 75% + of students attending 90% of the time.

Attendance is a major focus for the government and MOE.

Everyday matters, the Stepped Attendance Response (STAR) & The Attendance Management Plan' are the MOE frameworks used make sure students come to school regularly.

Each child's attendance is automatically reported daily to the MOE via our student management system.

The MOE highlights that the more students come to school the more they learn:

- how to interact with others
- ways to manage their emotions
- how to be critical thinkers
- to grow more confidence
- ways to problem-solve
- structure and routine
- discipline, time management and good habits
- the new curriculum & progress academically
- the value of Kotahitanga (unity) and whanaungatanga (sense of belonging) in the school community
- empathy, respect & relationship skills

Schools are **required** to follow up with families when students are away more than 5 days in a school term.

I have attached the STAR to the newsletter again for your reference.

## Swim Sports

School swimming sports is on **next Friday the 20th of March** at WaiSplash pools.

Tamariki swimming in competitive and non-competitive events are students that are aged 8 years and above as of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026.

We encourage all our tamariki to wear their plain house tee-shirts to swimming sports on Friday.

Tamariki will need:

Swimming gear – togs and towel  
House coloured tee shirt  
A bottle of water  
Healthy snacks

Lunch will be delivered, and fruit will be available.

*No KFC, McDonalds, packets of chocolate biscuits, fizzy or energy drinks thanks.*

Tamariki can arrive at WaiSplash between 8.45am and 9.00am.

Bus students may walk down to WaiSplash when they get off the bus at school in the morning.

The office will advise on Facebook when swimming sports finishes.

If swimming sports finishes early, we will walk back to school, otherwise students will be released from WaiSplash directly at 3pm.

If any bus students are going home with their caregivers/parents, please let the office know by ringing the school.

## Up Coming Events

### March 2026

- 16 – Room 12 Trip
- 17 - Room 11 Trip
- 18 - Room 10 Trip
- 18 - GRIP Leadership Trip PN
- 19 - Room 9 Trip
- 20 – School Swim Sports
- 24 – Rippa Rugby
- 27 – Staff Only Day (School Closed)**
- 31 – Interschool Swim Sports
- 31 – School Board meeting

### April 2026

- 2– End of Term Assembly
- 2 – STRIVE/Mufti day
- 2 - End of Term
- 3 – Good Friday

Ka kite ano. Kia nui te ra

Lindsey Randall  
Tumuaki/Principal

Congratulations to this week's winning house  
Kaitiaki

We have been advised of possible cases of chicken pox in our school  
Information is attached to the back of the newsletter.



# Congratulations to the students who received class certificates this week

## Room 2:

**Andrew** - For settling into routines and working hard to transfer prior knowledge to this year's learning

**Layne** - For settling into routines and working hard to develop work ethic to match the work load

## Room 3:

**Nahryion** - For active participation in all activities and showing sportsmanship when playing in team activities.

**Lucas** - For working hard on his self-regulation strategies to stay focused on his classroom activities.

## Room 4:

**Shen** - For sharing knowledge with his peers to help extend their learning.

**Jaylah** - For showing initiative by helping others within the classroom.

## Room 5:

**Miles** - For working hard in all areas of the curriculum and bringing humour into the classroom. Tau kē tō mahi!

Awesome work.

**Skylah** - For showing resilience when persevering with difficult tasks. He whetū koe! You are a star.

## Room 6:

**Lowka-Tyde** - For putting in effort and having a positive attitude towards improving in all areas of learning.

## Room 7:

**Curtis** - For STRIVING to achieve the Maths activities. Ka pai to mahi!

**Hikurangi** - For settling into a Huia Range School and giving all work a go! Ka pai to mahi!

## Room 9:

**Billenthious** - For wonderful work ethic, focusing on your goals and contributing to class discussion. Tino pai to mahi.

**Connor** - For a positive attitude towards your learning, staying focused and working hard on your mahi. Ka pai!

## Room 10:

**Ariā** - For your consistent hard work and for your dedication to our school STRIVE values!

**Olly** - For your beautiful humble nature and for always producing accurate work!

## Room 11:

**Tui** - For putting the STRIVE values into action with amazing hard work and a never-give-up attitude!

**Ty-Mani** - For displaying perseverance and a proactive approach to learning and improvement.

## Room 12:

**Nathan** - For working very hard to produce a reading response poster illustrating the elements of his graphic organiser and knowledge of the topic.

Tino pai! (Great work)

**Adel** - For working hard to compete her maths tasks to a high standard. Tino pai! (Great work)

## Room 15:

**Ranzklay** - For an enthusiastic and confident start to school life. Welcome to Huia Range School!

**Dexter** - For an eager and positive start to school life. Welcome to Huia Range School!

# Keep STRIVING for Excellence!



## Huia Range School School Stepped Attendance Response Activities

Below is our stepped attendance response for responding to individual student absence.

Primary School - Attendance Management Plan Exemplar – Updated December 2025

Good Attendance	Worrying Attendance	Concerning Attendance	Very Concerning Attendance
Less than 5 days absence in a school term	Up to 10 days absence in a term	Up to 15 days absence in a term	15 days or more absence in a term
Whānau	Whānau	Whānau	Whānau
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure student attends every day they are able</li> <li>• Reinforce good attendance habits</li> <li>• Support other whānau to reinforce good attendance habits</li> <li>• Follow school attendance management plan and procedures</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Return student to regular attendance</li> <li>• Contact school to discuss reasons for absence and impact on learning</li> <li>• Support student to catch up on missed learning</li> <li>• Engage in supports offered</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Return student to regular attendance</li> <li>• Participate in meetings with school to analyse reasons for absence and to collaborate on a support plan</li> <li>• Implement strategies at home</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Return student to regular attendance</li> <li>• Engage in support plan</li> <li>• Participate in regular meetings</li> </ul>
Kura	Kura	Kura	Kura
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communicate with whānau about every absence</li> <li>• Maintain contact details of all parents</li> <li>• Provide students with regular updates on their own attendance</li> <li>• Report regularly to whānau on attendance of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact parents to discuss reasons for absence and impact on learning</li> <li>• Support student to catch up missed learning where required</li> <li>• Use in-school resources as appropriate to remove barriers, eg: counsellor,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact parents to escalate concerns</li> <li>• Hold meeting to analyse reasons for absence and to collaborate on a support plan</li> <li>• Develop and implement a support plan tailored to the reasons and circumstances</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact parents to inform of escalated response</li> <li>• Request support from Attendance Service or other agencies as needed</li> <li>• Participate in multi-agency response</li> <li>• Maintain implementation</li> </ul>



# Let's talk English



Do you find speaking English hard?

Do you want to meet and talk to other people learning the language?

Come and speak English, meet people, and feel at home.

Bring a friend or family member along. No cost.



## Details

 5.15 pm - 6.45 pm

 Weekly, starting  
Tuesday 17 March  
Excluding School Holidays

 Tararua REAP,  
15 Gordon Street

 Food provided

**To Register, contact  
Tararua REAP, or visit  
[www.tararuareap.co.nz](http://www.tararuareap.co.nz)**

**TARARUA REAP**  
Rural Education Activities Programme

 15 Gordon Street, Dannevirke  
 06 374 6565  
 [office@tararuareap.co.nz](mailto:office@tararuareap.co.nz)  
 [www.tararuareap.co.nz](http://www.tararuareap.co.nz)  



## Chicken Pox Information sheet

### What is it?

Chickenpox is a common childhood illness that is easily spread. It is caused by the varicella zoster virus. It affects mostly children under the age of 10 years and over 90% of the population have had chickenpox by the age of 15 years. One infection usually gives long lasting immunity. The virus however can remain in the body and be reactivated in later life to cause 'shingles'.

### How does a person become infected?

Infection is spread from person to person. Time between exposure and sickness is 10-21 days, usually 14-16 days. When a child catches the virus, it spreads rapidly throughout the body, affecting first the nose and throat and later the rest of the body. It is spread during the early illness by coughing but later spread can occur by direct contact with moist skin sores. People are usually infectious 1-2 days before onset of rash and until all blisters have formed crusts (usually 5-7 days).

### What are the signs and symptoms of the illness?

Chicken pox starts with 'sudden onset of fever, some cough and a lack of energy. A skin rash appears soon after as small raised red spots. These may be only a few or many and while most common on the covered parts, can spread over the whole body. In a few hours the spots form blisters that soon burst to leave open sores, which then scab over in 3 or 4 days. Several crops of these blisters may come out over a period of days, so that at any one time there may be sores in various stages of development. Full recovery usually takes 7 – 10 days after the symptoms first appear.

### Treatment

Usually, the only treatment available is for the symptoms. Calamine lotion or an antihistamine medicine like phenergan may ease the itch from the rash. A daily bath in tepid water is recommended, then dry by patting with a clean, soft towel rather than rubbing.

- Rest and plenty of fluids are important.
- Children should avoid scratching as this increases the risk of secondary bacterial infection and possible scarring.
- Paracetamol may be helpful but pain relieving medicines containing aspirin should not be given to children with chickenpox because it can increase the risk of serious complications.
- Antibiotics are of no use against viruses like chickenpox, but may be needed if a bacterial infection also develops.
- Antiviral medications may be prescribed by a doctor, but are used only in adolescents and adults who have severe disease. They must be started within the first 3 days of the rash appearing (preferably day 1).

## Will I need time off school, childcare or work?

Yes you will need to stay home and avoid contact with other people for one week from the date of appearance of the rash until all the blisters have crusted over.

## How is spread prevented?

Cover the nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing, dispose of used tissues, wash hands carefully after contact, and don't share eating utensils, food and drinking cups.

- Keep those with chickenpox away from school, pre-school or work until all the blisters have crusted, and the person feels well.
- Pregnant women should avoid contact with cases of chickenpox, as infection can harm both the mother and the unborn baby. A doctor should be contacted immediately if a pregnant woman develops symptoms.

One dose of the chickenpox vaccine is funded for:

- Children at aged 15 months (for those who were born or after 1 April 2016); or
- Previously unvaccinated children turning 11 years old on or after 1 July 2017 who have not previously had chickenpox.

Two doses of the vaccine are funded for a range of groups who are more prone to severe infection. The vaccine can be given from 9 months of age but is only funded for the above groups.

## Does having chicken pox mean I will get shingles later in life?

Shingles is caused by the reactivation of the varicella-zoster virus and can only occur in people who have had chickenpox previously. Consequently it is more common in older people. Shingles is characterised by the development of a painful rash with groups of blisters and sores. The rash generally occurs in a band on one side of the body or on part of the head overlaying the nerves where the virus had been dormant. The rash may last for 3 to 5 weeks pain can continue for even longer. The virus can be spread to others by direct contact with the moist shingles rash. It is therefore desirable to stay away from school/work unless, the rash can be covered up by clothing & the blisters have dried up.

## For further information

Click here

<https://healthify.nz/health-a-z/c/chickenpox/>

<https://healthify.nz/medicines-a-z/c/chickenpox-vaccine/>

Or call

Palmerston North: (06) 350 9110

Whanganui: (06) 348 1775