

Solway School Newsletter - Term 2, week 1

Tuesday 21 April 2026



Upcoming Events Dates & Reminders

Monday April 27th - ANZAC Day holiday

Wednesday May 27th - Solway School Cross Country 1pm

Monday 1st - June King's Birthday

Tuesday 2nd June - All Masterton Schools teacher only day

Friday 3rd July - Last day of Term 2

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Tēnā koutou, Talofa lava, Malo e Lelei, Namaste, Kia Orana, Bula
Tēnā koutou katoa, ngā mihi ki te whānau ō te kura ō Solway
Ma te Atua koe e manaaki me to whanau i tenei Arangi

Welcome back Solway, an especially warm welcome to our 10 new students who started this week, also a special welcome to Barbara Williams who is teaching in Harakeke this term.

Weather / School Closures : Decisions about closing school during severe weather or natural disasters are made on a case-by-case basis. While we consider official weather alerts, each school must assess its own site, staffing, and local conditions.

At Solway, we are mindful that many of our families work in essential services such as roading, policing, and healthcare. Where it is safe to do so, we will aim to remain open to support our community.

A more common scenario than full closure is opening for supervision only.

In these situations, staffing levels may be limited and our focus shifts from formal teaching to providing a safe, warm place for children—particularly those who have no alternative care, whose families are required at work, or who may be without power or water at home.

However, every family's situation is different. Please use your judgement—if it is not safe to travel from your area, keep your child at home and let us know.



ANZAC DAY - On Saturday 25th of April Solway School will be laying a wreath at the Masterton dawn service (Opposite New World). If any children are attending, Mr Bridges will be there and would love to have some students from Solway to help, head to the front when you hear the call for organisations to lay wreaths - Solway School was opened whilst World War 1 was still raging. Many Solway students went on to serve in World War 2, Korea and Vietnam, some never returned. Lest we forget.

Reminder Monday is a public holiday.

Events this Term

King Birthday weekend/ Monday June 1st is a public holiday & Tuesday June 2nd is a Combined Teacher Only Day for all Masterton Schools

Matariki - Join us for our annual 6am Matariki Celebration 3rd July - School will finish early at 1pm

Cross Country - Wednesday 27th May

Life Education Trust - This great programme with Harold the Giraffe will run in weeks 9 & 10.

Community Consultation – Thank You! A big thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our recent community survey. We had 59 responses, and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive. It was great to see strong support for the direction of the school, with families clearly backing our focus on literacy, numeracy, and creating a safe, welcoming environment for all learners. 100% of responses supported the schools strategic goals.

One area we are required to consult on is health education. We want to reassure our community that **over 93% of parents feel our current programmes are appropriate for primary-aged children**. This means we will continue to provide only age-appropriate learning, such as *Keeping Ourselves Safe* and Year 5–6 puberty education.

We also heard clearly that swimming, physical activity, and student wellbeing remain very important to our community. Thank you again for your ongoing support—Solway continues to be a school we can all be proud of.

Ngā mihi

Mark Bridges

Solway School 2026 Dates

Term 2 April 20th to July 3rd

ANZAC Day holiday Monday 27th April, King's Birthday June 1st, Combined schools teacher only day June 2nd

Term 3 July 20th to September 25th

Term 4 October 12th to December 11th

Teacher only day October 23rd, Labour day October 26th

School Notices



Thank you to all who have registered for Y5-6 netball this year. *Year 5's* will be known as the *Solway Pulse* team; *Year 6's* will be known as the *Solway Mystics*. We've got volunteer St Matt's coaches lined up - who are seeking permission to be released from school, for practices on Thursdays. Game 1 starts next Tuesday: April 28th.

Connect with the Netball Wairarapa website <https://www.netballwairarapa.co.nz> to tune in the Game Day app, and sections tracking everything from the grading draw, to

the court your child's playing on and time they're playing, each week. We'll be issuing uniforms on Monday, next week. Stay tuned to Hero's 'Community Feed' also, for further updates as they come through - e.g. confirmations of practice days etc. Have a fabulous season!

Hockey

Hockey starts next week. We have 3 Year 5 / 6 teams and 2 Year 3 / 4 teams. A full newsletter with lots of details will go out on Hero soon.

Community Notices



Ka nui te mihi, ā, kia pai te wiki