



TU NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2026 / ISSUE: 2026-02

Kia ora koutou,

Welcome to our February edition of the Thumbs Up newsletter! It's been a vibrant month filled with growth, connection, and plenty of memorable moments across our programmes. As we settle into 2026, our team and service users have been embracing new opportunities, celebrating achievements, and enjoying the positive energy that comes with the start of a new year.

Thank you for being part of the Thumbs Up whānau—your support helps us continue creating inclusive, meaningful experiences for the people we serve. We're excited to share what we've been up to this month!

He Shoots and He Scores!

The basketball hoop donated to us by IHC Hutt Valley as part of our backyard refurbishment has been a real hit! Lunchtimes are now filled with friendly competition and plenty of hoops being shot—especially on those sunny days. Here's Corey and Cameron showing us their skills with some great shots.



Fundraising: Thumbs Up wouldn't be able to offer the amazing service that we do without fundraising and grants. We would love your support in helping us achieve our fundraising goals for this year. If you were not aware, Thumbs Up does have a [give a little page](https://givealittle.co.nz/org/thumbsup) where you can donate to us (every little bit helps)- givealittle.co.nz/org/thumbsup or **scan the QR code** to the left.



Please share this page with family/friends/work colleagues who may like to donate to a worthy cause. thank you to people who have recently donated! We are also going to be selling items on Trade Me, so if you know anybody who may have items to donate, please ask them to get in contact.

Recycling Champions at Thumbs Up

Dion has been doing a fantastic job recycling soft plastics at Pak'n'Save, while Jess and Andrew have been busy sorting the bottle caps collected from local bars to ensure they're properly recycled.



Colourful Characters Everywhere



Things got wonderfully crazy at Thumbs Up as everyone dived into the dress-up box and had fun trying on every costume they could find. Shelby brought big smiles dressed as Tinky Winky, Coby stomped in as a friendly dinosaur, Bradley showed off some wonderfully crazy hair, and Holly looked adorable as Little Red Riding Hood!

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2026

Term 1 2026

12th January—1st May

Closed:

April 3rd - 6th: Easter; **April 27th:** Anzac Day Observed

Term 2 2026

11th May—28th August

Closed: **June 1st:** King's Birthday;

July 10th: Matariki

Term 3 2026

7th September—17th December

Closed: **Oct 26th:** Labour Day **17th Dec:** Xmas Party and last day for service users; **23rd Dec:** Staff last day

Full Swing at Community



Our Friday mornings have been full of energy and teamwork as everyone enjoyed the first community sports sessions at Walter Nash, especially trying out the fast-paced game of floorball. Here are Adam, Abi and Brian giving it a go.

TU ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

- The wonderful donors who have been donating through our Give-a-little page.
- The ongoing support of our volunteers enables us to continue to deliver our diverse and wonderful programmes.
- Hutt Timebank and the Koha Cafés for their ongoing support in creating meaningful volunteer roles for our members within the community.



OUR NEXT ISSUE

WILL BE SENT OUT:

First week of April 2026

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