

## Important Dates

### 19 February

Kids Online Parents Information Evening with Rob Cope 6:30pm – 8:30pm

Options Classes Start

### 20 February

Water Polo Trials

### 24 February

Central Zone Girls Softball

Auckland FC Assembly Visit

### 25 February

Water Polo Trials continue

EOTC

### 26 February

Central Zone Boys Softball

### 3 March

Core Conferences 3:30pm – 7:30pm

### 5 March

Central Zone Boys Cricket

Core Conferences 3:30pm – 7:30pm

### 10 March

Netball Parent/Player Meeting at 6pm

## Principal's Message

We've had a busy start to the year with school events, trips, and sports trials taking place daily. Our students have been fully engaged, and we're grateful for the ongoing support from our community. It's been a fantastic start, and things are definitely on track.

As you may know, the government has revised the Maths and English curriculums, introducing a more structured and explicit teaching approach. This is a great opportunity to highlight the strengths of Ponsonby Intermediate and our specialist teaching model.

Our Maths and English teams each consist of seven expert teachers, all of whom are fully equipped to deliver the new curriculum requirements. We are confident that these specialists will continue to maintain and build on the excellent programmes we already have, ensuring consistency and high standards across the school.

While other schools may need to upskill all their teachers in these areas, Ponsonby is already ahead with its strong, adaptable model. Our specialist teachers are ready to pivot with confidence, ensuring our students continue to receive the best possible education.

Thank you for your continued support for our school. We're excited about what lies ahead!

Also, a big thank you to everyone who has already made their payments. In our previous newsletter, we shared details about school costs and fees. For your convenience, we've included this information again in this week's newsletter as a gentle reminder.

**Nick Wilson**  
**Principal**

# In this Week's Issue

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- **Showquest 2026**
- **Capital City Tour**
- **Swimming Sports 2026 Results**
- **Market Day 2026**
- **Student Led Conferences**
- **Basketball Update**
- **Kids Online Parent Information Evening**
- **2026 School Fees**
- **Plus One Parent and Student programme**
- **Student Safety**
- **Lunar New Year and Ramadan**
- **Music Education**
- **EZ Lunch Orders**

## Showquest 2026

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This year's big performing arts piece will be Ponsonby Intermediate School's Showquest entry. This is a dance and drama piece that focuses on storytelling, music, digital technology, costuming, stage performance and lighting. Ponsonby Intermediate won their regional section in 2024, and proceeded to be judged at Nationals and we are hoping to put up another fantastic piece this year. Our show day is **Friday 12th June** at the Kiri Te Kanawa Centre. Workshops have started this week and we will be auditioning in the coming weeks. The maximum involved is 100 students, and we welcome students to audition with all experience levels. This is a great chance for students to take a step into stage performing in a big group setting. Congratulations to this year's Showquest Student Leaders that will help to shape the work. The 2026 Showquest leaders are: Ramona Duignan, Kieran Saunders, Maya Aaltio-Narayan, Eveline Dettling and Annabelle Lawrence.

## Capital City Tour 2026

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Information about the 2026 Capital City Tour was sent home with interested students last Friday. This year's trip takes place from **Tuesday 28th April to Friday 1st May**. The staff attending this year are Sarah Howie, Chrissie Cullen and Katherine Busch. Application letters and permission forms are due Monday 23rd February. Students will then be shortlisted, with interviews early in Week 5. The students will find out by the end of Week 5 if they are successful for this year's tour.

# Swimming Sports Results 2026

## Year 7 Girls Finals

Event	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Rm	Time	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Rm	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Rm
<b>100m Freestyle</b>	Frankie Johnston	19	1:23.41	Alice Hildner	23	Charlotte Halsted	21
<b>33m Butterfly</b>	Frankie Johnston	19	30:06	Cora Sherif	21	Abby Cole	30
<b>33m Backstroke</b>	Frankie Johnston	19	30.00	Cora Sherif	21	Alice Hildner	23
<b>33m Breaststroke</b>	Frankie Johnston	19	31:50	Abby Cole	30	Charlotte Halsted	21
<b>33m Freestyle</b>	Frankie Johnston	19	24:32	Alice Hildner	23	Maeve Ruane	21
<b>Class Relay</b>		23			19		21

## Year 7 Boys Finals

Event	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Rm	Time	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Rm	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Rm
<b>100m Freestyle</b>	Quinn Woods	17	1:34.00	Tommy McLennan	20	Nico Woods	21
<b>33m Butterfly</b>	Teddy Arthur	23	34:94	Ben McLaughlan	21	Quinn Woods	17
<b>33m Backstroke</b>	Tim Leonhartsberger	12	27:28	Eli Boaza	20	Quinn Woods	17
<b>33m Breaststroke</b>	Tommy McLennan	20	36:13	Aaron Kang	23	Alex Jamieson	21
<b>33m Freestyle</b>	Tim Leonhartsberger	12	23:92	Quinn Woods	17	William O'Sullivan	26

## Year 8 Girls Finals

Event	1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Rm	Time	2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Rm	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Rm
<b>100m Freestyle</b>	Ellena Muhina	16	1:17.85	Amelia Bell	28	Indi West	28
<b>33m Butterfly</b>	Ellena Muhina	16	25.88	Chloe Cooper	9	Dhanya Aaltio-Narayan	15
<b>33m Backstroke</b>	Liliana Bidlake	11	29:85	Amelia Bell	28	Dhanya Aaltio-Narayan	15
<b>33m Breaststroke</b>	Ellena Muhina	16	30:97	Alex Milkop-Kerr	15	Amelia Bell	28
<b>33m Freestyle</b>	Ellena Muhina	16	23:00	Amelia Bell	28	Indi West	28
<b>Class Relay</b>		16			15		28

## Year 8 Boys Finals

Event	1st Place	Rm	Time	2nd Place	Rm	3rd Place	Rm
<b>100m Freestyle</b>	Harrison Laing	16	1:26.81	Austin McElwee	15	Shane Choi	15
<b>33m Butterfly</b>	Harrison Laing	16	33:15	Shane Choi	15	Edward Jones	15
<b>33m Backstroke</b>	Harrison Laing	16	29:19	Paddy Mullin Butt	11	Shane Choi	15
<b>33m Breaststroke</b>	Paddy Mullin Butt	11	34:97	Mack Sweet	25	Edward Jones	15
<b>33m Freestyle</b>	Harrison Laing	16	24:31	Austin McElwee	15	Mack Sweet	25

## Market Day

This year's Market Day is taking place on ***Friday March 20th*** so please add this to your diaries. Meetings, sign ups and organisation for this will take place over 4 weeks, with initial meetings next week.



# Student Led Conferences

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Student led conferences are run every term at Ponsonby Intermediate. Core subjects (English and Mathematics) hold conferences twice a year in Term 1 and Term 3.

Modular conferences happen every term (as students are involved in two different modular subjects each term).

## On Line Conference Booking

### Core Conferences

**Tuesday 3rd March - 3:30pm - 7:30pm**

CORE code: **xdvm7**

**Please include your child's room number.**

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/xdvm7>

**Thursday 5th March - 3:30pm - 7:30pm**

CORE code: **t5rbh**

**Please include your child's room number.**

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/t5rbh>

**Thursday 19th March - 1:20pm - 6:00pm**

CORE code: **n92u2**

**Please include your child's room number.**

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/n92u2>

### Modular Conferences

**Thursday 12th March - 3:30pm - 8:00pm**

MODULE code: **3xhcf**

**Please include your child's room number.**

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/3xhcf>

Below are the list of teachers and the classes they teach to make booking easier. Please find your child's room number and book in with those teachers.

Thanks,  
Cobey Bennett  
[cobeyb@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:cobeyb@ponsint.school.nz)

## **Core Teachers:**

### **English:**

**Katie Fiddian:** Teaching Rooms 11, 17  
**Lauren Collins:** Teaching Rooms 3, 16, 22  
**Inger Moffat:** Teaching Rooms 9, 25, 30  
**Penelope Dunn:** Teaching Rooms 15, 19, 23  
**Kellie Spencer:** Teaching Rooms 1, 21, 26  
**Stephanie Bruce:** Teaching Rooms 8, 14, 28  
**Jane Jeon:** Teaching Rooms 12, 18, 20

### **Maths:**

**Ian Wannamaker:** Teaching Rooms 21, 22, 25, 30  
**Carolyn Hunter:** Teaching Rooms 1, 12, 17, 18  
**Katherine Busch:** Teaching Rooms 15, 19, 23, 28  
**Lisa Stephenson:** Teaching Rooms 3, 9, 16, 20  
**Ellen Legge:** Teaching Room 8, 14, 26  
**Cherie Bolesworth:** Teaching Room 11

## **Module Teachers:**

**Design Technologies: Cobey Bennett**  
Teaching Rooms 3, 12, 20, 26, 28

**Art: Sarah Valintine**  
Teaching Rooms 3, 12, 20, 26, 28

**Performing Arts: Christine Cullen**  
Teaching Rooms: 8, 9, 11, 21, 22

**Music: Claire Holmes**  
Teaching Rooms: 8, 9, 11, 21, 22

## **Health & P.E: Sam Jardine**

P.E & Health - Teaching Rooms - 1, 3, 15, 17, 19, 23, 28  
P.E - Teaching Rooms - 11, 12, 16, 18, 21, 22, 28

## **Health & P.E: Michelle Murray**

PE & Health - Teaching Rooms 8, 9, 14, 20, 25, 26, 30  
Health - Teaching Rooms 11, 12, 16, 18, 21, 22

## **Home Economics: Kelly Richardson**

Teaching Rooms: 15, 17, 18, 25, 30

## **Science: Sione Taupeaafe**

Teaching Rooms: 15, 17, 18, 25, 30

## **Science: Andrea Sherrock**

Teaching Rooms: 1, 14, 16, 19 and 23

## **Exploring Technology: Andy Wilson**

Teaching Rooms: 1, 14, 16, 19 and 23

## **Social Sciences: Sarah Howie**

Teaching Rooms: 8, 11, 14, 17, 18, 20, 23, 26, 28, 30

## **Learning Languages: Holly Francis**

Teaching Rooms: 1, 3, 9, 12, 15, 16, 19, 21, 22, 25.

## **Basketball**

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Our trials are complete, teams are made and all communications regarding the approaching season will be via email. Our next steps include finding keen parent coaches to get training sessions up and running before our season starts on Monday March 9th.

For our new Year 7 players, I will be organising singlet fittings and making the orders during school hours. Please hold off on uniform payments until otherwise instructed.

For any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Sam Jardine

[samj@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:samj@ponsint.school.nz)

## Kids Safe Online Rob Cope talk (repeat notice)

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We want our school to be a safe place. Because of the rapidly changing times our tamariki are growing up in, and the mounting challenges and harms they are facing online, we need to talk about and tackle this as a community. As such, Ponsonby Intermediate and our School Board have organised Author, Filmmaker and Speaker Rob Cope, producer of the documentary "Our Kids Online", to come and give what promises to be a humorous and eye-opening evening talk to our parent community.

The talk will be held tonight at Ponsonby Intermediate School Hall on **Thursday 19th February from 6:30pm – 8:30pm**. As there is limited seating and tickets are shared with the wider community, we would like at least one adult from each Ponsonby Intermediate family to attend, this topic is too big for you not to pay attention to. This is a free community event for our parents and we would really appreciate your support around this topic by attending.

Students and children are asked not to attend this event, however, we will be offering supervision for students in the school Library. If you require caregiving for this evening please email [katie@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:katie@ponsint.school.nz)

It is for parents and caregivers only. Rob's mantra - *"We need to tackle this as a community so that all of our kids are safe. When you protect your kids online, you are also protecting mine and when I protect my kids online, I am also protecting yours"*

Registrations are now closed but there is a lot of space. We welcome you to bringing wider community as this message is important for all.

## 2026 School Fees (5% Discount Ending Soon)

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To maintain the high standard of facilities and the educational opportunities/programmes our school now offers, it is necessary to supplement the grant we receive from the Ministry of Education with specific funding via student costs. The Ministry of Education grant does not provide for any of the 'extras' or 'frills' of the educational programme/resources we provide.

We are very aware of the expenses facing parents/caregivers at the beginning of the school year. We have therefore tried to keep costs as low as possible. We are also aware that schools have a terrible habit of asking for money throughout the year for various reasons and know that this becomes an inconvenience for parents/caregivers.

For 2026 we pledge that the total cost asked for now will cover all costs for the entire year's activities/trips with the exception of the Term 4 Class Camp. However there are additional costs for activities such as – Netball, Hockey, Netball, Basketball, ICAS exam etc...

Yes, that is correct! We will not ask for money for trips, fundraising activities, educational excursions etc...

Below is a breakdown of costs. The total amount is \$650.00 for the year or \$162.50 per term.

We thank you for your support and trust this format of payment makes it easier for you.

Activity costs are expenses that all schools would collect at the beginning of the year and for such things as Special Events/Trips, Special Programmes, etc. and throughout the year as events occur.

School Donation is optional although we obviously encourage you to pay this and appreciate it greatly if you do. School Donations can be claimed back on your annual tax return.

Costs and Donations can be paid by Automatic Payment, Credit card, Term by Term or the total for the year

**Ponsonby Intermediate - ASB a/c - 12 3019 0486833 01**

**We offer a 5% discount on the full amount of \$650.00 if paid before the end of March 2026.**

**Sports and Ed. Outside the Classroom      \$60.00**

**Special Events/Trips      \$60.00**

**Options Modules      \$60.00**

**Printing (including School Magazine)      \$45.00**

**The Arts      \$60.00**

**Extension and Enrichment      \$60.00**

**Transport      \$40.00**

**Technology      \$115.00**

<b>Activity Costs</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>
<b>School Donation</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>
<b>Total Per Year</b>	<b>\$620.00</b>

## **Student Safety (Repeat Notice)**

If you are visiting the school at any time during the school day please check in at the Office.

At the front gate on Clarence Street there are painted yellow lines which indicate that there should be no stopping or parking. These lines are there to keep our students safe at the school gate. We also have a teacher on duty at the gate for safety reasons. While the majority of parents have proven to be responsible and have not picked up their children on these yellow lines there have been incidents when the teacher on duty has had to remind people about the existence of the yellow lines and the need for caution.

Clarence Street gets very busy at 3:05pm with children being picked up. This situation turns into a traffic jam on wet days, with the whole street getting blocked. A very dangerous situation for hundreds of children exiting the school all at once.

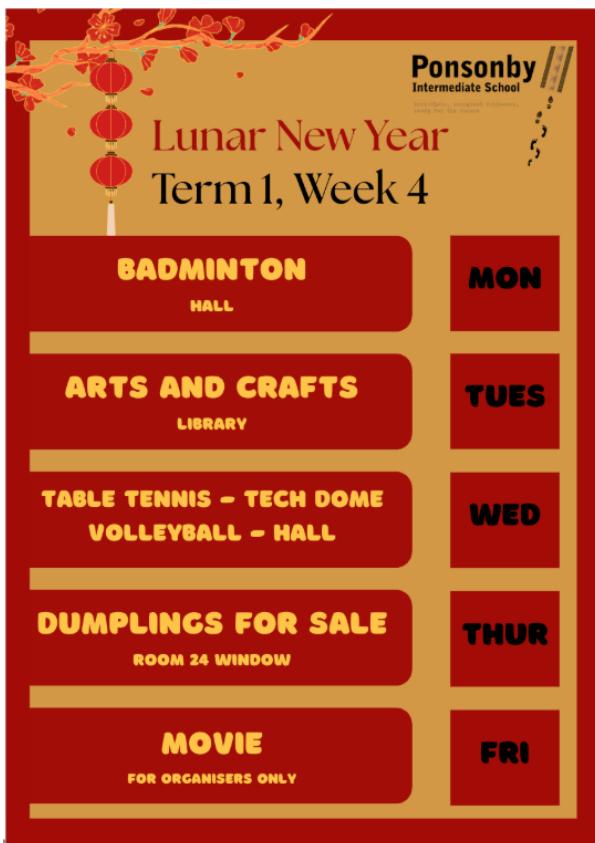
There are alternatives to picking up your child at the front gate at 3:05pm. Firstly, we have a rear car park at the bottom of Sheehan Street where there is far less traffic. Your child could meet you there. Another idea is to avoid the 'Rush' altogether, which only ever lasts 10 minutes, and pick your child up 10 – 15 minutes later than usual.

The main car park on Clarence Street cannot be used for picking up or dropping off children. We also ask that you do not use the school driveway to turn into and reverse back onto Clarence Street.

## **Lunar New Year**

Lunar New Year takes place on the 17th of February and we have many students who are excited to share their cultural celebrations with the school. If any parents would like to help,

or if you have ideas of how we could celebrate this special event at school, please contact Holly Francis ([hollyf@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:hollyf@ponsint.school.nz)). We would like to wish a happy New Year to all of our families celebrating the Lunar New Year.



## Ramadan

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Ramadan Mubarak to all of our families observing this special time. If you would like to be included in emails about the Eid celebration at the end of Ramadan, please email Holly Francis ([hollyf@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:hollyf@ponsint.school.nz)) if you have not already received an email.

## “Plus One” Programme at Ponsonby Intermediate School

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A reconnecting opportunity. We’re excited to invite you to an opportunity inspired by Rob Cope’s powerful presentation on Cyber Safety. One of our biggest takeaways was the importance of putting our phones away and reconnecting with the people around us, especially our families. So, why not join us for an hour of fun, laughter, and teamwork?

Students, bring your parent(s) along and team up to play games against other families! You don’t need any sporting experience – just a willingness to play, meet new people, and have lots of laughter! You can join an organised game or bring your own equipment to play

Friendly disclaimer: please be mindful of your physical limits – we can’t take responsibility for anyone who might pull a muscle reliving their sporting glory days! This is the perfect chance to unplug and simply enjoy being in the moment together. We hope you’ll put your phone down, bring your energy, and make some great memories with us. See you there!

Use the link to sign up for the remainder of the term.

**5:30pm – 6:30pm Wednesdays at Ponsonby Intermediate**

[Plus 1 sign up](#)

## Absences and Lateness (Repeat Notice)

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If your child is absent or going to be late to school, **please call and leave a message on the school absence line (09) 376 0096 Extn 1**, or **complete an absence report from the School App or Website**. If you know in advance your child will be away, please email the office and copy in your child’s Form Teacher.

If your child is late, they must provide a note from a parent/caregiver providing an explanation and sign in at the office. The note can be written in their Student Planner.

For student safety if the school is not notified of your child's absence you will receive a text message.

Following Ministry of Education guidelines if the school is not advised of a student's absence they will be marked as truant.

## Appointments (Repeat Notice)

If your child has an appointment during the day please arrange to meet them in the office at a designated time and ensure you advise their Form Teacher by email. As your child moves around the school to different classes during the day we are not always able to contact them easily. Students must be signed out by a parent or caregiver registered on their enrolment details.

## Music Education Centre

Music lessons right at school 🎵 Personalised lessons designed to support your child's confidence, focus, and learning — with no extra travel for families.

Enrol here 👉: <https://musiceducation.co.nz/pages/mis-enrolment>



## ezLunch Orders



You can order ezlunch, Kindo's lunch service everyday by simply [clicking here!](#)

- Go-Deli's Catering and Café menu - warm and cold mains, sushi, Asian and café meals, snacks and drinks
- Subway Ponsonby – 6inch subs, combos, Teachers' Corner subs, drinks & cookies
- St Pierres Sushi

Order (or cancel) before 9am on the day or schedule in advance. Your ezlunch will be delivered to the school in time for lunch.

Click [here](#) to view the menu.

*Orders are made online through your myKindo account. One account for the whole family! Get started now and be ready... [Click here](#) or go to [www.mykindo.co.nz](http://www.mykindo.co.nz) to start ordering!*

for Apple and Android users  
download the mykindo app.

Help? Visit [support.mykindo.co.nz](http://support.mykindo.co.nz) or tel. 09 869 5200 weekdays 8am-4pm.

[www.mykindo.co.nz](http://www.mykindo.co.nz)

[www.ezlunch.co.nz](http://www.ezlunch.co.nz)

# Speech and Drama lessons at Ponsonby Intermediate

Imaginaire Speech and Drama are now taking expressions of interest for lessons beginning in Term 1 2026.

They will run their fun filled confidence building lessons on Thursday afternoon during the school day and afterschool.

- Intermediate Lessons are run in small groups of a maximum of 4 students.
- They offer a 'no obligation' introduction lesson so your child can try their lessons out.
- Open to all Ponsonby Intermediate students.
- If we have enough interest, we may open lessons to the wider community for afterschool lessons (Year 1-6).

Please contact Nicole at [nicole@imaginaire.co.nz](mailto:nicole@imaginaire.co.nz) for more information or please visit their website <https://www.imaginaire.co.nz/speech-and-drama/>



The image is a screenshot of the Imaginaire Speech & Drama website. The header features the tagline 'INSPIRING CREATIVITY & CONFIDENCE' and the logo 'Imaginaire SPEECH & DRAMA' with a starburst graphic. The main content area is divided into sections: 'ABOUT US:' with a description of the programme's goals and a note about a 'no obligation' introduction lesson; 'JOIN US FOR: SPEECH & DRAMA LESSONS' with a large button; 'LESSONS INCLUDE:' with a list of skills; 'PONSONBY INTERMEDIATE' with a note about lessons being held during the school day and after school; and a large 'ENROL FOR 2026' button. At the bottom, it says 'OPEN TO ALL STUDENTS FROM YEAR 7-8' and 'FOR MORE INFORMATION & TO ENROL PLEASE VISIT: [www.imaginaire.co.nz/speech-and-drama/](https://www.imaginaire.co.nz/speech-and-drama/)'.

## School App

Newsletters and information are emailed directly to you and uploaded to our School App and website.

Download our School App from Google Play and the App Store, search '**Skool Loop**' and choose **Ponsonby Intermediate**.

**Stay in the loop with School News, Events & Notices**

**With our Skool Loop app!**

Download today to keep up to date with school information.

Notices, newsletters, absentee notifications and much more.

**Simple free download**

Scan the QR code or In Google play & App Store search '**Skool Loop**' & choose our school once installed.

ANDROID APP ON Google play

Download on the App Store

SKOOL LOOP



TOP SCHOOL WINS AN EXCLUSIVE AFC EXPERIENCE

# \$5 FROM EACH TICKET BACK TO YOUR SCHOOL!

  SUNDAY 8 MARCH 3PM KICK OFF GO MEDIA STADIUM

## Growth Through Learning

We are open to change, treating each challenge as an opportunity to learn. As life long learners we strive to be the best we can be.

As members of a class, a school and a community, we are part of a whole. We come together from many different cultures to learn from each other.

## Making Connections

## Expressing Ourselves

We explore and share our thoughts, talents, feelings and beliefs because these make us who we are. We get the most out of life when we are true to ourselves.

## Showing Respect for Other People

Because we have confidence in who we are, we are able to appreciate and let others be themselves. We care and support each other inside and outside the classroom.

# Our Values are GEMS

Ages  
6-14

# Term 1 Classes

## Musical Theatre

Sing, dance and act! Students will tackle musical numbers, gaining experience and building confidence as performers.  
Ages 6-8, 8-10, 11-14 Mondays



## Drama

Master the actor's toolkit! In this class, students will delve into stories and characters, devising original skits using drama conventions for effect.  
Ages 8-10, 11-14 Wednesdays / Thursdays

## Writing Club

Join a community of young writers! This class will equip students with the skills to express themselves and leave them feeling excited to keep writing.  
Ages 8-10, 11-14 Wednesdays / Thursdays

## Tutoring

1:1 tutoring spaces for Term 1 are currently full. However, spaces are available in the following group sessions:

- Year 7/8 Maths Workshop
- Junior Literacy Boost
- Handwriting Boost
- Big Buddy Peer Tutoring

Mondays / Wednesdays / Fridays



## Singing Coming soon!

Register interest now for Tuesday 1:1 lessons or Youth Choir

★ First class is free!

Give it a go before committing to a full term!  
Please book in advance to confirm attendance.

Find out more  
[prosfordstudio.co.nz](http://prosfordstudio.co.nz)



26 Prosford St, Ponsonby  
[kath@prosfordstudio.co.nz](mailto:kath@prosfordstudio.co.nz)



Prosford  
Studio