

Important Dates

5 March

Central Zone Boys Cricket

Core Conferences 3:30pm
– 7:30pm

10 March

Netball Parent/Player
Meeting at 6pm

12 March

Modular Conferences –
3:30pm – 8:00pm

17 March

Central Zone Swimming
BoT Meeting 6pm

19 March

Core Conferences
1:20pm – 6pm
**School closed for
instruction 12.30pm**

26 March

School Photos

27 March

MARKET DAY

2 April

Last Day of Term 1 –
3:05pm finish

20 April

Start of Term 2

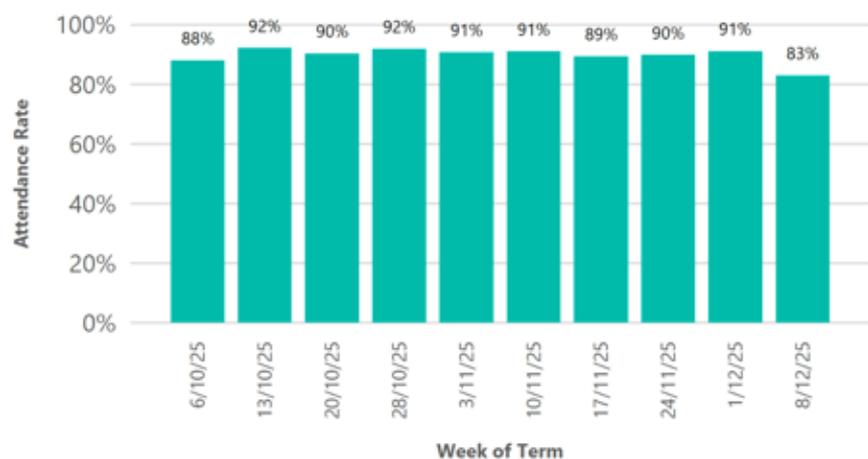
Principal's Message

In the previous newsletter we highlighted the school's approach to implementing the new English and Maths Curriculums. You may have also seen in the media and other places the current focus on student attendance.

Regular attendance at school is important to your child's success. Making sure students attend and engage is a shared responsibility. If your child is going to be absent for any reason it is essential that you let us know as soon as possible. You can email or call the school office or report the absence through the school App.

We acknowledge that there are genuine reasons students may occasionally be absent, and if they are unwell, they must stay at home. However, if your child is absent regularly, or for extended periods, we will reach out to you to discuss the situation. If you are taking your child out of school for an extended period of time then please email me with this request at nickw@ponsint.school.nz

Having said all this, Ponsonby Intermediate's student attendance rates are very good. In Term 4 last year the range was 83% - 92%.



Now onto more interesting news! We are excited about our upcoming **Market Day on Friday 27th March**, a true highlight of the 'Ponsonby Experience'. I strongly encourage all parents and whānau

to attend and support our students. This event is an excellent opportunity to witness the entrepreneurial spirit of our students in action. Over the next few weeks, we will be focusing on financial literacy and discussing strategies for a successful day. This is a fantastic, authentic learning experience for our young, forward-thinking students and an excellent example of *articulate, energized achievers preparing for the future.*

To ensure the success of the day, we kindly ask for your support in helping students plan and organise in advance. Your guidance will ensure they are well prepared and equipped to make the most of this exciting opportunity. Even better, if you are able to attend the Market Day, you also make great customers as well.

Thank you to our school councillors who are working behind the scenes to make this a great Market Day.

Nick Wilson
Principal



In this Week's Issue

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School Conferences and Early School Finish 19th March

On Thursday 19th March we will be holding our final day of Core Conferences. These conferences will run from 1:20pm until 6:00pm in the school hall. This will mean school will be closing for instruction at 12:30pm. If your child requires supervision at school please email office@ponsint.school.nz. We will provide supervision from 12:30pm – 3:05pm for families that require this. Please indicate in your email when your child will need supervision until.

Social Media Awareness: TikTok Accounts

Thank you to the caregivers that have alerted the school to recent videos being uploaded on TikTok. It is imperative that if you allow your child to have social media accounts that you are able to monitor their activity in this world. Your child is not allowed to post videos or images of other people without their consent, nor use the school logo or name for accounts. Ponsonby Intermediate School do not have **any** social media accounts that they have authorised. In many instances when investigating these TikTok accounts that pop up, we have found a few concerning trends

- Students have several different accounts but are only showing parents one account
- There are hundreds, sometimes thousands of people unfamiliar with our school posting comments and viewing details about our school community
- Parents are unaware of the activity of their children on these accounts

We ask that if your children have accounts on this platform that you are vigilant in monitoring your child's activity and the people they are interacting with. We also ask that you have discussions with your child about the nature of how they are engaging with this platform as it is designed for 13 years and over.

Speakers of Other Languages

Croatian, Korean, Mandarin

Do you speak Croatian, Korean or Mandarin? Are you interested in teaching students in a small group during our Options programme on Thursdays from 2-3pm? We have lots of eager language learners and it would be wonderful to offer these three languages that are in high demand. Please contact Holly Francis (hollyf@ponsint.school.nz) if you are interested and available.

Market Day

This year's Market Day is taking place on **Friday 27th March** so please add this to your diaries. Meetings, sign-ups and organisation for this are taking place over the coming weeks. At our first meeting students were given a series of questions to consider before signing up for Market Day. Sign-ups for the market close next Wednesday 11th March. Students will still be able to update their stall information after this time with councillor check ins.



Friday 27th March 12:30pm - 1:45pm

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT BEFORE SIGNING UP

- What is something I could sell or an activity I could run?
- Who would I work well with?
- Who will help me get organised? Family, friends etc
- Will my idea be able to be set up in 45 minutes?
- How long will I need to prepare any product?
- How much product might I want to prepare?
- How much should I charge for items / activities?
- Will I have time to get organised or do I have a lot of activities on?
- Who will be our group leader?
- When will we get together to plan and work on our stall?

Bikes and Scooters at school

Please remind your child to lock their bike or scooter up at the bike racks each day if they are riding to school. We still have a number of bikes and scooters in the bike racks without locks.

Behaviour on the bus

We have had some wonderful comments from members of the public about the way some of our students are conducting themselves on the various public buses to and from school. Being polite and courteous to members of the public and giving up their seats for adults when the bus is full is appreciated. Many of the buses to and from Ponsonby are very busy with students and members of the public and we encourage our students to keep up the great work in showing respect within our community.

Payment

We have received a payment with the name **K E Burke** with no other details. If you made this payment please contact Anne at annei@ponsint.school.nz.

Sports Update

Year 7, 8 Netball

Parent / Player Meeting: Tuesday 10th March, 6pm in the School Hall.

It is important for all players to attend this meeting with their parents/caregivers.

The purpose of the meeting is to cover important information about the netball season.

Teams will break off to meet parents, coaches and managers and to set up the team training day.

Shout out for more netball Coaches! If you're available to support a team, please email Michelle Murray, Ponsonby Intermediate Sports Coordinator michellem@ponsint.school.nz

Ski/Snowboarding Race Squad 2026

Parent Meeting: Friday 20th March, 8.30am in the Staffroom

Students will have registered for this sport before the meeting and parents will be contacted to confirm prior to the meeting.

Year 8 Girls Central Zone Softball

On 24th February, eleven of our Year 8 girls proudly represented our school at the Central Zone Softball Competition. The team played with determination and skill, delivering an awesome performance throughout the day. There were some fantastic results, including several impressive home runs that had everyone cheering!

Despite the scorching heat, the girls showed incredible energy and sportsmanship. Their teamwork and constant encouragement of one another were highlights of the tournament and a true reflection of our school values. Finishing second equal in our pool was a remarkable achievement. Although we narrowly missed out on the playoffs due to home run countback, the team should be extremely proud of their efforts.

It was a fantastic day of competition and fun. A huge thank you to our wonderful parents and whānau who supported us with transport and came along to cheer the team on!

Year 8 Softballers Vs the Teachers

With the start of the 2026 Central Zone sports competition the teachers had a friendly game of softball against students from our Year 8 girls and boys CZ teams. This was a fun way to end the week and to celebrate the skills of our softballers. Well done to the students for securing the win again in 2026. The teachers were leading in the first innings, however the Year 8's didn't give up and after two innings reigned victorious.



Student Led Conferences (Repeat Notice)

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

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

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 Taupeaafa

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.

Absences and Lateness (Repeat Notice)

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.

Would you like to train as a teacher?

Information Session



Thursday 12 March | 5-7pm |
Level 2, Textile Centre, 117-125 St Georges Bay Road, Parnell.

We warmly invite you to learn about our
School-based Postgraduate Diploma
Teaching programmes.

[Click here to RSVP](#)



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 to start ordering!

for *Apple* and *Android* users
download the mykindo app.

Help? Visit support.mykindo.co.nz or tel. 09 869 5200 weekdays 8am-4pm.

www.mykindo.co.nz

www.ezlunch.co.nz

School TV

A Special Report: Social Media & Comparison Culture

Young people today are growing up in a world where exposure to other people's lives is constant. Through social media and other platforms, they are regularly presented with curated highlights - from flawless holiday photos and academic milestones to the latest fashion trends and fitness achievements. This continuous stream of idealised content fuels what is known as comparison culture, where self-worth is often measured by how someone stacks up against others.

For children and adolescents, who are still figuring out who they are, this culture can be particularly damaging. Constantly comparing their appearance, achievements, or social standing to friends, influencers, and even strangers can lead to unrealistic expectations and a skewed sense of self-worth. This relentless need to measure up can contribute to feelings of inadequacy, self-doubt, and anxiety - undermining both confidence and emotional wellbeing. It's vital that parents and caregivers understand how deeply comparison culture can influence a child's self-perception and sense of value. Left unchecked, it can foster perfectionism and a dependence on external validation, where a 'like' or comment becomes the measure of their worth.

The good news is, families have a powerful role to play in helping young people navigate these challenges. This Special Report will help you empower your child to build the resilience and confidence needed to navigate today's comparison-driven world and embrace their own unique path.

We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this Special Report, and as always, we welcome your feedback.

If you do have any concerns about the wellbeing of your child, please contact the school for further information or seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to your special report:

https://ponsonbyintermediate.nz.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-social-media-comparison-culture-nz



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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**.



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Google play

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App Store





WESTERN SPRINGS COLLEGE
COMMUNITY

CAR BOOT SALE

Saturday, March 21st, 10am-1pm
Western Springs College, Motions Road
Find us behind TAPAC



Live
music

Coffee
Bake sale
BBQ

Clothes
Crafts
Jewellery
Books
CDs
Plants
Homemade
treats



Book your car space
\$30 per stall



WSCW Parent
Action Group

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



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★ **First class is free!**

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Please book in advance to confirm attendance.

Find out more
prosfordstudio.co.nz

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