

## Important Dates

### 23 April

Open Morning  
Attitude Speaker

### 27 April

**ANZAC Monday – School  
Closed**

### 28 April

Capital City Tour Departs  
Y7 Immunisations

### 30 April

Central Zone Girls  
Football

### 5 May

Open Morning  
Central Zone Water Polo  
Year 7 Netball starts

### 6 May

Great House Race

### 7 May

Year 8 Netball starts

### 12 May

Readers and Writers  
Festival  
BoT Meeting – 6pm

### 29 May

Teacher Only Day

## Principal's Message

Welcome back to Term 2, we have it carefully planned out.

In English classes, the Year 7 tamariki are working on a Conflict Novel study and the Year 8's focus is on Science Fiction. Maths moves from Number into Algebra. Our DEEP Learning Programme kicks off this term with teachers using Gavin Bishop's book – *Piano Rock* to inspire memoir writing for Year 7's and the Year 8's are researching and writing essays on a 'trailblazer'. The math component of DEEP is focused on Statistics and Probability.

With the EOTC programme now complete, we move into organised House sports for Wednesday Recreation, and we start off the term with the Great House Race on 6th May. All students will have two new Modular subjects and a new Option. Languages and Social Sciences/Histories programmes continue and will swap over mid-year.

Students will soon be auditioning for Talent Quest. Showquest rehearsals are underway and our sports calendar is also incredibly full.

An exciting new activity we are introducing is the **2026 Knowledge-a-thon** to boost students' general knowledge of New Zealand and the world. There will be a few weeks of study needed ahead of the big quiz day. Funds raised will go towards resources needed to cater for the new Curriculum changes.

As I have previously mentioned there is a nationwide focus on student attendance, and attendance at Ponsonby is very good. In order to make this topic a bit more fun and engaging, teachers taught some lessons on "Attendance Counts" and we came up with a reward for students who were an "**All Day, Everyday!**". Congratulations to the 129 students who were recognised in the final assembly last term!

**Nick Wilson**  
Principal

## In this Week's Issue

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## Teacher Only Days

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The Ministry of Education granted schools two Teacher Only Days in 2026 to help with the development of the new curriculum changes. Ponsonby Intermediate will hold these Teacher Only Days on:

- Friday 29 May
- Friday 4 September

Supervision will be provided if needed, email [office@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:office@ponsint.school.nz)

## Knowledge-a-thon 2026

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We are excited to bring our 2026 Knowledge-A-Thon to Ponsonby Intermediate. This will be fundraising to help towards resources needed to cater for the new curriculum changes. All students will benefit in classes from their efforts. If you are able to donate spot prizes: experiences, vouchers, sports gear, technology etc, then we would love to hear from you. Please contact Katie Fiddian at [katief@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:katief@ponsint.school.nz) with any support you can offer to help reward our students hard work in the Knowledge-a-thon. More information and Knowledge-a-thon packs will be sent home in the coming weeks. Thank you so much for your support.

**PONSONBY**

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

**KNOWLEDGE**

**-A-THON**



**TOTARA  
HOUSE**



**RIMU  
HOUSE**



**PURIRI  
HOUSE**



**KAURI  
HOUSE**

**BOOST YOUR GENERAL KNOWLEDGE,  
REPRESENT YOUR HOUSE, RAISE MONEY,  
WORK TOGETHER AS A TEAM AND**

**HAVE FUN!**



**TEST DAY IS  
FRIDAY  
19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**



**PRIZES FOR  
TOP FUNDRAISERS.**

**SPOT PRIZE  
OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR ALL  
PARTICIPANTS.**

**LEARN MORE. RAISE MORE. BE PROUD! GO BIG FOR YOUR HOUSE!**

# School Working Bee: Gardens

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We're organising a school working bee to tidy up a couple of our garden areas, and we'd love your help!

It's a great opportunity to meet other members of the school community, get involved, and make a real difference to our environment.



**Date:** Saturday 2 May



**Time:** From 9:00am

The main task will be weeding, so if you have any gardening tools or gloves, please bring them along.

To say thank you, we'll have a delicious BBQ and some great music to enjoy while we work!

Students are very welcome to join in.

If the weather doesn't cooperate, we'll move the working bee to Sunday 3 May.

If you're keen to help or have any questions, please get in touch:

- Hamish (BoT Chair) – [chair@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:chair@ponsint.school.nz)
- Nick – [nickw@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:nickw@ponsint.school.nz)

We really appreciate your support and hope to see you there!

## Sports Update

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### Squash

Squash Coach Manu Yam and his team at Herne Bay Rackets Club has been involved with Ponsonby Intermediate for the past three years. He has been instrumental in funding in-schools squash programmes which has supported Ponsonby's Year 7 and 8 students to learn to play the sport. This has also opened up opportunities for some students to have the confidence to participate in Central Zone Squash tournaments too. Check out the poster (below) promoting the Term 2 Squash After School Programme and for more information email Manu Yam [manu@mysquashcoach.nz](mailto:manu@mysquashcoach.nz)

**TERM 2 SQUASH  
AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMME**

28 April to 30 June 2026 ( Every Tuesday )  
 PRIMARY - 3:15 pm to 4:15 pm  
 INTERMEDIATE & HIGH SCHOOL - 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm



\*OPEN TO ALL AGES  
 25 April to 26 June 2026 ( Every Friday )  
 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm




Venue:  
 Herne Bay Rackets Club

Cost:  
 \$150 per programme

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**

Contact Manu 021 886 583  
 ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME

## Showquest Ticketing

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Showquest ticket sales go on sale on **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**. Please see below the details that have come straight from the Showquest crew. Ponsonby Intermediate School's show day is **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June**. Our piece "**One Last Dance**" is going to be fantastic. We hope you can come out and support the 90+ students involved this year. Please note these are individual ticket sales, we don't have a dedicated school ticketing group.

Please see the link below for the Showquest website and the link to our Auckland event.

<https://www.aucklandlive.co.nz/show/showquest-and-toi>

## Samoan Language Week

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Following on from the 'Pasifika Fono' Option in Term 1, we are starting rehearsals for Samoan Language Week. We warmly welcome family involvement, so if you are interested in teaching a song, dance or helping to prepare food, please email Holly Francis ([hollyf@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:hollyf@ponsint.school.nz)).

## Sri Lankan New Year

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Happy New Year to all our families who have recently celebrated the Sinhala and Tamil New Year. This term we are running a Sri Lankan group during the 'Options' program on Thursdays, and will be preparing a celebration for the school. If you would like to be involved, please contact Holly Francis ([hollyf@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:hollyf@ponsint.school.nz)).

## 40 Hour Challenge – Screen Free Weekend

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If you are looking for a reason to have a screen free weekend, look no further! World Vision is challenging you to go offline for 40 hours and raise funds so children in Solomon Islands can get the nutritious food they need. Whether it's no phone, gaming, social media, or even power, students can choose what to do and how to do it. Encourage your children to sign up and take part in the 40 Hour Challenge (June 19 - 21).

## Imaginaire Speech and Drama Lessons Term 2

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Give your child the opportunity to build confidence, creativity, and communication skills through our fun, engaging and dynamic Speech & Drama programme at Ponsonby Intermediate. At *Imaginaire*, we love inspiring the next generation of young performers while also supporting students to overcome shyness and express themselves with confidence.

### Each lesson includes:

- Public Speaking skills
- Drama and Acting skills
- Improvisation and Impromptu Speaking
- Communication, Conversation, Listening, and Teamwork skills.

Students also have the option to work towards nationally recognised Speech & Drama exams through Speech NZ.

### Class details:

Small group sessions (max 4 students)

30-minute lessons on Thursdays (during school hours or after school)

No-obligation Trial lesson available

Limited spaces available

**Secure your child's place today:**

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

## 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)



SPECIAL REPORT

## The Cost of Living Crisis



### **A Special Report: The Cost of Living Crisis**

In our ever-changing economic landscape, parents and caregivers are increasingly faced with the task of broaching the subject of growing expenses with their children. Although shielding young people from life's challenges is a natural instinct, there is a growing consensus that addressing real-world problems, including financial uncertainties, can actually nurture resilience and understanding in children. Striking the right balance between protecting and educating becomes crucial for parents and caregivers aiming to empower their children.

To effectively introduce the topic of finances, parents should be mindful of the timing and setting of the conversation. Opting for a relaxed and receptive moment, can lay the foundation for a productive dialogue. The use of straightforward and age-appropriate language is key when explaining intricate financial concepts to children.

Maintaining transparency about necessary adjustments to the family budget holds significant weight. Encouraging children to actively participate in devising creative solutions for saving money and making thoughtful spending choices can foster a genuine sense of responsibility.

By capitalising on the opportunity to educate children about financial literacy and focussing the discussion on intangible values that transcend monetary concerns, parents can help children appreciate the comprehensive nature of life's challenges.

This Special Report provides guidance on how to approach the conversation to not only build trust, but also equip young people with the resilience needed to navigate an increasingly complex world.

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-cost-living-crisis](https://ponsonbyintermediate.nz.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-cost-living-crisis)

# 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

QR CODE


SKOOL LOOP



**MOUNT ALBERT GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

Alberton Avenue  
Mount Albert  
Auckland

[www.mags.school.nz](http://www.mags.school.nz)



## INFORMATION EVENING FOR IN-ZONE 2027 PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS FROM PONSONBY INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

We would like to extend an invitation to **IN-ZONE** Year 8 parents and guardians, and their sons/daughters, to attend a presentation about Mount Albert Grammar School in the **second week of Term 2, 2026**.

**WHERE:** Mount Albert Grammar School in the F.W. Gamble Hall

**WHEN:** WEDNESDAY 29 APRIL 2026

**TIME:** 7.00pm-8.00pm

### EVENING PROGRAMME

- A visual presentation about Mount Albert Grammar School for Year 9 students in 2027.
- Information about our Enrolment procedure for the 2027 intake.
- The opportunity to ask questions about the Academic, Sporting and Cultural opportunities at Mount Albert Grammar School.

As parking is unavailable within the school grounds, we would recommend that you park in the surrounding streets.

We look forward to meeting you at this information evening.

Jo Williams  
Associate Principal  
Head of Senior School  
Email: [williams@mags.school.nz](mailto:williams@mags.school.nz)

Toby Powell  
Deputy Principal – Junior Boys  
Head of Middle School  
846 2044 Ext 8224  
Email: [tpowell@mags.school.nz](mailto:tpowell@mags.school.nz)

Sarah Hayes  
Deputy Principal – Junior Girls  
846 2044 Ext 8172  
Email: [shayes@mags.school.nz](mailto:shayes@mags.school.nz)



## Speech & Drama School ages and Youth

Performing arts  
Communication skills  
Poetry, prose and drama  
Script work  
Improvisation  
Exam options  
Trinity & SNZ

### The Details:

- Ages: 5+
- Ponsonby Intermediate / TAPAC
- Small groups, Pairs and 1-1s
- Students attending Saturday classes at Ponsonby Intermediate can be from any school
- Tutor Fiona Mogridge, professionally trained performer and educator (LTCL, ATCL speech and drama teaching)
- [www.dramahub.co.nz](http://www.dramahub.co.nz)

Speech and Drama Lessons which build essential communication and connection, public speaking with confidence, drama and performance skills.

### About your tutor

Fiona is an enthusiastic and experienced educator. She has a professional background in the performing arts in TV, film and theatre. She teaches at a number of schools around Auckland and is thrilled to be at Ponsonby Intermediate.



### Ready to get started?

Get in touch or enrol your child today

✦ [info@dramahub.co.nz](mailto:info@dramahub.co.nz) ✦ 021 583 049





# GIVE HOCKEY A GO THIS WINTER!

AISC welcomes you to join us for the Winter hockey season

The Junior hockey grade is suitable for all children from school years 1 - 8

No prior experience of field hockey is required

Games are played on Saturday mornings

Trainings are on a weekly basis during the evening, at the Avondale College hockey turf

So if you're keen to give hockey a go and make some new friends, please email us



Email [juniorhockey@aisc.org.nz](mailto:juniorhockey@aisc.org.nz) for more info

## Ponsonby Intermediate Term 2 Calendar

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>1</b>	20 April	21 April	22 April	23 April	24 April
			<i>Final EOTC trips</i>	<i>Open Morning</i> Attitude – Talk	
<b>2</b>	27 April	28 April	29 April	30 April	1 May
	<b>ANZAC DAY</b>	CZ Boys Futsal CAPITAL CITY TOUR DEPARTS	Kids' Lit Quiz	CZ Girls Futsal	
<b>3</b>	4 May	5 May	6 May	7 May	8 May
	Talent Quest auditions start	<i>Open Morning</i> CZ Waterpolo Year 7 Netball Starts	<b>GREAT HOUSE RACE</b>	Year 8 Netball Starts	
<b>4</b>	11 May	12 May	13 May	14 May	15 May
		<b>READERS AND WRITERS FESTIVAL</b>	Showquest Rehearsal Day		<b>PINK SHIRT DAY</b>
<b>5</b>	18 May	19 May	20 May	21 May	22 May
	<b>Litex</b> Knowledge-a-thon packs out	CZ Football Year 7 Boys		CZ Football Year 8 Boys	<b>TALENT QUEST FINALS</b>
<b>6</b>	25 May	26 May	27 May	28 May	29 May
	Book Baffle	CZ Football Year 7 Girls	<b>MODULAR CONFERENCES</b> Author Visit - Des Hunt	<i>Open Morning</i> CZ Football Year 8 Girls	<b>TEACHER ONLY DAY</b>
<b>7</b>	1 June	2 June	3 June	4 June	5 June
	<b>KINGS BIRTHDAY</b>		<i>Open Morning</i> CZ Rugby Girls/Boys	Showquest Rehearsal Day	
<b>8</b>	8 June	9 June	10 June	11 June	12 June
					<b>SHOWQUEST DAY</b>
<b>9</b>	15 June	16 June	17 June	18 June	19 June
	CZ Hockey Boys	<i>Open Morning</i> CZ Hockey Girls		CZ Table Tennis	<b>KNOWLEDGE-A-THON</b>
<b>10</b>	22 June	23 June	24 June	25 June	26 June
					<b>COUNCILLORS FRIDAY</b>
<b>11</b>	29 June	30 June	1 July	2 July	3 July
					<b>End of Term</b> School reports out

## 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