

## Important Dates

**12 May**

Readers and Writers  
Festival

BoT Meeting – 6pm

**13 May**

Showquest Rehearsal Day

**15 May**

Pink Shirt Day

**19 May**

Year 7 Boys CZ Football

**21 May**

Year 8 Boys CZ Football

**26 May**

Year 7 Girls CZ Football

**27 May**

Modular Conferences

Author Visit – Des Hunt

**28 May**

OPEN DAY

Year 8 Girls CZ Football

**29 May**

Teacher Only Day

**1 June**

KINGS BIRTHDAY

## Principal's Message

On Wednesday we had our **Great House Race**, a whole school relay with each class participating in a different challenge. House spirit and participation are the key factors, however it is still a race! Photos and a round up of the day are included in this newsletter.

Thank you to those of you who attended the working bee/gardening session on Saturday, the before and after photos are amazing. We will be organising another one soon!

Next Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May, marks **National Pink Shirt Day**, a powerful initiative that aligns perfectly with our school's proactive, "top of the cliff" approach to bullying prevention. It's a day to stand together for kindness, inclusion, and respect. Don't be surprised if your child encourages you to wear something pink, a shirt, tie or even pants as part of the celebration. I'll be reminding them too! You can find more information here: [pinkshirtday.org.nz](https://pinkshirtday.org.nz)

We're looking forward to the **Ponsonby's Got Talent Finals** this term, one of my favourite events of the year. Please note the new date for this later in the newsletter. It's always inspiring to see the incredible talent on display, and to reflect on how many careers have taken off from our very own Ponsonby stage.

In the previous newsletter I mentioned that we are holding a **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. Funds raised will go towards resources needed to cater for the new Curriculum changes. The student pack of fun facts will be out soon, and will possibly be a learning experience for the whole family!

**Nick Wilson**

**Principal**

## In this Week's Issue

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## Great House Race

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Wednesday was full of house fun with our annual Great House Race. The spirit was strong, the chants were loud and the dancing in the stands was fantastic. The students competed in class house challenges from balloon hop and the M&M chopstick challenge, to mixing paint in order to craft a rainbow and the Catwalk dress up competition. Congratulations to Kauri for the Year 7 win led by Kauri's councillor baton runners Paddy and Jade. Totara walked away with the win in the Year 8 race led by Sophie and Cyrus as the Totara councillor runners. A fantastic day had by all.

Thank you to the Councillors for organising the event and to our dedicated team of Councillor baton runners.

### ***Year 7 Great House Race Results***

- 1st **Kauri**
- 2nd **Puriri**
- 3rd **Totara**
- 4th **Rimu**

### ***Year 8 Great House Race Results***

- 1st **Totara**
- 2nd **Rimu**
- 3rd **Puriri**
- 4th **Kauri**

**OVERALL Winners Totara**





## Capital City Tour Highlights

The Capital City Tour kicked off with a great first day, straight into action, after our early plane ride down, we caught the bus to Weta Workshop, after a sightseeing stop at Mount Victoria. This was one of our favourites as it had heaps and heaps of Lord of The Rings armour and weaponry, as well as an awesome class that taught us to make scars. Next we caught the bus to Zealandia and went for a beautiful walk. There were even tuatara at their research site, who didn't mind posing for photos. After that, we went back to our hostel, had a delicious dinner which everyone enjoyed and prepared for the next day.

Day 2 in Wellington and the activities were still going, starting off with a visit to the National Library. We were lucky enough to have a look at the Treaty Room which held the original copies of the Treaty of Waitangi, Kate Sheppard's women's suffrage petition and the Māori Declaration of Independence. Next stop was Parliament. In this massive building we saw an incredible debate (In which Ponsonby got a shout out!) and even got to meet Chlöe Swarbrick! We were also taken down to the bunker, where Parliament works in emergencies!

We next visited one of Wellington's most famous activities - The Cable Car. We went up the track and learnt about the history of the attraction before checking out the gift shop. A fun night bowling at Willis Lane came next, before dinner and Duck Island ice-cream.

On the 3rd day we went to Te Papa and we were given a protest lesson in the Learning Centre, before making some protest badges of our own. Then we were wowed with exhibits like Gallipoli, Earth Fire Blood, Te Taiao and a few more. After an exciting (and at some points sad) time at Te Papa we arrived at the Croc Bikes. These 6 seaters bikes (tandem style) were a great form of transport for a ride around the waterfront.

Day 4 was an early start, we had an 11 hour train trip ahead, from 8am in the morning to 7pm in the evening. This marathon of a train ride passed many landmarks, like Mt Ruapehu and we even went up the engineering masterpiece known as the Raurimu Spiral. The train ride consisted of talking, card games, eating and going into the open air carriage before the journey was over and we met our parents again.

We massively loved the Wellington Trip, as we did so many incredible activities and we got to meet some new people. We're certain this trip will be one of the highlights of Ponsonby and we highly recommend applying for it next year.

### ***Sam Harvey and Eva Exeter***



## Kids Lit Quiz

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On Wednesday the 6th of May, two teams of four students from Ponsonby Intermediate competed in the Kids Lit Quiz at St Cuthbert's College. Our nerves were high as the teams Ponsonby Team A (front of hall) and Ponsonby Team B (side of hall) chose a 'Joker' round for double points. The competition involved ten themed rounds, this year's themes included Balloons, Deer, Bridges, Gates, Cats, Deities (which used picture questions), Urban Myths, Birds, and Finance. Team A excelled in the Deities round (9/10), and Team B aced the Cats round (10/10). The Quiz Master asked questions and teams wrote their answers. Audience members could win money by answering random questions between rounds. Team B scored 75 points, tying for 10th place with Kowhai Intermediate and Team A came in 25th with 68 points. Everyone had such a fun time! Later this month, we are looking forward to competing in the LitEx and Book Battle competitions.



**Etta Room 30 and Thomas Room 23**

## Teacher Only Day

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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)

## Sports Update

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### Girls Futsal Central Zone

The Year 7 and 8 Girls Futsal tournament was held at the Auckland Netball Centre last Thursday. Ponsonby Intermediate teams represented the school proudly and with each game players steadily showed more and more confidence on the court.

### ***Year 7 players Millie, Lucy and Lyne shared this report of their teams event***

The team started the day with 3 pool games playing Royal Oak ending the match with a 2-0 win, Remuera Intermediate a loss 4-0 and ended with a 2-0 win against Pasadena, getting us into the semi-finals. The semi-finals game was against Kowhai Intermediate with them winning 1-0. Then we played Mt Roskill in the playoffs for 3rd and 4th. We finished the day with a win and earned ourselves 3rd place overall. Thank you to parent help Anna and Ms Murray for organising the day.



### ***Year 8 students Issy, Ruby and Sabine also wrote about their team's day out***

It was a long day, with six hard games that all resulted in a tough loss. We came so close every single time, but just couldn't quite get a win. The team versed Mount Roskill Intermediate and Balmoral (both twice), Kowhai, and Pasadena.

Shout outs to the team - Sophia for your positive attitude, Arrietty for your amazing tackles up front, Ishana for your incredible defence, Julia for your great skills and encouragement throughout the tournament. Maisy for your powerful tackles and strong defensive work, Ruby for your amazing skills and strong tackles, Sabine for your incredible, brave saves in goal - you saved us many times and Issy for your awesome goals and clean tackles!



Thank you to everyone who supported us - Ms Murray, Mrs Sherrock and every parent that came along and to Lara for coaching us through every game. We really enjoyed your support!

### **Central Zone Water Polo**

The Ponsonby Intermediate Sharks Water Polo team participated in the CZ Water Polo tournament on Tuesday 5th May at Diocesan Aquatic Centre. There were 12 schools competing.

Thanks to Sharks players Kieran, Maddy and Amelia who gave this account of their team's games.

We played 5 games against Diocesan, St Peter's, Kowhai, St. Mary's and Pasadena. Our first game was against Dio and we lost 7-5, next game was against St Peters a loss 7-3. Then we played Kowhai and it was a

close game, but unfortunately lost 7-5. The last round of games were against St Mary's with a convincing win 7-1, we played confidently against Pasadena and beat them 11-0.

Team shout outs - Maddy for some great defending, Paddy for amazing goal keeping and goals, Harrison for some incredible goals, Anouk for some great mid field plays, Tilda for good fouls, Tima and Archie for good duo plays, Kieran for amazing defence, Amelia for some good shots at goal and fouls and to Chloe and Jet for their accurate passes and defending. Thank you to our coaches Dylan and Julian, Ms Murray and everyone that helped out to make this day possible.

### Central Zone Year 7 Boys Futsal Champs

We had an awesome first game against ANI B and we won 10-0. In our second game we played Remuera Intermediate and won 4-0. In the third game we played Royal Oak, which was a very tough game but we won 3-0 due to some great goals by our strikers. Next up was ANI A team also a very tough game with lots of goals scored, we won 6-0. We made it through to the finals for 1st and 2nd place where we were up 2-0 at half time. After half time they scored twice to make it 2-2. We managed to score twice in the second half as well to make it 4-2 and take out the whole competition with 1st place. Central Zone Futsal was a very fun day because of all our great players and the way we worked together as a team to take 1st place. We have qualified for Inter-Zone Futsal and we hope we will win that as well. Thanks to Henry's dad and Mr Jardine for their support on the day.

**Ben and Tima**

## Pink Shirt Day

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Pink Shirt Day is next (Friday 15 May 2026), and Ponsonby Intermediate is encouraging our staff and students to Kōrero Mai, Kōrero Atu, Mauri Tū, Mauri Ora – Speak up, Stand Together, Stop Bullying!

Bullying in Aotearoa is a real problem. We have the third-highest rate of school bullying out of 38 OECD countries. One in five workers have experienced bullying behaviour in the past 12 months. Those bullied are far more likely to experience mental health issues. Pink Shirt Day works to reduce bullying by celebrating diversity in all its forms and supporting schools, workplaces and communities to be safe, supportive, welcoming and inclusive for everyone.

You can learn more about Pink Shirt Day here: [www.pinkshirtday.org.nz](http://www.pinkshirtday.org.nz)

## Ponsonby's Got Talent 2026

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Over the past two weeks, approximately 40 students have showcased their talents during lunchtime performances. It is always a joy to witness the incredible talent within our school community.

From these performances 10 - 14 students will be selected to compete in the Ponsonby's Got Talent Final to be held at **1.30pm on Thursday 25 June**, Week 10 of Term 2.

Please come along to support our talented students, Ponsonby's Got Talent is always a fantastic afternoon.

## Gardening Working Bee

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Thanks to everyone's help clearing the ivy from the retaining wall. It was a fun day, great teamwork and we made some amazing progress!

*Before*



*After*





## In this edition of School TV – Bullying

Bullying is an ongoing or repeated misuse of power in relationships, with the intention to cause deliberate psychological harm. Bullying behaviours can be verbal, physical or social. It can happen in person or online, via various digital platforms and devices and it can be obvious or hidden. Bullying in any form or for any reason can have immediate, medium and long-term effects on those involved, including bystanders.

Despite the efforts made to reduce bullying behaviours, the research tells us that one in four students still report being bullied every few weeks. However, not all negative behaviour should be considered bullying. The key difference is that bullying does not stop on its own. It's important young people learn how to identify behaviours that are rude, behaviours that are mean, and behaviours that are related to bullying.

Often the reasons for bullying can be complex. Some young people do it to get approval from others, some do it to regain control, whilst others may do it because it makes them feel safe. Supporting young people as they work through their emotions will help them unpack the motivation and reason behind the behaviour.

In this edition of SchoolTV, caregivers can better understand why some young people engage in bullying behaviours and what to do to support a child experiencing it.

We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this edition of SchoolTV and we always welcome your feedback. If you have any concerns about your child, please contact the school counsellor for further information or seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to the **Bullying** edition of SchoolTV

<https://ponsonbyintermediate.nz.schooltv.me/newsletter/bullying>

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## 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

**JERVOIS & C<sup>o</sup>** COMMUNITY

# “MINI MARKET”

**23 May, 2026**

A kid-run micro market for local school children to sell toys, creations and all the little “items” cluttering up our homes.

Join in or simply save the date and come support our young shopkeepers.

 ***Bayfield School Hall – Jervois Road, Herne Bay***

 ***2pm–3.30pm, 23 May, 2026***

 ***Mr Whippy from 2.30pm + free giveaways***

 ***Free entry - kids keep all proceeds***

 ***Limited spaces - email [hello@jervois.co.nz](mailto:hello@jervois.co.nz)***

Questions? Amy | 021 426 926  
Hosted by Jervois & Co Real Estate  
[jervois.co.nz](http://jervois.co.nz)