

## Important Dates

**3<sup>rd</sup> July**

End of Term 2

### TERM 3 DATES

**20<sup>th</sup> July**

Start of Term 3

**24<sup>th</sup> July**

School reports sent out  
via email

**28<sup>th</sup> July**

Open Morning

CZ Boys Netball

**29<sup>th</sup> July**

Roadshow rehearsal day

**30<sup>th</sup> July**

Ponsonby Cross Country

**31<sup>st</sup> July**

CZ Girls Netball

**3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> August**

Roadshow Week and  
Culture Week

## Leadership Message

Kia ora whānau,

What a busy term it has been with a lot going on and a lot to navigate. As a team we have been so impressed with the resilience shown from all of our students and our staff. We'd like to take the time now to thank our incredible teachers for the job they have done over the last six weeks keeping the ship steady and ensuring all of our students have had a settled second half of the term.

We'd also like to thank our community for your continued support and the wrap-around of aroha we have received. Our community is a special one and we are grateful to be a part of it.

Term 3 sees the return of our Deputy Principal, Matt Bennie, from his six month sabbatical. Our Year 8 students and staff are excited to have Matt back and we know he is excited to get to know the Year 7's over the coming terms.

Today you will receive an email from our Board Chair, Hamish Hopkinson with information about the process our school will be taking with appointing a new principal.

Term 3 is an exciting one with a range of activities for our students to get involved in. All students will be participating in the three-minute prepared speech, Cross Country and Culture Week. We will also have our second round of Core and Module conferences mid-way through the term. During these you are able to connect with teachers about your child's learning after receiving their mid-year reports on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July.

We hope everyone has a well deserved break these holidays. As we celebrate Matariki next week we'd like to look to the principle of Matariki Hunga Nui (Remembrance) as we think about Nick and the culture he cultivated in our school, that we are all proud to continue.

Arohanui,

**Katie Fiddian and Cherie Bolesworth**

## In this Week's Issue

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- **World Cup Final Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July**
- **Teacher Only Day**
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- **Culture Week and Roadshow Week Term 3**
- **Knowledge-A-Thon Update**
- **ICAS Exams**
- **World Vision 40 Hour Challenge**
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- **Sports Update**
- **Health Classes in Term 3**
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## World Cup Final: Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July

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*Watch the final together in the school hall Monday 20th July at 7am*

The World Cup has been exciting to follow over the past couple of weeks and we know a number of our students will be watching the competition over the holidays. We also know that the World Cup Final is scheduled to be played on the first Monday of Term 3 at 7am. To avoid a raft of students coming in late to school we will be opening up the school from **6:50am** with teachers and students keen to watch the final together. Students will have the opportunity to watch the entire game. This is one way we hope to alleviate the administration of late students to school on our first day of term. We can't wait to watch the final all together.

## Teacher Only Day: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August

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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 held the first of these Teacher Only Days on Friday 29th May and the second will be held in **Term 3, Friday 28th August**. Note this date has changed from Friday 4th September.

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

# Ponsonby's Got Talent Wrap Up

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Congratulations to all of our Talent Quest finalists for their awesome work last week. A big thank you to Jon Toogood, Thea Rockel and Chanel Katsanos for judging this year.

Results: 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Ollie R and Carys G, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Bella B, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: RELM (Rocky N, Eli C, Louie B, Max C ) Crowd Favourite: Zaiara F, Highly Commended: Maisy M and Sylvie K



# Culture Week and Roadshow Week 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> August

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Following the excitement of the World Cup, Ponsonby students will continue celebrating cultural diversity during Culture Week. Throughout the week, students will rotate through a variety of workshops, each exploring a different country and its unique traditions. This provides a wonderful opportunity for students to connect with others across the school, as Year 7 and Year 8 students will work together throughout the activities.

The week will also feature a Cultural Market organised by the Cultural Ambassadors, where students can enjoy and purchase delicious food from a range of cultures and countries.

Culture Week will conclude with a vibrant Parade of Nations, where all students are invited to come to school dressed in a way that represents their heritage. The upcoming holidays provide a perfect opportunity for students to talk with their families about their cultural background and perhaps borrow or prepare something special to wear for the parade.

Alongside Culture Week, our travelling Roadshow Tour will be visiting nine schools to showcase their talents. We love returning to old primary schools. Many of our students will remember the Roadshow visiting and be inspired by the performers on stage. This year's show is shaping up to be incredible.

# Knowledge-A-Thon Update

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This will continue in Term 3 with our busy team working behind the scenes to ensure this is awesome. This is an important fundraiser for our school to help update resources for our students. More information early next term. The holidays are a great time to get to work on learning some general knowledge.

## ICAS Exams

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ICAS is an online academic competition that is designed to assess students' higher order thinking and problem-solving skills in English, Mathematics, Science, Writing, Spelling Bee and Digital Technologies.

Each assessment celebrates students' accomplishments by providing opportunities for recognition and development. Every student who participates will receive a printed certificate and an online results report. Top performers will be eligible for medals.

Learn more about ICAS [here](https://www.icasassessments.com/products-icas). (<https://www.icasassessments.com/products-icas>)

### How to participate in ICAS

If you wish for your child to participate in ICAS this year, please:

1. read about ICAS subjects and prices [here](https://www.icasassessments.com/products-icas): (<https://www.icasassessments.com/products-icas>)
2. go to Parent Portal [here](https://shop.icasassessments.com/pages/pps): (<https://shop.icasassessments.com/pages/pps>)
3. enter our school's access code – DED009
4. enter your child's details, select the tests you would like to purchase, then proceed to payment.

After payment is made via the Parent Payment System, you will receive an order confirmation email, please keep this for your records.

You will need to complete the signup before the 20th July 2026.

We will notify you of the date(s) that we run ICAS at the school and when your child's ICAS results are ready. You and your child can access the results once released via the Reports Portal using the TAP ID and pin found on the back of the ICAS certificate.

Please do not hesitate to contact Cherie Bolesworth if you have any questions  
[cherieb@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:cherieb@ponsint.school.nz)

# World Vision 40 Hour Challenge

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Congratulations to all of the students who took a break from technology to support World Vision's fundraising for the Solomon Islands. Students were excited to share the fun they had while offline, rediscovering classic games like Monopoly and enjoying quality time with family and friends. Ponsonby Intermediate more than doubled our fundraising goal, so far collecting over \$4,600. A special thank you to Aarthi Candadai from World Vision for sharing her experiences in the Solomon Islands with the school, and for leading an inspiring workshop with the Cultural Ambassadors. These service opportunities are a great reminder that we can make a positive difference!

## Screen Time and Chat Groups

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With the holidays now here we encourage parents to take stock of what their children are doing online and what chat groups they belong to.

### Chat Groups:

We have become aware of a number of Ponsonby Intermediate Class WhatsApp groups that have popped up and content from different social media platforms being shared in these. **We do not encourage nor monitor any class chats** and hope that parents are keeping a close eye on these groups.

### Screen Time:

We know the school holidays can be a hard time to navigate screen time with children. There are many tools out there to help inform your whānau's decisions and priorities around screen time. We encourage you to sit down as a family and discuss how this will look for your children and even involve them in the decision making process. This can help give students ownership and a voice in setting limits. We also encourage you to have healthy discussions about the device habits in other people's homes when your child is on playdates.

We know devices being used in shared spaces is best, rather than behind closed doors.

For further support there are some great resources on managing screen time within SchoolTV <https://schooltv.me/newsletter/managing-screen-time>

# Cross Country

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**Thursday 30th July, Term 3 Week 2**

Our school Cross Country is fast approaching and is set to take place within the first few weeks of Term 3. It is approximately 3km, and will be run around the school grounds and surrounding streets. The holidays are a great opportunity for any competitive runners to get into their training in preparation for cross country season! Our school Cross Country is closely followed by Central Zone Cross Country for our top runners in each age and gender bracket. More information will be sent out with times and organisation early next term.

# Sports Update

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## CZ Girls Hockey

On Friday 26th June, Ponsonby's girls hockey team travelled to North Harbour to compete in the Central Zone Tournament. The team won all of their pool games against ANI, Marist and Balmoral. Moving into the quarter finals, the girls versed Diocesan and lost. The team continued on and lost to Kowhai, leading to a showdown for seventh and eighth place with St Mary's. They came out the victors and ended the day with seventh place- A fantastic effort, especially considering it was the first time that the team had all played



together! The team played with sportsmanship, teamwork and kindness. Well done everyone! Shoutout to Maisy for epic goalkeeping, Grace and Cora for magnificent defensive plays, Amelia and Indi for their skills and control in the midfield, Vida and Annabelle for their goals and persistent shooting, Olivia for her ball control and dominant defence, Darina for her pace and perseverance across the field and Rafaela for the calm but commanding way that she held the wing. A big thank you to Coach James and Dorothy and Hamish who led and supported the team.

## CZ Boys Hockey

Ponsonby's boys hockey team finally got to compete in the Central Zone Tournament on Monday 29th June after games were cancelled last week due to raging rain and high winds.

In pool round games the team won against ANI, had a draw with Ficino and a loss to Waikowhai. In the quarter finals round v St Peter's the game was tight at 2-2, and with a last minute goal scored against Ponsonby the game ended at 2-3. With heads up, the boys followed on to have an exciting game with Kowhai playing extra time for golden goal to take the win and went on confidently to play Royal Oak winning 3-0 to place 5th overall - a top effort!!



Shoutouts to players Robbie, Harry and Aarav for their swift saves in goal; Archie for great passing and defence; Alex for strong tackling; Daniel for his speedy dribbling skills and shots at goal; Edison for his slick goal scoring and James' fast pace around the field, also scoring goals. Thanks to parents and Coach Joe Sacco for his supportive team talks and encouragement.


### Term 3 Central Zone Sports Tournament Timetable

**Students must check the daily notices** for TRIAL days and times, held at school. If there are any changes to the timetable students will be notified in advance.

Term 3 Central Zone Intermediate Sports Tournaments		
Term 3	Week	Date
Netball Y7, 8 Boys	2	Tues. 28 July
Netball Y7, 8 Girls	2	Fri 31 July
Squash	3	Tues 4 August
Rugby league Year 7, 8 Boys/Girls	4	Mon 10 Aug
Cross Country	5	Wed 19 Aug
Basketball Y7, 8 Boys	9	Tues 15 Sept
Basketball Y7, 8 Girls	9	Thurs 17 Sept

## Squash

This term a group of students had the opportunity to attend weekly squash sessions at the Herne Bay Rackets Club. Coaches Manu Yam and Jenni Scowcroft set up the programme teaching basic rules of the game, techniques to serve/move around the court effectively and made up Round Robin games for the students to compete in. The group had a blast, developing squash skills and game sense. Manu and his team will be running the Squash Junior Holiday Programme during the July holidays. For more information on Squash, contact Manu Yam [manu\\_yamjr@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:manu_yamjr@yahoo.co.nz)



**SQUASH JUNIOR HOLIDAY PROGRAMME**  
DATE: 6, 8, 10 July and 13, 15, 17 July  
TIME: 12.30pm to 3.30pm  
Venue: Herne Bay Rackets Club  
Cost: \$35 per day or \$100 per week  
BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL  
Contact Manu 021 886 583  
ALL SKILL LEVELS WELCOME

Herne Bay Rackets Club EST. 1910  
mysquashcoach MANU YAM

## Basketball

Our Basketball trials are concluding this week, with new teams being posted no later than Wednesday July 1st at school for the students to check.

New team email communications will be sent out during the holidays so our teams are hopefully ready to start training in the first week of Term 3. As always, we will be looking for some keen coaches and managers to assist with our school teams.

The first games of our next season will commence on Monday August 3rd.

Thank you to all of our team coaches, managers and parent helpers for the season which has just concluded. It would not be possible to have so many school teams if it was not for your amazing parental support and volunteering.

Y8 Teams	League	Final placing
Thunder	Boys League 2	1st
Spurs	Boys League 4	6th
Lakers	Boys League 8	1st
Nuggets	Boys League 8	6th
Lynx	Girls League 2	2nd

Y7 Teams	League	Final placing
Pacers	Boys League 7	5th
Bulls	Boys League 8	3rd
Suns	Boys League 11	4th
Knicks	Boys League 14	7th
Mystics	Girls League 2	7th
Phoenix	Girls League 6	2nd

Year 7 Girls basketball team, the Ponsonby Phoenix, was one of the most-improved teams for the season, with many of the team members being entirely new to basketball. They finished second over-all in their respective league.



## Health Classes Term 3

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Starting Term 3, Health lessons will focus on Relationships, Puberty and Body Systems.

The following resources align well to assist with the delivery of this programme - Navigating The Journey, Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) Years 1-8: A Guide for Teachers and Leaders, and also educational online resources for Body Systems.

The learning outcomes for this unit will enable students to work towards achievement of *Health and Physical Education* guidelines mentioned in the *New Zealand Curriculum*.

This programme reinforces what the Year 8 students learnt last year, in more depth and will introduce key concepts to Year 7 students. Students will learn about:

- Establishing a positive Learning Environment.
- Who am I? Respect for self and others.

- Year 8 - Relationships: Friendships and their qualities.
- Growing and Changing: The physical, mental and emotional, social, and spiritual growth, and development that occurs, and the new needs that arise during puberty.
- Decision Making: Strategies to manage the changes students will experience.
- Year 7 - Understanding Body Systems - how these systems all work together (excludes reproductive system).
- Year 8 - Life Education: Harmful Substances and Effects on the Teenage Brain

If you wish for your child to be withdrawn from the class while a specific activity is being taught, please make this known by email (before Monday, 20th July 2026) to the Acting Principal, Cherie Bolesworth [cherieb@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:cherieb@ponsint.school.nz)

## Showquest “One Last Dance” in Photos

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## School TV: Celebrating Matariki



### A Special Report: Celebrating Matariki

Each year Matariki is celebrated as a public holiday in Aotearoa New Zealand. For centuries it has been celebrated by tangata whenua to mark the start of te maramataka, the lunar calendar, as well as the Māori New Year. It is a time to gather with family and friends to reflect on the past, celebrate the present, and plan for the future.

The growth of Matariki in importance and relevance marks the continuing enlightenment and depth of understanding that New Zealanders as a whole have of the special culture that is indigenous to all who call Aotearoa home. Matariki is a star cluster which appears in the night sky during mid-winter making it an important marker on the harvest calendar. It appears sometime around the shortest day of the year and is used to determine how successful the harvest crop will be in the coming season.

It is important for all children of Aotearoa New Zealand to learn about Matariki, so it can lead to a more harmonious and united future. Matariki celebrations will be happening all over the country. All whanau are encouraged to join in and support young people as they learn the importance and joy of Matariki.

This Special Report discusses the importance of Matariki and how whanau can celebrate together.

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-celebrating-matariki](https://ponsonbyintermediate.nz.schooltv.me/wellbeing_news/special-report-celebrating-matariki)

## **Imaginaire Speech and Drama in Options (Repeat Notice)**

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### **Imaginaire Speech & Drama at Ponsonby Intermediate – Term 3**

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
- 30 minute lessons on Thursdays during school hours and 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. Or complete our enrolment form here: <https://www.imaginaire.co.nz/speech-and-drama/enrolmentform/>




## AUCKLAND GRAMMAR SCHOOL 2027 In Zone Enrolments

A reminder that In Zone enrolments for 2027 are now open. We encourage you to complete your online application as soon as possible. Please submit applications for Term 1 2027 by Wednesday 23 September 2026.

1) Go to the Auckland Grammar School website ([www.ags.school.nz](http://www.ags.school.nz))



2) Click on 'Enrolment' (highlighted), from the top menu



3) Scroll down to 'In Zone Enrolment' and click 'Read More' under the blurb



Auckland Grammar School, Private Bag 99930, Newmarket, Auckland 1149  
 For more information, contact the Director of Enrolment  
 Phone: 09 623 5400 extn 558 | Email: [n.donoghue@ags.school.nz](mailto:n.donoghue@ags.school.nz)



# LET'S GET YOU READY FOR THE 2026 NETBALL PLAYOFFS Sunday 19 July 2026

## WESTLAKE GIRLS NETBALL COACHING CLINIC FOR YEAR 1 – YEAR 8

The Westlake Girls Premier Netball Team will be holding a Netball Coaching Clinic on **Sunday 19 July at school from 9.30am - 12.30pm OR 1.30pm - 4.30pm** and we would like to invite Year 1 - 8 netballers to come and get ready for the business end of the season as everyone heads into the playoffs in August. It will be ideal for individuals, but we encourage teams to come together and improve as one.

This clinic is designed to sharpen your skills, refine your tactics, and get you match-ready. We are running **two identical 3-hour sessions**—choose between the **morning** or **afternoon** slot.

Tickets are just **\$40**, with all proceeds supporting the Westlake Girls Premier Netball Team's journey to the Upper North Island Champs! Grab a friend, lock in your spot, and support a great cause.

Registrations close on **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2026**.

**COST: \$40 Registration Link:**

<https://www.westlakegirls.school.nz/student-life/sports/>



If you have any questions, please email April Ieremia at [aieremia@westlakegirls.school.nz](mailto:aieremia@westlakegirls.school.nz)

# Term 3 After School Classes

Ages 6-14



Senior Writing Club



Musical Theatre

Become part of a community of learners,  
building skills and confidence to take into  
the classroom and beyond!



New in T3!

Performance Crew

Musical Theatre

Drama

Writing Club

Singing & Piano



prosfordstudio.co.nz



26 Prosford St, Ponsonby

## 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