Newsletter Ponsonby Articulate, energised achievers, ready for the future

4 February 2022

Important Dates

7 February WAITANGI DAY – No School

9 February

"Opt-in" Session with School Leadership Team via Zoom

11 February

Table Tennis Demo in Assembly

14 February Table Tennis Club Starts

14 February Year 8 Netball Trials

15 February Year 7 Netball Trials

15 February BoT Meeting 6pm

16 February Year 8 Netball Trials

17 February Swimming Sports TBC

Principal's Message

Our plans under the Red setting have worked well this week. The more we learn from both Health and the Ministry of Education the easier school operation becomes. It is extremely clear that correct mask use and being outdoors where possible is the key to avoiding students catching Covid-19 or being identified as a close contact and having to isolate.

Should or when we get a case in our school community we will be supported by the Ministry of Education in our next steps. You may find it reassuring to know that we have a remote learning package up and running should families need this service. However, the basic rule of thumb is, schools are open and students should be going to school.

As parents you play a massive part in helping us keep the school open. Please make sure children have well fitted masks, and above all - if **children are not feeling well they must stay at home.**

Meet the Teacher Evening on Wednesday night via Zoom was very well attended. I hope it was a good way for you to find insights into the Ponsonby Experience. Your questions also gave us an understanding of what is "on top" for you as well.

We are offering an "opt-in" session with the leadership team should you wish to understand our portfolios and responsibilities on Wednesday 9 February at 6pm. Zoom link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88508238891?pwd=cEVPL1cwczFFeGVVZHQ5TnJyVyszQT09

Regards,

Nick Wilson

In this Issue:

- Home Learning info
- Health and Safety Information for Parents
- Uniforms
- Swimming Sports
- EOTC
- Traffic at the gate
- Well-being Message
- Sports News
- School App info
- Costs for 2022

Home Learning

As a school we are aware that there will be students that will be directed to isolate at home throughout the term due to being a contact or contracting Covid-19. The duration of isolation will also vary largely depending on the situation and the direction provided by the Ministry of Health.

To allow the students to maintain their learning Ponsonby Intermediate has a differentiated package that the students will be able to access if they are at home. All of the information about how to access these packages will be emailed to you after you have notified the school office via email (<u>office@ponsint.school.nz</u>) of your isolation requirements.

Sarah Valintine will be the contact teacher for students while they are isolating, and will run Zoom meetings with them and help with their learning.

Health and Safety Information for Parents and Caregivers

There are some things parents and caregivers need to do to help the school follow Government Health and Safety guidelines:

- If you are a casual or close contact and need to isolate, please contact the school.
- Keep your child at home if they have symptoms and get them tested. Your child can return to school when the school has received proof of a negative Ministry of Health PCR test and has no symptoms.
- If your child has Covid-19 symptoms while at school, you will be contacted to pick them up. They will need to provide a negative Ministry of Health PCR test before returning to school and have no symptoms.

- Do not enter the school property unless it is essential. If it is essential, you will need to sign in at the office, wear a medical mask, and have a vaccination pass.
- Wear a mask if you are picking up your child outside the school gates. This is to help keep our tamariki safe when exiting the school.

Close Contact:

Self-isolate at home for 10 days post exposure, **test immediately** and on **days 5** and **8** post exposure. Wait for advice from public health for when they can return to school/kura.

Casual Contact:

Watch for symptoms for **10 days** and if any develop, get tested immediately and stay at home/keep your child at home until 24 hours after symptoms resolve.

Uniforms

The school fitness uniform is to be worn during Kori, Physical Education classes, recreation and on out-of-school trips. We also ask that during Term 1, your child brings a hat to school to wear when outside. We provide sunscreen but you are more than welcome to bring your own.

Swimming Sports

Due to issues around Covid-19 and the Red Light setting, we have to discuss an alternative plan with Pt Erin Pools for our Swimming Sports to go ahead. We are hoping that we can proceed with our swimming sports safely and in-line with the guidelines. Once we have correspondence from Pt Erin and the council we will let you know.

EOTC

Unfortunately this has been postponed but is booked and ready to go in Term 2 and 3 if circumstances allow.

Traffic at the Gate

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 for reasons of safety. 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 up. 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.

Sports News

Netball

Students who have expressed an interest in playing netball for the school are meeting this week to collect an information sheet. This has important information needed for parents/players to help make the decision for permission to attend trials and play in the North Harbour Netball competition. Starting Term 2 games are played weekly: Year 7 - every Tuesday starting 3 May; Year 8 - every Thursday starting 5 May.

TRIALS are at school, top courts.

Year 8 Monday 14 February 10:30am - 1:30pm; Wednesday 16 February 11am - 1:30pm

Year 7 Tuesday 15 February 11:45am - 1:30pm; Monday 21 February 10:30am - 1:30pm Callback/Save Day Trial - Wednesday 23 February 11am - 1:30pm

Netball North Harbour will continue to communicate with schools on protocols for operating under the Red Light setting, updates will follow as these come to us.

Please email if you are keen to be a support as team coach or manager.

Michelle Murray michellem@ponsint.school.nz

Basketball

Hopefully by now your child has already come home with a Basketball permission slip and information form if they are interested in playing for the school. I do need these back ASAP as we are always short of time to get the trials and teams sorted before the season begins.

Our season is still on track to start Monday 28 February.

As we speak the venues are confirming their protocols to operate under Red Light setting, but be prepared for restrictions such as only one coach with the team inside and no spectators, masks on right up until game time, and teams entering and leaving through different exits. Harbour Basketball have also specified that all players over **12 years and 3 months** of age will need to be vaccinated in order to play.

If your child is keen to play but not vaccinated I would still encourage them to collect a permission form and to attend the trials. It would be great to still put them in a team, to still have them attend training sessions, and the school will run a Basketball afternoon one day each week for any who are unable to attend the Harbour competition.

I will be emailing out all parents/caregivers of students who return a permission slip with further information next week, hence the urgency to get these back quickly.

Sam Jardine samj@ponsint.school.nz

Sailing

The coveted P Class Tanner Cup is the inter-provisional regatta where sailors represent their region from all over New Zealand, a competition first sailed back in the 1940s. In December, Bella Jenkins (Room 8) sailed in the trials to gain a position on the Auckland team. Trials were sailed over two days with 7 races completed. Bella finished 3rd overall and 1st girl for Auckland - an awesome accomplishment and honour for Bella as she is the only girl to qualify for any of the Auckland regions, with seven sailors from North Harbour and six from Auckland Central. This annual event was held in January, with 18 sailors in the fleet who qualified, racing over four days for the Tanner Cup. Following this event, Bella raced for four days in the Tauranga Cup P Class Nationals, which all sailors competed in and an event she really looked forward to. Amazing effort and sailing skills Bella!







Ponsonby Diving Team

Ponsonby Intermediate diving team - Pip Lee (Rm15), Charlize Barron and Mali Lovett (Rm17), competed in the National Intermediate and Secondary Schools Diving Championship Event, held on 19 and 20 December 2021 at West Wave Pool in Auckland.

Approximately 40 divers competed, mainly from the Auckland region. Competitors received points for their school based on where they placed. Charlize Barron placed 2nd in the Intermediate Girls' Platform event and Ponsonby Team were 2nd overall in the Intermediate event. They were presented with a shiny trophy that the school gets to retain and display.

The team all commit to training on a weekly basis, so it was a great opportunity for them to gain experience competing in this diving tournament at Junior Championship level.

Diving New Zealand were persistent with their organisation to get the event underway and completed considering the many challenges for top level sports during the Covid-19 restrictions.

Link to livestream (Dec.2021): <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G8JULkh2wUk</u>





Well-Being Message

Kia ora and welcome to our new whānau to Ponsonby Intermediate and welcome back to our Year 8's. We have a fantastic resource to support families navigating the ride that is preadolescence/adolescence. We publish topics here in the newsletter, but you have access also through our school website.

This week we welcomed our new year 7's and some new year 8's. Find some information on what might be happening for our kids at this time of settling in. I am the school Guidance Coordinator and also our School Counsellor, and manage the Learning Centre. I look forward to seeing you all soon. Don't hesitate to contact me if you need: <u>Rachel Maitland-Smith</u> at <u>rachelm-s@ponsint.school.nz</u>

See the School TV resource below



special report Moving to a new school

A SPECIAL REPORT: Moving to a New School

Moving to a new school is a big deal! Your child is going to meet lots of new people and be thrown into new situations. That's bound to make them feel lots of different emotions. They may feel worried and anxious, but also excited and happy – all at the same time!

It is considered to be one of the most important transition periods of a student's life and can present some significant psychological challenges for both students and parents. Making new friends, learning new routines, discovering new environments, accepting new cultures and adjusting to new learning practices is all part of the process. Some children will sail through this period of change, whilst others may need a bit more guidance. It is important to give your child the chance to feel comfortable in their new space. This may take a few months, but ensure you keep the lines of communication open and check in regularly with your child to see how they are settling in.

In this Special Report, parents and care givers will be presented with a number of strategies that can be deployed to help ensure a smooth transition.

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/moving-new-school

School App info

To download the School App, either scan the QR code, click on the <u>link</u> or go to the app /play store and search for KiwiSchools Connect. Download the app and select Ponsonby Intermediate. Then choose to Subscribe to All.





2022 Costs

NB: Subject to review

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 2022 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 – Ski Team, 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 \$580.00 for the year or \$145.00 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 \$580.00 if paid before the end of March 2022.

Sports and Ed. Outside the Classroom	\$50.00
Special Events/Trips	\$50.00
Options Modules	\$50.00
Printing (including School Magazine)	\$40.00
The Arts	\$50.00
Internet Levy	\$50.00
Transport	\$30.00
Technology	\$110.00
Activity Costs	\$430.00
School Donation	\$150.00
Total Per Year	\$580.00

Options for Term 1

Below are the options running in Term 1. Students will have the opportunity to select their top 5 choices (they will be placed into one of these options for the term). Students will select and be part of a different option class each term.

option class each term.	
Disc Golf: Miss Jeon - Room 1 Love throwing things? Love aiming at targets? This is just for you - let's become the Tiger Woods of the frisbee world	Sketch Club: Mrs R Wilson- Room 2 If you enjoy sketching then this is the option for you. We will explore different sketching techniques and overall just enjoy the time to be creative.
MathemARTics: Miss Rees - Room 3 Do you like to know the why and the how?! Have you ever looked at shapes in nature in awe, thinking "how on earth do spirals naturally occur?!" Don't we all wonder these things?! This Option might just satiate the questions you have while also creating some very cool art.	I can Animate! : Mr Curtis- Room 7 Bring those ideas and stories alive through animation. Explore different software programs to create your own 2D and 3D animations. If you enjoy model making you can explore legomation and claymation using stop motion techniques.
Touch Typing: Miss Stone - Room 19 Come and learn how to type without using the sense of sight to find the keys. You will learn the useful skill of Touch Typing using Interactive learning games and speed.	Zentangle Art: Mrs McCullagh - Room 9 Learn a new skill or add to your art with Zentangle drawing and painting. A thought filled and relaxing process.
Anime and Manga: Miss Cooney- Room 12 Do you love watching Anime and reading Manga books? Then this is the option for you! Come and create your very own manga or just draw your favourite anime characters.	NZSL for beginners: Miss Athy-Timmins - Room 14 Do you want to learn a new language, one that's a national language for New Zealand? Join this option if you'd like to learn how to say basic phrases in New Zealand Sign Language.
Librarians : Mrs Marsick - Library - (students are preselected)	Old School Games : Ms Richardson - Top Courts Do you remember back in the day, all the games you used to play in childhood? Now is your chance to relive your youth with games like Captain's Coming, Cat and Mouse, Duck Duck Goose and Red Rover.
Basketball: Mr Jardine - Bball court The name says it all. Basketball. Play, maybe learn some new skills or drills, practise some old ones and get a few extra shots up before the season and trainings hopefully get under way!! All abilities welcome.	Softball: Mrs Murray - Field by sit ups If you love running around chasing others, whacking balls and are an awesome team player, then this sport is definitely for you - choose SOFTBALL !! Open to girls, boys - set up teams to play games, practise catching, throwing, batting and umpiring.
Hard-out Sports: Mr Wilson / Mr T - Top courts Sports extension and enrichment. Different styles of sport that will test all your skills. Teamwork and persistence necessary. Not for the faint-hearted, you must be prepared to go HARD every week!	3D Design and Printing: Mr Wilson - HUB Welcome to the future! We will be designing in 3D and printing on our newly updated school 3D printers. This option is open to both Year 7 and Year 8 students.

Lit Quiz/Book Club - Mrs Spencer - Room 21: Do you love reading? Love quizzes and love prizes? Then join the Ponsonby Kids' Lit training squad. Last year more than 50 students applied for 8 spots to take part in Term 2's Kids' Lit Quiz competition. Ponsonby came 2nd by 1/2 point out of over 60 schools. Can we take out the top prize this year???	Girls' Yoga: Room 24 - Mrs Francis Spend Thursday afternoon improving your flexibility and taking some time for mindful relaxation. No experience or equipment needed - we have yoga mats for you to use. Remember to wear comfortable clothes that will allow you to stretch and move around freely. This activity is for girls only.
Pinterest Crafting: Mrs Howie - Room 25 Do you like to get crafty? Come and experiment making a variety of crafts straight from Pinterest	Gardening Club : Miss Sherrock - Room 26 If you have an interest in gardening, then come join us to help keep our school gardens looking amazing! We will also be setting a up school garden with some herbs and a few seasonal vegetables. You will need to be prepared to help with weeding around the school as well as tending to the plants we will grow.
Chess: Ms Busch - Room 28 Are you interested in playing one of the most popular games in the world? Are you interested in pitting your skills against other players? Then the chess option is for you. Players of ALL abilities welcome.	Cultural Games: Mr Wannamaker - Room 30 Field Enjoy sport or playing games? In this option we explore games from other cultures through active participation. Games like ultimate frisbee, tchoukball, lacrosse and more. So if you learn through doing and are open to new and exciting sports, sign up!
A Real Puzzle: Ms Edwards - Interact If you like puzzles and solving problems then this is the option for you. You can choose from lateral thinking problems, Dingbats, logic puzzles or delve into the box of weird and wonderful, hands on puzzles that Ms E has. (We won't be doing any jigsaws in this option.)	



Ponsonby Learning Pathway **Our Vision** Articulate. energised achievers; New Zealand Ponsonby ready for the future Curriculum Community At Ponsonby Intermediate we value: Showing Expressing Making Growth **Respect for** Ourselves **Connections:** Through Learning other People We explore and share our As a member of a class, a We are open to change, school and a community, Because we have confidence thoughts, talents, feelings treating each challenge as an and beliefs because these we are part of a whole. in who we are, we are able to opportunity to learn. As life make us who we are. We come together from appreciate and let others be long learners we strive We get the most out of themselves. We care for, many different cultures to be the best and support each other. life when we are true to learn from we can be. to ourselves. each other. inside and outside the classroom. Personalising Our Path Habits of Mind • Quality Learning Circle • Te Reo • Gifted and Talented • SMART Target Learning Journals Positively Ponsonby Inquiry Model Specialist Teaching Ponsonby Passports Student Council Art/Culture Weeks Direct Vocab Information Landscape • R.E.E.P. • E.O.T.C. • ESOL • S.S.R. • Options • Camps B-Cool Reporting to Parents Professional Development Appraisal Tools for Learning • Planning • Overviews • Curriculum Reviews • Mentoring Keys to Success • Critical Thinking • Kori • Habits of Mind • SMART Targets Kev Competencies Humanities Mathematics English The Arts Technology Thinking Thinking Thinking Thinking Thinking Relating to Others Managing Self Participating and Using language symbols and text **Relating to others** Using language symbols and text Managing Self Relating to **Managing Self** Managing Self **Managing Self** Others Contributing 15