

Important Dates

6 May

CZ Boys Futsal
North Harbour Netball
starts (Year 7's)
North Harbour Hockey Y7
& Y8 starts

7 May

CZ Girls Futsal

8 May

North Harbour Netball
Starts (Year 8's)

9 May

The Great House Race

13 May

OPEN MORNING
Readers and Writers
Festival
CZ Water Polo

15 May

Talent Quest from 1:30pm

16 May

Pink Shirt Day

20 May

BoT Meeting – 6pm
CZ Year 7 Boys Football

21 May

OPEN MORNING

22 May

CZ Year 8 Boys Football

27 May

CZ Year 7 Girls Football

29 May

CZ Year 8 Girls Football

2 June

Kings Birthday

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 on Science Fiction. The math focus moves from Number into Algebra.

The DEEP Learning Programme has the 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 focussed 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 Friday 9 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.

Our Kapa Haka and other cultural groups are underway and many students are auditioning for the Talent Quest. The school production rehearsals will be getting underway next week and our sports calendar is also incredibly full.

The 'Ponsonby Experience' is in full swing, and there is loads more to come!

Ngā mihi,

Nick Wilson

In this Week's Issue

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- **Great House Race**
- **ICAS**
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- **School TV**
- **Rob Cope Video – Parent resource**

Messaging Apps and Online behaviour

This year we have focussed on educating our Tamariki on how to be safe online and interacting positively with their peers. We have covered this in our Hauora lessons, our bullying prevention programme and our talk from attitude yesterday that focussed on “tackling technology”. We have also had Rob Cope in to present to parents and provide a parent resource to support at home.

However, over the last few weeks and especially over the holidays we have been informed of some concerning and inappropriate behaviour online through messaging apps. The messaging apps that have been mentioned are Discord, Whatsapp and Snapchat.

At Ponsonby, you are not allowed your phone before or during school. Students most definitely cannot access any messaging apps during this time either. A lot of this behaviour happens outside of school time which is incredibly difficult for schools to monitor and almost impossible to enforce, especially during the weekend and holidays. We would appreciate your support with this and ensure that your child is using the tools we have given them at school to help them navigate these apps.

Reminders for students:

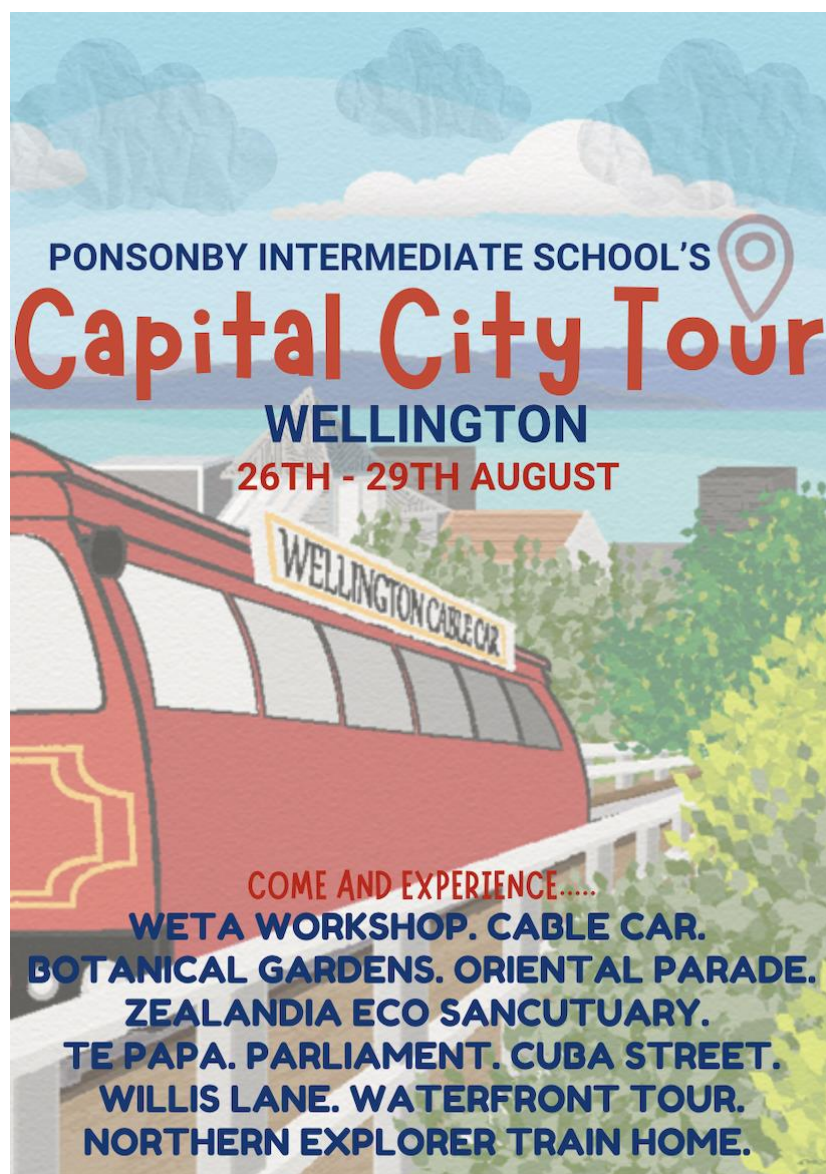
- Do not add anyone to your contacts or chat group you do not know
- Do not share passwords
- Do not share personal information such as addresses or phone numbers
- Block inappropriate or bullying type messages
- Do not reply to the inappropriate messages
- Report the behaviour to your parent or caregiver
- Do not delete the message, screenshot the message and show a trusted adult

Talent Quest

We started auditions for the “Ponsonby’s Got Talent”, talent quest this week. We have been so impressed with what we have seen so far. The finals show is Thursday 15th May at 1:30pm.

Capital City Tour

This year we are bringing you the Capital City Tour as a new experience for Ponsonby Intermediate students to get involved in. If your child is interested in finding out more there will be a meeting next week where they will bring home information and families can discuss whether this is something they’d like to be a part of.



Kids Lit Quiz

On Thursday 10th of April, 8 students across two teams competed in the Auckland heat of the Kids' Literature Quiz, for a spot in the national championships in Wellington. It was a tough day, the expectations were high as one of the teams was only one point short from tying for first place last year. Participating in Team One was Anton Gene Garcia Rm23, Spike Eek Rm23, Caroline Wood Rm23 and Blake Siale Rm23. Team Two was made up of Jack Jones Rm12, Zitong Wu Rm 11, Liliana Bidlake Rm11 and Rory Dawson Rm11. Team One were doing well, but a few mistakes, and a misplaced joker dropped them into 25th place. Team Two did similarly well, and managed to score closely to Team One, reaching 29th place. Though it seems slightly disappointing, it's important to remember that there were over 80 teams at the event. Next year, the goal is still to go to the nationals, but the added experience that this year's juniors gained will serve to raise their chances at a higher score.



Sports Update

The school sports calendar is full again for Term 2. Table Tennis was buzzing with activity on the first day back this week. Football is the focus this term for class v class lunchtime sports with games starting in Week 2.

Check out the Central Zone Sports overview below for the one day tournament dates. Students have access to the daily notices to find out specific information about sports, trials (days/times) and tournaments.

Term 2 Central Zone Sports Tournaments		
Week	Date	Sport
2	Tues. 6 May	Futsal Year 7, 8 Boys
2	Wed. 7 May	Futsal Year 7, 8 Girls
3	Tues. 13 May	Waterpolo
4	Tues. 20 May	Football Year 7 Boys
4	Thurs. 22 May	Football Year 8 Boys
5	Tues. 27 May	Football Year 7 Girls
5	Thurs. 29 May	Football Year 8 Girls
7	Mon. 9 June	Rugby Girls/Boys U45/U55 Open
8	Mon. 16 June	Hockey Year 7, 8 Boys
8	Tues. 17 June	Hockey Year 7, 8 Girls
8	Thurs. 19 June	Table Tennis

Good luck to Ponsonby's sports teams starting weekly competitions and training - Basketball, Netball, Water Polo, Hockey, Skiing and Swim League. Shout out "thanks!" to all our coaches and managers supporting these teams. For Basketball queries contact Brooke Jameson, email brookej@ponsint.school.nz and Sports Coordinator Michelle Murray, email michellem@ponsint.school.nz

School Camps – Week 1, Term 4 (Repeat Notice)

This year all classes will be attending camp in **Week 1 of Term 4**. All camps are catered and provide a range of fun and challenging activities ranging from rock climbing to kayaking and Adventure Based Learning type activities.

All students will be in cabin style accommodation and only required to bring a sleeping bag among other items that will be specified in later newsletters and letters home.

There is no camping in tents on our camps as the focus is more on the activities and the teambuilding aspect of the experience.

Year 7 Camps

All year 7 classes will be attending Carey Park for a 2 night camp. 5 classes will go Monday and Tuesday night (6th October to 8th October) with the other 5 classes going Wednesday and Thursday night (8th October to 10th October)

Year 8 Camps

There are three different locations for Year 8 camps this year and they will be attending camp from Tuesday night to Friday (7th October to 10th October)

Around week 5 Term 2 you will receive the permission slips, medical form and parent help form. Please fill these in as soon as possible and return to school. There will also be information these forms about the camp your child is attending and the fees.

In the meantime, if camp is something you would like to help out with, keep that week in mind and you can register your interest once we send out permission slips and our parent help form in Term 2.

Year 7 Camps	Year 8 Camps
<p><u>Carey Park</u> (6th - 8th October) Lisa Stephenson 3 Kelly Richardson 16 Katherine Busch 28 Stephanie Bruce 8 Inger Moffatt 9 Michelle Murray Kristen - (Tues)</p> <p><u>Carey Park</u> (8th - 10th October) Jennie Chatfield 1 Sione Taupeaape 15 Sarah Howie 25 Andrea Sherrock 26 Chrissie Cullen 11 Claire Kim (Thurs)</p>	<p><u>Camp Bentzon</u> (7th - 10th October) Katie Fiddian Jane Jeon 14 Angela Lane 22 Lauren Collins 12 Malachi Faiva</p> <p><u>Chosen Valley</u> (7th - 10th October) Cobey Bennett 20 Brooke Jameson 17 Ian Wannamaker 30</p> <p><u>Peter Snell</u> (7th - 10th October) Penelope 23 Sarah Valintine 18 Kellie Smith 21 Andy Wilson</p>

Great House Race

We kick off the term with the councillors GREAT HOUSE RACE event next **Friday 9th May**. Each class has a challenge that they have been mastering.

- **Year 7 Race: 11:15am**
- **Year 8 Race: 1:40pm**

We encourage everyone to dress in house colours for the day. It's going to be a lot of fun. Thank you to the councillors for organising this activity for the school.

ICAS Exams

We would like to inform you that Ponsonby Intermediate will be participating in ICAS competitions this year.

What is ICAS?

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 28th July 2025.

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

School Hoodie and Track pants

You can order the hoodie (sweatshirt or sweater) and track pants including our new cotton material track pants using the link below (cotton track pants on the left). Your child also has the option of having their name on the back of the hoodie. Guidelines for the name are outlined on our website. Please read these carefully before placing an order. If you need to try on sample sizes, these are available at the office to try on after school.

These items are not compulsory for all students to have, it is a choice and not a required part of the school uniform.

<https://schooluniformcentre.co.nz/ponsonby-intermediate/>



School TV – Digital Reputation

We have been seeing some online group chats emerging within our school. Some of these group chats have been making comments of others and some students report getting a lot of notifications at all times of the day and night. It is helpful for families to be aware of this and support your children to manage these interactions.

Overview of this edition

Social media has become such an integral part of a teenager's life that it can cause anxiety and lower their self-esteem. Modern teens are learning to do most of their communication whilst looking at a screen instead of another person. They are missing out on very critical social skills. Dependant on what they are communicating online, it can affect their digital reputation. Friendships, relationships and even future job prospects are all at risk. As a parent, it is very important that you are aware of what picture they are painting of themselves online.

Once information makes its way online it can be difficult to remove. Images and words can be misinterpreted and altered as they are easily and quickly shared around. Privacy settings on social media sites need to be managed in order to protect your child's digital reputation.

Click on the link for this week's School TV article
[Social media and digital reputation](#)

Rob Cope – Tips for Parents

5 Ways Smartphones are Hurting our Kids

"Should I give my kids a tablet, a smartphone, or some other kind of device?"
Before you decide, check out this quick 2-minute video

Click on the link to watch [2-MINUTE PARENTING](#)

Would you like to train as a teacher?

Ponsonby Intermediate has partnered with the Teachers Institute and next year we will be able to train two teachers here on site. Applications for the 2026 school-based training programme are now open. <https://www.teachersinstitute.org.nz>

INFORMATION SESSION



WEDNESDAY 21 MAY | 5PM | 3 MARGOT ST

We warmly invite you to learn about our school-based Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching programme in either primary or secondary.

RSVP BY FRIDAY 16 MAY

info@teachersinstitute.org.nz



MUSIC LESSONS AT SCHOOL!

Specialist music tuition for a range of instruments including Piano, Guitar, Drums and more!

IT'S CONVENIENT!



Limited spaces this term.
Secure your spot now!

Give your child the opportunity to enjoy **music lessons right at their school!** Our individualised lessons are **fun, educational,** and designed to **develop their skills.**

Learning music supports your child's growth by developing:



confidence



creativity



concentration



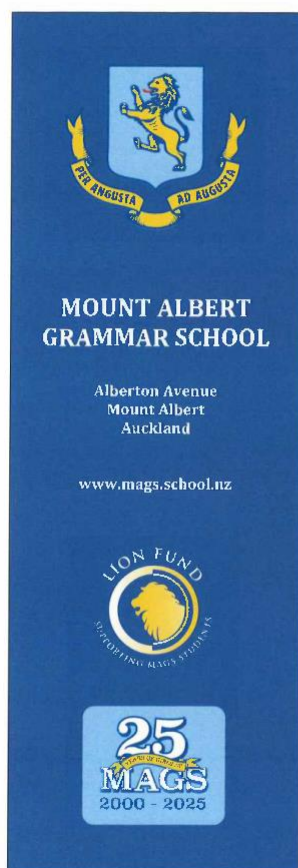
and so much more!

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SCAN ME

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Or call us!



INFORMATION EVENING FOR IN-ZONE 2026 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, 2025**.

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

WHEN: WEDNESDAY 7 MAY 2025

TIME: 7.00pm-8.00pm

EVENING PROGRAMME

- A visual presentation about Mount Albert Grammar School for Year 9 students in 2026.
- Information about our Enrolment procedure for the 2026 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
Email: jwilliams@mags.school.nz


Toby Powell
Deputy Principal – Junior Boys
846 2044 Ext 8224
Email: tpowell@mags.school.nz


Sarah Hayes
Deputy Principal – Junior Girls
846 2044 Ext 8172
Email: shayes@mags.school.nz



2ND HAND CLOTHING MARKET
PRE-LOVED CLOTHING DONATIONS NEEDED
Westmere School Fundraiser Event

CLOTHING DRIVE

Westmere School will be hosting a second hand clothing market & we'd love your support. We're looking for donations of pre-loved clothing in all sizes (including kids & babies) as well as accessories. All donations to be in good condition (no stains, tears, broken zips etc).

DONATIONS TO BE DROPPED OFF AT WESTMERE SCHOOL OFFICE ON FRIDAYS (TOP OF LARCHWOOD AVE ENTRANCE)

2ND HAND CLOTHING MARKET
WESTMERE SCHOOL • 27 JULY • 11AM-2PM

Kindly sponsored by:  storage king  RayWhite.



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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