

# Newsletter

**Ponsonby**  
Intermediate School

Articulate, energised achievers, ready for the future

28 May 2025

## Important Dates

### 29 May

CZ Year 8 Girls Football

### 30 May

Production Rehearsal Day

### 2 June

King's Birthday

**School Closed**

### 4 June

Modular Conferences

3.30pm-8pm

### 5 June

Open Morning

### 6 June

Pacific Style Day

### 9 June

CZ Girls & Boys Rugby

### 10 June

Open Morning

### 11 June

Open Morning

### 12 June

Production

Rehearsal Day

### 16 June

CZ Boys Hockey

Production Dress Rehearsal

### 17 June

CZ Girls Hockey

Production Matinee &

Opening Night

### 18 June

Production Matinee & Evening

Performance

### 19 June

CZ Table Tennis

Production Evening Performance

## Principal's Message

I'm sure you are aware of the curriculum changes that are being pushed through at a national level. Later this week, we will send a separate newsletter unpacking those changes for you. In this we will outline what the changes mean for Ponsonby Intermediate, especially around the written reports provided at the end of this term and end of the year.

Last week, I had the pleasure of taking the Year 8 boys Football Team to the Central Zone competition day. The lads were fantastic! Superb skills, teamwork and support for each other. I couldn't have been prouder of these young gentlemen. We didn't lose a game, or let in a goal, all day - however we finished fifth!

Another great moment for Ponsonby this fortnight was the representation we provided for the opening of Te Rimutahi last Saturday. A massive thank you to Ms Holmes, Mr Bennie and Miss Valentine for all their hard work leading up to this event.

Wishing you a great week ahead.

Kia kaha,

**Nick Wilson**

## **In this Week's Issue...**

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- **Great House Race**
- **Important Camp Information**
- **Pink Shirt day**
- **Te Rimutahi Opening Ceremony**
- **Talent Quest**
- **Pacific Style Day**
- **Sports Update: Orienteering, Hockey, Boys Football**
- **Student Led conferences**
- **Production Tickets**
- **Auckland Writer's Festival**
- **Library News**
- **Te Papa Virtual Reality Session**
- **Hoodies & Track pants**
- **Photolife class and individual photos**
- **Term 2 Calendar**

## **Great House Race**

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On Friday the 16th of May we held the annual Great House Race, which is a school wide event. The race is based on participation and teamwork. At Ponsonby Intermediate we have four houses based on native trees of Aotearoa: Rimu the yellow house, Kauri the green House, Totara the blue house and Puriri the red house. The Great House Race is a series of different challenges placed around the school and is a race against each house. Every class gets their own activity and the four houses in that class have to compete against each other. The 16th was also Pink Shirt Day and everybody came to school in both their house colours and pink so the assembly was an array of colours. After morning tea the year seven race kicked off with Totara taking the cup. The race concluded with an epic dance off and a chance to win more house points. Kauri took out the year eight race and both of the dance offs and finished the day first overall.

I loved the Great House Race, which is a fun event for everyone. I'm a councillor and my jobs were to plan the event and hype up the crowd. When we were planning the event we had lots of help from the amazing Mrs Fiddian. With her help, we thought of over 10 fun, silly and creative activities for the classes to do. Some of these were a dress up catwalk, bottle flip and

cup stacking. I loved the bubbly and excited energy that was in the air, the day was amazing and I'm so grateful that Ponsonby offers this.

*Written by Isobel and Chanel*





# Important Camp Information

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This morning, your child will receive an information pack about camp that outlines all the details that you will need to know as a parent or caregiver.

The information pack will include:

- **Cover letter** outlining the details around the camp they are attending and important upcoming meetings for parents and camp fees
- **Medical form** that must be filled out accurately and with any extra information that the teacher may need to know to help keep your child safe on camp
- **Parent Help form** indicating help from parents with camp and transport
- **Safety and Behaviour Contract** outlining the expectations for attending camp

These forms must be returned by **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May** so that the staff can proceed with their next step in planning around catering and activities.

A reminder that all our camps are within an hours drive from the CBD and all accommodation is in cabins (there is no tenting). All accommodation, activities and catering are included in the cost of camp.

Camp is a important part of intermediate schooling and is part of the New Zealand Curriculum. The skills, knowledge and friendships you build on camp are an integral part of the 'Ponsonby Experience'. We hope to have all students attend as it is often a highlight of the students' year.

## Pink Shirt Day

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Outstanding participation in this year's Pink shirt day. A day of kindness, respect and lifting each other up! Well Done Ponsonby.



## Te Rimutahi – Local Park Opening

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On Saturday May 17th, our Year 8 band '*Dedwood Dreamers*' had the pleasure of playing at the opening of Ponsonby's new civic space Te Rimutahi. This was an amazing opportunity for our students to perform to our community, including our local MP Chloe Swarbrick and Mayor Wayne Brown! Our students rose to the challenge, putting on a great performance and having a blast in the process.



## Talent Quest

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Last Thursday we were treated to an amazing talent quest showcasing 12 very impressive performers who wowed the crowd with their talent and skills. Our fabulous judges solo artist and ex Ponsonby student, Emma Wagner, Mrs Fiddian and ex Ponsonby Music Teacher Mr Curtis, had a very difficult job of choosing winners. The crowd favourite was given to Ollie Robinson and Sabine Christophersen (circus). Highly commended was awarded to Evie Cui (piano) and Rocky Veber-Nichols, Max Covic and Louie Bickelmann (MRL - band), third place to Chanel Katsanos (rap), second place to Kingston ZP (piano) and first place to Ramona Duignan (dance). Our other beautiful performers were Noah David (rap), Sloan Stebben (singer), Tilly Moore (singer), MJ Pickering and Olivia MacDonald (duet), Hazel Burton-Phillips (dance) and Oscar Berry, George Atkins, Elvis Lam and James Old (Mini Mayhem - band). We were also treated to a fabulous performance by our school orchestra led by our Music teacher Claire Holmes. In our eyes, all the contestants were winners; congratulations to each and every one of you.

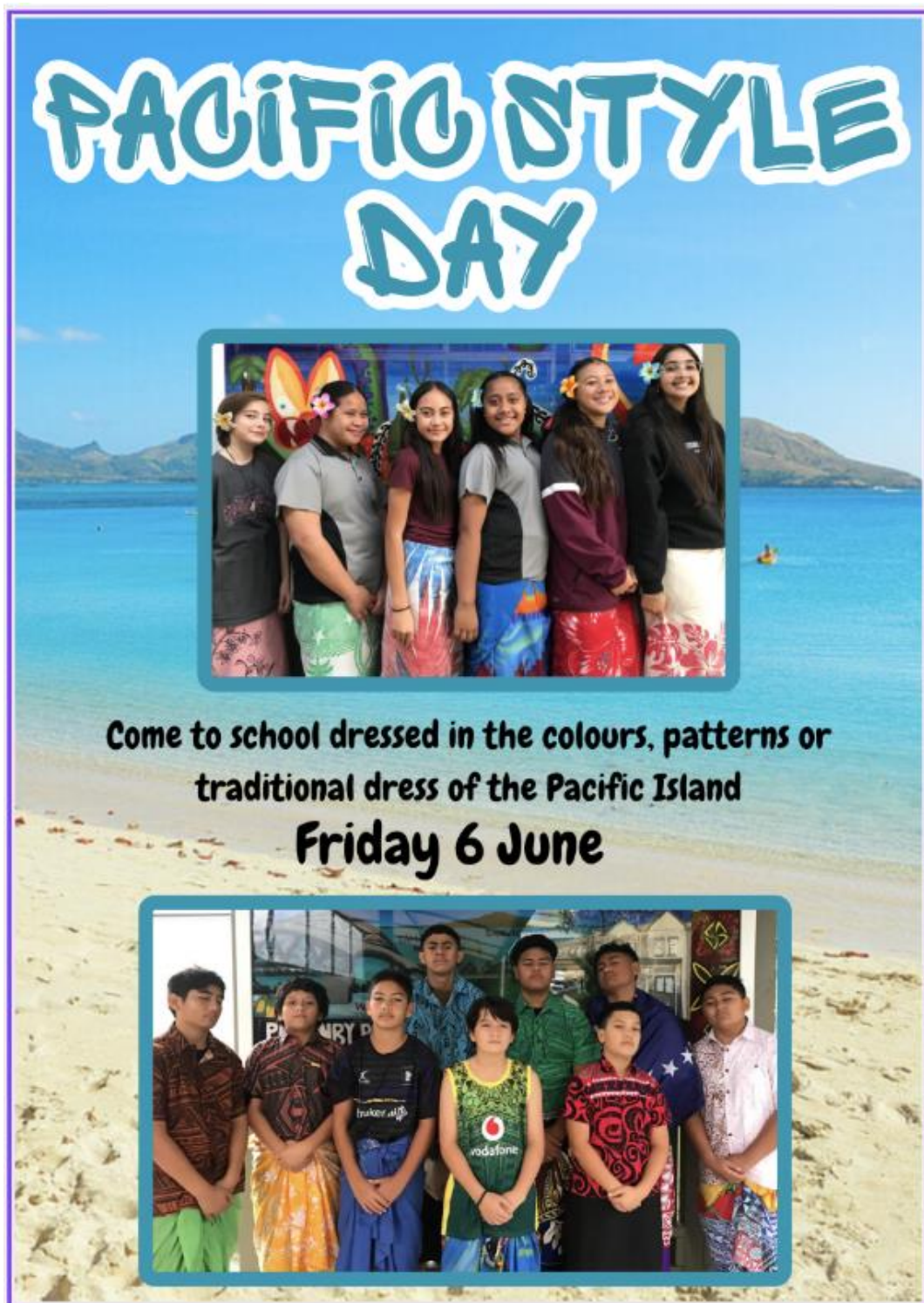





## Pacific Style Day

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On Friday 6th June, all students are invited to come to school wearing the colours, patterns, or traditional dress of the Pacific Islands. This event will be the culmination of learning throughout the week, focused on Samoan Language Week and cultural identity. In Term 4, we will celebrate the cultural diversity of the school on United Nations Day, which will be a wonderful opportunity for all students to share their culture.




**PACIFIC STYLE DAY**



**Come to school dressed in the colours, patterns or traditional dress of the Pacific Island**

**Friday 6 June**



The poster features a blue sky background with a beach and ocean. It includes two photographs of students in traditional Pacific attire. The top photo shows a group of girls, and the bottom photo shows a group of boys. The text is in a bold, stylized font.



# Sports Update

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## Year 7 Boys CZ Football

On Tuesday 20th May 2025, Ponsonby took a team of 10 Year 7 boys to Seddon Fields to play in the Central Zone Football competition. It was a beautiful day for sport and the team started the day very well with a 5-1 win over Waikowhai. The second game was a hard fought contest with neither team scoring, ending 0-0 vs Mt Roskill. After a break, the boys played against ANI. Another close match but Ponsonby went down 1-0. This concluded the Round Robin. Our +3 goal differential proved to be very important in the overall seedings, placing Ponsonby in the top four along with ANI, Balmoral and Remuera Intermediate. In our hard fought semifinal we went down 1-0, placing us in the 3rd/4th game versus ANI where we finished 4th place overall. It was a great day of football and the team did really well with some great passing, challenges, saves and team play. Team members include: Jasper Rm 9, Hugo Rm 8, Louis R Rm1, Freddie Rm 15, Max M Rm 1, Meldric Rm 8, Ethan Rm 15, Oscar B Rm 11, Ollie Rm 26, Dylan - Goalkeeper Rm 8

Thank you to Mr. Wannamaker for coaching and taking the team. Go Ponsonby!





## Football - Year 8 Boys

A superb day of football at the local Seddon Fields. We didn't lose a game and our goal Keeper and "*Player of the Day*", Arjun didn't let in a goal - A clean sheet!

### Results

Game 1 - Wesley Intermediate - win 3-0

Game 2 - Waikowhai Intermediate - Draw - 0-0

Game 3 - Kowhai Intermediate - Draw - 0-0

Game 4 - Auckland Normal Intermediate - 1-0

Game 5 - Elim School - 1-0

As we were unable to win our pool, we finished fifth place overall. Congratulations boys, you were fine ambassadors of Ponsonby.





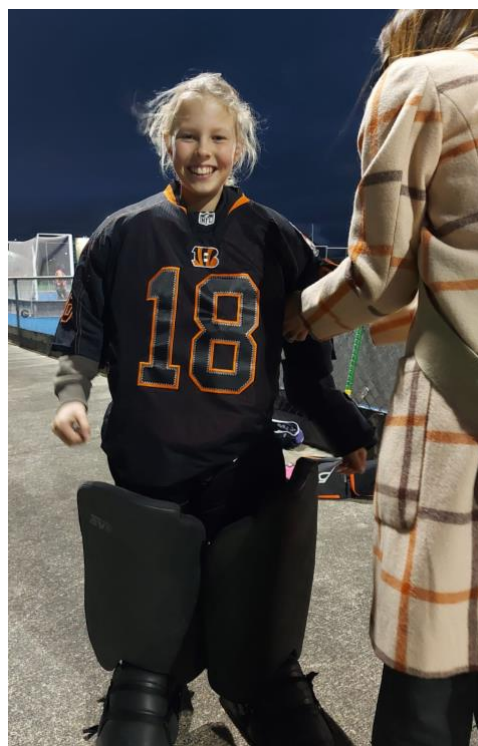
## Orienteering

Oscar Berry qualified for the Inter Zone Orienteering event, held on Wednesday 14th May at Moire Park, Massey. Hosted by North West Orienteering Club, there were 47 schools across Auckland competing with orienteers running courses (1-6), around 2.2 km distances within the park. Oscar entered in the Year 7 Boys Individual Grade and completed Course 6 with a time of 17:13 minutes, placing him 17th out of 73 runners on this course. Awesome result!!



## Hockey

Ponsonby Intermediate's 7 A-side Hockey team got off to a great start in the weekly competition at North Harbour Hockey Stadium, winning 2-0 for their first game. The team played really well together along with Annabelle Lawrence in goal. With the team name 'Goal Diggers' they'll clearly be looking to have some great fun for the season too.





# Student Led Conferences - Modular

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Student led conferences are run every term at Ponsonby Intermediate.

Core subjects (English and Mathematics) hold conferences twice a year in Term 1 and Term

3. Modular conferences happen every term (as students are involved in two different modular subjects each term).

## Conference Booking - Modular Conferences

**Wednesday 4th June - 3:30pm - 8:00pm**

MODULE code: **zy57y**

**Please include your child's room number.**

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/zy57y>

Below are the list of teachers and the classes they teach to make booking easier. Please find your child's room number and book in with those teachers.

Thanks,

Cobey Bennett

[cobeyb@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:cobeyb@ponsint.school.nz)

## Module Teachers:

**Design Technologies: Cobey Bennett**

Teaching Rooms: 8, 9, 11, 12, 21

**Art: Sarah Valintine**

Teaching Rooms: 8, 9, 12, 21

**Art: Racheal Wilson**

Teaching Rooms 8, 11

**Performing Arts: Christine Cullen**

Teaching Rooms: 3, 20, 22, 28

**Music: Claire Holmes**

Teaching Rooms: 3, 20, 22, 28

**Health & P.E: Brooke Jameson**

P.E & Health - Teaching Rooms - 1, 3, 14, 15, 17, 28

P.E - Teaching Rooms - 12, 16, 18, 23

**Health & P.E: Michelle Murray**

PE & Health - Teaching Rooms 8, 9, 20, 25, 26, 30

Health - Teaching Rooms 11, 12, 16, 18, 21, 22

**Home Economics: Kelly Richardson**

Teaching Rooms: 1, 16, 17, 23, 26

**Science: Sione Taupeaafa**

Teaching Rooms: 1, 16, 17, 23, 26

**Science: Jane Jeon**

Teaching Rooms: 14, 15, 18, 25, 30

**Exploring Technology: Andy Wilson**

Teaching Rooms: 14, 15, 18, 25, 30

**Social Sciences: Sarah Howie**

Teaching Rooms: 8, 11, 14, 18, 20, 23, 26, 28, 30

**Learning Languages: Brooke Jameson**

Teaching Room: 25

**Learning Languages: Holly Francis**

Teaching Rooms: 1, 3, 9, 12, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22



## Production Tickets

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Over 100 students have been working very hard to bring you this year's school production **The Day The Internet Died**. This show will have you laughing but also possibly have you question what the internet means for you. Could you survive without the internet? Come to our show playing 17th to the 19th June 7pm. Tickets can be purchased through Humanitix or by following this link [The Day the Internet Died Tickets](#).

Our matinee shows are for our local primary schools but a limited number of tickets will also be available to the public from our school office. The matinee performances will have big groups of Year 6 students from our local schools coming to attend the show. There will be dedicated seating for our matinee ticket holders. Matinee performances are at 11am Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th June.

Tickets for the matinee are \$15.00 (**card sales only** - no cash please)

## Auckland Writer's Festival

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On Tuesday May 13<sup>th</sup>, 40 keen Ponsonby Intermediate students headed to the Aotea Centre for a wonderful experience with some of New Zealand and Australia's best children's authors. They listened intently as writers such as Anton Clifford-Motopi, Scotty Cotter, Stacy Gregg, and Jessica Townsend shared their writing secrets and answered a flurry of questions. A treat for some was getting to attend smaller workshops, where they received direct writing tips from the authors themselves. We extend a big thank you to our students for their fantastic engagement. Who knows, we might have some future authors in our midst!

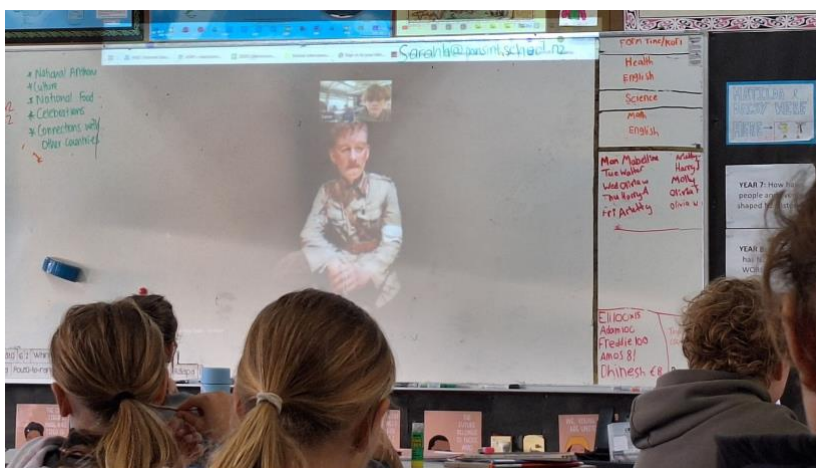


## Library News

The school library now has books written in the Chinese language. Our Chinese speaking students are excited about having these books to read and the library is looking to extend the languages available to students. If you have any good quality children's books in various languages you would like to donate, the school would much appreciate it. These can be dropped at the school office.

## Te Papa Virtual Experience

My class's virtual experience at Te Papa was very interesting and educational, and we all learnt something new about the battles at Gallipoli. Our host was very informative, and she described the advance so vividly we could easily imagine what it was like to be there. Overall, my whole class enjoyed this learning experience greatly.  
Osgar McGeorge Room 11



## Photolife Photos

During the school holidays your child's unique Key Code was emailed to you by Photolife Photos. If you haven't already checked the Photolife website please click the link [Photolife Photos](#) to view and purchase 2025 School Photos, using your child's unique Key Code. If you have not received a unique Key Code please check your spam folder/junk mail.



## School Hoodie and Track pants

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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/>



## Positive Parenting: Behaviour is Teachable

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*When I was first learning about positive parenting, I admit that I was confused. If I didn't punish poor behaviour, wasn't I being permissive? How would my kid learn what was acceptable and what wasn't if there were no "consequences?"*

I loved the idea behind the philosophy – raising my sons in a positive, loving environment where we focused on building trust and strong relationships. It sounded great on paper, but I didn't understand how to actually put it into practice. I didn't know what to do when my kid misbehaved.

My shift came when I finally understood that behaviour was communication – and wrongful behaviour was a cry for help from my child. That's when positive parenting clicked for me. Before I discovered positive parenting, I was constantly asking "which consequence fits this behaviour?" or "how long should I punish him for this?" Now, when a problem arises, I ask "What is this behaviour telling me and what does my son need?"

That is a huge shift! I stopped seeing my son's "misbehaviour" as a punishable moment and started seeing it as a teachable moment. The reason I put misbehaviour in quotation marks is that it's a mere judgment, and part of my shift was that I really made an effort to stop judging my children based on fleeting actions driven by strong emotions and an underdeveloped brain. For example, what I had misjudged as defiance from my three year old turned out to be emotional pain.



He was dealing with a new baby brother, loss of time with mommy, and a confusing new role as "the big boy" even though he was still so very little. Looking past the behaviour and seeing the hurt driving it stopped time-outs, behaviour charts, and other behaviour management systems in their tracks and helped me understand what I had to do to heal the hurt, which was empathise, reconnect, and reassure.

Viewing behaviour as teachable moments helps you shift away from using punishments that miss the mark because they don't deal with the underlying emotions or thoughts driving the behaviour. This also helps you avoid permissiveness because you are still focused on fixing the problem. You aren't just waving it off as something your child can't control. By using it as a teachable moment, you're automatically focused on the word "teachable," and that's where the positive parenting magic is! It's really about teaching what's right and acceptable instead of punishing what's wrong. It's about empowering your child with tools and skills to really do better, not just to stuff those feelings down or hide his behaviour from you.

To turn behaviour issues into teachable moments, ask yourself two questions:

- What is my child's behaviour telling me?
- What does my child need right now?

It isn't always immediately apparent what is driving your child's behaviour, so a good place to start to determine if your child's basic needs are being met. Those needs include:

- Safety and security
- A warm, loving environment
- Feeling loved and liked
- Feeling attached or connected to primary caregivers
- Structure
- Consistency
- Good nutrition
- Adequate sleep
- Exercise
- Positive role models



- Feeling valued, respected, and understood
- Feeling capable
- Freedom to express feelings
- Emotional support

Finally, what is it that your child needs right now? What can you teach her or what need can you meet that will help her do better? We are here to teach and guide our children through childhood, and we become better able to do that when we ask the questions that get to the root of the problem rather than simply asking, "How long should I take away your electronics?" The key to good behaviour isn't fearing good punishments but feeling good about oneself, one's relationships, and one's place in the world.

*Written by Rebecca Eanes Creative Child*

## Term 2 Calendar

5	26 May	27 May	28 May	29 May	30 May
	Councillors Visits to Primary schools (TBC)	CZ Year 7 Girls Football	Students Camp Meetings @ 8:45am (Camp letters to go home)	CZ Year 8 Girls Football	Production Rehearsal Day
6	2 June	3 June	4 June	5 June	6 June
	King's Birthday		Modular Conferences 3:30 - 8pm	Open Morning	Pacific Style Day
7	9 June	10 June	11 June	12 June	13 June
	CZ Girls and Boys Rugby	Open Morning	Open Morning	Production Rehearsal Day	Swim League 14 June
8	16 June	17 June	18 June	19 June	20 June
	ARTS WEEK/PRODUCTION WEEK				
	CZ Boys Hockey Dress Rehearsal	CZ Girls Hockey Matinee Opening Night	Matinee Evening Performance	CZ Table Tennis Evening Performance	Matariki
9	23 June	24 June	25 June	26 June	27 June
		BOT Meeting		Music Assembly	End of Term 3.05pm finish



## Would you like to train as a teacher?

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Ponsonby Intermediate has partnered with the Teachers Institute <https://www.teachersinstitute.org.nz> 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.

## EzLunch – Online lunch order

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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

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! [www.ezlunch.co.nz](http://www.ezlunch.co.nz)**



# Ponsonby

## Intermediate School

# OPEN

## DAYS

### 2025





### Open Morning Dates

Tuesday 13th May	Wednesday 21st May
Thursday 5th June	Tuesday 10th June
Wednesday 11th June	Tuesday 22nd July
Tuesday 12th August	

### Open Evening

Wednesday 6th August 6:00 pm

## TOUR 1: 9:15AM

## TOUR 2: 9:45AM

### Email to register for tours

[office@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:office@ponsint.school.nz)

### Out of Zone Enrolments

Close: Friday 22nd August

Articulate, energised achievers;  
ready for the future

## 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.

## 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.

## Making Connections

## 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

# Ponsonby Intermediate School

Thanks to the below businesses for sponsoring our school app:



ColourWorks  
Painters & Decorators



New Enrolments Welcome

SHAKESPEARE  
ORTHODONTICS



CARTUNE  
auto services



VALLANT HOOKER & PARTNERS

YOUR LOCAL  
LAW FIRM

If you would like to advertise on the Ponsonby Intermediate School Skool Loop App please email [Content@skoolloop.com](mailto:Content@skoolloop.com)



To download our app: In Google Play & App Store search 'Skool Loop' & choose School once installed.