

## Important Dates

### 1 – 5 September

Blake VR in all Health  
Lessons

### 4 September

School Social 6.30pm –  
8pm

### 8 – 12 September

Careers Week

### 12 September

Teacher Only Day

### 15 September

CZ Basketball - Boys

### 16 September

BoT Meeting 6pm

### 17 September

CZ Basketball – Girls

### 19 September

Term 3 Ends 3.05pm

### 6 October

Term 4 begins

### 6-10 October

Camp Week

## Principal's Message

Over the past fortnight, students at Ponsonby have enthusiastically engaged in a range of academic challenges, including Speeches, Mathex, ICAS Exams, Chess and Bandquest. These events are valuable opportunities for students to showcase their learning and often contribute to building confidence and self-esteem. While such activities are typically considered summative assessments - evaluating what students have learnt, we also place a strong emphasis on *assessments for learning*, which focus on the learning process itself.

A great example of this was the recent Student Led Conferences, where students shared their learning journey and identified their next steps. Our specialist teaching model supports this by allowing teachers to use their subject expertise to create meaningful learning experiences and provide targeted feedback. We expect and encourage our students to be able to clearly articulate their learning goals and progress.

Last week, 22 students travelled to Wellington on the 'Our Capital City' trip. They had a fantastic experience and represented our school with pride. In fact, several members of the public reached out to commend them on their outstanding behaviour - especially during the 11 hour train ride home. Well done!

Congratulations to all our Netball players on a fantastic season! A huge thank you goes to our dedicated coaches and managers, your time and support are truly appreciated and vital to our success.

Yesterday, the ballot for Out-of-Zone placement for 2026 was drawn. This marks an important step in preparing for a smooth transition from primary to intermediate school. On a related note, Year 8 families are reminded to begin the enrolment process for secondary school if you haven't already - please don't leave it to the last minute.

Ngā mihi,

Nick Wilson

## In this Week's Issue

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- Teacher Only Day
- Capital City Tour
- Sports Update
- Samosa Box Fundraising
- School Social Dance
- United Nations Day
- Daffodil Day
- School Transitions – Year 7 and Year 9 (enrolments)
- Board Of Trustees Election
- Camp fee reminder – Due Week 9

## Teacher Only Day – Friday 12 September

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The last of the MoE granted two Teacher Only Days for 2025 to help with the development of the new curriculum changes will be on **Friday 12 September**.

Supervision will be provided if needed, please let the office know [office@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:office@ponsint.school.nz)

## Using school driveway on Clarence Street

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Can we please ask that you do not use our Clarence Street school driveway to drop off or pick up your child. Please drop off or pick up further up or down Clarence street. Using the driveway or blocking it is causing traffic problems for staff and other parents.

We also ask that you do not use the staff car park in the mornings.

## Capital City Tour 2025

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Last week three teachers and 22 students embarked on our first ever Capital City Tour and what a successful week it was. The students were incredible ambassadors for our school and soaked up all of the fun, information and culture Wellington has to offer. Students experienced Weta Workshop, Zealandia, Mount Victoria, Oriental Parade, The National Library, the Beehive, the Cable Car, a Croc bike waterfront tour, Te Papa and a Master Chef challenge among other fun activities. The trip ended with a big highlight: The Northern Explorer train ride back to Auckland through the North Island. There was so much to take in over the course of our busy four days and we are so proud of the engagement, enthusiasm

and energy our students displayed to the entire trip. This will definitely be an annual trip for Ponsonby. Year 7's be on the lookout for the 2026 Capital City Tour next year!







## **Samosa Box – Attention Parents and Caregivers!**

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We are currently selling boxes of Vegetable Samosas to help raise the final funds for camp. Each box is \$72 (24 full size samosas) and all funds raised goes towards camp fundraising. This is our final push until the end of Term 3 before we depart for camp in Week 1 of Term 4. If you would like to purchase a box you can pay online or at the front office on pick up. Online payment details below.

1. Name of student
2. Room number
3. Specify the purpose of the payment (samosa order)

Your help and support with this fundraising initiative is much appreciated!

## **School Dance/Social**

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# United Nations Day

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In Term 4, we will celebrate United Nations Day with a combined Cultural Market, Heritage Style Day, and a brand-new Parade of Nations. Students have been asked which country they would like to represent in the parade, and so far we have 62 countries! Some children may choose to celebrate more than one part of their identity, which they can do by wearing colours, accessories, or clothing that reflect their heritage. This is a great opportunity to talk with your child about the country they've chosen and to share stories about your cultural heritage.

Below is the list of countries and flags students have selected. **If your child's country is not listed, please let us know so we can order their flag in time for the parade** hollyf@ponsint.school.nz. We look forward to honouring the diversity within our school with this year's celebration.

*Afghanistan, Albania, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cook Islands, Croatia, England, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Isle of Man, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Māori (Tino Rangatiratanga), Myanmar (Burma), Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Niue, Norway, Pakistan, Palestine, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Russia, Samoa, Scotland, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Tonga, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, United Kingdom, Vanuatu, Vietnam, Wales*

## Sports Update

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### Diving

Brooke Glidden recently secured the Gold medal for Ponsonby Intermediate at the Auckland Diving Intermediate School Championship competition for Year 8 Girls. At this age, many young athletes struggle to advance in diving due to increasingly complex and intimidating dives, which often erode their confidence. Brooke has undoubtedly faced significant challenges this term, however this triumph validates her perseverance. A moment of great pride for her parents, and school to celebrate. Fantastic achievement Brooke!



## Hockey

Ponsonby Intermediate Year 7, 8 mixed Hockey team 'Goal Diggers' had a great season playing in the North Harbour Kwik Sticks (7 A-side) Competition. They finished with a great final round game in the competition winning 8-0 and placed 2nd overall, scoring 20 points (with the top team at 28 points). This year the team focused on moving into space, passing, and marking tightly on defence and showed a massive growth in their individual skills and teamwork. Coach James Hole and manager Kate Slavin praised the team - "they were a joy to manage, super positive attitudes, good team spirit/support of each other; players really came together during the season".



North Shore United Hockey Club are currently holding Youth Grade Registrations for 2025, if you would like more information contact <https://www.northshoreunited.org.nz/youth>

## Netball

Ponsonby Intermediate's Year 7 and 8 Netball teams have finished the season after two terms of competition at the Netball North Harbour Centre. Huge thanks goes out to all team coaches and managers for their amazing mahi and support with players. Below are results for 2025 Year 7, 8 Final Standings and photos.

**Year 8 Teams - 8/1:** Grade 3 2nd. *Final game v Westminster Intermediate - the girls played their hearts out with a narrow loss. Coach Nicola and Manager Mary could not have been more proud of the team "best group of girls!"*

**8/2:** Grade 5, 7th. **8/3:** Grade 11, 3rd. *A great netball season, the team had a lot of fun and really improved over the season, finishing with a great win for their last game.* **8/4:** Grade 12, 6th.

**Year 7 Teams - 7/1:** Grade 3, 4th. **7/2:** Grade 3, 6th. **7/3:** Grade 8, 2nd. *A very close final with just one goal in it, the girls played extremely well and had a great season.* **7/4:** Grade 11, 5th. **7/5:** Grade 11, 3rd. **7/6:** Grade 12, 7th.





## Swim League

The Ponsonby Intermediate swim team was the largest in the Schools Swim League this year and showed incredible courage, resilience, and team spirit. Over two terms the swimmers made huge improvements in racing and fitness. The team finished 3rd overall (overtaking Diocesan in the final session), and 2nd place in the Mixed Schools Competition (behind Kowhai Int). For a school without a pool and just one annual swimming event, this is an amazing achievement. Ponsonby Intermediate is also the only kura to have competed every year – something recognised by the Chair of TBSS Club. The photo below shows some of the swimmers on the last day of events. All Year 7 and 8 students who participated played a part in the team's success this season - Ella, Darragh, Lily, Conny, Dhanya, Elena, Ruby, Alex, Amelia, Luna, Xavier, Sofia, Evie, Felicity, Angie, Caroline, Zoe, Dhanya, Edie, Alex, Maybelline and Ellie. A huge thank you to team manager Katya Wilson for her organisation and enthusiasm, and to parents for their support and mahi poolside.





## Water Polo

Year 8 student Ella Wilson-Winiata was recently selected for the Under 14 Atlantis City Water Polo Club team to compete in the Rotorua Water Polo tournament. Ella, who plays centre back or left wing, had a blast playing with her teammates. The 3 day tournament was an incredible experience for the team who went on to win the competition (unbeaten!). To top off the weekend Ella was also named as one of the top 6 players selected in the Tournament Team.

Amazing achievement Ella!



## Squash

Squash Central Zone day was held on Tuesday, 29 July at the Eden/Epsom Tennis and Squash Club. We were well represented by an eager group of students who had a long journey to get to this point in time. They joined the Thursday Squash Option at the start of the term, led by Mrs Murray to introduce them to this amazing game and develop their skills. They then had to play against Mr T, once the team was finalised, who further assisted their development and understanding of space, types of shots and various tactics.

The students played some great matches, involving a team format where they had to win two of three matches to decide the winner. Team 1 consisted of Noah (20), Oscar (11), and Arlo (22) Team 2 were Max (18), Fletcher (12) and Thomas (22). Team 1 girls were Connie (12), Miel (17) and Ishana (8).

Noah and Fletcher played some great matches against more experienced club players and made it very challenging for them. Connie, Miel and Ishana gained more confidence in their ability as the day progressed, as well as beating team 2 boys from ANI in a mixed match series.

The day was very successful as they were able to apply what they learnt from each game and played to the end of the match. Team 1 Boys and Girls won their division, which was a very pleasing result for all involved. We are looking for new players for next year's event, so get out and play!





## Skiing - NIPS

After a 5 year hiatus, the North Island Primary School Ski Champs (NIPS) went ahead in August. Whakapapa saw over 50 Intermediate skiers compete in the very challenging conditions. The Individual Giant Slalom race was held on hard packed and icy snow in the Valley. The Dual Slalom and team races were held the next day on soft and slushy snow under the beautiful Gondola. The Ponsonby Intermediate NIPS team competed hard, and the team won 3rd place overall, with the following amazing results:

- Ruben Pienaar showed outstanding resilience after a fall during the Individual GS race, to come back for the Dual Slalom and take 2nd place for the Intermediate boys, and the fastest Year 7 boy! His fastest time was 16.34 seconds.
- Charlie Taylor showed outstanding speed in the Dual Slalom, and broke 17 seconds.
- Mikey Fraser-House had his fastest time, breaking 18 seconds in the Dual Slalom.
- Sally Youngman sped through the GS course to be the fastest Year 8 girl, and coming in 4th for the Intermediate girls; and 5th in the Dual Slalom.
- Sadly fellow teammate Helena Jenks was struck down with the flu and was too unwell to ski.

The NIPS team wish to thank their amazing Manager, Matt House, for all the energy on and off the field. A special mention to Katie Youngman, who also put in the mahi, along with all the wonderful parent supporters out on the slopes.



## Daffodil Day

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Ponsonby Intermediate students did us proud by helping us raise over \$1300 for Daffodil Day. We extended the activities over the week, including Chalk The Courts, Just Dance, face painting and a bake sale. A huge thank you to those who provided baking for the bake sale; everything was delicious and thank you to everyone who donated for this worthy cause. It was awesome to see everyone participating with a sense of community and support. Ka pai!



## Year 7 Enrolments for 2026

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Here at Ponsonby Intermediate School we are processing lots of enrolments for 2026 and organising classes and transitions already. This is a huge and detailed process. If you have an In Zone enrolment for a sibling, please get this enrolment in quickly so your child can be included in the 2026 Transition process. Out of Zone enrolments have closed and our ballot has been drawn.

## Year 9 Enrolments for 2026

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High schools are beginning their transition process for Year 9 students for 2026. We will be completing profile forms, meeting with school leaders and doing our part to ensure your child has the best transition to high school. In order to be included in the transition process to high school they must be enrolled. Please prioritise enrolling your Year 8 students in high school, especially In Zone students.



# Board of Trustees – Board Election

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## Ponsonby Intermediate School Board Elections- VOTING REMINDER

There is still time for you to vote in our School Board Election.

We need **three parent representatives** to join the Ponsonby Intermediate School Board for a three year term and **two parent representatives** for an 18 month term.

Election Pilot has been appointed as the Returning Officer for this election. Voting instructions have already been sent by the team at Election Pilot. Please note that you will have received **two different emails for this year's election:**

- One for - Ponsonby Intermediate Parent Board Election **(3 Year Term)**
- and a second email for - Ponsonby Intermediate Parent Board Election **(18 month Term)**
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The clock is ticking as voting closes at **4pm on Wednesday 10th September.**

If you have any questions about the election process, please contact the Returning Officer directly on 0800 VOTENZ (0800 868 369) or [election@electionpilot.nz](mailto:election@electionpilot.nz)

## Camp Fees (repeat notice)

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The fee for attending camp this year is **\$350 for Year 7 and \$420 Year 8**. This amount can be paid online using the link below or at the front office.

If you pay online, please follow the instructions with regards to payment details. You can pay in as many instalments as you like leading up to the **due date of September 12th.**

<https://www.ponsonbyintermediate.school.nz/online-payment/>

If you have any questions regarding camp, your first point of contact is your child's form teachers.

## Kids to Camp Sponsorship (repeat notice)

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Throughout the year, we are raising money to sponsor students to attend camp in Term 4. If you are a parent/caregiver who would like to sponsor a student feel free to follow the link below with the reference 'Kids to Camp'. You can contribute as little or as much as you like. It all helps to ensure students do not miss out on camp due to financial hardship. Your contribution is greatly appreciated.

Wednesday 24th - Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September

# HOLIDAY CAMP



EPSOM GIRLS GRAMMAR

9AM - 3PM

FOR YEARS 5 - 9

Indoor deep pool

9AM - 1PM

FOR YEARS 3 - 4

Outdoor shallow pool

Limited to  
the first  
20!

FOR MORE INFORMATION - [COMPETITIONS@ACWPA.CO.NZ](mailto:COMPETITIONS@ACWPA.CO.NZ)

REGISTER THROUGH OUR WEBSITE OR  
LINK IN BIO



ATLANTIS CITY  
WATER POLO & AQUATICS CLUB

## 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