

# Newsletter

**Ponsonby**  
Intermediate School

Articulate, energised achievers, ready for the future

16 October 2025

## Important Dates

### 16 October

Central Zone Volleyball – Girls  
NZ Shakeout Drill – 9:30am

### 17 October

Loud Shirt Day

### 22 October

Litex Competition

### 23 October

NZEI Strike Action  
School closed for instruction

### 24 October

Central Zone Badminton

### 27 October

Labour Day – School closed

### 28 October

Central Zone Girls Touch

### 29 October

Yearbook Sports & Extra  
Curricular Photos

### 30 October

Central Zone Boys / Mixed  
Touch

### 2-9<sup>th</sup> November

Auckland Schools Art  
Exhibition – Wynyard Quarter

### 7 November

United Nations Day

### 11 November

BoT Meeting

### 12 November

School Athletics Day – Mt  
Smart Stadium

### 13 November

Modular Conferences 3:30pm  
– 6pm

### 26 November

Art Exhibition from 3:15pm  
- Library

## Principal's Message

A huge thank you to all our parent helpers who attended camp. Camp is an amazing opportunity for our tamariki and we thank all our parents and caregivers in supporting their children to experience this. And of course, thank you to the amazing team of excellent teachers we have here at Ponsonby.

Following school camps we have planned activities and events that will build on the momentum, enthusiasm and respectful relationships that have been strengthened. We are also very keen on *routine* - this approach provides a “happy calm” about the place.

Our Year 8 students are now in the process of transitioning to various high schools, it is pleasing to hear from them that the visit or tests have gone well. The Ponsonby Intermediate specialist teaching model really does set students up for success.

The Term 4 Calendar is filling fast, with Athletics Day scheduled for Wednesday 12 November at Mt Smart Stadium, the final round of Modular Conferences on Thursday 13 November and on Wednesday 26 November we have our annual Art Exhibition from 3:15pm in the school Library. The exhibition prizegiving takes place at 5:30pm - all welcome.

NZEI Teachers Union has ordered a Teacher Strike on Thursday 23 October. The school will be closed for instruction on this day. However, we can offer supervision if needed, please email [office@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:office@ponsint.school.nz) to let us know if your student requires supervision on this day.

Next week you will receive an email requesting you to complete our ‘Community Survey’, please put 2-3 minutes aside to complete this. This survey helps inform us what 2026 might look like.

Ngā mihi,

**Nick Wilson**

## In this Week's Issue

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- Yearbook Photos
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- Auckland Middle Schools Art Exhibition
- Term 4 Calendar
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## Teachers Strike Action – NZEI Te Riu Roa, Thursday 23 October

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Teachers who are members of NZEI Te Riu Roa have voted to go on strike on Thursday 23 October. As a result **Ponsonby Intermediate will be closed for instruction on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup>**. We can offer supervision for students if needed, please email [office@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:office@ponsint.school.nz)

## Community Survey

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Our community survey is an opportunity for all parents and caregivers to provide feedback to the school. Not only would we like to hear what we could do better but also the areas in which we are doing well. We appreciate knowing the areas we are succeeding in so we can make sure these things continue.

The survey will be shared with all parents next week and we would appreciate you completing this by **7 November**.

If you do not receive the email with the link by Wednesday 22 October, please contact the office [office@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:office@ponsint.school.nz) and we will resend it to you.

We really appreciate you taking the time to complete this survey as your feedback about our school is vital to improving educational outcomes for all students.

## Year 8's – Enrolment in High School for 2026

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High schools have started their transition process for students starting in Year 9 for 2026.

We are 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 a high school's transition process your child must be enrolled with that school. If you haven't already done so, please prioritise enrolling your Year 8 student in high school for 2026. This is especially important for In Zone students.

## Yearbook Photos – 'The Ponsonby Experience 2025'

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Yearbook, team and extracurricular photos will be taking place in Week 4 on **Wednesday 29 October**.

These photos will be of all the sports, cultural and creative groups your child may have been involved with this year.

Please ensure your child comes to school in full school uniform. Just like our class photos in March, they will all be done in one day and we are unable to reschedule. A timetable will be available closer to the time.

## Lost Property (Repeat Notice)

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We have a huge amount of lost property that remains unclaimed.

Students will be taken to check for their belongings tomorrow morning, Friday 17 October and we will keep it on site until **Friday 24 October** – after this date it will be donated to charity.

The Lost Property area is in the hall foyer, which is open Monday – Friday 8am – 5.30pm. We would appreciate it if you could come check if anything belongs to your family.

## United Nations Day – 7 November (Repeat Notice)

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This exciting new event will take place on Friday 7 November. It's a great time for students to ask grandparents, parents or other whānau about their heritage, and maybe even borrow something to wear in the Parade of Nations. If you have a flag for the country your child will represent, please let us know if we are able to borrow it for the day. Please contact [hollyf@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:hollyf@ponsint.school.nz)

## Athletics Day – Wednesday 12 November

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In Week 6 on **Wednesday 12 November** we have our whole school Athletics Day. Parents and caregivers are welcome to attend this event. More information below:

**When: Wednesday 12 November**

**Where: Mt Smart Stadium**

**Students, please remember:**

- Full PE uniform
- Covered shoes
- Hat

Please save the date and come along to support our students!

- Sunscreen
- Warm clothing
- Full water bottle and a packed lunch – Bring a healthy one!
- Asthma inhaler if needed
- And their house spirit

Students are allowed to wear spikes for 100m, 200m, 400m

We will be travelling to the event on buses at 9.00am and returning by 3.00pm.

**There is a full timetable of the track and field events at the end of this Newsletter**

## Art Exhibition – Wednesday 26 November

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We are excited to invite you to our annual **School Art Exhibition**, taking place **after school in our Library on Wednesday, 26 November (Week 8)**.

This year's theme is **"Pop Art with a Kiwiana Twist"**, and it promises to be a vibrant celebration of creativity and culture. The exhibition is a fantastic opportunity for our students to showcase their mahi and for our community to celebrate the talent of our young artists.

**Viewing starts at 3:15 pm**

**Prizegiving will be held at 5:30 pm**

# Sports Update

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## Central Zone Sport Dates

|               |                                           |                                               |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Week 2</b> | CZ Boys Volleyball<br>CZ Girls Volleyball | Tuesday 14th October<br>Thursday 16th October |
| <b>Week 3</b> | CZ Badminton                              | Friday 24th October                           |
| <b>Week 4</b> | CZ Girls Touch<br>CZ Boys and Mixed Touch | Tuesday 28th October<br>Thursday 30th October |
| <b>Week 7</b> | CZ Athletics                              | Wednesday 19th November                       |
| <b>Week 8</b> | IZ Athletics                              | Thursday 27th November                        |

## Table Tennis Club

Ponsonby Intermediate Table Tennis Club continues for Term 4, from Monday 13th October to Monday 8th December. Sessions are every Monday afternoon in the hall from 3:05-4:30pm.

For more information and to register your child, please contact Development Coach Ebi Kleiser: [tabletennisnr@gmail.com](mailto:tabletennisnr@gmail.com) Permission forms can also be collected from school at the hall foyer sports board.

## Skiing

The annual Schools Alpine Competition (SAC) was held in Queenstown, Cardrona during the holidays on the 23rd - 26th September. Ponsonby Intermediate entered two teams of skiers - Ponsonby Powder Hounds with Sally Youngman, Ruben Pienaar, Helena Jenks, Emily van Zoggel and Federico Kneebone, and the Ponsonby Polar Blasts with Charlie Taylor, George Houldsworth, Hazel Burton-Phillips and Sabine Christophersen. The amazing Paul Phillips took the teams for training prior to race day, with the wonderful help from all the parents. All the skiers rallied together to make Ponsonby Intermediate proud. Their team spirit was outstanding, and the inclusion, laughter and good times was a joy to watch. Their support for two fallen team members shone through for Charlie and Emily (injured on the slopes).

Results: Federico - 3rd for the 11 Year Boys, Ponsonby Powder Hounds team - 1st place for the Mixed teams, Polar Blasts - 2nd overall taking Silver! Fabulous to have them all on the podium - such huge smiles, and a trophy for the school! There was just 1 second between each of the 5 fastest racers - Sally at 45.49 seconds, Ruben 46.3, Helena 47.44, Sabine 48.52 and George 49.41 followed by Federico and Hazel. The competition was tough, some of the South Island skiers train on the mountain several times a week, so our Ponsonby skiers did really well.



Special shoutout to Year 8 student Sally Youngman for her impressive individual skiing abilities. Prior to the Schools Alpine Competition she competed in two races at Whakapapa on Saturday 20th September. The first was the Tongariro Cup - a race for Under 18's who are members of a Lodge on the mountain, with over 80 competitors. Sally won the Under 14 girls, and was the 4th fastest female overall, beaten by 16 & 17 year olds. Her team was 3rd in the Teams event. Later in the day Sally competed in the Ski Lodges Annual Juniors race, coming in with the fastest time to retain the Junior Girls Cup. Sally then ventured south to Cardrona, to join the rest of the Ponsonby Intermediate skiers.



Thanks to Katie Youngman for this review; her ongoing support along with Mike House for his organisation, and to all parents who assisted the teams.

# Hackathon 2025 Results

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During Term 3, the Tech Experts and Mr Andy Wilson hosted the 2025 Hackathon Competition where students were asked to create something digital within a 2 week timeframe. Over 50 students entered the competition. The Tech Experts and Mr Andy Wilson deliberated at length over the entrants' creations and winners were presented during the final Friday Assembly of Term 3.

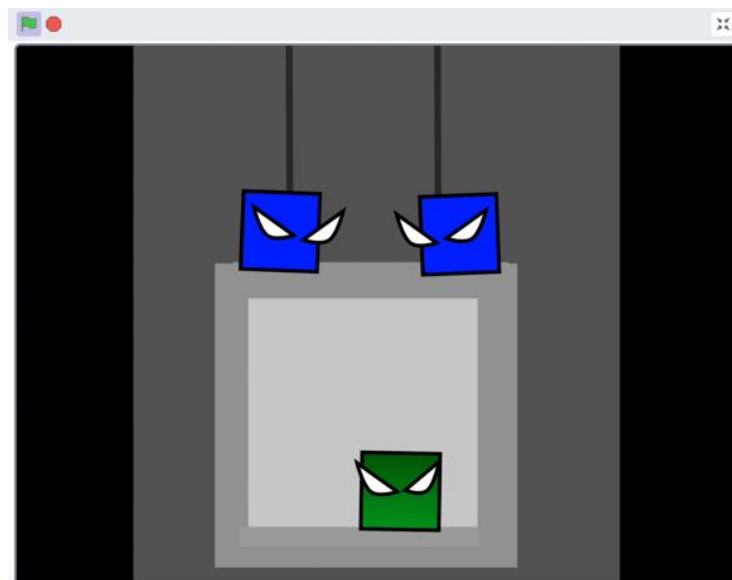
Top prize (a sphero mini robot) was awarded to Shane Choi from Room 15 for his Roblox Animation.

Full results:

## **1st Place** - Shane Choi Room 15 (Roblox Animation)



## **2nd Place** - Tycen Vagana-Etuata Room 22 (Scratch Animation)



### 3rd Place - Bobby Paul Room 17 (Minecraft)



**Highly Commended:** Mikey Fraser-House Room 17 (Minecraft), Igor Erkin Room 21 (Minecraft), Yanula Paththinige Room 25 (Scratch)

**Finalists:** Ava Moore Room 23 (Animation), Avyan Yadav Room 8 (A.I. App), Dhinesh Muthukumar Room 25 (Scratch), Ethan Bosch Room 23 (Minecraft), Rohan Lallu Room 3 (Stop Motion), Sally Lai Room 12 (Digital Art)

## Auckland Middle School Art Exhibition – 2-9 November

Congratulations to the talented students whose artwork has been selected for display in this year's Auckland Middle School Art Exhibition! This special event celebrates outstanding student art from across Tāmaki Makaurau.

The Ponsonby community is warmly invited to visit the exhibition at **Silo 6, Wynyard Quarter**, from **2-9 November**. Come along and support our talented artists!

|                               |
|-------------------------------|
| Alvin Shao                    |
| Sally Youngman                |
| Thomas Heslin                 |
| Kerr Huang                    |
| Chanel Katsanos               |
| Winston Hunter                |
| Chloe Roa Read                |
| Mixki Patcharakarn Ronnakitti |
| Darina Herceg                 |
| William Zhang                 |



Art work by Alvin Shao

## Camp Photos

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Please check out this week's PPTV for more photos and videos.





# Term 4 Calendar

| Week | Monday                   | Tuesday                                 | Wednesday                                         | Thursday                                                                           | Friday                                                                |
|------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
|      | 13 October               | 14 October                              | 15 October                                        | 16 October                                                                         | 17 October                                                            |
| 2    |                          | CZ Boys Volleyball<br>BOT Meeting – 6pm |                                                   | CZ Girls Volleyball<br>New Zealand<br>ShakeOut 9.30am                              | Loud Shirt Day                                                        |
|      | 20 October               | 21 October                              | 22 October                                        | 23 October                                                                         | 24 October                                                            |
| 3    |                          |                                         | Litex @ Northcote Int                             |                                                                                    | CZ Badminton                                                          |
|      | 27 October               | 28 October                              | 29 October                                        | 30 October                                                                         | 31 October                                                            |
| 4    | Labour Day               | CZ Girls Touch                          | Yearbook Sports<br>and Extra-Curricular<br>photos | CZ Boys/mixed<br>Touch                                                             | Auckland Schools<br>Art Exhibition-<br>Wynyard Quarter<br>2nd-9th Nov |
|      | 3 November               | 4 November                              | 5 November                                        | 6 November                                                                         | 7 November                                                            |
| 5    |                          |                                         |                                                   |                                                                                    | United Nations Day                                                    |
|      | 10 November              | 11 November                             | 12 November                                       | 13 November                                                                        | 14 November                                                           |
| 6    |                          | BOT Meeting – 6pm                       | Ponsonby<br>Athletics Day<br>@ Mt Smart Stadium   | Out of Zone Testing-<br>9am - 10:15am<br>Modular<br>Conferences 3:30pm<br>- 6:00pm |                                                                       |
|      | 17 November              | 18 November                             | 19 November                                       | 20 November                                                                        | 21 November                                                           |
| 7    |                          |                                         | CZ Athletics                                      |                                                                                    |                                                                       |
|      | 24 November              | 25 November                             | 26 November                                       | 27 November                                                                        | 28 November                                                           |
|      | Positively Ponsonby Week |                                         |                                                   |                                                                                    |                                                                       |
| 8    |                          | CZ Kio-Rahi                             | Art Exhibition - 5:30pm<br>Prizegiving            | HPV 2 (Year 8)<br>Boostrix Catchup                                                 |                                                                       |
|      | 1 December               | 2 December                              | 3 December                                        | 4 December                                                                         | 5 December                                                            |
| 9    |                          | HPV 2 catch ups<br>BOT Meeting – 6pm    |                                                   | VIP Morning Tea                                                                    |                                                                       |
|      | 8 December               | 9 December                              | 10 December                                       | 11 December                                                                        | 12 December                                                           |
| 10   |                          |                                         | 11:30am Year 7<br>Prizegiving                     | 11:30am Year 8<br>Prizegiving<br>Year 8 finish at<br>12:30pm<br>Graduation 5:45pm  | Year 7's Only<br>12pm finish                                          |

# Athletics Day Timetable

| Track Events    |            |       |                              |
|-----------------|------------|-------|------------------------------|
| 9:45am          | BOYS/GIRLS | 1500m | Boys – Year 7                |
|                 |            | 1500m | Boys – Year 8                |
|                 |            | 1500m | Girls – Year 7               |
|                 |            | 1500m | Girls – Year 8               |
| 10:00 – 11:45am | GIRLS      | 100m  | Heats                        |
|                 |            | 200m  | Heats                        |
|                 |            | 400m  | Straight Final (Top 3 times) |
| 12:00 – 1:45pm  | BOYS       | 100m  | Heats                        |
|                 |            | 200m  | Heats                        |
|                 |            | 400m  | Straight Final (Top 3 times) |

| Field Events |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |
|--------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| EVENT        | BOYS   |        |        |        | GIRLS  |        |        |        |
|              | 10:00  | 10:25  | 10:50  | 11:15  | 12:15  | 12:40  | 1:05   | 1:30   |
| High Jump    | Kauri  | Rimu   | Puriri | Totara | Kauri  | Rimu   | Puriri | Totara |
| Long Jump    | Totara | Kauri  | Rimu   | Puriri | Totara | Kauri  | Rimu   | Puriri |
| Discus       | Puriri | Totara | Kauri  | Rimu   | Puriri | Totara | Kauri  | Rimu   |
| Shot Put     | Rimu   | Puriri | Totara | Kauri  | Rimu   | Puriri | Totara | Kauri  |

| Finals |                   |             |
|--------|-------------------|-------------|
| 1:40pm | BOYS and GIRLS    | 100m        |
| 1:50pm | BOYS and GIRLS    | 200m        |
| 2:05pm | YEAR 7 and YEAR 8 | Class Relay |

GF & vegetarian options

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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