



Community Calendar <http://www.ngaio.school.nz/welcome>

Term 3	<p><b>Monday 24 July - Term 3 Begins</b>  <b>Friday 29 September - Term 3 Ends</b></p>
Term 4	<p><b>Monday 16 October - Term 4 Begins</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monday 23 October - Labour Day, public holiday</li> <li>• Tuesday 24 October - School Closed</li> </ul> <p><b>Wednesday 20 December - Term 4 Ends – 12.30pm</b></p>

Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> August, 12.45pm	Kowhai & Pohutukawa Clinic Session – Tote Bags
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> August, 1.40pm	New Parents Information Seminar, Staffroom
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> August and Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> August, 9.00am-2.30pm	Raroa Normal Intermediate - Open Day for Parents
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> August, 11.00am	Poroporoaki (Maori farewell) to Principal Liz - Astro Turf A warm welcome to everyone
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> August, 10.30am	Final day for ordering Calendar Art
Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> August, 6.00pm	Year 6 Parent Information Evening, Raroa Normal Intermediate School Hall
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	Road Patrol - Orange Day Parade
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September	Northern Zone Swimming
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> September	Onesie Day Fundraiser
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> September	Maori Language Week
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> September	St Brigid's Kapa Haka Festival – at Cashmere Ave School

In 2018 Term One will commence on Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January

## Dear Parents & Caregivers

### Sincere Thanks

I am not sure where the time has gone but today I begin my last week at Ngaio School. I fly overseas on Friday. Knowing I would grieve for the school I planned to put immediate and quite different distance from 'OUR PLACE'. I arrive in Vienna on Saturday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September and will have 6 weeks travelling with friends and family in Vienna, Prague, Berlin (last visited when the wall was still standing!), on to Amsterdam and then finally finishing with a week at the Venice Biennale.

On 8 February 2018 I start part time art study. I will be around as I live in Colway Street and will look forward to an ongoing but different relationship with you all.

I will leave with treasured memories. I am feeling very humble with the kind cards and gifts that I have received. The staff/Board/community gift has left me stunned in terms of generosity.

The farewell syndicate assemblies have been totally stunning – each syndicate has said goodbye to me in very personal ways. I have laughed while working hard to hold back tears.

The staff has been my class over the 10 years and I know each one like a teacher knows their own class. I know their strengths and their concerns. Ultimately in all my 30 years of principal leadership they are quite simply the best. They are professional and driven to achieve the best they can for this community. I will miss their laughter, their professionalism and their energy.

The Ngaio Students are exceptional – as a community you have shaped and developed stunning students. The intelligence and maturity of the learners is incredible. When I taught at Raroa, 100 years ago, we used to comment on the Ngaio learners. They continue to be exceptional – humble, caring, intelligent, inclusive and socially conscious. If I was to pass on any parting advice, it would be to let them grow even further by resisting the temptation to 'rescue' and to let them try and manage issues themselves. Harder said than done I know.

### Acting Principal

Amanda Frater will be acting Principal from 2<sup>nd</sup> September until 15 October. During this time, she will work with Raewyn Watson. Bronwyn O'Halloran will support Amanda as the Acting Associate Principal from 2<sup>nd</sup> September through to 15 October. This acting role was one of my final decisions – I wanted Amanda to be able to delegate her mathematics leadership, her special needs role and to allow Bronwyn to manage emergency procedures. The other senior teachers will pick up additional duties as required. Bronwyn will be released one day a week to

carry out this additional work.

Amanda is an exceptional leader. I leave knowing you will be led by a wise, humble and compassionate person. Raewyn and Amanda are already transitioning into term 4.

### **Special mention**

Leadership at times is lonely. Over the last 10 years I have been blessed to work alongside Helen Shields, Tania Cohen, Denise Hancox and Amanda Frater.

These ladies have been my trusted sounding boards – they said/say it as it is and that has been appreciated. I have sought their opinions and considered their thoughts.

In terms of teaching staff Megan Palmer, Bernice Williams and Sandra Traut have been my “go to” people for giving me a staff perspective.

Adelle Broadmore, Lucy Unsworth and Liz Blackwell have been my “early adopters’ gently pushed me to keep current and cutting edge in the digital space.

I am sorry that my time with Kirsten Reid (Associate Principal) has been cut short as she has an energy and drive that is exciting.

Finally, in the community there have been key people who I used as sounding boards or looked to for advice - Lucy Elwood, Julie Cederman, Robert Paratene, John Fiso, Anne Marie Hanning, Leanne Hay and Anne Hay.

### **Property Update**

Umm - Maycroft Construction is working hard but disappointingly the completion date for the new build is 17 October. Given that the new toilet block will not be complete by 17 October a shift into the new space is considerably delayed. Raewyn will lead decision making around planning for the space.

Many of you will have noticed that the classrooms have been locked before school - we are trying to improve security because a number of iPads and other school resources have gone missing. We count the digital devices at the start and end of each day and the loss of three recently is worrying. If a teacher is not in the classroom, then the room will be locked.

### **Final Comment**

In 2008, I was working as the Director of the New Zealand Principal Leadership Centre run out of Massey University and the New Zealand Principals’ Federation. After two years working across schools nationally I knew the timing was right to return to principal leadership. It is easy to talk the talk but much harder to walk the talk.

I had facilitated the Ngaio staff at a Teacher Only day at the start of 2008 and had been impressed with the thinking, progressive resourcing and the high quality of the teaching staff. Based on this experience I decided to apply for the Principal of Ngaio School position when Marion Fitchett resigned to go and work in the Ministry of Education.

In April, 2008 I was offered the position of Principal of Ngaio School. The prospect of leading such a progressive and well-resourced school was a career highlight – I would describe Ngaio School as the "jewel in the crown" of Wellington schools.

In my career, be it facilitating or leading, I have always tried to build a strong and cohesive school culture – a school where everyone in the learning community knows what we are on about. I have also held strongly to the notion of leadership for the development of new leaders. I have tried to create leadership opportunities across the school both vertically and horizontally. Lester Levy always surrounded himself by high quality people and I have tried to do the same.

I look back with satisfaction on some of the significant events that have occurred since I took up the principal position in July 2008: the refurbishment of the decommissioned Dental Clinic, the refurbishment of McLeod Hall, the fabulous astroturf that has enabled creative dance and sporting activities to take place, the build of two modern adventure playgrounds, the new build of rooms 16 and 17 that were so cutting edge at that time and the build of connecting steps linking the Clinic to room 17.

The demolition of 12 classrooms, a school hall and a rather non-compliant senior playground, along with the rebuild of 14 classrooms and three new resource spaces. The school has been reroofed, repainted and refurbished.

I leave Ngaio School knowing that the bespoke school learning environments will cater for current and future generations of Ngaio children.

None of this would have been accomplished without the efforts of outstanding board members, in particular Board Chairs, and passionate members of the Ngaio School Parent and Teacher Association.

Robert Stewart needs to be singled out for his incredible dedication both to the board and the Ngaio community. He has willingly given of his busy time to ensure that the property across the school has been well managed. His strategic thinking enabled me to manage the site and the school management. Without his support I would have struggled. His ability to sum up a situation and progress at times very complicated relationships was admirable. He is modest, humble, intellectually awesome and witty. He ends his time on the board at the end of September but this true gentleman will remain in the wings if guidance is required.

The school logo is "Our Place to Learn" and this differs little from the original design put together by the then principal Jean Packman in the 1980's. Jean led the notion of partnerships, as did her successor Marion Fitchett. In my time at the helm I too have worked to cement that family feeling of a big school with a small school feel where we partner together for learning.

I am proud that as a school we have continued to achieve well. The literacy culture and the focus on quality teacher practice means our learners are secure and confident.

I have been incredibly fortunate to work with dedicated and professional teachers and leaders over the years. I am proud that at least three have gone on to senior leadership and principal positions. I also have benefitted from incredible staff in the office (Helen Shields knows what I will want before I know that I need it), support staff in classrooms and of course the NOSCAR

crew.

Finally, I am most proud of our students. In my teaching career the Ngaio students remain the most incredible students to teach. When I watched our year 6 students leave I always felt enormous pride in the knowledge that they would go on and achieve incredible things.

It has been an honour to be part of their learning journey.

**Lucy Yates** – It is with regret that the Board has accepted Lucy's resignation as of the end of Term 4 this year. In 2018 Lucy intends travelling and teaching abroad. She will be greatly missed – her contributions to music and kapa haka have been impressive.

### **Temporary Caretaker**

This morning we welcomed our temporary caretaker. Tani will work Monday to Thursday from 11.30am until 4.30pm and on Friday from 10am – 3.00pm until Raewyn has an opportunity to assess the school's caretaking requirements going forward.

**Liz Millar**

**Calendar Art – final day to order – Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August, 10.30am**

**Calendars: \$14, pack of 8 cards: \$15, diaries: \$18**

### **Ngaio Netball Celebration**

We would like to invite all families involved in netball at Ngaio School this year to come along to a celebration evening on Wednesday 20th September at 6pm.

This evening is a chance for us to reflect on all of the positive achievements in netball as well as look forward to next year. We have some great photographs and clips of the girls playing this year and we would love to share it with you all. There will also be a presentation of umpiring certificates to the Year 6's and an acknowledgement to all those who have taken on some form of role this year such as; managers, coaches and supporters to really thank you for all of your hard work. If you are a parent who has children who are interested in becoming involved in netball next year, come along and see what it's all about too.

Please RSVP to Sophia Gowans [s.gowans@ngaio.school.nz](mailto:s.gowans@ngaio.school.nz)

The following letter was sent to the Wadestown School community last Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> August.

At approximately 3.10 pm today a student walking home was approached by a male driver in a red car. He was using hand signals to try and coax the student into his car. The incident occurred in Lennel Road, north of Fitzroy and Moorhead Streets in Wadestown.

This incident has been reported to the police.

Once again we would like to reiterate the important messages for all our students:

- Encourage children who have cell phones to call the police immediately.
- Encourage children to walk with others, where appropriate and use main routes which are visible.
- Report any suspicious activities to an adult or parent as soon as possible.
- Emphasise to children that they are acting responsibly by reporting incidents promptly and

praise them for their actions, remembering they have done nothing wrong.

If you wish to report any other concerning incidents, please contact Wellington Central Police Station Ph: 381 2000 immediately and also advise the school as soon as possible.

Kind regards

**Sally Barrett, Principal, Wadestown School**

Raroa Intermediate Enrolments now open via the school website [www.raroa.school.nz](http://www.raroa.school.nz) or this link - [form](#)

**Dear Parents and Caregivers**

**Gardening Club**

We are three year five girls running a gardening club at school. We are having difficulty finding gardening supplies such as watering cans, spades and buckets. If you are able to lend us equipment for the rest of term 3 would you please put them in the labeled box in the office. Please make sure every item is named so we can return them to you at the end of the term.

**Kind regards – the Gardening Club, Meggan, Emily and Olive**

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## Community Notices

It's getting to that time of year when the Daffodil bulbs are popping up all over the Wairarapa district, a sunny little reminder that spring is almost upon us, bringing with it the annual Carterton Daffodil Festival on Sunday 10th September. What is now for many a time-honoured tradition, the festival includes the picking of daffodils at Middlerun, a historic property in Gladstone. As in 2016, there will be FREE buses departing throughout the day starting at 10am from Broadway, to shuttle eager festival goers to and from Middlerun.

The Daffodil Express Steam Train, en route from Wellington, will be arriving at 10.40am at the Carterton Railway Station before proceeding to Masterton. The short trip between Carterton and Masterton offers local residents and visitors a taste of the historic steam train, whilst still making the most of the festivals activities. To book a round trip Carterton to Masterton return email: [carterton.rail.museum@xnet.co.nz](mailto:carterton.rail.museum@xnet.co.nz) to book a Wellington return trip visit <http://www.steaminc.org.nz/> .

The festival will be as wonderful as ever with the Big WaiArt Sale, live music, the Daffodil Express Steam Train excursion and all the fun of the fair!

If you are looking for accommodation try our own Carterton Holiday Park [www.cartertonholidaypark.co.nz](http://www.cartertonholidaypark.co.nz) or phone Phil and Sharrie on 063798267, for a full list of accommodation in Carterton contact [Infocentre@cdc.govt.nz](mailto:Infocentre@cdc.govt.nz)

There will be the normal public trains running on the day check out the timetable on the Metlink website [www.metlink.org.nz](http://www.metlink.org.nz)

For more information about the Carterton Daffodil Festival please visit <http://cdc.govt.nz/daffodil-festival/> or our Carterton Daffodil Festival Facebook Page.

**Kelly Sports Summer Series Football & Netball** – Get your friends together and enter a team in our popular 5-a-side Football or Netball Summer Series Leagues. Played on Friday afternoons at Ian Galloway Park (Football) and Samuel Marsden and Vic Uni in Karori (Netball) beginning 20 October 2017 (Netball) and 27<sup>th</sup> October 2017 (Football). A great way to maintain and improve your skills over the summer months.

For full details and to enrol into our programmes visit [www.kellysports.co.nz](http://www.kellysports.co.nz) email [adminwgtn@kellysports.co.nz](mailto:adminwgtn@kellysports.co.nz) or call 04 972 7201.

