

*Please note Key Dates are now at the end of the newsletter (before Community Notices).*

Tēnā koutou katoa,

It is my pleasure to write to you as the new Principal of Ngaio School. As we kick off the new year, I want to begin by expressing my gratitude and appreciation for the incredibly warm welcome I have received from students, staff, and whānau. I've thoroughly enjoyed meeting a number of you at the school gate already and I feel very much at home.

Our staff have hit the ground running. We have spent a number of productive teacher-only days focusing on the new curriculum. These sessions allowed our team to collaborate and examine our teaching approaches to ensure we are delivering the best possible outcomes for your children. We are, of course, aware that schools across the country are currently navigating a period of change and new challenges. Please be assured that as these national shifts evolve, we are committed to keeping you as informed and up-to-date as possible.

We've also seen some exciting progress with our school playground. The matting has taken slightly longer than anticipated, with weather disruptions holding things up, but we hope that the junior playground will be completed very soon. The senior playground looks incredible, and I'd like to acknowledge the efforts of the PTA, the Board, and all those who contributed to making this a reality. While the progress is fantastic, our fundraising for this project hasn't quite finished yet, and these efforts will continue throughout the year to ensure we can fully fund this space for our tamariki.

While we look forward to the future, we also take a moment to look back with gratitude. Over the summer break, we were saddened to hear of the

passing of Jean Packman. Jean served as Principal of Ngaio School for 15 years, a tenure that saw her steer the school through the significant transition into the "Tomorrow's Schools" era. Her dedication and leadership helped shape the foundation of the school we know today.

My door is always open. I plan to be out and about on the school grounds regularly, so if you see me, please do "pop over" and say hello. I am here to listen, to support, and to be an active part of this wonderful community.

Thank you again for the warm welcome; it's a privilege to be a part of the Ngaio School community.

Ngā mihi,

Phil

**Whānau are invited to our **mihi whakatau** to formally welcome Phil McIntosh our new principal and new families into the Ngaio School community.**

**Monday 9 February**

**9.30am, Te Kapua**

**Morning tea follows the whakatau in our staffroom.**

## PTA NEWS

### CHOCOLATE FOR EVERYONE!

The new playground matting looks great, but we're still fundraising to help pay for it. You and your whānau can help by selling some tasty Whittaker's chocolate slabs. We'll be handing out boxes to your oldest child on **Thursday, February 12** so please take them to work/sport/family



gatherings...you could even buy a couple to add to the school civil defence box for your tamariki.

Plus, every box sold is a chance to win some great prizes. (note that this campaign is in no way compulsory but it would be great if you're able to help, email [pta@ngaio.school.nz](mailto:pta@ngaio.school.nz) by Wednesday 11 February if you do not want a box of Whittaker's Chocolate).

Also, if you're able to volunteer any time to help distribute the chocolate boxes it would be hugely appreciated and can be done at this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/Choco-Volunteers>



## NGAIO SCHOOL HATS

Term 1 is upon us and so is the sun. Protect your child with a Ngaio School sunhat! Remember, sunhats are compulsory in Terms 1 and 4.

Ngaio School hats are available from the office for \$20 each.

They come in two sizes; Medium (50-54cm) and Large (up to

58cm) and in heaps of colours. Purchases can be made by cash or Eftpos in the school office or via MyKindo: [myKindo - School Hats](#)

## THANK YOU, AND PLEASE

Thanks so much to our amazing community for your generosity

toward the recent playground matting GiveALittle campaign.

Thanks to you, more than \$2000 has been raised so far!

We really appreciate this support, and it's not too late to donate

with this cheeky little QR code or at the following link:

<https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/support-ngaio-schools-fundraising>



givealittle  
perpetual guardian

## LET ME ENTERTAIN YOU...WITH THE 2026 ENTERTAINMENT MEMBERSHIP

Support local businesses and our school - 20% of every membership goes directly to us!

**Order by 5pm Monday, 16 February 2026 and Buy One Membership, Get One Free** plus receive a **FREE Multi City Upgrade** on both!

\*Terms & Conditions Apply. Please visit [www.entertainmentnz.com/promotions](http://www.entertainmentnz.com/promotions) to

view.

- Enjoy thousands of local offers on dining, travel, and experiences- like Wellington Zoo, Best Ugly Bagels, Empire Cinema, Holey Moley, and more.
- Funds help buy sports/play equipment, the clinic, enviro club, and the playground matting plus much more.

 [Click here to purchase your Entertainment Membership now!](#)

*Quick, easy, and works on your phone!*

**Please share this link with your family and friends—every membership sold makes a difference!**

### **JOIN US FOR 2026!**

The Ngaio School Parent Teacher Association aims to build links between kāinga and kura.

One way you can play a meaningful part in helping our school thrive is by joining us 😊

Get in touch for a chat here: [pta@ngaio.school.nz](mailto:pta@ngaio.school.nz)

We're nice, honest!

**Or...**

If you want to be able to help out with events and fundraisers but aren't able to commit to the PTA



Join the Friends of Ngaio School WhatsApp group here:

[https://chat.whatsapp.com/L94fSLTBI1aE9A5WS1OERO?mode=gi\\_c](https://chat.whatsapp.com/L94fSLTBI1aE9A5WS1OERO?mode=gi_c)

...by emailing [pta@ngaio.school.nz](mailto:pta@ngaio.school.nz)

Ngā mihi nui

PTA

## KEY DATES

LINK: [School Community Calendar](#)

Friday 6 Feb	Waitangi Day	School closed
Monday 9 Feb	Whakataua to welcome Phil and new ākonga	9.30am
Monday 9 Feb	Touch Rugby Registrations Close	
Thursday 12 Feb	Meet the Teachers	5-7pm
Thursday 19 Feb	Board Meeting in Staffroom	7pm
Wednesday 4 March	New Parents Information Afternoon	1.40pm
Thursday 12 March	PTA Meeting in Staffroom	7.30pm
Tuesday 17 March	Northern Zone Cricket at Alex Moore Park	9am-3pm
Wednesday 18 March	Yr 3-6 Girls only Futsal Festival at Aku Tangi	9am-3pm
Thursday 19 March	ROCKET Carnival	5-7pm
Tuesday 24 March	Open Afternoon	2.15pm
Friday 27 March	Sausage Sizzle	12.30pm
Monday 30 March	Yr 6 Camp Forest Lakes	9am
Monday 30 March-Wed 1 April	Yr 5 Pedal Ready	9am-3pm
Tuesday 31 March	Northern Zone Football at Alex Moore Park	9am-3pm
Wednesday 1 April	Staff Appreciation Morning Tea	11am
Thursday 2 April	Yr 6 return from camp. Last Day of Term.	3pm
Friday 3 April	Good Friday. School closed for the Holidays	School Closed
Monday 20 April	Start of Term 2	9am

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

**Girls Smash** is a fun **cricket** programme for girls in school years 3-8. Sessions involve activities and skills followed by a six a side game. The whole session takes about an hour and is held after school for six weeks. Our focus is learn-as-you-play, and every girl is supported to participate at their own level. All equipment is provided, no experience is necessary, and every participant receives a tshirt! The cost of the programme is \$30 per participant

Your local hub is at Nairnville Park. Sessions will be held on Thursdays from 5.00-6:00pm starting on the 26th of February. Participants can register via <https://www.playhq.com/new-zealand-cricket/register/0d8d15>  
If you have any questions please contact [sarah@cricketwellington.co.nz](mailto:sarah@cricketwellington.co.nz)



LEIT HOUSE MUSIC

# NGAIO PIANO LESSONS

Leit House Music offers individual piano lessons, taught during school hours by Ngarita Davies.

Lessons are open to students of all levels from complete beginners to advanced players. New students are welcome to join at any point in the year provided spaces are available.

For more information or to sign up, please contact us at:

[leithousemusic@gmail.com](mailto:leithousemusic@gmail.com)

We look forward to supporting both continuing and new students on their musical journey!

\*Beginner recorder and flute lessons also available on request



**TIP OFF 2026** - Wednesday's from 3.05pm-4.05pm

The New Year is underway so let's JUMP in with a Kelly Sports Summer Multi Sport Programme! Come and try some new sports, sharpen some existing skills!

This weekly programme gives children skills and confidence in a fun and enjoyable environment. It also encourages their enthusiasm for sport and the life skills that such involvement brings - giving them confidence to join sports clubs in the future!

For term 1 the sports we are focussing on are:

***Basketball, Football, Ultimate Frisbee, Ripa Rugby*** (2 weeks of each).

Classes start Wednesday 11 February 2026 and runs for 8 weeks

Go to [www.kellysports.co.nz](http://www.kellysports.co.nz)



**PIRATES**  
SEA DOGS SQUAD

TUESDAY EVENING - KARORI POOL

SESSION 1 - 6.30PM - 7.15 PM

- Swim progression squad
- Inclusive and non-competitive team environment
- Focus on technique and having fun!

SESSION 2 - 7.15PM - 8 PM

- Teen fitness squad
- Swim sets and technique
- Great cross trainer for other aquatic sports!

<https://www.pirates.org.nz/sea-dogs/>



## **Encore Drama Academy** *(Previously known as Helen O'Grady Drama Academy)*

Encore Drama Academy based in Wellington is all about giving children self confidence to succeed in life. Our classes help build creative thinking and literacy skills while also teaching children positive social skills including effective team interaction, leadership, confidence and public speaking. Our programme also helps every child to develop performance skills, overcome shyness, develop positive self esteem, grow imagination and make new friends in a fun filled learning environment. After-school classes for 5–17-year-olds are held in Khandallah, Tawa, Whitby. If you wish to enrol or require more information please visit our website: [www.encoredramaacademy.co.nz](http://www.encoredramaacademy.co.nz)



## **Drama Club**

Where creativity takes centre stage! Our fun, weekly drama classes are designed to help your child express themselves, build confidence, and develop valuable performance skills—all while having a blast. Join us in Karori and let the magic of drama inspire your child!

[www.dramaclub.co.nz](http://www.dramaclub.co.nz)

Spaces limited

Contact [admin@dramaclub.co.nz](mailto:admin@dramaclub.co.nz) for more information/register for our classes.

KAT THEATRE PRESENTS




by Kathryn Schultz Miller & Barry Miller  
music by Bruce Bowdon  
directed by Archana Sahani & Megan Davies

kids' theatre - fun in the sun

**SAT & SUN**  
**FEB 14, 15, 21, 22**  
**1:30 & 3:30**

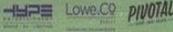
**KHANDALLAH PARK,  
WOODMANCOTE RD**  
BAD WEATHER - COCHRAN HALL



**NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED**  
**ADMISSION BY KOHA**  
**EFTPOS AVAILABLE**

DETAILS AT [KAT-THEATRE.ORG.NZ](http://KAT-THEATRE.ORG.NZ)

Produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service Inc., Englewood, Colorado



## Porirua Judo Academy Level 1, 11 Cobham Court



Judo classes for kids are up and running for 2026. For coaches who have decades of experience teaching kids and a training environment that is safe, supportive and structured, look no further than PJA.

Peewee Judo (4 - 5 years)  
Mon - 4.30 - 5.00pm

Junior Judo (6 - 13 years)  
Mon, Wed, Fri - 5.00 - 6.30pm.

For more information contact us

[info@porirujudo.org.nz](mailto:info@porirujudo.org.nz) 021 081 983 40

## Dance classes for 5, 6 & 7 year olds

Discover the joy of dance at our Thorndon Quay studio, with dedicated ballet, jazz and hip hop classes for 5, 6, and 7-year-olds. Classes are available on **Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturday mornings**, helping young dancers build confidence and have fun. Looking for Khandallah classes? We also offer classes on **Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturday mornings**.



**WELLINGTON  
DANCE  
ACADEMY**  
—☆☆☆☆—

See why Wellington families love dancing with us at [wellingtondance.co.nz](http://wellingtondance.co.nz).

# LEARN TO PLAY BRIDGE!

The greatest card game in the world



**SOCIAL • LOCAL • FUN**

 **Karori Bridge Club**  
274 Karori Road, Karori

 Lessons are weekly, starting  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 7.30pm

 **Bring a friend, a partner or just yourself!**

Register now:

[lessonskbcc@gmail.com](mailto:lessonskbcc@gmail.com)

Or call: 04 476 6179

More info:

[karoribrIDGE.com/lessons](http://karoribrIDGE.com/lessons)



**Scan the QR code to learn more or sign up!**

## A **CURIOUS ABOUT BRIDGE?**

 **Come and give it a go!**  
Join us for a **FREE** Taster session for complete beginners

 **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> of February**

 **7:30pm**

 **Karori Bridge Club**  
274 Karori Rd

**Try a fun social game-  
Everyone is welcome!!**



## Inner City Art Studio After School Art Classes



Ceramics, Sculpture, Painting, Drawing.

Term one every Tuesday 3.45pm - 5.45pm  
Ages 9 - 13, Term cost \$336 Incl all materials  
February 17th - March 31st

Limited Bookings online  
[www.innercityartstudio.com](http://www.innercityartstudio.com)

