

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

Tēnā koutou katoa,

As many of you experienced, Monday brought some rather wild weather that caused significant disruption across the wider Wellington region. We feel very lucky at Ngaio School to have emerged relatively unscathed, bar a few broken branches that have now been cleared away. This serves as a timely reminder for all tamariki to bring in their emergency food boxes. These boxes are kept safely at school and are vital should we ever need to support the children during an unexpected event. Please ensure these are clearly labelled with your child's name and room number so we can audit our supplies efficiently.

The term began on a high note with our Whakatau. I, along with our new kaiako and whānau, felt truly honoured by the ceremony. Seeing our students lead with such mana was a very moving experience. It was a wonderful example of the strong sense of community we have here.

It was also excellent to see so many of you at our Meet the Teacher evening. These sessions are important for setting the tone for the year and sharing how we operate here. If you couldn't make it, the slideshows containing information on our routines and communication channels are now available on our school website.

We have recently been learning about and celebrating the Lunar New Year. I had the pleasure of chatting with three of our Year 6 students, Mumu, Minnie, and Holly, about what this time means to them. They shared that while the Lunar New Year is a massive celebration in China, it is celebrated all over the world. Here's what they had to say:

"We wear red and use fireworks because, according to legend, a spring dragon who used to cause trouble hates the colour red and loud noises!"

"Many children receive red envelopes containing money from parents or grandparents. It's for the future so we can face any challenges we might have."

"I like it so we can celebrate what we will do in the future and laugh about what we have done in the past."

Regarding our grounds, you may have noticed some small cracks in our newly laid playground matting. These were caused by sudden temperature shifts and are purely cosmetic. To avoid closing the playground during term time, repairs will be carried out during the school holidays.

In more exciting news, the Life Education Trust van will soon be parked along Ottawa Road. All children will have the opportunity to visit. I'm sure many parents remember Harold the Giraffe from their own school days.

Our Board of Trustees held their first meeting of the year on Tuesday. Once the minutes are confirmed, they will be posted on the website along with future meeting dates.

Finally, a massive shout-out to our PTA for launching the first chocolate fundraiser of the year. These are huge events to coordinate, and we deeply appreciate the work that goes on behind the scenes to make them a success.

Thank you all for a brilliant, if slightly windy, start to the year.

Ngā mihi nui,

Phil McIntosh
Tumuaki

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

Kia ora e te whānau o te kura o Ngaio

The Board had its first meeting of 2026 on Tuesday evening. This meeting opened with some beginning year business including nominating a presiding member, agreeing to our Code of Conduct and Schedule of Delegations, before launching into conversations about the budget and what opportunities we have to strengthen the school's financial position. This included discussing the Family Donation request for 2026, which we agreed will not be increasing in 2026. Emma Andrews was nominated to continue as the Board's Presiding member with other key portfolios finance, policy and property remaining with their current holders.

The Board welcomed Phil to the Board table and enjoyed his first report as Principal. It was wonderful to hear how welcomed and supported Phil feels and to discuss some new initiatives including his proposal to develop a Belonging, Connection and Culture plan with staff for staff, which the Board has agreed to support.

The Board would like to acknowledge and commend the feedback received from two students about the prior arrangement guidelines we have introduced into the Dogs on School Grounds policy. Those students can expect a letter in return in the coming weeks.

We'd also like to thank Hayden and the Year 6 leaders involved with the mihi whakatau held at the beginning of week 2. You stepped up and should be proud of the welcome you gave not only new staff and families but our new Principal.

Finally, we'd like to thank all the staff that were involved in the Open Evening last Thursday. For some of the community this was the first interaction with the School and you went above and beyond to ensure that all those that attended were welcomed and felt informed.

We are looking forward to the ROCKET carnival in week 7, please look out for us, we agreed to wear yellow tees or pin "BOARD" to our tops, and run a stand over the evening, so if you see us, please come and say hi, we'd love to meet you and chat.

In the meantime please don't hesitate to reach out to any of us, our emails are bot followed by our first name @ngaio.school.nz eg. botemma@ngaio.school.nz

Ngā mihi nui

Your Board

Emma, Joe, Sarah, Kirsten, Kirsty, Mike, Dan and Phil



CHOCOLATASTIC!

The Whittaker's Chocolate fundraiser got off to a great start late last week, thanks to everyone who took a box home and is now enjoying eating selling them to friends, colleagues and whānau.

Thank you to Alexandra A., Nicola W., Sasha M., Craig B., Katie., Marie F., Elina., Jen T. Jo (teacher), Sarah (Assistant principal), Phil (Principal) and all the children from Tui who helped sort and get all the boxes of

Whittaker's chocolates to the oldest children & their whānau on Thursday 12 February. Please sell the chocolates for **\$3 for each Slab**. The total price for a box is \$108.

Payment

Once you have sold a box, please pay the funds raised to the PTA by eftpos or cash in **Room 15** at the following times:

- Mondays 8.30-9.15 am
- Wednesdays 2.45-3.15 pm
- Fridays 8.30-9.15 am

The last session is on Friday 13 March.

The last day for payment is **Wednesday 11 March 2026**.

Requesting more boxes

On payment, you may request an additional box. The last day for requesting additional boxes is **Wednesday 5 March**.

Returning unsold chocolates

If you are experiencing difficulties selling them, please return unsold chocolates to Room 15 as soon as possible, but no later than **Wednesday 5 March**. This allows us to distribute to families waiting for more boxes.

There are great spot prizes for children selling boxes of chocolates. Every box sold gives them an opportunity to win.

Any questions, please contact pta@ngaio.school.nz

WANTED: YOU

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. Get in touch for a chat here:

pta@ngaio.school.nz

Your PTA is in need of a new Treasurer and Secretary for 2026.

These are important and engaging roles at the heart of our school community, and are a great way to meet other school parents.

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

...by emailing pta@ngaio.school.nz



NGAIO SCHOOL HATS

I know we haven't seen much of it, but 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 -](https://mykindo.co.nz)

[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 \$2100 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:



givealittle
powered by your school guardian

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

Ngā mihi nui

PTA

KEY DATES

LINK: [School Community Calendar](#)

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
Tuesday 24 March	Open Afternoon	2.15pm-3pm
Thursday 26 March	Rocket Carnival	5pm-6pm
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



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

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

*Beginner recorder and flute lessons also available on request

PASIFIKA GIRLS Football Festival



When?

SATURDAY 14 MARCH

9:30-12PM

Petone Memorial Park

What's Involved?

FUN, FREE morning of Football

All abilities welcome

Music + Cultural Performances

BBQ provided

FREE t-shirt for every girl!

FREE tickets to the Phoenix Double Header

**FREE bus transport to & from the game
(special thanks to Football For All & the
Wellington Phoenix)**

Sign up using the QR code below



For any enquiries or questions please contact our
Women's and Girls Lead Jenna Reddy

jenna@capitalfootball.org.nz



Capital
Football

nzct
COMMUNITY TRUST



LMT
LLOYD MORRISON TRUST

A new school year signals a new time to learn or hone skills. At JAM Music School, we offer piano 🎹, saxophone 🎷 and violin 🎻 lessons! Now's the perfect time to learn the music you've always wanted to play. Whatever style, whether it's classical, jazz, or pop, our experienced & qualified teachers will help you reach your goal while having fun along the way!

There are still spaces available for Term 1. All ages welcome! Contact us by emailing info.jamms@gmail.com to reserve your spot today or to find out more!

Ngāio Playcentre



DAILY SESSIONS
9.00am to 12.30pm

Play, learn and grow
together!

Special
Interest
Session

TUESDAY
Reorua Bicultural
*Where families learn and practice
Te Reo and Tikanga together*

Book your visit today

ngāio@playcentre.org.nz

04 4797312

50 Silverstream Rd, Crofton Downs



Parent Run Licensed ECE



Free adult education



Supportive of all families



Mixed Age 0-6 years



Child Directed Curriculum

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 11th March 2026 at 7.30pm

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

Register now:
lessonsclub@gmail.com
Or call: 04 476 6179
More info:
karoriibridge.com/lessons



Scan the QR code to learn more or sign up!



KARORI LIONS KARNIVAL & FAIR

Sunday February 22nd
10am to 3pm

Ben Burn Park
Campbell Street, Karori

ALL THE FUN OF THE FAIR!

For further information:
www.karorikarnival.com or
email: karorikarnival@lionsclubs.org.nz

9 February 2026



Kia ora Chantal and Ngaio School,

On behalf of Kiwi Christmas Books and the many children and families our books have reached, I'd like to thank you for your support.

The success of our little charity is largely due to people like you giving your time and energy to collect donations at your school or office and support our cause. We are so grateful to you and your wonderful Ngaio School community.

Thanks to supporters like you, our most recent Christmas campaign was our biggest yet. In 2025, 14,059 brand-new books were donated by supporters in 42 towns and cities across Aotearoa and distributed through 59 partner charities nationwide. That is thousands of children receiving a book of their own and thousands of moments of reading, comfort, curiosity and escape.

Those books have travelled far and wide: to families in emergency and transitional housing, to refuges and safe houses, to hospitals, foster care services, food banks, city missions, homework clubs, schools, childcare centres and community outreach programmes across the country. The charities working directly with whānau continue to tell us just how much these books mean — not only as Christmas gifts, but as something lasting, personal, and deeply valued.

We are especially proud that Kiwi Christmas Books supports two communities at once: children and young people who need books most, and the local writers, illustrators, publishers and booksellers who create and sell them. 64 locally-owned



#GIVEBOOKSTOKIDS KIWICHRISTMASBOOKS.ORG.NZ
51 Shackleton Road, Mt Eden, Auckland 1024, New Zealand
eml hello@kiwixchristmasbooks.org.nz phn 021 345 165



Irish dance classes

Beginner classes suitable for 4 - 8 years,
Tuesdays at 4.15 - 5 pm (during the
school term)

First lesson is free!

Location :

Karori normal school hall,
2 Donaldson street, Karori
Wellington 6012

We would love to hear from you!

**Contact Laura Kelly: 022 396 0238
email: gregandancers@gmail.com**

