



NEWSLETTER



Tumuaki Pānui

Kia ora e te whānau,

Hope you enjoyed a lovely long weekend. What a crazy contrast of weather though with the wind, rain and then sunshine! That's how we know we all live in Wellington.

Recently I had the privilege of attending a conference focused on the 'science of learning.' We were posed the question of 'What's happening to childhood?'

We were reminded about brain development and the increase of growth and connection within the brain when tamariki **laugh, sing and exercise**. As parents it is hard to resist comments that if we don't give our children a jump start then they will 'fall behind' or 'not be ready'. Have we been forced to shift to only value the visible, recordable or printable? These are great phrases for us to identify what matters most to us. What do we think really matters? When asked, our parents say: joy, kindness, collaboration, resilience, creativity, problem solving and relationships.

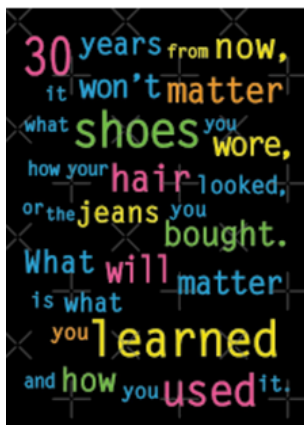
Do our children have time to imagine? Do they have enough open ended play? How can we guard extended uninterrupted time for play as this is where deep learning lies. Take some time to think about how your family might answer these questions, then put ideas into action.

Staff Only Day—Thank you for keeping your children at home while staff took the day to work together. These days are invaluable. This time we were focused on writing progressions and the teaching and assessment of writing. These times are so valuable for staff to step back from the daily tasks and focus on creativity, reflection, and collaboration. Staff engage in deeper thinking. Everyone worked hard together. Interrupted only by some extremely delicious donuts and lamingtons! Great brain food.

Thanks for being amazing parents who want the very best for your children. Have a great weekend.

Ngā mihi nui,

Whaea Nicki
Tumuaki | Principal



Important dates

- **19 June** – Matariki Breakfast
- **20 June** – Matariki Public Holiday (SCHOOL CLOSED)
- **27 June** – Last day of Term 2
- **14 July** – First day of Term 3
- **19 September** – Last day of Term 3
- **6 October** – First day of Term 4
- **27 October** – Labour Day Public Holiday (SCHOOL CLOSED)
- **28 October** – Staff Only Day (SCHOOL CLOSED)
- **18 December** – Last day of Term 4
- *First day of 2026 to be confirmed soon...*

ARRIVAL TIME AT SCHOOL

How your child starts the day is important. Being at school in time to start the day with their classmates and teachers sets them up for a positive day of learning.

Please aim to have your students at school by 8:40am ready in class by 8:55am.



Attendance

It is really important that all children attend school every day unless they are sick. Every day attendance increases learning.

If your child is going to be away please call or email us.



04 389 6667



away@newtown.school.nz

SCHOOL Notices

Volunteers needed



WORKING BEE

Sunday 8th June
2-4pm

Please join us this Sunday! We'll be planting some native trees around our school and fixing up our school bike fleet.

Depending on what you'd like to get involved with, bring your gardening gloves, gumboots, a spade and clothes that can get dirty.

If you can help pick up some mulch and deliver to school please let Tania or Nicki know



Parent Teacher Association (or historically F@NS friends at Newtown School)

It's time to bring back our parent group!

It's been many years since we had an active parent group and there are lots of great opportunities coming up. They foster relationships amongst the school's community by organising and hosting events that will bring the school community together. They can fundraise for school projects, offer voluntary help and act as a body for parent consultation where needed. Parent groups help enhance the learning environment and create a sense of belonging for all families.

We'd love you to join. Wednesday 11th June come and start a conversation. Share your ideas...promise a cuppa and biscuit.



PICK UP is at 3PM

Please arrange for your child to be picked up at 3pm or to attend after school care. We have noticed an increase in our students waiting at school sometimes for lengthy periods of time. Our staff are unable to supervise after 3pm. Local care providers include **sKids** who offer care in the school hall and **Pridelands** who pick up from our school for after school activities at SWIS.

We ♥ our Volunteers

SCHOOL TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

School trustee elections are coming up.

more details coming soon

Step forward for our schools

Attendance Winners

These two students have been at school over 90% this term and have been randomly selected to receive a prize this fortnight. Come pick up your prizes from the office!

Faten

Wren

PARKING & CAR DROP OFFS/PICK UPS

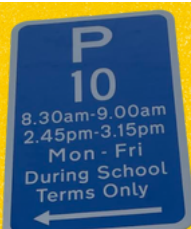
Thank-you for not parking in the Staff Parking. If you are driving your children to school, short term parking is available on Mein and Emmett Streets.

Mein Street offers 10 minute parking

Monday-Friday

8:30am - 9am

2:45pm-3:15pm



Invitation to Swahili Day 7th July 2025

we're hosting a special event at Southern Cross to recognise and promote the Kiswahili language and culture. It's a day to celebrate the beauty and importance of Kiswahili as an internationally recognised language.

We invite you to join us - Please RSVP -

africaconnectionaotearoa@gmail.com if you would like to attend.




Are you getting school emails?

Please check your spam for any school emails you may not be receiving. Newsletters and emails are the primary way we communicate with our community.

KIA NGĀKAU HIHIRI
CURIOUS

Ka mīharo, ka tūpono, ka auaha tātou.
We wonder, take risks and innovate



Help us make soup for our Matariki breakfast coming up Thursday 19 June (more details to come!)


We will be cooking on Monday 9 June 9am - 12pm

If you can help please email taniaa@newtown.school.nz or pop in and see Tania.

We need icecream containers for the soup!

Please drop off any you can spare to the front office.

Thanks!



Saved Sunflower Seeds from our garden available for koha at front office. All proceeds to the Children's Hospital as inspired by Jasper!

"We should sell these seeds and donate the money to the children's hospital!" - Jasper, age 7

Garden Goodness

Kaicycle donation: thank you to our local organic farm for donating some compost, we used this to create some new garden beds for strawberries.

Kūmara goodness: The kūmara we have collectively grown and harvested continue to feed and nourish us. Waitangi gardeners blanched and froze kūmara to be used in a soup for our Matariki breakfast as well as making and eating some delicious kūmara chips. Pīwakawaka turned kūmara into a NZ inspired version of a popular Canadian meal called Poutine.



The Newtown School Exhibition Wall

'Through my mind's eye' by Millaray Robertson
Friday 6th June - Fri 20th of June



This week Newtown school celebrate a new showing on the exhibition wall this time by 10 yr old Millaray Robertson from Whānau Waitangi. For the next 2 weeks the Newtown School Whanau can view a stunning series of artworks that take a look through the eyes of one of our hardest working artists in this her first solo exhibition. Milla always surprises and delights with her creative vision. Not only are the drawings totally unique but she's finished her artworks to such a high quality standard. It's been such a privilege to watch her confidence grow as she's forged her own creative language.

"Come and have a look and support her mahi. Yet another great exhibition I recommend you check it out on 'The Exhibition Wall' at Newtown School" says art wall curator Paul Forrest

KIA WHAKAPAU KAHA EFFORT Ka whakapua i ō tātou kaha i ā tātou mahi katoa. We give our best in everything we do.

AROUND OUR KURA

Just a few of the activities around our school this fortnight! Performances from Toi Whakaari students, the New Zealand Symphony Orchestra, and a local Samoan dance troupe. Samoan Language Week performances and activities. Cooking up a storm in Garden to Table. Underwater fun. And sharing a love of reading.



Georgie, written by Henry Stewart

Georgie is a very cute dog. Georgie is a multishitsu. She's got black eyes that look like little balls, shiny balls. When we first saw her she was very small like a kitten. Now she's the size of a cat. She is about 4 months old.

Georgie is very black and white. Sometimes she goes outside and goes into the compost, gets dirty, but then she somehow gets clean when we didn't even clean her!

She gets excited when she sees people and jumps up. She wriggles a lot! She's very playful. She likes to run around and chase balls. She likes chasing people, and running away with her toys. She had a bone that got very smelly, but after we threw it outside she kept bringing it back inside because she loved it so much. Now it's gone but I don't know where it is...

It was very annoying waiting to get her because I was excited. When she arrived it was very exciting for everyone. Now she wants to sit at the table with us and Dad gives her gravy! She's a part of our family.

Info Tech Byte

The Ultimate Parent's Guide to Understanding Our Kids Online –

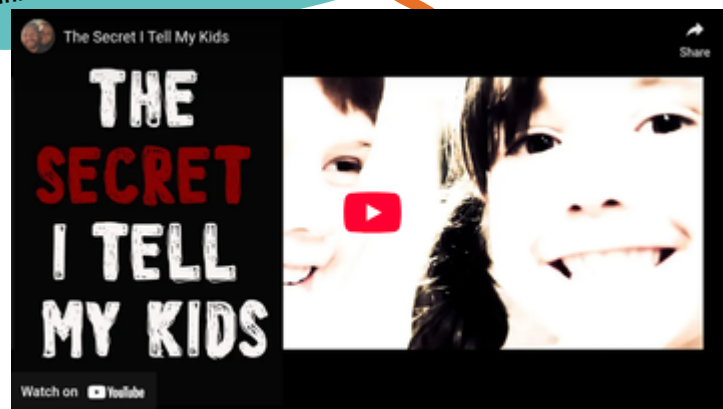
Video Access Available

Thank you to the whānau who attended our recent cyber safety evening with Rob Cope at SWIS. The session shared very valuable information about how young people are using the internet, social media, and gaming platforms, with a focus on keeping them safe and supported online.

For whānau who were unable to attend, a free video version of The Ultimate Parent's Guide to Understanding Our Kids Online is now available. This includes access to a 12 month subscription to Parenting in an Online World 101.

We have a limited number of access spots available. If you would like to view the session, please contact the school office to register your interest.

Our Kids Online
Check out the first episode in Rob Cope's 2-Minute Parenting Tips and Tricks!
Find more info at <https://www.ourkidsonline.info/>



KIA MANAHAU RESILIENT E hia hinganga, katū tonu, ka ako tonu
We keep trying and learn from what we do

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Youth Theatre
Holiday Workshop
Monday June 30th – Wednesday July 2nd 2025
Newtown School

Capital Theatre Trust Youth Theatre Holiday Workshops
Monday 30th June to Wednesday 2nd July at Newtown School, Mein St, Newtown.

Join Capital Theatre Trust for 3 days of Musical Theatre magic for aspiring youth performers aged 7-13. Led by industry professionals Maya Handa Naff & Hayden Taylor (The Creative Team behind *Mamma Mia 2025*), and Hamish Mouat (Artistic Director of Encore Theatre Collective in Auckland). Take a deep dive into learning Musical Theatre skills and material based around popular aquatic movie musicals. Focussed on enhancing confidence and theatrical skills in a fun and positive environment, these workshops are ideal for both newcomers and theatre veterans alike!

<https://musicaltheatreworkshop.lilregie.com/>



SHAKTI

SHAKTI WOMANS REFUGE TRUST

Shakti Women's Refuge Trust is an organisation working to address violence against girls and women within Asian, Middle Eastern and African communities. As such we provide culturally-specialised intervention, prevention and wraparound services to migrant and refugee women, children and youth affected by family violence and culturally abusive practices.

If you would like any help or have any questions, please feel free to contact our crisis line number at 0800 SHAKTI (0800 742 584) or email crisisline@shakti.org.nz

Tēnā koutou katoa Parents and Caregivers,

For those of you with intellectually disabled and neurodivergent children in your whānau, you may be interested in the IHC Library which provides targeted resources for parents and caregivers. - Membership is free.

We welcome hearing from you.

The IHC Library Team



Paula na Nagara | Kaitiaki Rauemi Ako
IHC New Zealand
Waea Pūkoro: 04 471 5741 | www.ihc.org.nz
Level 15, 57 Willis Street, Wellington
PO Box 4155 Wellington 6140



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REWA REWA, TAWA AND PLIMMERTON SCHOOL POOLS

04 234 7946 book@easyswim.co.nz www.easyswim.co.nz

WOMEN & GIRLS ONLY SWIM TIMES



First Saturday of every month
at Newtown School Pool
12:45pm – 2:30pm
Female staff on duty

For more information call 04 234 7946
or email book@easyswim.co.nz

\$4 per swimmer

Private facility
Heated pool 32°

easy swim SWIM SCHOOL



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Secure your spot at sKids this Term!

The fun is being dialled up to the max this term at sKids! From explosive experiments at Science Academy to fantastic fundraising, there's something for everyone at sKids.

sKids programs are sticky, messy, gooey and LOUD in the best way possible. Kids are encouraged to be kids and where they can lead their own way in play in a safe, supportive and caring environment, and the best part is parents don't have to clean up the mess!

Book today to unlock your child's potential through play!

Visit our website [here](http://skids.co.nz)



Sports Quest

Create, play and explore the world of sports in new and exciting ways!





World Games
Wed 11 June



Champion's Challenge
Wed 18 June



Ultimate Sports Mash-up
Wed 25 June

Book online | skids.co.nz

KIA MANAAKI RESPECTFUL Ka whakamana tātou i ngā rongō o te katoa.
We value the thoughts and feelings of each other.