



# NEWSLETTER



Kia ora e te whānau,

It amazes me how many significant events we have within our kura in two weeks. This newsletter is a chance to acknowledge many aspects of learning that are part of the life of the school.

**Tūmakano (hope)** – Our Kapa Haka were a stunning part of the opening of the Tūmanako Festival – a commemoration of Hiroshima and a commitment for us to live peacefully. I was very inspired by the speeches given by eleven year olds about hope. They had courage, insight and focus for how we need to foster a peaceful culture; resolve friendship conflict, realise the impact of our words and actions on others and share opinions with respect. They shared a confronting fact of 1.23 billion people living in places where violence is legal and then shared their belief *'I'm not pretending war doesn't exist but I'm also not pretending that peace is not achievable. I believe that we-the next generation-have the power to change the world and it all starts with hope'*.

**Art Splash** – 35 five enthusiastic Newtown ākonga shared their singing talents with other schools in a combined choir and concert. Thanks to Kath Foale for inspiring and organising this. They sounded beautiful. A number of our students led solo sections of several pieces.

**Market day learning** – Last week we held our annual Market day. We raise money for our next year's camp—we pay it forward which keeps the costs lower for all families. It's a great example of how we work together as a community so everyone has the same opportunity. It is a highlight for our whole school. Our seniors learn to work in a team to create a product, work out how to make a profit and master the art of customer service. Thank you to kaiako and whānau who weave skills and resources together to make this a success.

**Swimming Sports** – twelve of our racy swimmers took part in an across school swim competition. We were fortunate to have generous parent support. Thank you.

## Why vote for the Board of Trustees?

Helping to select future members of the Board is a key part of belonging to the Newtown School community. We want to know who you would most like to govern our school. We are fortunate to have so many great candidates. Around the country, voter turn-out for school board of trustee elections is generally very low. We are aiming for at least 30%. Currently, we are sitting at 24%. So – please share your thoughts and support our kura by voting. Voting closes on 10 September.

Ngā mihi nui,

Whaea Nicki  
Tumuaki | Principal

WHANAUNGATANGA  
CONNECTED

He iwi tahi tātou, he ako tahi tātou  
We belong and we learn together

## Important dates

- 10 September – Board Voting Closes
- 12 September – Onesie Day
- 12 September – School Social
- 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)
- 21 November – Staff Only Day (SCHOOL CLOSED)
- 19 December – 1pm finish – Last day of Term 4
- 3 February 2026 – Whakawhanaunga
- 4 February 2026 – First day of Term

## Welcome to our new students

- Aria Franklin
- Javier Prisk

### 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 by 9am.**



04 389 6667



away@newtown.school.nz

# School Notices



**Vote now!**

Voting for the school board elections closes Wednesday.  
Check your emails for voting information.

For more information: contact Returning Officer, Sarah Brooks,  
at the front office or at [sarahb@newtown.school.nz](mailto:sarahb@newtown.school.nz)

  
**Te Kura o Ngā Puna Waiora**  
**Newtown School**  
Love learning, love life!

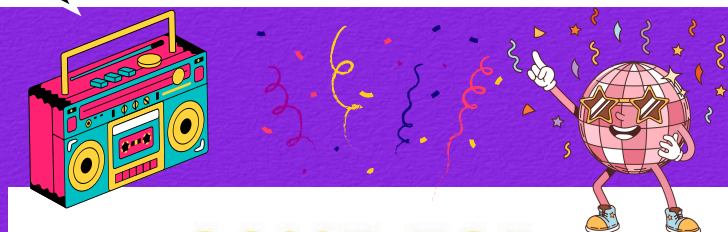
  
**SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS**



**THANK you**

 **NEW WORLD**  
Newtown

Thank-you to New World Newtown  
for their generous donation to our  
school for Market Day!



**COME FOR MUSIC, FUN AND DANCING AT THE NEWTOWN SOCIAL**

**FRIDAY 12 SEPTEMBER IN THE SCHOOL HALL**

Supervised sessions Tamariki need to be collected by a parent or caregiver at the end of the session.

LIGHT SNACKS AND WATER PROVIDED.

**JUNIOR 5-6PM (YEAR 1-3)**

**SENIOR 6.15-7.30PM (YEAR 4+ UP)**

Register your song requests at the office!

PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS ARE WELCOME TO STOP FOR A CUP OF TEA OR COFFEE AND A BISCUIT IN THE STAFF ROOM DURING THE EVENT : )

**WELLINGTON FREE AMBULANCE**

**ONESIE APPEAL**

Please help us reach our fundraising goal for Wellington Free Ambulance.

Donate today to keep ambulance services free in our community.



**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September is Onesie Day at school**

Please come dressed in your favorite Onesie (pj's and oddies are good too!) and bring a donation for Wellington Free Ambulance.

Everything we collect on Onesie Day will help keep the ambulance service free of charge in our community and make sure that the paramedics have the vehicles and equipment they need to respond at a moment's notice.

You can also support our fundraising by donating online at:  
<https://www.onesieday.co.nz/users/newtown-school-3>

**DONATE HERE!**

**Attendance Winners**

These two students have been at school over 90% this term and have been randomly selected to receive a prize this fortnight.

**Praize & Nha Ky**

Come pick up your prizes from the office!

KIA NGĀKAU HIHIRI CURIOUS Ka mīharo, ka tūpono, ka auaha tātou. We wonder, take risks and innovate



# SPORT

## Key dates coming up for sport:

- Monday 8 September - Futsal Festival Jrs
- Tuesday 9 September - Futsal Festival Srs
- Monday 8 September until end of term - Pedal and Scooter Ready



## TERM 4

It's time to sign up for Term 4 sports

### On offer:

- Years 1-4 Junior Netball (Free)
- Years 1-6 Touch & Futsal (Free)
- Years 4-6 Mini polo (Free)

If you haven't received a Term 4 sports booklet please get in touch

## UKELELE CLUB

### AT NEWTOWN SCHOOL???

We are looking for enthusiastic ukelele playing parents who might be keen to run a ukelele club at the school. If this is you, please get in touch with Kath at [arts@newtown.school.nz](mailto:arts@newtown.school.nz)



## SCHOOL BOOKS

Please check at home for any school books and return them by the end of term.



## EXHIBITION

## WALL

'My world , my people'  
by Moira Schneider

Mon 8th September - Friday 19th of September

Newtown school celebrate a new showing on the exhibition wall by Moira Schneider from Whānau Waitangi.

The works in this exhibition are part of an ongoing exploration of self and identity through the eyes of an 11 year old, Moira Schneider. For the final 2 weeks of term, Newtown School whānau can view a stunning series of artworks that take a look through the eyes of one of our hardest working artists and one of the recipients of last years' sponsored School Art Award.

"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.

# Kōrero Corner



## & CYBER SAFETY

Healthy gaming habits are an important part of keeping our tamariki safe and balanced in today's digital world. Cyber safety advocate Rob Cope from Our Kids Online shares practical, guilt-free strategies in this short video to help parents support their children's gaming in a positive way.

**Whānau wanting to dive deeper** – Rob's Ultimate Parent's Guide to Understanding Our Kids Online is available. This resource includes a 12 month subscription to Parenting in an Online World 101. If you would like to view the session, please contact the school office to register your interest.



Watch *"Gaming without the parental guilt"*



## Supporting our Support Staff by Mary

I believe I can make a difference in the lives of little people. Every day this is my challenge. It is so much more than three hours of reading, writing and maths... But I couldn't do it on my own! I am part of a great team that works tirelessly alongside me everyday.

I have watched our support staff think outside the box on numerous occasions hoping it will spark a fire in an individual or small group. I am able to celebrate with them as they notice the "ah ha" moment when something finally makes sense for a student or when they can do it unsupported for the first time.

Support staff are a vital part of the school. They bring along a huge wealth of expertise and choose to work alongside your children so they can have the best possible school experience. I feel embarrassed and upset that they earn an hourly rate around the same as supermarket staff, but can only be employed for school hours working directly with students and NO PAY in the school holidays!

Please support them as they claim a greater than 1% pay rise and teachers as the campaign to have a teacher assistant in every classroom



## Education in the news-ILE

You may have heard in the news talk about Innovative Learning Environments (ILE) or Open plan as they have often been referred to. Our school is an ILE. In particular, there has been discussion about the effectiveness of these spaces and what difference restoring walls might have.

Some things for you to know about our kura: we have been successfully practicing and developing our collaborative teaching and learning over the last seven years and we continue to do so. We know that it provides our ākonga with greater support for their learning and well-being, it strengthens and improves our teaching, it allows for increased flexibility and greater whakawhanaungatanga.

We will keep considering what will improve learning for everyone. Any questions, feel welcome to ask.

These are some of the discussions happening around our kura, come kōrero with us if you have any questions or thoughts

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



# Around our kura



## ArtSplash

Congratulations to the Artplash choir who took part in an amazing concert last week. They worked so hard to learn all 9 songs including actions and sign language. They showed the school values throughout the event - ka rawe!'



Our contributing artists to the Tūmanako Festival - Children's Artworks for a Peaceful World on display at Johnsonville Library at Waitohi Hub until 14 September

## Garden Goodness



Our tamariki have been busy doing waste audits of our classroom rubbish bins, learning about Zero Waste with WCC, saving seed to donate and use, exploring the smells and tastes of herbs in our gardens, sniffing and tasting the husks from cacao beans donated by Whittakers (a hint of chocolate!), always finding the joy in worms and helping to plant native plants around our school to help continue developing our mini forest!

We have planted 2 Olive trees in the middle of our bike track to provide shade, olives and to inspire and recognise peace.

Our beehive is starting to hum again as the bees are venturing out into the warmer spring days, we are looking forward to getting some of our lucky students into their beesuits and learning about bees.



KIA MANAAKI  
RESPECTFUL

Ka whakamana tātou i ngā rongo o te katoa.  
We value the thoughts and feelings of each other.



## Koroneihana

Akonga, kaiako and mātua from Ngāti Kotahitanga have headed to Turangawaewae Marae this week to be amongst the many who are gathering for Koroneihana. The event is an annual event that over time has grown to be a significant part of the Māori calendar, all iwi uniting under the Kingitanga banner. It celebrates the coronation of Ngā wai hono i te po who, after being in mourning for her father over the past year, will give her inaugural speech on Friday. We think of our Newtown whānau who will be on the whenua for this very special moment in our history. We're sure they will all appreciate how special this time is.

Ngāti Kotahitanga has been granted funding for this haerenga by the Methodist Trust.



# Community Notices

## Owen Street Park Update

Great news! The transformation of Owen Street Park is now complete. With most of the grass and planting established, the fences will come down early next week, opening the park for the community to explore and enjoy! A few small areas will remain fenced while the ground firms up, and some artwork and murals are still to come.



**SOUTH WELLINGTON  
INTERMEDIATE**

**Market  
Day!**

**10 September  
3-6pm**

30 Te Wharepouri St Berhampore  
office@swis.school.nz

**NEW  
to Pōneke!**

**cahoots  
workshop**

**Open Day!**

**Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September  
10am - 6pm**

- Become a member!
- Check out our space!
- Share drinks & kai!
- Donate and support!
- Sign up for classes!
- All genders can stop in!

www.cahoots.nz  
@cahoots.nz

Cahoots Workshop  
11 Hopper Street  
Mt Cook, Wellington

**NEW TO TENNIS  
OR MAKING A  
COMEBACK?**

Give tennis a go for **FREE**  
at a club near you  
& PARTICIPATING CLUBS NATIONWIDE

**WIN A TRIP TO THE  
ASB CLASSIC 2026**

**love  
tennis**

**10am-2pm SUN 7 SEPT**

**FIND A CLUB**

**www.lovetennis.kiwi**

KIA NGĀKAU HIHIRI CURIOUS Ka miharo, ka tūpono, ka auaha tātou.  
We wonder, take risks and innovate