Adventure School

NEWSLETTER

Term 4 – Week 3 29 October 2026

Our children will discover who they can be...

THE ADVENTURE WAY

•CURIOUS •CREATIVE •SELF-AWARE •SELF-DIRECTED •COLLABORATIVE Adventurers

Upcoming Events

Thursday 29 October	1.45pm: Adventure's Got Talent - **FINALS**
Sunday 1 November	9.30am-12pm: PTNi Working Bee (school grounds)
Wednesday 4 November	Nīkau Zoo Sleepover (Rms 2 & 3) Yrs 3-6 Padder Tennis
Thursday 5 November	Nīkau Zoo Sleepover (Rms 4 & 5)
Monday 9 November	Class, group & individual photos 5.30PM: BoT meeting
Tuesday 10 November	Parumoana Athletics (pp 12 November)
Wednesday 11 November	Yrs 3-6 Padder Tennis
Thursday 12 November	Parent 2027 Class placement info. closes

Quick Links to Items

- 2027 Class Placements
- Homework Decline
- In the Spotlight
- Coming Up
- Tōtara Page
- Sports Spot



Kia ora, Namaste, Talofa, Guten Tag, Nǐ hǎo, Xin chào, As-salām, Kamusta, Bula, Vannakkam, Malo e lelei, Kia orana, Mālo ni, Hola, Goeie Dag, Bonjour, Sat Shri Akal, Shalom, Assalaam alaikum, Hello!

Kia ora e te whānau

Thank you so much for your support and flexibility during our Teacher Curriculum Day earlier this week. Having this dedicated time together was both valuable and productive.
Together, we aligned our focus with the 2027 Strategic Plan, designed innovative hands-on curriculum learning opportunities, and unpacked the valuable feedback from our recent student survey to better understand how our learners feel about their school, teachers, and everyday learning.

We look forward to your feedback when we share our Strategic Plan within the next few weeks.





IMPORTANT: 2027 Class Placements

Over the coming weeks, our team will begin the complex process of organising class placements for 2027. Creating balanced learning environments is a complex task. We carefully consider each child's academic, social, emotional, and physical needs, alongside overall cohort dynamics. While social connections matter, placing children with their closest friends does not always produce the best learning outcomes; our priority is setting every student up to thrive.

Our teachers and leadership team collaborate closely, drawing on professional observations of how your child learns, interacts, and grows in the school environment to make well-rounded placement decisions.

Your Opportunity to Share

As in previous years, we will be inviting parents to share any specific, relevant information that could help inform these decisions. **Next Thursday, 5 November,** you will receive a communication via HERO with a link to our placement form. If you do not receive the notification or would prefer a paper copy, please contact the school office.

Please share your information through this form rather than emailing or contacting classroom teachers directly.

Please note that while all submissions are genuinely considered, we cannot guarantee that every individual request will be accommodated. Balancing class sizes, diverse learning needs, and differing perspectives means difficult compromises are sometimes necessary.

IMPORTANT:

- Information must be shared using the form (please don't approach teachers directly)
- This is not an opportunity to ask for a specific teacher
- Submissions must be made by **9am Thursday, 12 November** in order to be considered.

Thank you for your understanding, trust, and partnership as we plan for next year.

IMPORTANT

Please email the office if you have not yet let the school know

- **your child is in Years 1-6 and will not be returning to Adventure next year**
- **you have not yet enrolled a sibling starting in 2027**

We need this information now as it will impact on 2027 class organisation.

Homework update

This year's Homework approach was introduced as a trial based on feedback from parents via a survey.
It was designed to

- **Reinforce Learning:** Consolidate the skills and knowledge your child is already developing in class.
- **Build Confidence:** Provide an opportunity for students to practice familiar tasks independently.
- **Strengthen Connections:** Keep you informed about what your child is currently focusing on at school

Throughout the year we have been monitoring participation across the school and have noticed a significant drop in the number of children participating, particularly from Year 3 up. We will continue to track engagement for the rest of this term to gather data that will inform our homework approach for next year.

Ngā mihi nui
Tania Cox
Principal – Tumuaki

National Shake Out!

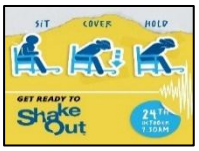


New Zealand's national earthquake and tsunami drill took place on 21 October. Workplaces, schools, and households across the country practiced DROP, COVER, and HOLD, just as they would in a real emergency.

Our kids were amazing and confidently knew exactly what to do in their classrooms.









ME TAKATŪ MŌ TE





In the Spotlight

Central Region Pool Rescue Champs



Congratulations to Indigo Eastham for her recent results at the Surf Lifesaving New Zealand Central Region Pool Rescue Champs. She competed in lots of different pool rescue races, including patient tows, obstacle courses, brick carries and fin swims and came away with two gold medals and a bronze in the team events, as well as 3 top 10 individual results representing Paekākāriki Surf Lifeguards.

Well-done, Indie!

In the Spotlight

Swimming



Congratulations once more to Julie for her latest swimming achievements. After competing at the 2026 Swimming Wellington Junior Championship.

Girls 12 years old 100 backstroke - Gold Medal
Girls 12 years old 200 backstroke - Silver Medal
Girls 12 years old 50 backstroke - Bronze medal
Girls 12 years old 200IM - Bronze medal

Well done, Julia!

In the Spotlight

Football





A huge congratulations to Hannah McMaster and Jessica Harrald, who were selected to travel to Melbourne with an u12 girls team. The selection for the team was made post a national training camp in Hamilton in January 2026. RH3 is run by Ricki Herbert and his family. Kale Herbert (Ricki's son) coached the girls in Melbourne.

During the trip to Melbourne, the girls competed in a very popular girls only tournament, the Ballarat Cup. RH3 won the tournament, winning every game, beating Essendon Royals 3-0 in the final. Essendon were the defending champs.

Whilst the success on the sporting field was great, the biggest success of the trip was the personal growth both Adventurers made. The challenge was that the team had never played together before as the girls came from all over NZ. They have made friendships for life and memories that will no doubt help shape who they become in the future.

What an impressive achievement!

In the Spotlight

Dance Achievement



Congratulations to Cressida and Addison (Year 6), for being selected as New Zealand School of Dance Level 2 Scholars for 2027!

Following nationwide auditions in September, both girls were selected for the New Zealand School of Dance Scholars Programme - joining an elite cohort of only around 10 dancers per year level. They will attend weekly Saturday training and national workshops throughout the year.

We are incredibly proud of your outstanding achievement!

Welcome to Our Newest Students

KŌWHAI: Gavin G

RIMU: Amy H



Coming Up



We'd love you to come and help out at our working bee on-

Sunday 1 November: 9.30 – 12pm

What We'll be Doing: Weeding, planting, fixing, water-blasting and general tidying of the school's outdoor area

- **BYO gardening tools, hammer, weed eater, water blaster, chainsaw and wheelbarrow if you have them.**

Drinks and refreshments will be provided.

Mihi Whakatau to welcome new students and their whānau

Week 6

Friday 20 November (new date)

- **8.45: Briefing**
- **9.10: Mihi Whakatau begins**

Families of new students in Terms 3 & 4 will be sent an invitation with details.

Term 4 - Week 3

Tōtara Team

Term 3 Awardees - History Fair



Once again, another year is flying by - time flies when you're having fun! Tōtara students had an immensely busy Term 3: Te Kiwa Nui, Maths Week, Swimming Sports, Trip to Parliament, and the History Fair to finish it all off (see next page). We are very proud of the effort students showed throughout the term and look forward to one more term together before we farewell our amazing Year 8s!

Term 3 Awards

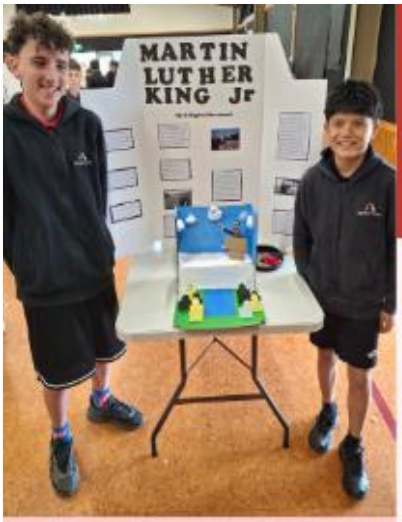






Hiranga Award: Excellence	Ash Lavery-Coulson, Jessica Harrald, Colton Thompson, Luca McMaster
Whakapau Kaha Award: Effort & Attitude	Katelyn Mulhern, Liam Connor, Beth Atkinson, Zeita Pattison
Manaaki Award: Citizenship	Keano Moore, Ollie King, Kiera Bloomfield, Sophie Williams

History Fair





During Term 3, our Year 7 and 8 students have been learning about "Power and Influence" in the lead up to our national election being held in November. Students thoroughly enjoyed visiting our Hosue of Parliament, as well as seeing our founding documents at the National Library with their very own eyes.



To demonstrate their understanding of these concepts, students were tasked with exploring pivotal examples throughout history of power being attained and weilded in order to influence society and effect change. Students were given the freedom to explore beyond the context of New Zealand if they wished, and as such, their final presentations at our Fair provided a very rich collection of stories from throughout human history.







Feedback from those who were able to visit,listen to the students share and engage with the research they had completed was overwhelming positive... Well done to ALL of our young historians; your artefacts were creative, your presentations were interactive and engaging for all ages, and you presented knowledgeably. Ka rawe!





Sports Spot

Rimu & Tōtara Athletics

What a brilliant day we had for our Senior Athletics! The sun shone and certainly added to the energy and enthusiasm on the field. A big thank you to John Kelleher for his organisation and to our amazing teachers and supportive parents who helped run events and cheer on the athletes.

Ka rawe to all our students for giving it their all – your perseverance, effort, and positive attitude made us proud, especially those who pushed through challenges and kept going.

Certificates will be presented at assembly on Friday 13November

Results

Congratulations to the following children who gained a 1st, 2nd or 3rd placing overall in their year groups.

Year 5	*Girls:*	1st Ariana Donaldson 2nd= Chloe Coburn & Amber Cassidy	*Boys*:	1st Forbes Alexander 2nd Austin Li 3rd Jack Griffiths
Year 6	*Girls:*	1st Quinn Spalding 2nd Indigo Eastham 3rd Ruby Woodcock	*Boys*:	1st Lawrence Hanify 2nd= Leo Arbidans & Manaia Temarama
Year 7	*Girls:*	1st Maisie Forsyth 2nd Jessica Harrald 3rd Julia Wang	*Boys*:	1st Knox McPeake 2nd Oz Elimelech 3rd Jackson Paul
Year 8	*Girls:*	1st Annie Van Son 2nd Layla Jones 3rd Kelsey Cotter	*Boys*:	1st= Luca McMaster & TJ Kie Tonga 3rd Angus Presling















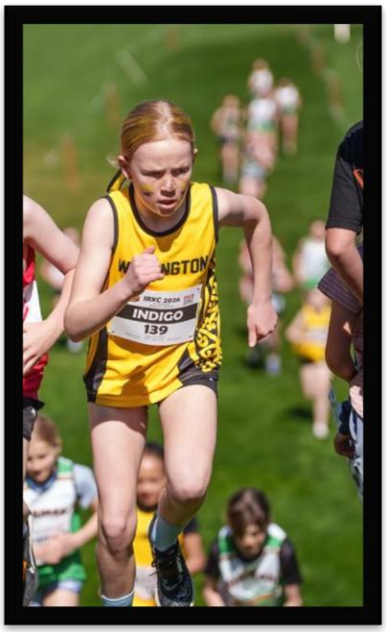
Inter-Regional School Cross Country

The cross-country season finished on a high in late September at the Inter-Regional Cross-Country Championships, held in beautiful, sunny Nelson. Adventure School was proudly represented by Maisie Forsyth (Year 7) and Indigo Eastham (Year 6), who were both selected to compete for the Wellington team.

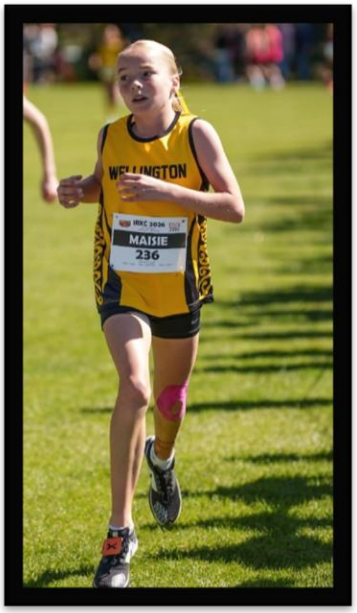
The championships bring together hundreds of talented runners from Wellington, Tasman, Canterbury, and South Canterbury, competing for individual honours as well as team success. Maisie and Indigo both performed extremely well, showing determination, resilience, and great team spirit throughout the event. (Maisie placed 15th and Indigo 11th)

Their efforts contributed to Wellington securing the overall championship title and lifting the Phil Costley Shield for the second consecutive year. We are really proud of their achievement and the wonderful way they represented both Wellington and Adventure School.

A huge congratulations, girls!







Event Calendar - Important Dates

Please be aware some details may change

TERM FOUR		
Week 3	Thursday 29 October	Adventure's Got Talent - **FINALS**
	Sunday 1 November	9.30am-12pm: PTNi Working Bee (school grounds)
Week 4	Wednesday 4 November	Nīkau Zoo Sleepover (Rms 2 & 3) Yrs 3-6 Padder Tennis
	Thursday 5 November	Nīkau Zoo Sleepover (Rms 4 & 5)
	Friday 6 November	~~PTNi Disco~~ **now Friday 13 November**
Week 5	Monday 9 November	Class, group & individual photos 5.30PM: BoT meeting
	Tuesday 10 November	Parumoana Athletics (pp 12 November)
	Wednesday 11 November	Yrs 3-6 Padder Tennis
	Thursday 12 November	2027 Class placement information from parents closes
	Friday 13 November	Book Character Dress-up day (optional) 2pm: Assembly School Disco
Week 6	Tuesday 17 November	AFL Sport (Yrs 3-8)
	Thursday 19 November	6pm: Showcase (school hall)
	Friday 20 November	9.00: Mihi Whakatau (new date) Play Trailer in school: Yrs 3-6 Sausage Sizzle
Week 7	Monday 23 November	Road Patroller's Celebration outing
	Tuesday 24 November	Kōwhai Adventure (more information coming)
	Friday 27 November	Nīkau Athletics (pp 1 December)
Week 8	Tuesday 1 December	Regional Athletics (pp 3 December)
	Thursday 3 December	Aotea College Orientation Day Kōwhai Wheels Day
	Friday 4 December	Kōwhai Tree Trimming Library closed. (All books must be returned please) Parumoana Speech Competition PTNi Movie Night tbc
Week 9	Tuesday 8 December	Year 0/1 Battle Hill trip Nīkau Fun Day at Aotea Lagoon (pp 10 Dec) Yr 8 Leavers' Dinner
	Wednesday 9 December	Year 2 Botanical Gardens trip
	Friday 11 December	1.45pm: Prize Giving Assembly
Week 10	Monday 14 December	2pm: End of Year Reports published 5.30: BoT Meeting
	Tuesday 15 December	Kōwhai Carol Singing
	Thursday 17 December	11am-1pm: Fun Day
	Friday 18 December	11.30am: Final Assembly School finishes for 2026

2026 Term Dates

Term Four: Monday 12 October – Friday 18 December

School Closed: Tuesday 27 Oct – Teacher Only Day

School will be closed for the following Public Holidays-

Anzac Day – Monday 27 April
King's Birthday - Monday 1 June
Labour Day - Monday 26 October

2027 Term Dates

Term One: Wednesday 3 February – Friday 9 April
Term Two: Tuesday 27 April – Friday 2 July
Term Three: Monday 19 July – Friday 24 September
Term Four: Monday 11 October – Friday 17 December

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS (The School will be CLOSED)

TERM ONE

Waitangi Day: Monday 8 February
Easter: Friday 26 March – Tuesday 30 March

TERM TWO

Anzac Day: Monday 26 April
King's Birthday: Monday 7 June
Matariki: Friday 25 June

TERM FOUR

Labour Day: **Monday 25 October**

The school will also be closed for two Ministry of Education approved Curriculum Teacher Only Days.