



Ellerslie School

EST 1877

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Greetings | Giday | Kia Ora | Kia Orana | Malo e Lelei | Fakaalofa Lahi Atu | Talofa Lava
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おはよう (Ohayou) | 안녕 Ahn Nyeong | Olá | Privet! | Xin Chào | Salam

Newsletter 5 | Term One | Week 10 | April 04, 2024 | www.ellerslie.school.nz | www.facebook.com/ellerslieschool

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Tena koutou katoa Ellerslie whānau

Fortnightly Special Greeting

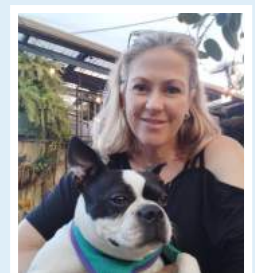
Currently in New Zealand and around the world many Muslim people are observing Ramadan. A special greeting during this period is "Ramadan Kareem," which in Arabic translates into "Have a generous Ramadan," or "Ramadan Mubarak," which roughly translates into "Happy Ramadan." In 2024 Ramadan goes from March 12, 2024, and will end on April 9, 2024 with the Eid Al-Fitr celebration.

Teaching and Learning - Parent Discussions

As you are aware our Teacher Parent Learning Discussions are happening next Wednesday (10th). These Learning Discussions happen twice a year and make up an essential part of the school and home partnership. The Learning Discussions will provide a chance for teachers to give parents and caregivers feedback on how their child(ren) has settled into their learning over the last term. This includes identifying areas that may be going well or ones that need addressing. The discussions also provide parents and caregivers with an opportunity to ask their child's teacher any question and to clarify what they can do at home to help their child's(ren) learning. Please ensure you have booked a timeslot to see the teacher. Information and booking details were emailed to parents/caregivers last week.

Staff Changes in Term 2

As we head to the end of our first term, I would like to update you on some changes that are occurring next term. Sophie Brajkovic, currently teaching in Year 3 & 4 will begin her parental leave. We wish Sophie and partner Josh all the very best for the exciting journey ahead. From the start of Term 2, René Yeoman will be the new full-time Guardian Teacher of GG7. René (pictured right) has experience teaching both Primary and Early Childhood children, in New Zealand and overseas. She also has a passion and strength in the teaching of Literacy, Mathematics and Physical Education.



We also welcome Linda Sperring back into a full time role in the learning environment. Linda (pictured left) has joined Rimu Team (Year 0-1) as the new guardian teacher in Rimu 2 (GG27). Linda has been part of the Ellerslie teaching community for a number of years and brings a vast amount of experience to the team. She has a special passion for our youngest students and will be a tremendous asset to the Rimu Team.

Finally, the school is very fortunate that Lee Warburton will continue her teaching role in Pohutukawa Pod 3 - Year 5&6 for Term 2. Lee has kindly agreed to stay on for another term before a new teacher will start at the beginning of Term 3.

Congratulations to...

Coulter Joyce (Year 7) for making it into the New Zealand BMXNZ Mighty 11BMX Test Team. This BMX team is made up of the top 4, 11 year old boys and top 4 girls in New Zealand. These riders compete against the best in 11 year olds Australia in what is known as the Trans-Tasman tests. The events are raced in Australia and New Zealand during the year. The first trip happens from April 6 to 16. While in Australia, the team will be travelling, training and racing together, staying together. The race event against the Australian team includes 2 rounds of the Australian National Series held near the end of the trip. This is an amazing achievement by Coulter and we wish him all the very best for his upcoming BMX test series against Australia.

Weetbix Tryathlon

Well done to the 75 students who recently took part in the annual tryathlon down at Point England Reserve. It was fantastic to see all the Ellerslie students running and biking around the well known course. They were well supported by a large number of friends and whanau who enjoyed seeing their children participate. Many thanks to Sam Small (parent and staff member) for coordinating this event for the Ellerslie team and to the other parents who assisted with the set up, pack down and BBQ cooking.

Remuera Zones Swimming & Rimu Water Day

The Year 5&6 swimming team represented the school proudly at the annual Remuera Zones swimming event last week held at St Kentigern School. The Remuera Zones is made up from around 20 schools who compete in a number of sports exchanges during the year. This is a highly competitive day and our swimmers did an excellent job getting into some finals. Thank you Miss Waterreus for supporting the swimmers. Finally to Rimu Team (Year 0-1)- what a fantastic Water Day was had by everyone last week. It was great to see our youngest students enjoying a number of water activities.

Cultural Celebration Day

Don't forget our Cultural Celebration Day on Friday 5th April. This will provide a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the large number of cultural groups represented at Ellerslie. On this day students and staff are encouraged to proudly wear items of clothing that relate to their own culture and heritage. This could include special and significant pieces of clothing to simple but important items that mean something to those people wearing them. The day will involve a parade starting at 9.15am and engaging activities.



Ministry of Education - Update

As a number of you will be aware, the Minister of Education has launched a Ministerial Inquiry to address problems with the school property system where the scope of property works planned was unrealistic and unaffordable. They have now established a reference group of construction sector experts, principals, education peak body representatives and school board representatives to provide insights on the education sectors' views and experiences.

Ellerslie School has been affected by a number of unacceptable Ministry property decisions over the last number of years. As a reminder, we have not had a proper working hall / community indoor space for nearly 10 years. Gathering community voices around this issue is very important so please share your own ideas/feedback/opinions and experiences. These can be emailed to me at feedback@ellerslie.school.nz. It is essential that our voices are added to the review so improvements can be made.

Health Watch - NETSAFE

As young people increasingly use more digital technology, it's important parents teach them about online safety. While there might be a gap between what your child knows and how much you know about technology, you don't have to be a tech expert to help. You can offer life skills, maturity and experience your child hasn't developed yet. Netsafe has put these tips together to help parents and whānau talk to their young people about online safety. Seven steps to help you- The seven steps from Netsafe's [Online Safety Parent Toolkit](#) are designed to enhance your digital parenting knowledge and have been developed with parents in mind.

SCHOOL REMINDER - Please Read Playground and Outdoor Facility Supervision

Ellerslie School is an open site and we encourage our community members to use the school facilities when they are able to and at the appropriate times. Parents and Caregivers are reminded that the school is responsible for the supervision of students, on the school site during weekdays from 8.30am-2.45pm. For all other times, parents and caregivers are fully responsible for their children, while they are on the school site.

Thank you for your understanding.

Ngā mihi nui

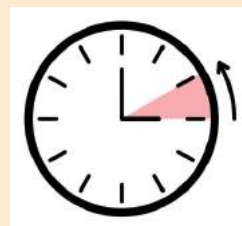
Nick Butler - Principal - 'To be the best we can be'

THIS WEEK AT ELLERSLIE SCHOOL

SCHOOL FOCUS

School Focus for Week 10: Teacher's choice related to the 5Bs.

School Focus for Week 11: Blue Certificates.



DAYLIGHT SAVING ENDS

A reminder that Daylight Saving ends this weekend on Sunday 07 April. Clocks need to be moved one hour backwards from 3:00am on Sunday morning.

ELLERSLIE SCHOOL CULTURAL CELEBRATION DAY - FRIDAY 05 APRIL

To celebrate the over 30 cultures represented at Ellerslie School we will be having a celebration day on Friday 05 April, 2024. On this day to help celebrate and honour all the cultures at Ellerslie, we are inviting and encouraging all students to dress in clothing that represents their culture and heritage. This could range from traditional clothing to items of clothing that students believe relate to who they are. If students have nothing to wear that represents their culture and heritage then they are to wear their school uniform.

Events for the Day

9.15am: Culture Celebration Day parade in the school courtyard (parade in Guardian Groups)

9.45am: School Assembly Certificates

10.00am: Whanau house morning tea- parents / caregivers welcome

10.20am: Students back to class

12.50pm-1.35pm: Lunchtime activities

2.45pm: End of the school day

There will be a morning tea after the parade and assembly. Students will sit in their whanau house groups for morning tea. All students are asked to bring their own morning tea on that day as per normal. As part of this celebration we are going to provide some extra morning tea so students have the opportunity to taste a variety of foods from different cultures. If you are able to bring a plate of finger food from your culture, please fill in the following form: [Link](#)

PARENT/TEACHER LEARNING DISCUSSIONS - SAVE THE DATE - WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL

The first round of this year's Parent/Teacher Learning Discussions for all Guardian Groups (except GG7 and GG27) will be held on Wednesday 10 April from 2:00pm. School will close **at the earlier time of 1:45pm on Wednesday 10 April** so please arrange early collection of your child/ren. Information and booking details were emailed to parents/caregivers last week - these can be booked using the QR code (right) which links to the www.schoolinterviews.co.nz website.



PIZZA AND MUFTI (NON UNIFORM) DAY - WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL

Pizza and Mufti (Non Uniform) day will be held on Wednesday 10 April. Pizza is \$2.00 per slice (from Pizza Hut) and can be ordered on Kindo under Other Activities. Please place orders before 3:00pm on Monday 08 April - no cash orders or late orders are able to be accepted. Flavours available are Ham and Cheese, and Cheese and Tomato, with gluten free options available also. Mufti day is \$2.00 per child - also payable on Kindo.

LAST DAY OF TERM ONE

Friday 12 April is the last day of Term One. School finishes at the **normal time of 2:45pm**. School resumes after the holidays on Monday 29 April.

HOLIDAY SAFETY MESSAGE

The holiday breaks can be a busy time for vandals. Should you notice any suspicious behaviour around our school during the break, please contact the police immediately on 111. Also, please keep safe at all times! Be careful near roads and keep an eye out for any little ones. We all want to see our students next term, all safe and sound.

AUCKLAND TRANSPORT INFORMATION

Public transport fares are changing for under 25's from Wednesday 01 May. Fares for travel on AT buses, trains and ferries are changing for under 25 year olds from Wednesday 01 May 2024. Free travel for 5 to 12 year olds and half-price travel for 13 to 24 year olds on AT bus, train and ferry services will end on 30 April 2024, in line with the government's decision to withdraw funding for these concessions. This means that from Wednesday 1 May, 5 to 12 year olds will no longer travel for free on weekdays and will instead pay a child concession (at least 40% off adult fares). They will continue to travel for free on weekends. The child concession will apply to anyone aged 5 to 15, who has a registered AT HOP card with their correct date of birth. More information about the discounts and what you may need to do next can be found at AT.govt.nz/farechanges.

IMPORTANT DATES

05 APRIL 2024 - ELLERSLIE SCHOOL CULTURAL CELEBRATION DAY
09 APRIL 2024 - REMUERA ZONES SUMMER FIELD DAY
10 APRIL 2024 - PIZZA AND MUFTI (NON-UNIFORM) DAY
10 APRIL 2024 - PARENT/TEACHER LEARNING DISCUSSIONS - School closes at 1:45pm
12 APRIL 2024 - LAST DAY OF TERM ONE
29 APRIL 2024 - FIRST DAY OF TERM TWO

(Dates can also be found under "Calendar" on the Ellerslie School App, and can be downloaded to your own diary.)

REMINDERS

TERM DATES FOR 2024

Please note that the following dates for the 2024 school year have been finalised as follows:

- **Term One - Thursday 01 February to Friday 12 April** (Holidays - Waitangi Day 06 February, Good Friday 29 March, Easter Monday 01 April, Easter Tuesday 02 April)
- **Term Two - Monday 29 April to Friday 05 July** (Holidays - King's Birthday 03 June, Matariki 28 June)
- **Term Three - Monday 22 July to Friday 27 September**
- **Term Four - Monday 14 October to Wednesday 18 December** (Holiday - Labour Day 23 October)

ABSENCES

If your child/ren is/are going to be away from school, please do one of the following **BEFORE 9:00am** each morning:

- call the school (579-5477), press option 1 and leave a message on the answer phone.
- use the Absence submission template on the Ellerslie School App.
- send an email to office@ellerslie.school.nz
- use the Absence submission form on the school website.

Please clearly state your child/ren's name, Guardian Group and reason why they are absent.

ATTENDANCE

If your child is away for 5 continuous days or more, please note that you are required to either:

- Before Travel - complete an "Application for Student Extended Leave Form" - [link](#)
- Illness which is not Covid-19 related - provide a Medical Certificate.

CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION

We always encourage feedback both positive and anything you think we need to work on to keep making our school a great place for our learners. The Concerns and Complaints procedure encourages concerns to be resolved informally through discussions with the person concerned. If this is appropriate, please contact the relevant person directly. If this is not appropriate, the procedure provides for other avenues to resolve issues. Copies of our procedures can be found on the [school website](#).

CAR PARK AND TRAFFIC SAFETY

Please be mindful of our school community by keeping safe in the car park and roads around school.

- The school car park is for staff only.
- Parents/whanau are reminded to use the Kalmia Street crossing safely, at all times.
- Please do not park in the bus stop outside the school.
- Be respectful of the businesses in our community whose car parks are for their staff, customers and visitors only. This particularly applies to The Heart Foundation.
- When using the drop-off/pick-up zone outside the school, please note that this is a 2 minute area, and passengers should alight safely on the passenger's side of your vehicle.



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