



# Ellerslie School

EST 1877

"To be the best we can be."



Greetings | Giddyay | Kia Ora | Kia Orana | Malo e Lelei | Fakaalofa Lahi Atu | Talofa Lava  
Nīhāo | Salut | Namaste | Bonjour | Bula Vinaka | Guten Tag | Goeie Dag | Shalom | Cìao  
おはよう (Ohayoou) | 안녕 Ahn Nyeong | Olá | Privat! | Xin Chào | Salam

Newsletter 3 | Term One | Week 6 | March 07, 2024 | [www.ellerslie.school.nz](http://www.ellerslie.school.nz) | [www.facebook.com/ellerslieschool](https://www.facebook.com/ellerslieschool)

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### Tena koutou katoa Ellerslie whānau

#### School Celebrations

##### Pōwhiri

Thank you to the many parents, caregivers, staff and students who were involved with our first Pōwhiri for 2024. The sun shone brightly as we welcomed a large number of new families, students and a few new staff to our school. Huge thanks to those staff and students who were involved with the coordination of our pōwhiri - particularly students Sean, Ronin and TJ, the kapa haka as well as staff - Mr Mitchell, Miss Gough, Miss Patterson, Mr Carson, Mr Symonds and Kapa Haka tutor Krystal.



##### Senior Swimming Sports

Congratulations to all the Year 5-8 students who swam in this year's annual event. The school coordinated a full programme which included 25m Backstroke and Breaststroke races for the Year 7 and 8 students. It was also great to see more house relays as well as a large number of students taking part in the staff v students race. We wish those students who qualified for Eastern (Yr7&8) and Remuera (Yr5&6) Zones all the best for their upcoming events. Thank you to Kate Giebel and Shelley Bardsley for coordinating this event and thanks to the staff and parents who helped out the day.

##### Whanau House Parade / House T-Shirts

Term 1 wouldn't be the same without the annual summer whanau house parade... and what a parade it was! It was fantastic nearly the whole school wearing official house t-shirts. These shirts have been available for purchase since 2018 and I would like to remind the community that all students in 2024 are required to have a whanau house t-shirt. These can be purchased for the school office



##### Farewell Kathryn Sullivan

After nearly 14 years service as a Teacher Aide and learning support staff member, Kathryn Sullivan has finished her time at Ellerslie School to take up an exciting position at Aroha Funerals. Kathryn came to Ellerslie in August 2010 and has spent all of her time supporting children both in the classroom and in her role, in later years, as the STEPS (Literacy support) coordinator. She was unwavering with her support for the children and was very dedicated at providing both pastoral and academic care. She made a great difference to the success of a large number of students. We sincerely thank Kathryn for all the time, effort and expertise she dedicated towards Ellerslie School and wish her the very best.

### School Counsellor - UPDATE

Since the beginning of 2020 Ellerslie has been fortunate to have had an onsite school guidance counsellor for 2 days a week. Our 2 counsellors during this time provided a great deal of support to a number of children, staff and whanau.. The School Counsellor position has been funded by the school through using the teachers salary fund due to no government money being made available for counselling in the primary and intermediate sector. The school believes a school counsellor is a valuable asset however we have been unable to replace Amanda who returned to Dunedin at the end of the year. Last year we also had a very successful student counsellor supporting the school and we are currently hoping to have a new student counsellor in place for Term 2.

### Health Watch - Measles

The Ministry of Education has asked that we remind our communities of the dangers of measles. Last year there were 13 cases of measles in NZ. Of all diseases, measles is one of the most dangerous and contagious. It's so infectious that, if you're not vaccinated and come into contact with someone who has measles, you're very likely to catch it and pass it on to others.

Health NZ states that *'Aotearoa New Zealand is at very high risk of a measles outbreak. There's a risk of getting measles if you have not had 2 vaccinations, or have not already had measles. The measles (MMR) vaccine is free for all children in NZ, and all adults over the age of 18 who are eligible for free NZ healthcare. New Zealand is at high risk of a measles outbreak This year we've already had cases of measles reach our shores. Not enough people in New Zealand are immunised against measles, which means it could just take a single case of measles to start an outbreak. We need at least 95% of people living in New Zealand to be immunised to prevent an outbreak of measles. Importantly, this would also protect babies too young to be vaccinated, and those who are severely immunocompromised. On average, 1 dose is 95% effective against measles, and 2 doses is more than 99% effective against measles.'*

For more information about measles and how to get vaccinated please click [here](#). The school is required through the Health (Immunisation) Regulations 1995 to keep an immunisation register of children. Please watch out for any updates or information requests in the coming weeks.

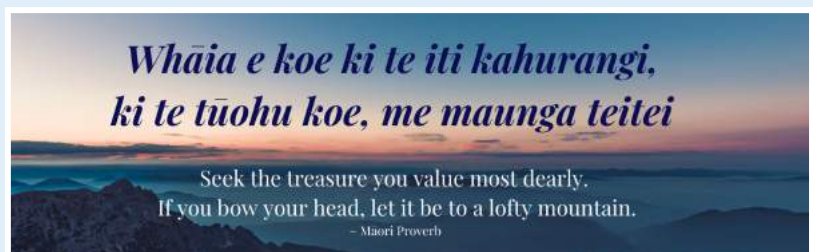
### New All Weather Courts - OPEN

Stage 2 of our all weather courts project has been completed. The school now has 4 new netball courts. Within the same space there are 2 basketball and volleyball courts as well as lines for 4 padel courts. Most importantly we have created a 35m by 70m all weather surface for Physical Education (PE) lessons, Team Sport, training and for play during break times.. Stage 2 has been funded by Board and community funds.



### SEE YOU AT THE BIG PICNIC! TONIGHT from 5pm.

Ngā mihi nui  
Nick Butler - Principal  
'To be the best we can be'



## THIS WEEK AT ELLERSLIE SCHOOL

### SCHOOL FOCUS

School Focus for Week 6: Be Helpful - I give support to others.

School Focus for Week 7: Be Responsible - I ask for support when needed.

School Focus for Week 8: Teacher's choice related to the 5Bs

### ELLERSLIE SCHOOL BIG PICNIC - THURSDAY 07 MARCH

We are looking forward to seeing you at the Ellerslie School BIG Picnic tonight! This will be held from 5:00pm-7:30pm. Bring along a picnic, or enjoy some of the wonderful food and entertainment options that we will have on offer! Bring the kids to enjoy the Bouncy Castles and throw a wet sponge at their teacher (gold coin donations). Sushi, Samosas, Burritos, Sausage Sizzle, Ice Blocks, Drinks and Ice Cream will be on sale. See you there!

### MEET AND GREET EVENING - THURSDAY 14 MARCH

Parents and caregivers of students in Years 0-2 are invited to our informal Meet and Greet evening on Thursday 14 March from 7:00-8:30pm. This will be held in the school staffroom and is a great way of connecting with other caregivers in your child's year. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to [office@ellerslie.school.nz](mailto:office@ellerslie.school.nz) by Tuesday 12 March.

### WEETBIX TRYATHLON - SUNDAY 24 MARCH

This year's Weetbix Tryathlon will be held on Sunday 24 March at Point England Reserve. Their Splash and Dash event is open for 6 year olds and Tryathlon options are open for students 7 years old and above. Ellerslie school is registered so you have the option to have your child's registration pack delivered to school. Click on this [LINK](#) for more information and to register your child/ren. Contact Sam Small if you have any questions [sams@ellerslie.school.nz](mailto:sams@ellerslie.school.nz).

### ELLERSLIE SCHOOL FOOTBALL 2024

We are looking forward to another great football season this year. Registrations are now open for the Ellerslie Tamaki League. If you wish to sign up for a school team (available for age groups Under 6 years - Under 8 years) please use this link and indicate you wish to be part of a school team - [LINK](#). Key information about the season dates, fees, uniform etc. can be found [HERE](#). If you have any questions please contact Sam Small - [sams@ellerslie.school.nz](mailto:sams@ellerslie.school.nz).

### ELLERSLIE SCHOOL NETBALL 2024

The 2024 netball season is fast approaching. If your child/ren in Years 2 to 8 are keen to play for Ellerslie School this year, please register their details on the Sporty website via this [link](#). Registration must be completed by Sunday 24 March (each player needs to be registered separately). To be able to run a successful netball season we will need assistance with coaching, umpiring and managing a team. We can not run netball without volunteers. Professional development for potential umpires and coaches will be available free of charge from Auckland Netball. If you would like to coach / umpire or manage a team please complete a separate registration for each role. If you have any questions please email [netball@ellerslie.school.nz](mailto:netball@ellerslie.school.nz).

### WALKING SCHOOL BUS

We'd like to clarify that the Ellerslie School Walking School Bus walks on:

- Mondays and Fridays from the Ellerslie Village fountain
- Every day from Abbots Way.

It would be great to start walking again on Tuesdays if a lead volunteer can be found, or this role can be shared. Please contact Sarah if you can help: [sarah@ellerslie.school.nz](mailto:sarah@ellerslie.school.nz).

### TEAM UPDATES

<i>RIMU</i> (Years 0 and 1)	Kia ora Rimu Whanau. Welcome to all the new families that have started at Ellerslie School. We look forward to being a part of your child's school journey. We have had some fun-filled weeks in the Rimu Pods and have enjoyed really settling into our routines and getting stuck into our learning. We had an amazing time at our whanau house day, eating lunch in our whanau house groups and playing our 'over/under' relay. We are getting ready for swimming for the next couple of weeks and a reminder to parents, please name all of their children's clothing, towels, goggles etc.
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RATA  
(Year 2)

Kia ora Rata Whanau. The children had a fantastic time at our Whanau House Day last week. There was lots of cheering and supporting our houses during the relay! We are continuing to share and enjoy our brown paper bag autobiographies. Keep these coming in. Rata has been working hard on getting ourselves ready for swimming. Make sure you read the poem Miss Pulman wrote to help us remember what to bring and what to do at the pool next week!



Ready to Swim

When I am ready to swim  
 What do I bring?  
 Some togs, a towel and I name everything  
 My friends and I will travel by bus  
 We will whisper quietly and not make a fuss!

I will be brave in the pool by giving everything a go  
 When I am done, I know what to do  
 Dry my body and dress myself too!  
 I won't leave my belongings on the floor  
 I will place them in my bag  
 And slip out the door!



MATAĪ  
(Years 3 and 4)

Matai has had a busy few weeks with swimming. It has been really fun travelling on the bus to the pools and learning different strokes in the water. We have been really impressed with how responsible our tamariki have been in looking after themselves and their belongings too. We are really enjoying learning about each other with our cultural identity unit. It is so fascinating to learn about different ways of living and celebrating important events. Did you know it is also Sea Week? Matai Pod are exploring treasures from the ocean and creatures under the sea. We look forward to seeing you all at the Big Picnic tonight - be sure to come by and say hi!



PŌHUTUKAWA  
(Years 5 and 6)



Our Year 5-8 Ellerslie School Swimming Sports was a great success! We had 53 swimming events throughout the day. A special shout out to Mr Leong, Miss Ettles and Miss Patterson who were stellar Year 7, Year 6 and Year 5 Marshalls for this event. We were so impressed with all our participants,

	<p>with a particular SHOUT OUT to our Year 5 swimmers as it was their first time competing. Our first, second and third place Swimming Sports winners will receive their certificates at the end of our school assembly tomorrow: Friday 8 March 2024 at approximately 9:30am. We look forward to having 20 Year 5, 6 students representing Ellerslie School at our Remuera Zone Swimming Event on Tuesday 26 March 2024. Parents/caregivers of our swimming representatives will be notified by email at the start of next week.</p> <p>We had a BLAST at our first 2024 Pōhutukawa Team Assembly yesterday! It's great to know that our 227 students and 12 teachers can fit in Te Manawa. We celebrated the super learner agents we have in the team. We enjoyed singing and being together. Students shared with us 'what makes a good teacher'.</p> <p>Our first Remuera Zone trials for Touch Rugby, Cricket and T-ball are tomorrow. Please remind your child to wear their normal school uniform to school. They can change into their P.E uniform after assembly ready for trials. Our Remuera Zone Summer Field Day will be held on Tuesday 9 April 2024. SAVE THE DATE! Parent helpers are required. Please email: <a href="mailto:elisap@ellerslie.school.nz">elisap@ellerslie.school.nz</a> if you are keen.</p>
<p><i>KAURI (Years 7 and 8)</i></p>	<p>What a success the Senior School Swimming competition was! Well done to all the students and teachers who participated. Teachers and parents took out the relay race against the students, holding the standing record in place.</p> <p>Our Year 8 Leadership programme is off to a fantastic start with the students heading to Rotoroa Island on Monday. We look forward to hearing all about their exciting adventure. Our Year 7 students will be heading to Cornwall Park to learn about its history.</p>



**Meet and Greet Evening  
Years 0 - 2**

**Our Meet and Greet evenings are a great way to meet other whānau in your child's year.**

**Held in the staffroom, they are really informal and Mr Butler will be there to give some overviews of the school.**

**If your child is in Rimu or Rata Pods, we would love you to come along on:**

**Thursday 14 March 7:00pm - 8:30pm**

**Please RSVP by Tuesday 12 March  
[office@ellerslie.school.nz](mailto:office@ellerslie.school.nz)**

## IMPORTANT DATES

07 MARCH 2024 - ELLERSLIE SCHOOL BIG PICNIC  
11 MARCH 2024 - Y8 TRIP to ROTOROA ISLAND  
12 MARCH - 15 MARCH 2024 - SWIMMING LESSONS WEEK 1 RIMU AND RATA TEAMS  
13 MARCH 2024 - Y7/8 E.Z. SWIMMING  
19 MARCH - 22 MARCH 2024 - SWIMMING LESSONS WEEK 2 RIMU AND RATA TEAMS  
24 MARCH 2024 - WEETBIX TRYATHLON  
25 MARCH 2024 - Y7/8 E.Z. ORIENTEERING  
29 MARCH 2024 - PUBLIC HOLIDAY - GOOD FRIDAY - School closed  
01 APRIL 2024 - PUBLIC HOLIDAY - EASTER MONDAY - School closed  
02 APRIL 2024 - EASTER TUESDAY - School closed  
05 APRIL 2024 - SCHOOL CULTURAL CELEBRATION DAY - More details to follow  
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](mailto: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.

### LATE TO SCHOOL

If your child is late to school, please ensure that they report to the office immediately on arrival to sign in and collect a late slip to give to their teacher. These are issued at the **back desk** of the office, entry through the door between Miro and Rimu Pods.

### 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.

### SUNSHADE, HATS AND SUNSCREEN

We are committed to keeping our children safe in the sun and have developed Sun Safe Procedures accordingly. Children are required to wear school uniform hats when playing in the sun in Terms 1 and 4. It is essential that children have hats at school every day. We strongly encourage the wearing of hats to and from school, and also suggest the use of sunscreen. Hats can be purchased through the Argyle online website, via Kindo or at the school office.

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For more information, chat to our coordinator or visit [kellyclub.co.nz/jobs](http://kellyclub.co.nz/jobs)

Send your CV and cover letter to [ellerslie@kellyclub.co.nz](mailto:ellerslie@kellyclub.co.nz)

**NETBALL IS BACK**  
COME GIVE IT A GO!

FREE SESSIONS

We are thrilled to be hosting our 2024 future FERNS 'Give it a Go' days. No registration required - simply come along to our free session to learn new skills, play netball, and have fun!

St Johns Session	Windmill Road Session
Date: Saturday 9th March	Date: Saturday 16th March
Time: 9am - 3:30pm	Time: 9am - 3:30pm
Year: 1st Brown & Gold	Year: 1st Brown & Gold
Age: 7-10 years (experience required)	Age: 7-10 years (experience required)
Location: 7 Allison Ferguson Drive	Location: 48 Windmill Road

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:  
Gail, Development Program Officer  
021 282 4144  
gail@netball.org.nz

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