



Ellerslie School

EST 1877

"To be the best we can be."

SCHOOL REMINDERS

Term One | Week 0 | Monday 23 January, 2023 | www.ellerslie.school.nz | www.facebook.com/ellerslieschool

THIS WEEK AT ELLERSLIE SCHOOL

Tena Koutou Parents and Caregivers,

A very happy new year to all our Ellerslie School whānau! Welcome back to the beginning of the 2023 school year. We hope you have all enjoyed the summer break with family and friends. The year ahead is a busy one. As I mentioned at the end of 2022, our main focus will remain on continuing to improve teaching and learning across the school with a greater emphasis on ensuring more consistency across all levels so everyone can have an outstanding experience from Years 0-8 and have the greatest opportunity to be the best they can be. Below are a few things we would like the community to be aware of before the start of school.



WELCOME TO NEW STAFF AND FAMILIES

The school would like to extend a warm welcome to all new members of staff and new families who are starting with us for the first time. Welcome to:

- Tim Carson: Year 7/8 - GG36
- Sacha Bradley: Year 7/8 - GG35
- Denu Chou: Year 5/6 - GG20
- Amanda Martinez - School Guidance Counsellor

TERM DATES FOR 2023

- **Term One - Wednesday 01 February to Thursday 06 April** (Holiday - Waitangi Day 06 February, Good Friday 07 April)
- **Term Two - Monday 24 April to Friday 30 June** (Holiday - Anzac Day 25 April, Queen's Birthday 05 June)
- **Term Three - Monday 17 July to Friday 22 September**
- **Term Four - Monday 09 October to Friday 15 December** (Holiday - Labour Day 23 October)

STUDENT TRANSITION DAY - THURSDAY 26 JANUARY, 2023: 11:00am to 1:00pm

This child focused day is about parents / caregivers / whanau and their children having the opportunity to come to school before the term starts to informally meet their new teacher and become familiar with their new learning environment. It also offers an opportunity for the parents and caregivers to share any important information to the teacher about their children, which will assist with ensuring the year gets off to a great start. Teachers will be available in the learning environments from **11:00am to 1:00pm**. No bookings are required. We encourage our community to use this fantastic opportunity to re-engage with school after the summer holiday.

Please remember this is not a time to have a formal parent / teacher interview. These will be held later in the Term 1. Parents and caregivers are asked to park outside the school as the school car park will be used by the staff. Students do not have to wear their school uniform on Thursday.

Please refer to the school map and guardian group numbers below:



SCHOOL ORGANISATION 2023/TEAM NUMBERING

- Team 1: Years 0 and 1 - Rimu and Miro Pods
- Rata Team: Year 2 - Rata Pod
- Matai Team 3: Years 3 and 4 - Matai Pods 1, 2 and 3
- Pohutukawa Team: Years 5 and 6 - Pohutukawa Pods 1, 2 and 3
- Kauri Team: Years 7 and 8 - Kauri Pod

SCHOOL TIMETABLE

In 2023 the school will continue to operate a 4 session timetable. We believe this structure has a positive impact on the students’ learning, with shorter sessions and slightly more learning time in the morning when most students are at their best. In the first week of the term teachers will talk to the students about the best way to manage their food intake during each day.

8.30am Bell	Learning areas are open for all students.
Block 1	8:50am - 10:00am
Fruit Break	10:00am-10:10am
Block 2	10:10am - 11:20am
Morning Tea Break	11:20am - 11:40am
Block 3	11:40am - 12:50pm
Lunch Break	12:50pm - 1:35pm
Block 4	1:35pm - 2:45pm

REMINDER - COVID-19 REPORTING LINK

If your child tests positive for Covid-19, please report any information about your child to the school via this [LINK - Covid Reporting Form](#). This ensures that we record your child's details accurately in our absence system.

NEW BUILDING

The construction of the new 12 classroom building has begun. This starts with the demolition of the old buildings which will be happening over the next 2-3 weeks. During the next 16 months the school and Ministry of Education will carefully manage the new build, which although exciting, will cause some disruption. More information about how this will be managed will follow in school newsletters.

SCHOOL BUS

The school bus service will be operating from Wednesday 1 February. Please check the AT school bus timetable for services - [here](#). Students who take the 401 bus from school need to meet under the stairs by the clothing bin after 2.45pm. They will be supervised onto the bus by a member of staff.

SCHOOL STATIONERY

In 2023 individual student stationery packs are available to be purchased online by parents/whanau and caregivers through the Kindo website [LINK](#). The packs will then be delivered directly to school ready for the school year. Please ensure that you enter your child's new class for 2023 in Kindo.

2023 SCHOOL DONATIONS

Thank you to those families who paid their donation and contributions in 2022 and to those who dedicated much time to help the school in a number of different ways. Funding from donations does make a significant difference to the amount of support the school can provide the students particularly with the high number of excellent teacher aides the school employs. Remember school donations are tax deductible, so please keep your receipt safe if you wish to claim a tax rebate. As mentioned at the end of last year, the 2023 school donation contribution has been set at \$340.00 per student (Third child is free). To ensure we adhere to Ministry of Education guidelines we are not permitted to offer any discount for early payment. Thank you for supporting the school.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Kelly Club will continue to provide the school community with before and after school care throughout 2023. They will now be operating out of GG18 which is located in Year 2/Rata Pod 2 - in the main building on the ground floor just to the left of the central stairwell. To book your child into Kelly Club please contact Ryan McWilliams at ellerslie@kellyclub.co.nz or phone 02102639944.

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.

MEDICATION AT SCHOOL

If your child requires the school to hold any medical equipment such as asthma inhalers or epi pens, please deliver these to the school office with a completed medical form, which can be found on the Ellerslie School website under "Forms and Info".

GETTING READY FOR SCHOOL

Being prepared for the first few days at school can really make a difference to ensuring the year gets off to a great start.

- Ensure everyone in the family knows who your child(rens) teacher is and where their GG is located.
- Check the proper school uniform is ready to go - including a hat. Make sure items are named.
- Have a discussion about before and after school arrangements.
- Talk about food for the school day, ensuring there is enough and what to eat and when.
- Make sure you have a water bottle.
- Attend the Student Transition Day on Thursday 26 January.

Currently the staff are busy getting ready to welcome students back on Wednesday 1 February. We are all looking forward to a fantastic year of progress, achievement and celebration.

Ngā mihi nui
Nick Butler
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

26 JANUARY 2023 - STUDENT TRANSITION DAY - 11:00am-1:00pm
01 FEBRUARY 2023 - FIRST DAY OF TERM ONE - school begins at 8:50am
03 FEBRUARY 2023 - FIRST FRIDAY SCHOOL ASSEMBLY
06 FEBRUARY 2023 - WAITANGI DAY (PUBLIC HOLIDAY)
12 FEBRUARY 2023 - WEETBIX TRYATHLON EVENT
15 FEBRUARY 2023 - MEET THE TEACHER EVENING - from 6:00pm
23 FEBRUARY 2023 - ELLERSLIE SCHOOL BIG PICNIC - 5:00pm-7:30pm at Ellerslie School

*More events will be added to the school calendar once dates are confirmed.
(Dates can also be found under "Calendar" on the Ellerslie School App, and can be downloaded to your own diary.)*

REMINDERS

ELLERSLIE SCHOOL APP

Don't forget to subscribe to our official school Ellerslie School app. This can be downloaded from the Google Play Store or iTunes for free onto any Android or iPhone device or tablet - search for "Ellerslie School". We use this channel to send out important information quickly to our community.

ABSENCES

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

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.

DROP OFF AND PICK UP FROM SCHOOL

If your child arrives at school before 8:30am they can wait within the school grounds outside their classrooms. Please do not take your child to the Pods before 8:30am. This time is important preparation time for teachers. We appreciate your co-operation with this. The bell to signal learning time goes at 8:50am. It is important that your child is in their Pod before this and not arriving late as this gives them time to settle and prepare themselves emotionally for the day. The optimum time to drop your child off for school is **between 8:30 and 8:50am**. During these times the students can go straight into the pods without having to wait for the bell. After school, we ask that you don't arrive too early. The best time is **around 2:30pm**. We have noticed that our younger students are finding it distracting with their parents/whanau waiting and also younger siblings playing outside.

KINDO

Please make school payments through your mykindo account. You can pay via American Express, Visa, Mastercard, UnionPay (fees apply), POLi or bank transfer (no fees). Add regular top ups if you'd like, then allocate to payments when you're ready, or just pay as you go. Go to www.mykindo.co.nz or via the link on our school website.

LUNCH ORDERS

Lunch orders are available every day of the school week through Kindo. Order anytime on the day before 9:00am, or schedule in advance. These are delivered and distributed to students at lunchtime. Daily lunch options are as follows:
Monday - EZ Lunch / Tuesday - Sushi / Wednesday - EZ Lunch / Thursday - Pita Pit / Friday - Subway and Sausage Sizzle (twice a term - dates to be advised).