



Ellerslie School

EST 1877

"To be the best we can be."

SCHOOL REMINDERS

Term One | Week 0 | Friday 24 January, 2025 | www.ellerslie.school.nz | www.facebook.com/ellerslieschool

IMPORTANT BEGINNING OF 2025 REMINDERS AND MESSAGES

Tena Koutou Parents and Caregivers,

A very happy new year to everyone! Welcome to Term 1, 2025. We hope you have enjoyed the summer holiday with whānau and friends. We are looking forward to an exciting year of progress and achievement as we continue to focus on being better so everyone at Ellerslie School can 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 on Monday 3 February, 2025.



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 staff members:

- Sean Hampson-Tindale - Year 7/ 8 Teacher - GG14
- Grace Baker - Year 7/8 Teacher - GG17
- Sam McLean - Year 5/6 Teacher - GG24
- Georgia Cunningham - Year 3/4 Teacher - GG3
- Jason Des Forges - STEAM Specialist Teacher
- Catherine Tait - Teacher Aide - Rata and Matai 3

2025 ELLERSLIE SCHOOL DATES

- **Term One - Monday 03 February to Friday 11 April** (Holidays - Waitangi Day 06 February)
- **Term Two - Wednesday 30 April to Friday 27 June** (Holidays - King's Birthday 02 June, Matariki 20 June)
- **Term Three - Monday 14 July to Friday 19 September**
- **Term Four - Monday 06 October to Wednesday 17 December** (Holiday - Labour Day 27 October)

STAFF ONLY DAYS - MONDAY 28 APRIL AND TUESDAY 29 APRIL 2025

With the introduction of both a new English and Mathematics curriculum in 2025, the Ministry of Education has permitted schools to elect two Staff Only Days during the year. These days will be used to continue our professional development journey to ensure both these two new curricula are implemented as effectively as possible.

The Board of Ellerslie School has approved the days/dates of these two Staff Only Days. The days/dates will be Monday 28th and Tuesday 29th April, 2025. On these 2 days the school will be closed for instruction. Kelly Club will be open to those who require child care services - they can be contacted at ellerslie@kellyclub.co.nz. With the 28th and 29th being Staff Only Days this means Term 2 will commence on Wednesday 30th April, 2025.

SCHOOL ORGANISATION 2024/TEAM NUMBERING

Rimu Team Years 0 and 1 - Rimu Pods 1 and 2

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 Pods 1 and 2

WHANAU / STUDENT TRANSITION SESSION- Friday 31 January, 2025: 9.30am-11.30am.

This community focused session is about parents / caregivers / whanau and their children having the opportunity to come to school before the term starts to meet their new teacher and become familiar with their new learning environment. It also offers the chance for parents/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.

- Parents and students are encouraged to come and meet their teachers / staff - informally before the year officially starts.
- Staff will be available in the learning environments from 9.30am-11.30am.
- This is a great chance to get familiar with your child's learning environment and update the teachers on anything you would like them to be aware of.
- No bookings are required.
- These are not formal interviews - Don't panic - formal Teacher Parent Discussions will still happen at the end of Term One.
- Please avoid parking in the school car park.

This is the fourth year this successful event is being held and we highly recommend whanau take up this opportunity to re-engage with school after the summer holiday.

Please refer to the school map and Guardian Group numbers below:



SCHOOL BUS

The school bus service will be operating from Monday 03 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. If your child is a new bus passenger this year you will need to sign a permission form which is available from the school office.

UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY - SAVE THE DATES

- Week 1: Monday 03 February - Term 1 begins
- Week 1: Thursday 06 February - Waitangi Day (School closed)
- Week 2: Thursday 13 February - Meet the Teacher event from 6:00pm
- Week 4: Thursday 27 February - The Ellerslie School Big Picnic from 5:00pm
- Week 5: Friday 7 March - Years 5-8 Swimming Sports

More events will be added to the school calendar once dates are confirmed. Please refer to the calendar on the school website or the school app for the most up to date information.

SCHOOL TIMETABLE

In 2025 the school will continue to operate a 4 session timetable. This structure will ensure we meet the government's requirements of providing an hour of Reading, Writing and Mathematics everyday. In the first week of the term teachers will talk to the students about the best way to manage their food and water intake during each day.

8.30am Bell	Learning areas are open for all students.
Block 1	8:50am - 10:00am
Snack 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
2:45pm	School finishes for all students.

SCHOOL STATIONERY

Thank you to the many parents who have ordered their child(rens) individual student stationery packs online. Packs can be purchased online by parents/whanau and caregivers through the Kindo website [LINK](#). The packs will then be delivered directly to school. Please also update your Kindo account with your child's 2025 Guardian Group number. If you have any questions or issues please email: office@ellerslie.school.nz.

2025 SCHOOL DONATIONS

Thank you to those who donated to the school last year. This provided the school with vital funds to help to improve outcomes for all students. The Board of Ellerslie School has agreed to keep the donation amount the same in 2025.

- First child - \$400.00.
- Second child - \$380.00.
- Third plus child - free.

The 2025 donations are going towards:

- Supporting school trips, sports events and activities, making sure everyone gets to attend these exciting experiences.
- Purchasing new structured literacy books right across the school, a very important resource that is required to support our new reading approach.
- Funding Teacher Aide salaries, they are an incredible group of staff, working in our learning environments that make a difference to your children, everyday.
- Ensuring we have enough curriculum and extracurricular resources so we can provide opportunities to learn and foster your children's passions and interests.
- Maintaining a school counsellor so to ensure the school is providing specialist support needed for many children.

Your donation goes a long way to helping to provide the essentials that we need at Ellerslie School to give all children the best chance of progressing, achieving and enjoying school. We understand the financial challenges at the moment and appreciate any support you can provide if a full payment is not possible. Donations will be available to pay in Kindo by the end of week 2 of Term 1. Just click [here](#) to login into your Kindo account. Please remember you can receive a tax credit of 33% of your school donation. To submit a claim follow this link - [Submit a donation receipt \(ird.govt.nz\)](#). Thank you for your ongoing support.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

In 2025 Kelly Club will continue to provide the school's before and after school care service. Their location will once again be in GG18 which is in the main two storey building downstairs in the Kauri Team area. To book your child into Kelly Club please contact Saskia Van Dijk at ellerslie@kellyclub.co.nz or phone 02102639944.

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.

- Does everyone in the family know who their Guardian Group teacher is and where they are located?
- Is your school uniform ready to go - including a hat?
- What are the before and after school arrangements?
- Have you had a discussion about what food you require for school and how much?
- Have you got a water bottle ready to go?
- Don't forget about the Transition Session - Friday 31 January - 9:30am-11:30am

Currently the staff are busy getting ready to welcome students back on Monday 03 February. We are all looking forward to a fantastic year of progress, achievement and celebration.

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



IMPORTANT DATES

03 FEBRUARY 2025 - FIRST DAY OF TERM 1 for all students

06 FEBRUARY 2025 - PUBLIC HOLIDAY - WAITANGI DAY - School closed

13 FEBRUARY 2025 - MEET THE TEACHER - from 6:00pm

27 FEBRUARY 2025 - THE ELLERSLIE SCHOOL BIG PICNIC - More details to be advised

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.