



Ellerslie School

EST 1877

"To be the best we can be."



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

Newsletter 17 | Term Four | Week 2 | October 24, 2024 | www.ellerslie.school.nz | www.facebook.com/ellerslieschool

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Tena koutou katoa Ellerslie whānau

As we embark on the last term of 2024, we extend a warm welcome back to all students and staff. Once again this term will be filled with new opportunities, experiences and the chance to build upon the progress and achievement that has already been made throughout the year. There is still time for students to learn, make a difference and finish the year on a successful note. Learning has been in full swing already over the first 2 weeks of the term. We have also managed to fit in 4 school disco sessions, compete in the EPro Challenge and play in the Eastern Zones Year 7 & 8 Volleyball competition.

Pasifika Leaders

Our first assembly for Term 4 saw the very special announcement and presentation of our first ever Pasifika cultural leaders. These awards went to 3 students who continually demonstrate outstanding leadership within the Pasifika group. Congratulations to Binah Punou, Eva Tausilia and Harlow Herrick. To acknowledge their leadership and commitment they were each presented with a special heilala necklace. Thank you to those who organised this special ceremony, especially Miss Fane Walter, leader of the school's Pasifika group.



Attendance Information - PLEASE READ

It is important that the community is aware of how the school's attendance information is tracking. The school is focusing on getting every student to school, every day. The government has set a target of wanting 80% of students attending school over 90% of the time by 2030. At Ellerslie we believe that at least 90% of students should be regularly attending school.

	Student Categories	Students with	Equivalent to:
	Regular attendance	over 90% attendance	missing fewer than 5 days across a term
	Irregular attendance	more than 80% and up to 90% attendance	absent for between 5 and 9 days across a term
	Moderate attendance	more than 70% and up to 80% attendance	absent for between 10 and 14.5 days across a term
	Chronic attendance	70% attendance or less	absent for 15 days or more across a school term

In Term 3, 2024, the school's regular attendance rate (over 90% attendance) was **63%** compared with **53%** in Term 3, 2023. While this is an improvement of **10%** from last year, we are still **17%** short of the national target. Attending school everyday is essential for learning. It means your child can:

- Make progress in Reading, Writing, Mathematics and other skills
- Feel confident at learning
- Make friends and build social skills
- Develop good habits for life

When students are regularly absent from school they miss out on essential learning



Structured Literacy and Mathematics Professional Development

As a school, we continue to prepare for the implementation of a new English and Mathematics curriculum from the beginning of Term 1, 2025. In regards to the English curriculum, this involves ensuring all teachers in Years 0-4 have completed a number of professional development sessions involving the teaching of Reading using the structured literacy approach by the end of 2024. This fully government funded initiative continues throughout term 4 and involves all the teachers in Matai Team - Year 3&4 who will be out of school for 3 days in Week 4 working with Liz Kane Literacy, our professional development provider. The final version of the new Mathematics curriculum will be available to schools from the end of October. The school will be focusing on this new curriculum during the upcoming staff only day on Friday 8th November. This will provide an opportunity to examine this new document in greater detail and look at the possible resources that may be required. The school has already been part of a series of mathematics professional development throughout 2024 and this will continue throughout next year.

Great Questions to ask your Children

Parents and caregivers often ask about the best way to engage with children at home in regards to finding out more about their learning at school. Here are those helpful questions to get the conversation started.

1. *Can you tell me about the best part of your day?*
2. *What was the hardest thing you had to do?*
3. *Who did you play with at break times?*
4. *Did anyone do anything funny?*
5. *What did you talk about or learn today?*
6. *What was the most interesting thing your teacher said today?*

Playground Safety and Supervision - PLEASE READ

Please remember the school is not responsible for the supervision of any students using the playgrounds or outdoor facilities between 2.45pm-8.30am or during the weekends. Please be aware that no Ellerslie School staff will be supervising students after 2.45pm each weekday. This is due to staff being involved with professional development meetings and other commitments. **Students are required to leave the school site after the 2.45pm bell unless they are with caregivers, attending Kelly Club or engaged in a supervised activity such as sport training.**

PLEASE REMEMBER - STAFF ONLY DAY
Friday 08 November
(school will be closed to all students)

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

THIS WEEK AT ELLERSLIE SCHOOL

SCHOOL FOCUS

School Focus for Week 2: Be Collaborative: I participate in group situations.

School Focus for Week 3: Be Creative - I solve challenges in different ways.

School Focus for Week 4: Teacher's Choice related to the 5Cs.

STAFF ONLY DAY - FRIDAY 08 NOVEMBER

A reminder that there is a Staff Only Day on Friday 08 November. Ellerslie School will be closed for instruction on this day.

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL FOR TERM FOUR, 2024

Please note that the last day of Term Four is Wednesday 18 December - school finishes at the earlier time of **1:00pm** that day. There is no afternoon school bus on the day so please ensure that alternative arrangements are made for your child/ren.

LAST NEWSLETTER FOR THE YEAR

Our last newsletter for 2024 will be Week 8, Term Four - Thursday 05 December.

MILO MORNING - WEDNESDAY 30 OCTOBER

Due to huge demand, we will be holding one more Milo Morning on Wednesday 30 October! This will be held outside Rimu Pod from 8:15am-8:45am. Students can bring their own cups, pay \$2.00 cash and enjoy a warm Milo before school.



ENVIRO TEAM - SUMMER PLANTING DAY

It's time to plant the summer garden! The Ellerslie School Enviro team are wanting to teach the youngest students at our school all about planting a summer garden.

- When: Monday 4th November at 2:45pm-3:35pm

- Where: Ellerslie School garden

- Who: Laura Campbell, Enviro team and any parents and kids from Rimu and Rata pods.

The Enviro team wants to teach the kids all about planting the summer crops, harvest a few plants and water our plants while the parents can watch, learn and chat over a cup of tea or coffee. You don't need to bring anything except your interest in learning about our vision for our community garden. Feel free to contact Laura at laurac@ellerslie.school.nz.

NEW PARENT INFORMATION SESSION - THURSDAY 07 NOVEMBER

Here at Ellerslie School, we understand the significance of the milestone of your child beginning school at 5. As a parent, you may have many questions ranging from what happens during your child's day to how you can support them at home. If you would like to learn more about school as a 5 year old, please come along to our information session for New Entrant parent/guardians on Thursday 07 November from 9:00am - 10:00am in our school staffroom with our Deputy Principal, Jillian Mitchell. Please contact our office to book a place at this session - email office@ellerslie.school.nz.

NETBALL AND FOOTBALL REMINDER

A reminder to all Ellerslie School netball and football teams to please return any uniforms or gear bags that are still outstanding, back to the office as soon as possible.

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.



NON RETURNING STUDENTS 2025

To assist us with planning, we would greatly appreciate knowing of any students who will not be returning to Ellerslie School in 2025. Maybe you are moving out of the area or your child is going to attend a different school. We ask as the number of students on our roll and at each level, directly affects staffing and pod composition. If your child/ren is/are not returning, and you have not already advised us, please email shereem@ellerslie.school.nz as soon as possible.



STUDENT LEAVE

A reminder for those parents/whānau wishing to take their child out of school for any non-school related reason for more than three days must apply in writing to the Principal. Please ensure that a [Student Extended Leave form](#) is completed and submitted to the school office for approval.

NEW ENROLMENTS

Do you have, or know of any 4 year olds turning 5 this year, who are in the Ellerslie School zone and are planning to be enrolled at Ellerslie in 2025? The number of students we can confirm as coming to Ellerslie has a direct effect on staffing, so the more we know the better it is for all. We would also appreciate knowing of any other families moving to the area with students at other year levels who will be joining us in 2025. You can complete an online enrolment or: email shereem@ellerslie.school.nz with the child's name, date of birth and 2024 year level, if currently enrolled at another school.

TEAM UPDATES

<p><i>RIMU</i> (Years 0 and 1)</p>	<p>Kia ora Rimu whanau. Welcome to all our new families. We look forward to being a part of your child's Ellerslie School journey. We have had a great start to Term 4 and are enjoying the sunshine. Remember all children need to have their named hat at school to play outside.</p> <p>Our focus for this term is around Living Systems. We are learning about living and nonliving things, plants and what they need to thrive and animals and their habitats. We have Old Macdonald's Mobile Farm visiting our school, where we will be able to interact with different farm animals. We are looking forward to dancing the night away at the disco with our friends and teachers.</p> 
<p><i>RATA</i> (Year 2)</p>	<p>Welcome back to our busiest term yet!</p> <p>We have begun our inquiry into the living world, exploring what makes a plant a plant by closely observing them and categorising using our developing ideas. These activities will prepare us for our trip in November to the Botanical Gardens where we will be learning about how plants adapt and survive in their environments. We have also been getting ready for our Athletics Day by building our sprinting, hurdling, jumping and throwing skills. We hope to see plenty of you at the disco this Thursday. Bring something beachy to wear kids!</p> 
<p><i>MATAI</i> (Years 3 and 4)</p>	<p>Welcome to Term 4 Matai whānau and all of our new families across the team. What a great way to kick off the term with our disco last week. The tamariki enjoyed dancing their hearts out to the music and mixing with their friends whilst dressed in their beach attire. Thank you to all the parents who help make these events a success. We appreciate you all!</p> <p>Our focus for Term 4 is All Living Things and our tamariki are excited to learn about what living things are and what they need to survive. We have already had some snails, worms and slugs brought into the pods to share with everyone so we can observe their movements and learn more about them. We have started our Athletics rotations for PE and we are looking forward to our Athletics event coming up. Everyone is welcome to attend.</p> <p>Please remember that in Term 4 as we head into summer, a school hat and summer school uniform are compulsory for our students. Thank you for your support with this. Ngā mihi nui.</p>



PŌHUTUKAWA
(Years 5 and 6)

KAU MAU TE WEHI Baxter, Spencer, Sam and Liam on winning the EPro8 Challenge. They were presented with four different challenges - making a scooter, roller coaster, washing machine and air conditioner. The goal was to complete as many challenges in 2.5 hours. These legends worked together putting into action their engineering, electronics and mathematics skills to make a scooter and begin making the washing machine. What a great example of our school value - collaboration too. A special mention goes out to Malaika, Mia P, Charlotte S and Indie. They started strong, being tied for first place with our boys team. Having held second place for much of the contest, it came down to the wire, placing sixth with a score of 210. We couldn't be prouder. What a way to kick off Term 4!



Our Year 6 students finished Term 3 in a connected way at Chosen Valley Camp, Ararimu. It was a great way to see our students shine! Each of our students stretched themselves when participating in our camp activities: trolleys, confidence course, raft building, archery, bush walk, balance island, rope maze, A frame, golf frisbee, flying fox, burma trail and our camp fire.



“Ma te iwi” - it takes a village to provide a successful Education outside of the classroom (EOTC) experience. A HUGE **THANK YOU** goes out to our adult helpers who came along - we are very appreciative of your time and assistance.



TEAM NOTICES

- Our Team Sport day is each Tuesday this term. Students are invited to wear their P.E uniform to school every Tuesday. Summer is on it's way.
- Students are required to wear a hat or cap when outside at school. Please remind your child/ren of this at home.
- A friendly reminder for all students to charge their personal device each night or morning, ready for them to use at school (Monday - Friday).
- We look forward to seeing our students in their beachwear tonight at the Year 5, 6 Disco 6.30pm at Ellerslie War Memorial Hall.

KAURI
(Years 7 and 8)

Kia ora koutou Kauri whānau.

Our final term is upon us! We have the first of three E.Z. Sports events this week, with Volleyball taking place at the YMCA Stadium in Panmure. Our Touch teams have been selected and are working towards their event in Week 4, and all of the Senior School is brushing up on their athletics skills in discus, shot put, high jump, relays and sprints in preparation for our Senior Athletics in Week 5 which will lead into E.Z. Athletics in Week 6.

Our Y7/8 E-Pro 8 teams competed at their evening event last week. We'd like to say a big thank you to Mr Mac for allowing everyone to try out for these final teams during some sessions in Term 3.

Our exploration into the Living World has begun in Science with our students having some fierce debates about what makes a living thing a living thing. There was some very robust discussion when they had to classify an egg into living or nonliving!



ELLERSLIE SCHOOL COLOUR RUN - FRIDAY 15 NOVEMBER - 5:00pm - 8:00pm

Our Colour Run was a lot of fun last year and a sellout, so we're doing it again! Tickets are staying the same price, and need to be bought for all children taking part including under 5 year olds:

- Everyone will have lots of different colour powder thrown over them while going through, under and over fun obstacles!
- Everyone will receive their own packet of powder to throw at the end in the dance party zone!
- We're adding activities for everyone to take part in between the obstacles!
- This year you don't have to book a time to start. 30 people will start every minute.
- The day before the event, your child will bring home a wristband for every ticket bought. Everyone will need to wear a wristband at the start line to take part.
- We'll have lots of food and drink to buy as part of our fundraising event.

Book your tickets now on [Kindo](#) under 'Fundraising' - \$8.00 for children (0-17 years), \$10.00 for adults (18+ years).



IMPORTANT DATES

24 OCTOBER 2024 - DISCO - YEARS 0,1,2 - 5:00pm-6:00pm - Ellerslie War Memorial Hall
24 OCTOBER 2024 - DISCO - YEARS 5,6 - 6:30pm-7:30pm - Ellerslie War Memorial Hall
28 OCTOBER 2024 - LABOUR DAY - PUBLIC HOLIDAY
30 OCTOBER 2024 - MILO MORNING - 8:15am-8:45am
31 OCTOBER 2024 - RIMU TEAM - OLD MACDONALD'S FARM VISIT
05 NOVEMBER 2024 - YEAR 7 AND 8 EASTERN ZONES TOUCH RUGBY
08 NOVEMBER 2024 - STAFF ONLY DAY - School closed for instruction
13 NOVEMBER 2024 - MATHEX YEAR 5 AND 6
14 NOVEMBER 2024 - SENIOR SCHOOL ATHLETICS - YEARS 5-8 at Mt Smart Stadium
15 NOVEMBER 2024 - ELLERSLIE SCHOOL COLOUR RUN - 5:00pm-8:00pm

(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

- **Term Four - Monday 14 October to Wednesday 18 December** (Holiday - Labour Day 28 October)

STAFF ONLY DAY - Friday 8th November, 2024

- School is closed on this day for student learning - Kelly Club will be open.

TERM DATES FOR 2025

Please note that the following dates for the 2025 school year have been finalised as follows:

- **Term One - Monday 03 February to Friday 11 April** (Holidays - Waitangi Day 06 February)
- **Term Two - Monday 28 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)

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](#).



The poster features the school crest at the top left. The main title is 'Ellerslie School's Entry Dates 2025'. Below the title, it states 'We will have 8 entry dates for 5 year olds throughout the year.' A central image shows a group of children playing on a playground. To the right of the image, there are two columns of dates: 'Start of Term Date' and 'Mid Term Date'. At the bottom, it says 'For more information and online enrolment, visit our website: www.ellerslie.school.nz'.

Start of Term Date	Mid Term Date
• 03 February 2025	• 10 March 2025
• 28 April 2025	• 26 May 2025
• 14 July 2025	• 18 August 2025
• 06 October 2025	• 10 November 2025

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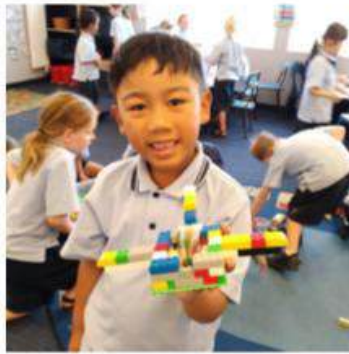
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KELLY CLUB Ellerslie UPDATE

What's been happening...

In week 1 of Term 4 at Kelly Club we have made juice box radios, crumbly cornflake tart and played 5 sport smash! Check out our timetable for next week below



What's happening next week!

KELLY CLUB		THEME: Mind, Body, Soul				Weekly Activities Plan
		Term 4 Week 2, 21st October 2024				Kelly Club Ellerslie
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
7:00 - 8:30 am	Hula Hoop Relays	Talent Show	Mini Pizza Quiche	Find the instrument	DIY Party Shooters	
8:15 - 8:30 am	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time	Structured Free Time	
3:00 - 3:10 pm	Sign In & Free Time	Sign In & Free Time	Sign In & Free Time	Sign In & Free Time	Sign In & Free Time	
3:10 - 3:15 pm	Intro	Intro	Intro	Intro	Intro	
3:15 - 3:45 pm	Afternoon Tea Cereal & Fruit	Afternoon Tea Yogurt & Fruit	Afternoon Tea Sammies & Fruit	Afternoon Tea Popcorn & Fruit	Afternoon Tea Corn Chips & Fruit	
	DISCOVERY What's in the Box?	GAME Mind Search	CRAFT Soul Stones	SPORT Mini Obstacles	COOKING Brain Bites	
SENIORS 3:45 - 4:20 pm						
	GAME Body Parts	SPORT Mini Obstacles	DISCOVERY Calm Cairns	CRAFT Soul Stones	COOKING Brain Bites	
JUNIORS 3:45 - 4:20 pm						
4:20 - 4:30 pm	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	Tidy Up	
4:30 - 5:00 pm	Playground Time	Playground Time	Playground Time	Playground Time	Playground Time	
5:00 - 5:30 pm	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	Homework & Quiet Time	
5:30 - 6:00 pm	Quiet Time & Snack Time	Quiet Time & Snack Time	Quiet Time & Snack Time	Quiet Time & Snack Time	Quiet Time & Snack Time	

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