



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
Nǐ hǎo | 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 18 | Term Four | Week 4 | November 07, 2024 | www.ellerslie.school.nz | www.facebook.com/ellerslieschool

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Tena koutou katoa Ellerslie whānau

Another 2 weeks of Term 4 have raced by. This week I have had the pleasure of teaching for 3 days in Matai Team - Years 3/4, while teachers have been on professional development. I have been incredibly impressed at the level of effort the students have put into their learning, their collaboration, thinking skills and ability to get on with the task in hand. I have enjoyed the enthusiasm they display towards their learning and interest they have in the world around them. Well done also to the Year 7/8 students who have participated in the Eastern Zones Volleyball and Touch Rugby tournaments in the last 2 weeks. I can assure the community that while our senior school is small compared to others we compete fiercely at every event we attend. Thank you to those students who attend the annual discos, always a successful outing held in our local community.



Professional Development in Full Swing

The new and final versions of Mathematics and English curricula have been finalised and published - ready for implementation from the beginning of 2025. As a school, our preparations are in full swing. This week, 10 teachers have been participating in 3 full days of learning how to implement the structured literacy approach to the teaching of Reading. This intense, ministry funded professional development has provided a fantastic opportunity for our teachers to be learning together while fine tuning already existing skills and learning new ones. Much of the focus has been on the importance of explicit and target teaching. Early in Term 1, 2025 another 15 teachers from the Year 5-6 area of the school will go through a similar experience to ensure all teachers from Years 0-6 will have the understanding, skills and knowledge to use the structured literacy approach when required.

Our professional development journey continues this Friday, during our Staff Only Day where we will turn our focus at examining and unpacking the Mathematics curriculum. This will involve looking closely at each of the new learning areas as well as discuss what effective teaching of mathematics involves.

Important Events

There are a number of important events held in term 4 which help us celebrate the excellent progress and achievement of our students during the year. Please ensure you have marked these on your calendar so you can attend to help us celebrate.

- Friday 15th November: School Colour Run: Ellerslie School: 5pm
- Thursday 28th November: School Cultural and Music Evening: Ellerslie School: 5pm
- Wednesday 11th December: Year 0-1, Rimu Team Picnic Under the Stars
- Friday 13th December: Final Full School Assembly: 9am
- Monday 16th December: Year 0-2- Junior School Prizegivings: Ellerslie School: 1.30pm
- Tuesday 17th December: Year 3&4- Middle School Prizegiving: One Tree Hill College Hall: 9.30am

- Tuesday 17th December: Year 5-8- Senior School Prizegiving: One Tree Hill College Hall: 11am

School Donations-Thank you!

Thank you to those parents and caregivers who have contributed their school donation in 2024. These vital funds continue making an essential difference to:

- 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 in the school's **Hardship Fund** so we can provide important resources and equipment to students to ensure they have what they need to achieve and progress.

If you are still keen to donate please click [here](#). 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.

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

THIS WEEK AT ELLERSLIE SCHOOL

SCHOOL FOCUS

School Focus for Week 5: Be Confident - I believe in myself.

School Focus for Week 6: Be Compassionate - I take action to make positive changes.

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

Have you bought your Colour Run tickets yet? Book these now on [Kindo](#) under 'Fundraising' - \$8.00 for children (0-17 years), \$10.00 for adults (18+ years).



Ellerslie School
Colour Run

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.



SENIOR SCHOOL ATHLETICS EVENT (YEARS 5-8) - THURSDAY 14 NOVEMBER

The 2024 Senior School Athletics event involving all students from **Years 5-8** will be held at Mt Smart Stadium on **Thursday 14 November 2024**. Students will take part in a range of track and field activities such as long jump, high jump and the 100m sprint. All students are expected to participate in this event as it is part of the PE/Health curriculum. The Year 5-8 students will depart school by bus at 9:00am. Events will take place from 9:45am until 2:15pm. Students will return to school for 2:45pm. Students should wear their whānau house t-shirt and PE shorts. We are in need of some parent volunteers for time keeping and various other roles. If you are able to help with this event, please complete this form ASAP: [Senior Athletics Adult Helper form](#). Parents, caregivers and whānau are all welcome to attend the event.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETICS EVENT (YEARS 3-4) - WEDNESDAY 21 NOVEMBER

We will be holding the Matai Pod Athletics event for Year 3 and 4 students on Wednesday 21 November at Ellerslie School

from 8.30am-11.30am. Parents and families are welcome to come along and watch. Students are asked to wear their whānau house T-shirts with their uniform shorts and appropriate footwear. Please ensure your child has a named sunhat.

JUNIOR SCHOOL ATHLETICS EVENT (YEARS 0-2) - TUESDAY 26 NOVEMBER

The 2024 Junior Athletics day will be held at Ellerslie School on Tuesday 26 November. This will be a station style event with the children rotating around and participating in a variety of athletic activities. The events schedule will be advised by parent/guardian email. Parents, Caregivers and whanau are welcome and encouraged to attend this exciting day.

MUSIC/CULTURAL PERFORMANCE - THURSDAY 28 NOVEMBER

On Thursday 28 November, Ellerslie School will host a music and cultural celebration, featuring the various groups who have been practising items all year. This will be held in our courtyard from 5:00pm-7:00pm, involving the following groups: Marimba, Ukulele, Rockbands, Pasifika, Kapa Haka and selected private music lesson students. We would love to see as many parents and extended families as possible come out to support these amazing and talented students. We will also have a Sausage Sizzle and Ice Blocks available on the night for purchase.

ELLERSLIE SCHOOL YEARBOOK 2024

The new Ellerslie School Yearbook is here! We’ve produced another modern colourful Yearbook full of photos, highlights and memories of our amazing school year. Each Guardian Group has a page in this yearbook, and we’ve covered all of the school’s special events of the year. There are limited copies available, and these are on pre-sale on Kindo under “Other Activities” until 01 December for only \$20.00 each [LINK](#). We also still have copies of the 2023 version available for only \$10.00 if you are interested.

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.

TUMMY BUGS

We have had a large number of children unwell over the last couple of weeks with tummy bugs - vomiting and/or diarrhoea. This seems to be being passed on from child to child. We ask that children who are unwell are kept at home - please consider other children and staff. These ‘bugs’ are very contagious based on the high number of children we are seeing. Children should stay home for 24-48 hours after their last episode of vomiting and/or diarrhoea. Please see a medical professional if you are concerned about your child’s health.

TEAM UPDATES

<p><i>RIMU</i> <i>(Years 0 and 1)</i></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 busy few weeks with our focus on animals and their habitats. We had the Old Macdonald’s mobile farm visit us which was very exciting. Some of us had never seen these animals up close, let alone touched them so some very excited children.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">    </div> <p>We are busy practising our Athletic skills in our PE sessions, preparing for our Athletics Day later on in the term. We had a lot of fun celebrating Diwali with our children and creating some beautiful pieces of Art. A reminder that all children must have their named hats at school to play during morning tea and lunch.</p> 
<p><i>RATA</i> <i>(Year 2)</i></p>	<p>Kia ora Rata whanau Rata has been learning about food chains this week! We have discovered how these can be varied as they depend on the environment. The children were surprised to find out that plants make their own</p>

food. This learning leads nicely into our upcoming trip to the Botanical Gardens in the coming weeks! As part of our focus on living things, we also investigated what an exoskeleton and an endoskeleton is. Here we are creating our own endoskeleton of a dog using pipe cleaners and looking closely at the shape of a dog. Have a look at how accurate we were!!



MATAI
(Years 3 and 4)

What an interesting and exciting week Matai students and teachers have had! Matai teachers became students earlier this week as we engaged in 3 days of Structured Literacy Workshops where we were supported to build on our Structured Literacy approach including the teaching of phonemic awareness, reading, spelling, handwriting, fluency and vocabulary as well as using assessment tools to track our tamariki's progress. It was great learning and practise for us all and we can't wait to implement some new strategies in our pods.

While we were out, Matai students were left in the capable hands of our relievers, including some of our Senior Leaders Mrs Bilsborough and Mr Butler. The tamariki learnt about the evolution of toilets, the tooth brush, cars and many more interesting topics, they practised relays and used clues to solve some mathematical mystery problems. We all heard how much fun and learning was had in the pods. A friendly reminder the school colour run is happening next week on Friday 15 November, we look forward to seeing those who can make it.



PŌHUTUKAWA
(Years 5 and 6)

2024 MATHEX TEAM ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to our Year 5 Team members (back row) Usandi, Gabe, Nathan, Noreen, Madara, Luca, Zayn and Jack. Well done to Lucia, Gerard, Jane, Indie, Devon, Michael, Atticus and Elaina, who make up our two Year 6 teams! A special mention goes out to Gabe, Luca, Madara and Zayn who won the practise session last week, beating two teacher and five student teams. Miss Ettles and Mr Leong have been working hard with our students, Tino pai korua! Our Inter-school competition is next Wednesday 13 November: 6.30pm at St Kentigerns School, Shore Rd, Remuera. Parents/caregivers please ensure your child/ren is at the St Kentigern School Gymnasium by 5.45pm.



This term we are learning about Human Body systems. We started off with learning about 'The Brain'. During Weeks 2-4 we have been learning about 'The Immune System', 'The Digestive System' and 'The Muscular System'. Ask your child/ren what they know about these human body systems. In support of this learning, next week we will be having 'Food for Thought' sessions with Food Stuff facilitators. What a great way to apply our knowledge in everyday situations! We will also be launching into our own Human Body System Inquiry for Weeks 5-8 of this term.

We are looking forward to our Year 5-8 Senior Athletics next Thursday 14 November at Mt Smart Stadium. This is an all day event. Students are to wear their hat, P.E uniform, including their whānau shirt and suitable sports shoes. Don't forget to slip, slop and slap sunscreen on for the day, pack plenty of food and fill up your water bottle for the day. We will be travelling by bus.

2024 has been a year of leadership growth for many Year 5, 6 students. We are so grateful for the acts of service from our Enviro Team and Peer Mediators this year (see photos below). They will continue to shine here or in their new educational spaces as Year 6 and 7 students in 2025! Nga mihi nui to Miss Campbell and Miss Waterreus for looking after these leadership groups this year.



2024 Year 5, 6 Enviro Team



2024 Year 5, 6 Peer Mediators

KAURI
(Years 7 and 8)

Kia ora koutou Kauri whānau.

Congratulations to our two Volleyball teams who competed in Week 2. Our Girls' team came away with a commendable third place against some stiff competition.

This week, our two Touch teams competed at Madill Farm where both teams played at least four games and represented our school with pride.

Mr Mac has coped surprisingly well this week with four of our five classes competing for the honour of being crowned Masterchef Champions. Each group had the choice to bake either brownies, swiss roll or honey cakes.

We are working towards our Senior School Athletics next Thursday at Mt Smart Stadium. Students are reminded to wear their P.E. gear (including whānau shirts), bring their lunch (no Kindo orders), a drink bottle and their hats.





ELLERSLIE SCHOOL FOOD FUNDRAISER

Would you like an easy way to buy amazing NZ made food for yourself as presents, while supporting Ellerslie School? Our delicious food fundraiser has three types of food that we think you are going to love to eat from early December or save for the holidays. We have:

- Jones Family Farm NZ Cheese - \$20.00 - 4 x 120g different types of award-winning NZ cheese in a range of delicious flavours that will include Creamy, Peppered or Chilli Havarti, Pecorino, or Classic Gouda.
- Samosas by Surti - \$24.00 - 10 x locally-made samosas that are perfect for a snack or with any meal. In 4 amazing flavours, including the new Spiced Chicken, they are always wildly popular when we sell them! All Halal certified. One flavour per 10 piece box.
- Rotary Club Christmas Puddings - \$25.00 - Baked in NZ using only the best fruit, spices and wholesome ingredients to a time-proven recipe, these 700g puddings are ready to eat hot or cold. Heat in the microwave if you wish & serve with custard, brandy butter, caramel sauce, cream, ice cream or yoghurt. They freeze well too.

You can buy these now until 3:00pm on Friday 22 November via your child's Kindo account. Orders can be picked up from the staffroom on Thursday 05 December from 3:00pm-6:00pm. All funds raised will be used to buy STEAM resources for our classrooms. Please contact Sarah with any questions: sarah@ellerslie.school.nz



IMPORTANT DATES

- 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
- 21 NOVEMBER 2024 - Y7/8 E.Z. ATHLETICS at Lloyd Elsmore
- 21 NOVEMBER 2024 - MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETICS - YEARS 3-4 at Ellerslie School
- 22 NOVEMBER 2024 - RATA TEAM BOTANIC GARDENS TRIP
- 26 NOVEMBER 2024 - JUNIOR SCHOOL ATHLETICS - YEARS 0-2 at Ellerslie School

28 NOVEMBER 2024 - ELLERSLIE SCHOOL CULTURAL AND MUSIC EVENING - 5:00pm-7:00pm
11 DECEMBER 2024 - RIMU TEAM PICNIC UNDER THE STARS
13 DECEMBER 2024 - FINAL FULL SCHOOL ASSEMBLY - 9:00am
16 DECEMBER 2024 - YEAR 0-2 JUNIOR SCHOOL PRIZEGIVINGS - at Ellerslie School from 1:30pm
17 DECEMBER 2024 - YEAR 3-4 MIDDLE SCHOOL PRIZEGIVING - at One Tree Hill College from 9:30am
17 DECEMBER 2024 - YEAR 5-8 SENIOR SCHOOL PRIZEGIVING - at One Tree Hill College from 11:00am

(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)

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](#).

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.



**Ellerslie School's
Entry Dates
2025**

We will have 8 entry dates for
5 year olds throughout the year.

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

For more information and
online enrolment, visit our website:
www.ellerslie.school.nz

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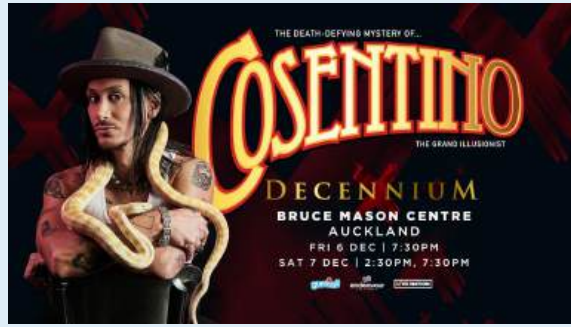
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