

Upcoming dates and events

May 1,2,8,15,29, June 5,7	Technology 8:30 am arrival at school	May 10	Gardasil injections
May 17	Otago Problem Solving #2	May 22	NYLD Young Leaders Day WZ Hockey
May 25	Disco	May 29	School Cross Country (May 31 postponement date)
June 18	School photos	June 25-29	Book Week

College open days and visits

Onslow College – Wednesday 13 June, 5.00 – 7.30pm
 Wellington College – Saturday 23 June, 9.00am and Monday 25 June, 9.00am
 Wellington Girls College – Friday 22 June, 9.15am and 11.00am
 Wellington High School – Monday 11 June, 6pm
 St Marys College – Thursday 14 June – 9.00am – 3.30pm
 St Patricks College – Sunday 10 June, 1.30pm

College information visits to Year 8 students at Northland School: all parents of Year 8 students are welcome to attend these

Wellington Girls College: Julia Davidson, Principal, speaks and answers questions Monday 21st May at 3.15 in Team 4.
 Onslow College: Penny Kinsella, Deputy Principal, will visit Year 8 at Thursday 31st May at 11am in Team 4.

Kia ora koutou,

Last term we held a very successful camp at Kaitoke, the students were kept very busy as they met challenges across ten activities which demanded many qualities such as courage, resilience and team support. We were very impressed with the way the students managed themselves, their behaviour was exemplary, they slept, they ate well and were a real pleasure to spend the week with.

We begin another busy term with seven lessons at technology at Karori West Technology Centre and on May 22, 20 students are off to the National Young Leaders' Day. Our leadership programme is developing well, and our students enjoy opportunities to organise events and support and help others. We are greatly appreciative of the offers to help with transporting and supervising our students at this, and other events. With your support we can offer these opportunities to our students.

Literacy: Writing, Reading and Literature Circles

We are reading School Journals and Connected Journals to learn more about the Nature of Science, and how scientists gather, sort and analyse data. We are also learning how to undertake the various roles for Literature Circles which begin in Week 4. During Literature Circles students read a novel in a supportive group setting and complete 'tasks' designed to increase and deepen their comprehension of the text, author's purpose and understanding of themes and vocabulary. Literature Circles provides an excellent grounding for Year 9 and 10 English. Students will also be reading to support their science fair work, you can expect to see them reading at home to keep up with these tasks, from Week 4 your child will probably need to read their Literature Circles book for home learning. We are sure that your child will benefit from talking with you about their book, and the various tasks they will undertake weekly. Students will write to a range of text types this term and in the latter part of the term they will be report writing to support the write-up for science fair.

Technology

Technology is a highlight for Team 4 students. Students will take their bags to tech, and should ensure they have morning tea and a warm jacket and rain coat as we have a short walk to and from the bus stop. Students need to be at school by 8.30am for a quick roll call before boarding the bus. For safety reasons, please ensure your child wears sturdy closed footwear and long hair is tied back. Technology started on Tuesday this week and runs till June 7.

Road Patrols

This is another opportunity where Team 4 students are able to demonstrate the qualities of reliability and helpfulness, and the key competencies 'managing-self' and 'participating and contributing'. Everyone appreciates the effort they make to be at school in time to do this important job. We have been most impressed with the effort this year's cohort are making to be at school in plenty of time to get ready and be on the road, crossing students, by 8.30am. On days when it is pouring with rain, please encourage your child to bring along extra shoes or indoor shoes. On really cold days gloves and a hat are essential. A term 2 roster is posted on the school's website. Students are asked to check the roster, put the dates for their duties in their diaries, to make arrangements for any times they are unable to do and let Alex know please. Thank you for supporting your student in arriving on time, and remembering this commitment.

Maths

This term we plan and conduct surveys and investigations using the statistical enquiry cycle. We revise and learn new ways to display and interpret data then follow the statistical enquiry cycle to plan, carry out and report back on a statistical investigation. We move on to multiplication and division for the latter part of the term. Students will benefit from using 'home learning' time to increase their speed and accuracy for multiplication and division basic facts to support strategy learning. We do not set specific 'home learning', but students have Study ladder logins and can use these to strengthen maths. Later in the term we return to statistics with the aim of supporting students as they make sense of the data they have collected for their science fair investigations.

Learning to use 'excel' or 'google sheets' for those who are less than expert would be a terrific idea for home learning, this will support students when they come to display their statistical data.

Te reo and foreign languages

On Monday 25 May, week 5, we began our bi-weekly languages programme, we are offering French, Spanish and Mandarin and Te reo. We also run a full year's programme of Te reo Māori and start each morning with a karakia, whakatauki and waiata.

Science and Technology Fair

Students are currently deciding on a question to guide their investigations. A large part of these investigations are done as home learning, and are due in week 1 of term 3. Please read the extra notices that will be sent home over the coming weeks. We will put copies of paper work and items of interest under Team 4 on the school's website – please look there regularly to see what we are up to. Display boards are available for purchase at school.

Home Learning

Students are asked to spend the equivalent of at least half an hour a day on their science and technology fair investigation, and encouraged to read for 30 minutes daily. Other optional, but recommended activities include learning basic facts for maths, and revising their classroom languages learning. We suggest students sign up for Duolingo, or use the notes they keep in their languages book. From week 5 we will provide a list of links to suitable language learning websites and share this document with the students, this way they will have access from home.

PE and Sport

Cross country is on Tuesday 29 May, students are expected to bring suitable footwear and clothing every day so they can participate in the P.E. curriculum. We also play winter sports.

College Visits

Already we are looking ahead to colleges and 2019! Please see the table above for the various open days, open evenings and visits from colleges. We encourage all Year 8 students to visit the colleges to support their decision making.

Nā mātou noa, nā

Alex, Fiona and Katie