

Community Calendar <http://www.ngaio.school.nz/welcome>

Key Dates

Monday 19th February	Year 5 Beach Ed Trip
Friday 23rd February, 11.30am	Opening of New Classroom Block
Wednesday 28th February, 1.40pm	New Parents Information Seminar - Staffroom
Tuesday 27th February	Northern Zone Cricket, Alex Moore Park
Tuesday 27th February	Year 5 Arctic Challenge
Sunday 4th March	GALA DAY
Monday 5th and Tuesday 6th March	Goal Setting Conferences
Monday 12th March, 12.30pm	Year 5 Netball trials
Tuesday 13th March	Northern Zone Football, Alex Moore Park
Friday 16th March, 12.30pm	Year 5 Netball trials
Tuesday 20th March, 12.30pm	Year 6 Netball trials
Friday 23rd March, 12.30pm	Year 6 Netball trials
Monday 26th - Thursday 29th March	Year 6 to Camp
Friday 30th March - Tuesday 3rd April	Easter Holiday - School Closed

Emergency Forms – these have been sent electronically - please complete and return as soon as possible. Please think carefully about the names you send us as we will not release children to anyone other than the names you have provided.

Please also remember to update the office info@ngaio.school.nz if your contact cellphone number changes.

Medical Forms - if you have yet to re-sign/update the office's authority to administer medication for your child we would appreciate you doing this urgently please.

Dear Parents & Caregivers

I enjoyed the PTA meeting this week, excited to hear all about the Gala preparation and excellent discussions around various other topics. Christian, Board Chair, and I presented information about some of the work we're doing as a school this year - continuing to review our digital device strategy, especially now there is a Digital Technologies curriculum. We're also planning a communications review, which many of you will appreciate as we work to streamline our communications whilst ensuring you have access to the information you need. Later in the year we're going to revisit the charter. This is timely given the stage we're at with building and also a new principal! I talked about the Learning Maps, mentioned in the previous newsletter, and their contribution to supporting the students in their learning.

I urge you to consider joining this group as it is a great way to be involved in the school. Thank you for all your support of their fundraising efforts, especially at the moment as we lead into the gala. I hope you've diaried this date - it's going to be a great day! I'm looking forward to working with students next week and the week after with The Clinic. We're going to be creating mini windsocks for the gala! Look out for their request for helpers - we need some of you to bring your sewing machines and sewing expertise (just straight sewing!) to the sessions.

You will have received information from the office yesterday regarding the goal setting conferences in week 6. We're including all the classes from year 2 up this year. The younger children will have a modified version and across the school you'll start to see students sharing their learning maps with more student voice and ownership of their goals.



I'm aware there's some 'wondering' out there regarding the removal of National Standards. This is an ideal opportunity for us to thoughtfully re-consider our assessment policies and practices to find the best way to measure your students' progress and achievement and use this information to plan for further learning. National Standards judgements were the result of a culmination of data from assessments, observations and classwork that teachers collated to make their 'Overall Teacher Judgement' against the National Standards. This underlying data collection will continue and there are already Learning Progressions for reading and writing that aligned to the National Standards in place, along with the continued use of the mathematics assessments currently in place. We believe that effective assessment practice:

- benefits and involves students - helps them learn better
- helps teachers teach better
- helps leaders lead better
- helps parents and whānau support their child's learning
- measures things that are important
- is valid and fair.

We'll still be reporting to you in writing twice a year with the main change in reporting being that the year 1 to 3 students will join in the mid year reporting, rather than National Standards staggered reporting. The new entrant teachers will continue to meet with you after the first 10 weeks of school. We'll keep you informed as we work through this change.

Have a great weekend.

Nga mihi nui
Raewyn Watson
Te Tumuaki

Pool Shed Painting

Huge thanks to Matt Kenny and Dan Tatham who painted the newly refurbished pool changing sheds towards the end of last year.

Your generous time commitment is very much appreciated by the whole school community.



The Ngaio School Parent Teacher Association AGM will be held on Tuesday 20 March 7.30pm in the staff room

All are welcome! The PTA is a great way to meet new people and an opportunity to make a positive contribution to the school. We would love to see a few new faces on the PTA and we are in need of a treasurer. Please feel free to come along to see what we are about. If you would like more information please contact us at pta@ngaio.school.nz

PTA News

The start of the year is a great time to join the PTA. We're always looking for new members to participate and have a say. There's no obligation to commit time, just come along and add a voice. Anyone is welcome and new parents will find it a great way to meet friendly parents from all years.

Judith, our current Treasurer, will be stepping down in April (after 3 years) and we're looking for someone to take over the role. It's not necessary to be an accountant and it's not a particularly time-consuming role. If you'd like to know more feel free to contact us at or speak to Judith on 027 731 9402.

Community Notices

Khandallah Arts Theatre is once again entertaining families outdoors

WHAT: Beauty and the Beast a fun interactive retelling of the story with a fairy godmother and a witch

WHEN: weekends: 17 and 18; 24 and 25 February at 2.30pm and 4.30pm each day

WHERE: Khandallah Park, Woodmancote Rd

BAD WEATHER: Cashmere Ave School hall Ring 499 4444 2 hours before

COST: gold coin to help cover expenses

RAROA MUSIC CENTRE ENROLMENTS FOR 2018

Raroa Music Centre offers Saturday morning group music lessons for primary school children at low cost. Although many of our classes are full, we still have some places available for trumpet, clarinet and choir.

To enrol enquire or please visit our website at www.raroamusic.org.nz.

The 2018 Wellington schools orienteering series is about to start and this Sunday 18th February, the Wellington Orienteering Club is holding our annual have a go event at Mt Albert (near the athletics track). Orienteering is a sport which teaches map reading skills and allows you to explore new areas in Wellington. This event is open to families with children of all ages and is a great way to get outdoors. Orienteering tends to be an individual sport,

but we often have families going out together. This event is \$7 for juniors, and parents can have a go for free! If you have any questions please contact Ellie on csworienteing@gmail.com or visit wellingtonorienteing.org.nz

I hope to see some children from your school having a go and maybe even competing in our school series this year!

Easyswim Swim School Term One Lessons

- Term one lessons have started, however it's not too late to book. Early Childhood from 3 months – 3 years, Pre School and School age lessons are all go. We have waiting lists on some levels, times and days but also the odd space here and there.

- Easyswim's Splash Attack - a fun, non-contact water polo programme which involves learning and developing game sense plus passing & catching skills. Splash Attack is starting soon at the Plimmerton School pool on 14th February and Johnsonville School pool on 9th February.

To book call on 2347946 email book@easyswim.co.nz or visit www.easyswim.co.nz for more information.

Ngaio Community Picnic – Cummings Park - Sunday 11 March 2017 12 – 3pm

CALL FOR STALLS AND ACTIVITIES

Last year we were amazed to see 400 locals attend our picnic. This year we're planning to make it another fantastic event and we'd like you to consider being part of it. It's an opportunity to promote what you do in our community.

We are looking for expressions of interest from community groups and organisations that have some connection with Ngaio and do at least one of the following:

- bring members of the community together (sports groups, cultural groups, child-focussed groups, etc.)
- enhance our natural environment
- enhance community resilience and connectivity.

If that's you and you are interested in being involved such as by running a stall promoting your group or organising a picnic activity then we would like to hear from you.

Please contact Rachel at rachel@ennoble.nz or text 021 410 300 to indicate how you would like to be involved by 16 February.

We are happy if you are prepared to sell food and/or drinks as a fund raiser for your group. If you are thinking about this please let Rachel know as we would like a good range of food and drinks to be available for picnic goers.



Open Mic Afternoon- Performers needed

Ngaio Playcentre and the Crofton Downs Residents are hosting a **Crofton Downs Carnival on Sunday 17 March** and are looking for local young people and adults that would like to perform in our open mic afternoon. This is suitable for all ages of performers and there is sausages, baking, picnics & games to be had too.

This is a celebration to promote coming together as neighbours and community and we are looking to showcase our local talent.

If you or your group are keen to take part please call or TXT 0277341010 for more details.

Sing in a fun, high-standard children's choir

Wellington Young Voices is a regional children's choir which caters for keen young singers aged between 8 and 14 years of age. The choir meets each Monday from 4-6pm at a central city location and is holding auditions for new singers on Monday 12th February, and Monday 19th February. No previous experience is necessary. Some fees scholarships are available. See www.wellingtonyoungvoices.org.nz for details.

Wellington Young Voices provides singing and musicianship training under the direction of highly experienced contractors and vocal tutors. Repertoire ranges from contemporary classic to world music and musical theatre.

The choir has performed with the NZSO, in a major production at the Michael Fowler Centre, and on backing vocals to the 2017 film A Kiwi Christmas. Children from Ngaio School are among its members.

Play Rugby this Year

West's Junior Rugby Club invites **you** to play rugby this season. The club is open to girls and boys from 3-13, starting out at Nursery and Ripa before moving to tackle for the Under 8s onwards which are weight and age graded.

Register online and check our FAQ at <http://www.wests-junior-rugby.org.nz>

Games start in Term 2, but the club welcome and weigh-in (and a chance to ask any questions in person) will be at our club rooms at Ian Galloway Park on the 8th (5:30 – 7:30pm) and 10th of March (1:00 – 3:00pm).

West's is also running Give Rugby a Go introductory sessions for girls in March (more info to follow).