

KEY DATES - Please check the school website calendar regularly

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| Monday 16th December | Year 6 Graduation, Rāroa Normal Intermediate |
| Tuesday 17th December | Ākonga meet their 2025 kaiako |
| Wed 18th December | Last Day of School Year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 8am Leaving families breakfast ● 11.30am Farewell to Yr 6 ākonga ● 12:30pm Final Bell |

Term Dates 2025

Wednesday 29 January - Rooms open for stationery drop off for families
10.30-12pm

Thursday 30 & Friday 31 - Teacher Only Days

Term 1 Monday 3 Feb to 11 April

Teacher Only Day - MoE Math Curriculum Monday 31 March

Term 2 Monday 28 April to Friday 27 June

Teacher Only Day Kahui Ako 3 June (after King's Birthday)

Term 3 Monday 14 July to Friday 19 September

Term 4 Monday 6 October to Wednesday 17 December

One more MoE Math Curriculum Teacher Only Day TBC

Kia ora e te Whānau

End of Year Reports go home today and ākonga will find out their room and classroom teacher for 2025. Please note that we are unable to make changes to the classes and appreciate your support of our placement decisions. Kaiako have spent a considerable amount of time working on the class lists for 2025. This, as always, has been a huge job and our kaiako take this responsibility very seriously. There has been considerable discussion and consideration of a wide range of information and factors as they have made up the classes.

We are very pleased to welcome 2 new kaiako to Ngaio School. Nicola Stevenson, currently teaching two days a week in Room 8, is joining us

for 2025, teaching year 4/5 ākonga in Tūi Syndicate. We also welcome Thomas Searancke to our Kākāpō team, teaching year 2/3 ākonga in room 8.

Amy Hickling is moving into a release teacher role in 2025, working across the school supporting with the significantly increased amount of classroom release.

Thank you for your generosity contributing to staff gifts. Adding in contributions from the school and staff, we were able to purchase wonderful gifts for our leaving staff members.

Thank you to those of you who were able to attend our poroaki for our leaving staff members, Helen, Morag, Megan, Arabella, Jessie, Jack, Wendy and Sandra. It was a very special, but very emotional event. We were incredibly proud of your tamariki as they sat for a long time with hardly a whisper and sang from their hearts with amazing volume. Our leavers really appreciated this moving send off.



We are looking forward to Monday's graduation ceremony. This is also always an emotional event, but we're always so proud to see these amazing young people leave our school so ready to 'Soar to New Heights'.

As we farewell this year's year 6 students, I would like to acknowledge those of you who are also leaving Ngaio School with your child, some of you after many, many years of involvement. Thank you and farewell to the families of Eva, Rylee, Lily and George, Liam, Jackie, Kate and Evie,

Sophia, Lachie, Tommy, Isobel, Abigail, Damian, Toby, Adalise, Rosalie, Patricia, Henry, Eliza, Georgia, Arlo, Tessa, Arthur, Ila, Alice, Jensen, Diana, Andrew, Austin and Louis, Jackson, Autumn, Benji, Isabelle, Jesse, Ellie and Owen. Thank you also to the families of Olivia and Lionel who are moving out of the area so will no longer have younger ākonga at Ngaio School.

We've really appreciated all the ways you have helped out - volunteering your time to help in the class or on trips, including camp, belonging to the PTA and/or supporting their fundraising, supporting your children in their learning, contributing to The Clinic, being spectators at events, coaching sports teams, supervising the road patrollers, the list goes on. The school is certainly better for having you as part of the school community.

We wish you all the very best as your children go on to the next stage of their education. We know they will do well as they take their learning and values into their future.

A huge thank you to all the teachers (full time and part time) who have helped us to complete a successful 2024. We often think of schools as teachers and students, but there are more very important people who contribute to the successful education of your children. Thank you Helen, Nicki and Kirsty who run the office; Kerry, Susie, Kirsty, Julia, Jessie, Arabella, Juliet, Corinne, Liam and Caylum who work as teacher aides across the school, and Bernice and Cristin who keep our library being such a special place. We appreciate them all.

I'd also like to thank the Board and the PTA, two important groups who work really hard to support everything that goes on in the school. The Board continues to work hard behind the scenes to set school direction and keep supporting us, the staff of Ngaio School, to provide your children with an excellent education, full of opportunities and support for their learning and wellbeing. Thank you Joe, Presiding Member, Dan, Emma, Hannah, Sarah, Dan and Craig, and to Helen for secretarial support for the board. The PTA works really hard under the leadership of Jen and with the support of you as the community, to provide extra financial support for school projects. Their input to social and community events is appreciated. Thank you Jen who leads this group to achieve so much. We also

appreciate Becky who has led The Clinic this year. We love seeing ākongā enjoying these lunchtime sessions!

Lastly, thank you for the staff appreciation morning tea. We always really appreciate the lovely food prepared for us each term.

Meri Kirihimete me ngā mihi o te tau hou ki a koutou katoa

Christmas and New Year greetings

Raewyn Watson, Te Tumuaki



Wed 18 December
From 7.45am

We invite parents and caregivers of our Year 6 Tamariki who are the last (or only) children leaving Ngaio School, to this coffee/snack gathering on the last day of the school year.

Thank you to those who have replied so far. This event has been popular in the past few years - It's a chance for a chat with staff and fellow leavers; especially ideal if you are unable to attend the final assembly later in the day.

We would love you to join us in the school staffroom if you can. Please RSVP on this form by the end of today, 13 December, to help us with catering. [R.S.V.P. Form](#)

Classes 2025

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|----------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Year 1 | Room 1 Room 3 | Bronwyn O'Halloran (Kathy Yamada Friday odd weeks) Elise Chan |
| Year 2/3 | Room 5 Room 6 Room 7 Room 8 | Christina Johnstone (Donna Thursdays) Michelle Pontifex (Donna Wed - Leader Release) Tessa Gatenby Thomas Searancke |
| Year 4/5 | Room 20 Room 21 | Hayden Trass Louisa Marks (Fridays Amy) |

Room 23 Nicola Stevenson

Room 24 Dan Byrne

Year 6 Room 10 Chantal McKee (Amy Wed - Leader Release & Alternate Fridays)

Room 12 Sam Jenkins

Classroom Release Time: Amy Hickling, Donna Beechey, Kathy Yamada and two more TBC.

😊 Thank you to the PTA for providing ice blocks for our end of year picnic today.



KIWI CHRISTMAS BOOKS

A huge thank you to our generous whānau for your donations of books. We received 62 books that will be gifted to kids in need. They will mean a lot to families this Christmas.

Meri Kirihimete e hoa

Merry Christmas Everyone



WANTED: NETBALL AND HOCKEY COORDINATORS

We extend our sincere gratitude to Estelle Jaine, Nicola Smith, and Nicola Wilks for their dedication in organising our school's hockey, netball, and miniball teams this year!

A special farewell to Estelle Jaine, who has been an invaluable part of Ngaio Hockey since 2017. We deeply appreciate the Jaine family's long-standing service: Estelle's husband, Richard, for his years of coaching, and their son Cameron for his involvement with our junior teams. Your contributions have left a lasting impact!

We are also incredibly thankful to Nicola Smith for her hard work in organising our netball teams this year. As Nicola steps back with her eldest daughter graduating, we acknowledge her valuable service and commitment to our school.

Join Our Team for 2025!

We are now looking for enthusiastic parents to help organise Ngaio's hockey and netball teams for 2025. No coaching or playing experience is required—these roles are administrative and involve strong communication skills.

Be part of our wonderful community and support our amazing students! For more information or to express interest, please contact Dan Byrne at d.byrne@ngaio.school.nz.

Thank you once again to all our organisers for their hard work and dedication!

PTA NEWS

Meri Kirihimete from the PTA

It's been a busy year for the PTA with a number of fundraisers, community events and kai for our tamariki and staff. With the funds we raised we refurbished the playbank by basketball courts, bought books for the library, bought plants and other material to support the enviro club, arb restoration and beautify the school, paid for the leavers book printing so our graduates have an amazing keepsake and we have reserved funds for much needed upcoming playground refurbishment.



We couldn't do all of these wonderful things without the volunteers who consistently put their hands up to help out and the support of school staff. I'd like to mention a few people that have made their mark and will be moving on next year. Thank you to Felicity L, our former treasurer, Nicola W, our amazing fundraising coordinator and Karen C who are leaving the committee this year. The school is also saying haere rā to Roslyn M who has been a huge asset as former vice president and chairperson of the PTA and the force behind the Enviro Club. While not on the PTA I'd like to acknowledge Jillian H who has always been there to help over many years and the Hart family for providing the PTA with the opportunity to run the wine fundraisers.

Thank you to all of the leaving families for your involvement with the PTA over your time at Ngaio School. We wish you all the best.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

This summer, Wellington City Libraries is inviting kids, teens and adults on a **Summer Reading Adventure!** From the **1st of December 2024 – 31st of January 2025**, you'll be able to log your reading, write, draw or film book reviews, and complete activities and challenges to earn rewards like collectible badges, free books, ice-cream vouchers, and go in the draw to win one of our fabulous Grand Prizes.

Visit the library website today at wcl.govt.nz/summerreading to pre-register for the Summer Reading Adventure, or visit any of our libraries from the 1st of December to pick up your Adventurer's Guide and get started.

AKOTECH CodeCamps Summer Holidays

Our holiday camp allows children from the ages of 7-12 to develop 21st century skills in a fun and action packed environment. Learn AI, make games, code robots & go to work for a simulated Tech Gaming Studio to build games and apps for a big client.

Develop confidence & initiative through design, creativity, solving problems, presenting & collaboration. Create your own games, worlds and apps to make our world a better place.

Queen Margaret College, Thorndon: 6th-9th Jan, 13th - 16th Jan

Programs: 4 Day AI & Code Camp Programs

Book Now at www.akotech.nz

af ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE
WELLINGTON

**AFTERSCHOOL
FRENCH
CLASS**
WITH **af**

THURSDAYS
3.05pm to 3.50pm

YEARS
2 - 8

STARTING TERM 1 2025
AT NGAIO SCHOOL, WELLINGTON

TO ENROL, EMAIL US AT **ALLIANCE@FRENCH.CO.NZ**