Wadestown School

Te Whakatipu me to Honohono Hei Ākonga
Growing and Connecting as Learners

Newsletter - Panui

Term 4 Week 1, 2026

Thursday 15 October

Te Whakatipu me to Honohono Hei Akonga: Growing and Connecting as Learners

Kia ora, Kia orana, Ni Hao, Hola, Namaste, Hallo, Bonjour, Talofa and greetings to you all,

It has been fantastic to see our students return back to school this week; rested and ready for this final term of the year. Many of them continue to reference back to the end of Term 3 and their experiences at last term's Production. It certainly remains a highlight despite the passage of time.

The teachers have hit the ground running with their efforts now focused on team and classroom planning and organisation for Term 4. As you know, this term is one with a number of big events. Next week, teams will publish their termly newsletters which outline the planning and learning programmes for this term.

Our parent committees are also hard at work, and in particular, I know that the House and Garden Committee have continued to work tirelessly over the past few months. If you haven't already done so, please give some time to contributing to this outstanding event; every person's contribution will aid the success of this major school fundraiser.

Next week is also our opportunity as teachers to work together on Teacher Only Day (Friday 23 October) to look at assessment, the newly published curricula and reporting to parents.

Ngā mihi nui,

Amanda Frater
Principal/Tumuaki

IMPORTANT and OF NOTE:

- *Teacher Only Day - Friday 23 October*
- *Zero Waste - Week 2, Term 4 onwards*
- *Bucket Hats for Term 4*
- *School Photos - last day of ordering Thursday 21 October 2026*
- *Scholastic Book Orders - Term 4: Issue One out this week*
- *House and Garden update*
- *PTA Quiz Night - Thursday 29 October*

Zero Waste - Term 4 initiative

Next week is the official start of our Zero Waste initiative across the school. This will see the removal of the outside rubbish bins and the introduction of ***litterless lunches***.

The aim of this is to remove all litter from our playground environment. This is something that we know we can achieve as a whole school. Ideally, this change will come about quite quickly so we can continue to look for other ways to build on the work we have already undertaken in caring for the environment e.g. wider composting, worm farming etc. Our Kaitiaki Days are a further example of an embedded initiative across the school.

In talking with the students this week, this change may not seem too significant at all. This is because it is something they are already doing. Thank you to our parents and caregivers for supporting us in this.

Here is some further guidance to help all families, students and teachers:

Changes:

- Any food wrapping that comes to school will need to be taken home again in your child's lunchbox.
- This approach is inclusive of Nada and Sushi orders
- Students and staff are encouraged to bring their food to school in recyclable containers and/or wrapped in reusable wraps (e.g. beeswax wraps or reusable bags).
- Classroom bins will be used for classroom rubbish only

Unchanged:

- Our whole school cardboard and paper recycling remains in place
- Our staff will continue to recycle, compost and separate out soft plastics in the staffroom.

Teacher Only Day - Friday 23 October

The school is closed for instruction next Friday. A reminder that Monday is Labour Day and so we look forward to seeing the students back on Tuesday 27 October.

Bucket Hats - Term 4

Thank you to everyone for the great uptake of Bucket Hat wearing in Term 4! We have been really impressed with the efforts of you all. It's been one of the best starts to date.

School Photos Close off

The last day for ordering photos is **Wednesday 21 October**. Please let the office know if you have mislaid your flyer.

Scholastic Book Orders - Term 4

The first of two brochures for this term's Scholastic Book Orders will be issued this Friday 16 October, with a second brochure being issued on Friday 6 November.

The closing date for both orders is **Thursday 26 November**. All orders will be distributed in the last week of school.

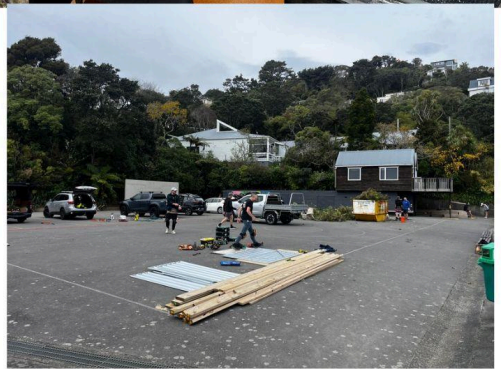
Working Bee 2026 - Rose Street

The photos document the outstanding results of this year's Working Bee 2026. Once again, our community of parents and students came together to enhance and improve a number of spaces around the school. The staff, students and I cannot thank you all enough for giving up the time to complete this work.

These events build on one another. I was reflecting on the fact that a few years back, the children's Science Garden was created as part of a Working Bee. This saw the installation of four gardening boxes. Since that time, the gardens have really flourished under the guidance of Mel Beirne and it was exciting to see this enhanced further with the installation of a gardening shed for the Gardening Group.

Another key focus of this year's Working Bee was the enhancement of the bench seating for our students and the painting of the areas around the Kōwhai decking and landing.









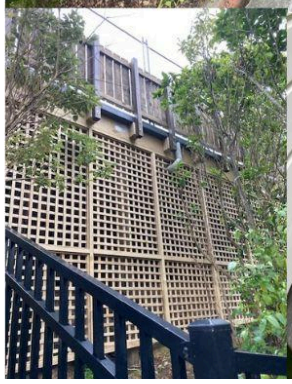




KEREU
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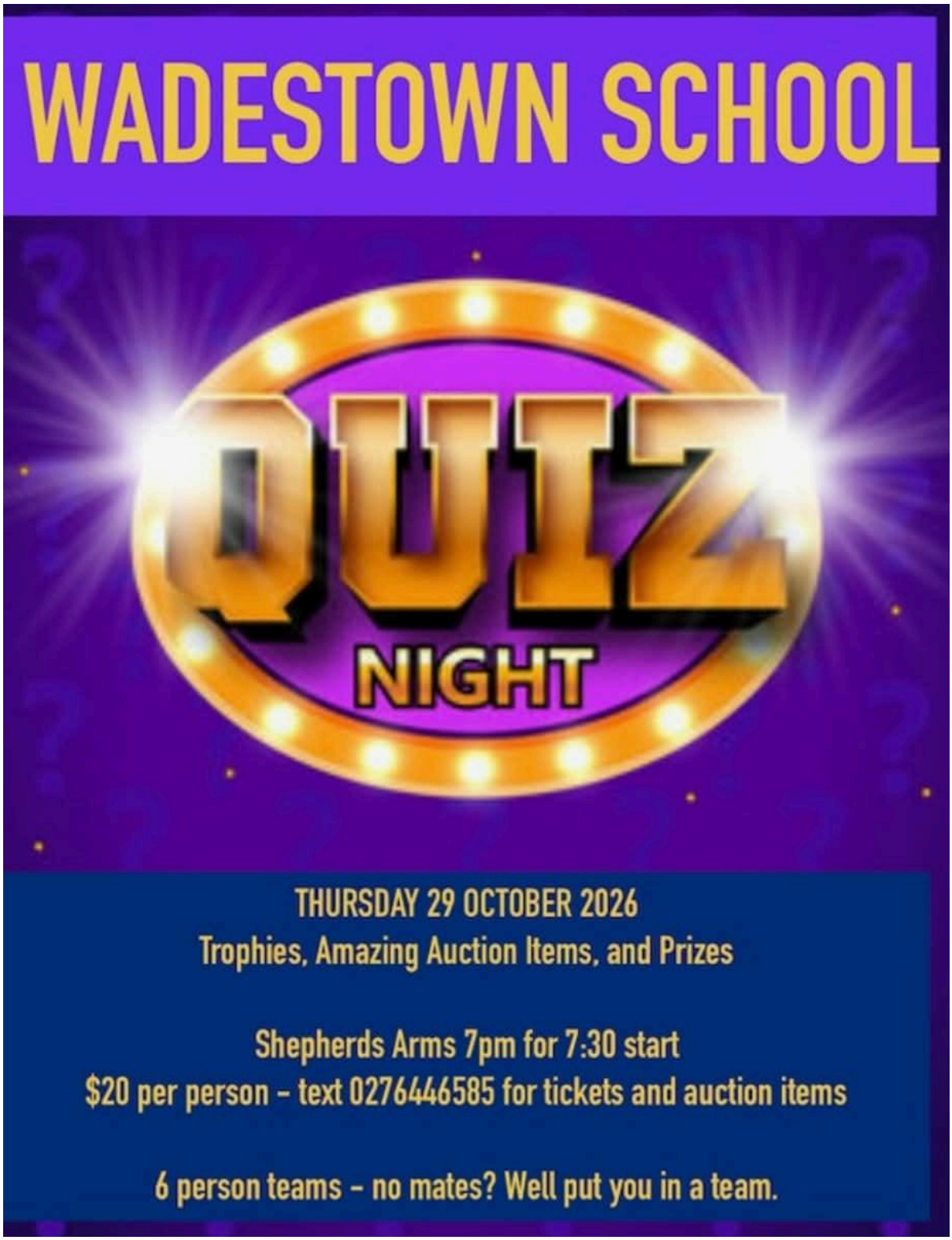








PTA NEWS


WADESTOWN SCHOOL
QUIZ
NIGHT
THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER 2026
Trophies, Amazing Auction Items, and Prizes
Shepherds Arms 7pm for 7:30 start
$20 per person – text 0276446585 for tickets and auction items
6 person teams – no mates? Well put you in a team.

House and Garden Update

Gate duty



The big day is fast approaching! As our House & Garden Walk only happens once every three years, we're excited to make it a fantastic day for our community, but we need the support of our wonderful school families to make it happen. Thank you to the volunteers who have also signed up for a Gate Duty, we still have slots to fill, so please sign up **here** as soon as possible if you have a preferred property. Gate duty involves checking tickets and warmly welcoming visitors, with shifts available from 10am–12pm, 12pm–2pm or 2pm–4pm. If you've purchased a ticket, you'll still have time to enjoy the walk yourself!

If you have any questions about this duty, or any other House and Garden related queries, please email pta.houseandgarden@wadestown.school.nz.

House and Garden Colouring and Design Competition

We've been so impressed with the fantastic entries coming in for our House & Garden Walk Competition! There's already plenty of creativity on display, and choosing our winners is going to be a tough job. There's still time to get involved, so why not use the weekend to encourage your child to put their creative ideas into action? **Entries are due by Wednesday 21 October**, so make sure their masterpiece makes it in on time! If your copy has gone missing, simply ask your child's teacher for a replacement. We can't wait to see what else our talented tamariki come up with!

Tickets still available

Tickets for this event are still available and include morning and afternoon tea. Gather some friends and come along for a great day out!

Wadestown House & Garden Walk 2026 – Deli Stall

The much-loved Wadestown School Deli Stall will be back for the 2026 House & Garden Walk, with a delicious selection of homemade treats, garden goodies and crafts made by our Wadestown School families.

We'd love your help to stock the stall, last time we sold out! If you have a favourite family recipe, something wonderful from the garden, or a crafty creation, please consider making something to donate. Some of last time's favourites included fudge, mini Christmas cakes, homemade jams, flavoured oils, homemade soaps and Christmas crafts. Take a look at the photos below for inspiration.

We will be collecting items the week before the event (9th to 13th November) and closer to the time, we'll let you know where to drop off your creations. The Deli Stall team will take care of the labelling and presentation, so all you need to do is make something delicious or lovely to share! Any questions please email pta.houseandgarden@wadestown.school.nz.





CELEBRATIONS: Student Leadership and Schoolwide Events

ICAS Results - 2026

Congratulations to all our students who took part in the ICAS assessments. It is great to see students challenging themselves and demonstrating their knowledge and skills. A special mention goes to Isabel Payne, who achieved a High Distinction, and to Baden Crofskey, Leo Mitson and Andrew Thurston, who each earned a Distinction. These are excellent achievements, and we congratulate all students on their efforts and results.

	Writing	Science	Mathematics	English
High Distinction *Top 1% of participants.*				Isabel Payne - Y4
Distinction *Next 10% of participants (top 1%-11%).*	Baden Crofskey - Y8 Leo Mitson - Y8		Andrew Thurston -Y8	Thomas Cameron - Y5
Credit *Next 25% of participants (top 11%-36%)* .	Isabel Payne - Y4 Tom Tietjens - Y4 Emily Gerritsen - Y7 Rueben Briar - Y7 Sophia Robinson - Y7	Philip Nguyen - Y8	Pippa Latham - Y5 William Crump - Y6 Charlie Tietjens - Y8	Bonnie Kerr - Y8 Sophie Robinson - Y7
Merit *Next 10% of participants (top 36%-46%).*	Japjot Kaur - Y8		Reuben Briar - Y7 Eve Latham - Y8 Philip Nguyen - Y8	Emily Gerritsen -Y7 Eva Nga - Y7

Epro8 Challenge 2026

On Tuesday 22nd September, Room 8 was bustled into the hall by Ms Gilligan. She told them to sit down and listen. Ms G began telling everyone about the Epro8 challenge.

Epro8 is a science and technology challenge for Y5-6. Students receive a kit with aluminum bars, nuts, bolts, and measuring tape. There are more things you get, but there are so many that I can't list them all.

The students were put into groups of 4 or 5, given an instruction book and let loose. There were three challenges. First, they did a practice test where they were put to the test to see how they would do in an actual challenge. It was a failure.

Secondly, they were told to make a crane that could lift and carry things. This was more successful, lots of students finished quickly. Everyone was proud of their work. After pulling apart their crane the final challenge could begin!

Lastly, the excited students were given the ultimate challenge! They were to create a caveman car powered by rubberbands. The car was to be 700mm long and 400mm

wide. It needed a seat, a shelter from the rain, and of course a motor that would propel it across the room. At the end of the day, they were told to pack up.

I learnt that it's important to work as a team and make sure everyone has a part.

Thank you,

Claudie W, Room 8, Y6







Ice-cream Challenge

Last term Room 8 did an ice cream challenge with Mrs Elliot on Wednesday. Everyone enjoyed making ice cream and now you're going to find out exactly what happened.

Firstly we got put into groups of four or five and chose our jobs.

The first week we were given goals of what our final product was going to be like. The goals were Creamy, Scoopable and Flavourful. In the second week we ate ice cream. We tried both expensive and cheap brands and some people were blind folded and had to guess what one was expensive and one cheap.

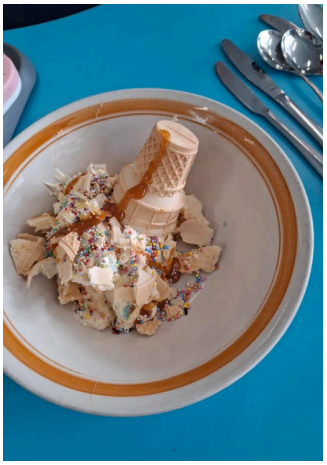
Another point is we made ice cream in a bag. Some ice creams were successful, others were not. After that ice cream we made, we did one with coconut cream. It was interesting how some people loved it and some people disliked it.

Lastly, we made our final ice cream. Every group had a different unique flavour including watermelon and lemon, chocolate, caramel and marshmallows and many more. We presented them to a person named Pam who works with food. Her favourite overall was the group that used caramel pretzels and a flake.

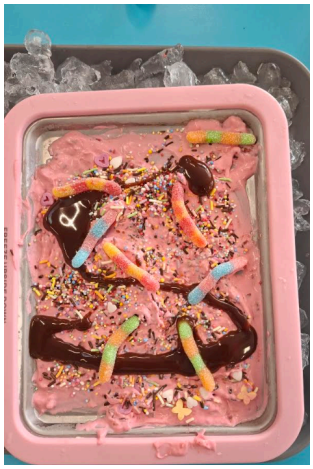
Hopefully you enjoyed learning what we all did over the term. One thing I learnt was you could make ice cream in a bag. Every Wednesday everyone was super excited and that's a good thing because it's good we do things together in groups.

Thank you Mrs Elliot and Pam.

Sophia, Room 8







Congratulations

Wadestown school Y7 student Callum Best, had an incredible school holiday representing New Zealand U14s at the Junior Indoor Cricket World Series in South Africa.

The New Zealand U14s played 12 pool matches, progressed through to the semi-finals, and went on to finish third overall, claiming the bronze medal behind Australia and hosts South Africa.

A particularly special moment came when Callum captained the side and led New Zealand to their first win of the tournament against South Africa.





And to top off an outstanding campaign, Callum was named the U14 Bowler of the Series, finishing as the tournament's leading wicket taker with an incredible 23 wickets.





School Calendar

Please note that changes to these dates are possible and that some events will be confirmed closer to the time. These dates are correct as at publication of this newsletter. For the online calendar, please click HERE.

Upcoming events for the next week:

Mon 19 Oct	Years 1-4 swimming
Tues 20 Oct	Years 4-8 Athletic Sports - Ben Burn Park
Wed 21 Oct	Years 1-4 swimming Last day to order school photos
Thur 22 Oct	EPRO8 Interschool Competition
Fri 23 Oct	**School Closed - Teacher Only Day**
Mon 26 Oct	**School Closed - Labour Day**

Tues 27 Oct	Year 3 Sports Festival
Wed 28 Oct	Years 1-4 swimming **Board Meeting @ 6.30pm**
Thur 29 Oct	**PTA Quiz Night**
Fri 30 Oct	Student Council Disco
Mon 2 Nov	**PTA Meeting** Years 1-4 swimming

Important Dates for Term 4

Fri 6 Nov	Western Zones Athletics
Tue 10 Nov	Year 8s to Government House
Fri 13 Nov	Wellington Girls and Wellington College Orientation Day
Sun 15 Nov	**House and Garden**
Tue 17 Nov	Inter Zone Athletics
Thur 26 Nov	Year 4 EOTC - Wellington Zoo
Mon 30 Nov	**PTA Meeting**
Tue 1 Dec	Regional Athletics
Wed 2 Dec	**Board Meeting @ 6.30pm**
Fri 11 Dec	Year 8 Leavers Dinner
Mon 14 Dec	Kōwhai to Adrenalin Forest Tōtara (yrs 3-6) to Te Rauparaha Arena

Tues 15 Dec	Meet the Teachers Reports sent home
Wed 16 Dec	Last day of Term 4



Kelly Club - Afterschool Care

Our Afterschool Care programme has now been running for almost two terms with great success.

Click here for more information.

Wadestown Tennis Club

Wadestown Tennis Club is offering a holiday programme in the first week of the upcoming school holidays – Monday 28th Sept till Friday 2nd Oct, 9am – 12noon.
Friday Club Night starts back in Term Four – first night October 30th.
Please see our website for further details.
Wadestown Tennis Club

Onslow Junior Football Club - Term 4 Fun!

Take to the turf with OJFC. Our off-season programmes are open to all young players, girls and boys, from ages 5 to 15. Registrations are open for the school holiday programme, MILO Fantails (for girls who've never played before and want to try it out), Futsal (fast footwork!), 3v3 competitions (bring your squad to make your mark), and our player development programmes. You can find us at https://onslow.org.nz/, look under the menu headers to find all the options. Hope to see you there!

Play Water Polo

If you're a strong swimmer in Year 6-8 who would love to play a fun team sport in Terms 4, then water polo may be for you! The Thorndon School Water Polo Team are looking for new players from neighbouring schools to set up a second team.

Games are held on Monday in Term 4 between 4 - 5:30pm at the Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre

Trainings will be held Saturday Oct 17, Nov 14, Nov 28 from 4:30–5:30pm , at the Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre.

New players are very welcome at any of these sessions to get an introduction to the game.

If your child is interested, please get in touch with michael.howden@gmail.com.

Costs are $70 per term

