Wadestown School

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

Newsletter - Panui

Term 4 Week 3, 2026

Friday 30 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,

This fortnight has been another busy one. A particular highlight for our Year 1 - 4 students has been their ongoing swimming lessons at Keith Spry Pool. These lessons provide our students with the opportunity to increase their water confidence and swimming skills. Having these skills consolidated in the early years prepares them well for the senior end of the school where water activities are a key component of each of our Year 5 - 8 Camps.

Yesterday, Cathrine and I attended a MoE led hui on the newly published Social Sciences and Science curricula. Being able to hear first hand about the intent of the New Zealand Curriculum and the recent changes allows us to be able to front foot how this will look in our classroom programmes.

The focus of our Friday's ToD was assessment and again, it was useful to be able to design a day for our teachers that built on Term 3 MoE workshops on assessment.

We hope that families were able to use the time over Labour Weekend to their fullest advantage.

Ngā mihi nui,

Amanda Frater
Principal/Tumuaki

IMPORTANT and OF NOTE:

- *Scholastic Book Orders - Term 4*
- *House and Garden update and student winners*

Zero Waste/Litterless Lunches

We are almost 2 weeks into this new initiative and have already seen positive improvements to our school environment. Thank you to our families for getting behind this initiative and working with your children. Your support is key in this.

Earlier in the week I was talking with our Room 1 students about their 'littlerless lunches'; they are excellent role models for this initiative and the reasons why we are looking to further reduce rubbish in our school environment.

PTA Quiz Night THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who attended last night's PTA Quiz Night. It was a fun evening, hosted by Mark Crofskey. Thank you to the parents, ex-parents and staff who attended in support of this event. Also to those families and community members who donated prizes for this event.

I imagine that there were some very happy children this morning who have woken up to learn that they are going to have a day as the Mayor, a Firefighter, a Police Officer, a Principal or a City Counsellor!

Yearbook 2026

Planning for this is well underway for our 2026 Yearbook.

We are grateful to James May, a graphic designer and parent of the school, who has agreed to assist us with this year's publication.

Sports Fees

Now is a good time to check that your child's sports fees are all up to date and paid in full. If you are unsure of what money is outstanding for your child, please contact the office.

Scholastic Book Orders - Term 4

The second brochure for Term 4 will be issued next week 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. Thank you for your support. All book orders provide us with credit to put towards books for our school libraries.

PTA NEWS

Wadestown House and Garden Walk - 16 days to go!

We're now in the final countdown to the Wadestown House and Garden Walk, with just 16 days to go!

This is our major school fundraiser, held only once every three years, and we need every Wadestown School whānau to get behind it to make it a success.

Gate duty volunteers – 14 slots still to fill!

We still have 14 gate duty slots to fill, and we need all families to do their part to ensure the day runs smoothly. **Please sign up here**.

Gate duty involves checking tickets and giving visitors a warm welcome at each property. There will still be plenty of time to enjoy the walk before or after your shift. Available times are:

- 10am – 12pm
- 12pm – 2pm
- 2pm– 4pm

Tickets still available - please keep selling!

We still have tickets to sell, so please keep spreading the word and encouraging friends, family and colleagues to come along. Share this link - https://events.humanitix.com/wadestown-house-and-garden-walk-2026

If every family sells just one more ticket, it will bring us much closer to our fundraising goal!

With only 17 days to go, now is the time for everyone to get involved. Thanks for helping make this a fantastic event for our school!

CELEBRATIONS: Student Leadership and Schoolwide Events

House and Garden Walk Competition winners

We were so impressed by the fantastic entries for our House and Garden Walk competition, and choosing the winners was no easy task! A huge thank you to all the students who took part and put so much creativity and effort into their entries.

Our winners are:

Year 7/8- 1st Althea Mitson, 2nd Bonnie Kerr, 3rd Imogen Prebble

Year 5/6- 1st Andre Oliver, 2nd Oscar Kularante, 3rd William Crump

Year 3/4- 1st Isabel Payne, 2nd Ben Yates, 3rd Billie Basher Jefferies

Year 1/2- 1st Rosie Joyce, 2nd Luna Roberts, 3rd Ihaia Scully

Room 4 win most entries - non uniform day on 13th November

Saskia Grey gets commended for individual entries













Congratulations: to Althea who has had her artwork published in the Toitoi Journal

My Toitoi Experience
By Althea Mitson

Toitoi is a journal for young writers and artists. I had a piece of artwork published in Toitoi 34, which came out in 2024, and this year I decided to try again for a spot in Toitoi 35.

To be considered for the drawing section, you need to submit two examples of your best artwork. Once you have sent them in, you wait a couple of months for an email telling you whether you have been accepted or not.

Luckily, I was accepted and was sent a poem to illustrate. It took me a couple of weeks to draw, paint and send in my finished artwork.

After a few more months of waiting, I finally received two copies of the journal at home and another two at school!

Being part of Toitoi is a great experience, and I highly recommend it to anyone who wants to become an artist or writer when they grow up.



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:

Thur 29 Oct	**PTA Quiz Night**
Mon 2 Nov	Years 1-4 swimming **PTA Meeting from 6.30pm**
Wed 4 Nov	Years 1-4 swimming
Fri 6 Nov	Western Zones Athletics
Mon 9 Nov	Whole School photo for Yearbook Poroporaki for Megan Smith's from 2pm
Tue 10 Nov	Year 8s to Government House
Wed 11 Nov	Pōhutukawa Trip to Space Place

Important Dates for Term 4

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