Wadestown School

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

Newsletter - Panui

Term 4 Week 5, 2026

Thursday 12 November 2026

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 Sunday our schooling community will host our much loved and anticipated **House and Garden Walk for 2026**. This major fundraiser is a Wadestown School institution and one that has continued to put our school on the Wellington map.

Preparations for this event have been ongoing throughout the year and the committee of parents and teacher representatives have worked tirelessly in support of our school and in particular, our students. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the House and Garden Committee, the home owners, the major sponsors and everyone who has lent a hand in support of our school.

I genuinely encourage every parent and supporter of the school to get involved in this marvellous event. There is something for everyone; be it exploring the vast houses and gardens of Wadestown, connecting with people, learning more about the history of the area or supporting the school by volunteering your time. And if not, please continue to spread the word amongst your friends and family. I know this is an event that many people do not want to miss out on!

For any House and Garden related queries, please email pta.houseandgarden@wadestown.school.nz.

I look forward to seeing you all there on the day.

Ngā mihi nui,

Amanda Frater
Principal/Tumuaki

IMPORTANT and OF NOTE:

- A reminder to join us this SUNDAY for our 2026 House and Garden Tour
- Reporting of absences to the office

Farewell for Megan Smith

On Monday afternoon the whole school, including parents, the PTA and a strong representation of the Board, farewelled Megan Smith our Finance and Office Administrator. Megan joined us in 2022 taking over from Lynda Sale. During our wholeschool Assembly Farewell, students reflected on the fact that Megan was a kind and friendly champion of every child who came to the front office or medical room. A keen supporter of our staff and parents in the front office, Megan worked hard to help those around her. Behind the scenes, Megan oversaw our finances and worked closely with Maea, Cathrine and myself. Megan is off to begin a new chapter working at Treasury. We wish her all the very best for her next endeavour.

House and Garden

A huge thank you to everyone! It's been fantastic to see the Wadestown School whānau getting behind this major fundraiser. We really appreciate everyone's support. Thanks again for your support, this event wouldn't be possible without our wonderful school community! With around 700 people expected to attend, there are still a few things we need your help with to make the day a success.

Refreshment houses - baking and food needed! We're asking for contributions to help keep our refreshment houses well stocked. Home baking, club sandwiches, savoury scones and shop-bought treats are all very welcome.

Food drop-off: Sunday 15 November, between 9am and 1pm: Please use the signposted drop-off areas at either of the following locations: House 8: 34 Orchard Street House 12: 55 Wade Street

Deli stall: Thank you to everyone who has already dropped off items for the deli stall. It's been great to see all your wonderful contributions! If you haven't managed to drop off anything yet, you still can, please contact Lizzie Borowy on 021 140 8435

Tickets are still available! It's been exciting to see so many tickets being sold! But we are just short of our target. Please let people know they can buy tickets online until Friday or purchase on the day. **If you haven't got your ticket yet, there's still time to join us!**

Student Absences

In order to further streamline the morning routine in the office, I kindly ask that parents notify the school office of any student absences **before 9:00 am** using our online absence form

If you wish to discuss your child's absence, please call the office directly.

For families taking their child/ren out of school for extended absences from school, please ensure you email myself, the classroom teacher/s and the front office. Parents are required to provide us with the reason for the absence and the dates of the absence. Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter.

Year 8s visit to Government House







On Tuesday, our Year 8 students visited Government House as part of their Leadership Programme, where they gained insight into the history of leadership in New Zealand and the important role of the Governor-General.

The students enjoyed a tour of some of the significant rooms within Government House and even had the opportunity to sit in chairs previously occupied by dignitaries, including Queen Elizabeth II, King Charles III and the Governor-General herself.

A highlight of the visit was the 'mock' investiture ceremony, where Ben Gowans and Vidhya Ratnayake were recognised for their outstanding contributions to the Wadestown School community. Ben was acknowledged for his leadership and willingness to support younger students and school events, while Vidhya was recognised for her musical contributions, helpfulness and quiet dedication. Both are wonderful examples of students who lead through their actions and make a positive difference to our school.

Western Zone Athletics 2026

A team of 73 Wadestown athletes performed with great distinction at the Western Zone Athletics last week. Light rain created some difficulties, making footing slippery and waiting for an event a challenge to stay dry. The high jump was deemed too slippery and was postponed until this week, to be held indoors, at the Samuel Marsden gym.

Wadestown runners started the programme well, with top 3 finishes in all but one of the long-distance races. Then finished the programme winning five of the ten relay races. In between, there were top three placings in sprint races and each of the field events.

A total of 34 Wadestown athletes have been selected to participate in the Inter Zone Athletics, back at Newtown Park next week.








Year 7 and 8 Explorers' Wax Museum

This term, the Kōwhai Team brought its Great Minds research project to life with a Living Wax Museum, celebrating explorers and their extraordinary journeys. Students chose an explorer to research, discovering more about their lives, achievements and adventures. Along the way, they strengthened their paragraph writing skills, learning to organise their ideas, group information and share key facts clearly. The excitement continued as students dressed up as their chosen explorers, stepping into character to deliver short speeches and share their learning through informative posters. Captain James Cook, Amelia Earhart, Gertrude Bell and Jacques Cousteau were among the many explorers who came to life.

It was wonderful to see the students share their knowledge and creativity with the younger students, while building their research, writing and public speaking skills. A great effort from everyone involved.



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.

Important Dates for Term 4

Fri 13 Nov	Wellington Girls' and Wellington College Orientation Day
Sun 15 Nov	**House and Garden Tour for 2026**
Tue 17 Nov	Inter Zone Athletics (pp date 19 Nov)
Fri 20 Nov	**Student Disco:** Years 3 - 5 (12:40 pm - 1:30 pm) Years 6 - 8 (6:00 pm - 8:00 pm)
Wed 25 Nov	Kōwhai Speech Finals @ 9:00 am
Thur 26 Nov	Year 4 EOTC - Wellington Zoo Overnight Stay Year 8 Performance Group to Pōhutukawa @ 9:00 am
Mon 30 Nov	Tōtara Nui Speech Finals @ 9:00 am Year 2 Transition Visit to Rose Street @ 9:00 am PTA Meeting @ 6:30pm
Tue 1 Dec	Regional Athletics
Wed 2 Dec	**Board Meeting @ 6:30pm** Wellington High School Y8 transition visit
Fri 4 Dec	House Day @ Rose Street
Fri 11 Dec	Pōhutukawa Christmas Picnic *Weld St field @ 12 noon* Year 8 Leavers' Dinner (pm)
Mon 14 Dec	Kōwhai to Adrenalin Forest Tōtara Team Years 3-6 to Te Rauparaha Arena
Tues 15 Dec	Prize Giving Assembly @ 9:00 am Meet 2027 Teachers @ 11:00 am Reports sent home @ 12:00 pm
Wed 16 Dec	Yearbook 2026 issued **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

Term Four - Friday Club Night. Please see our website for further details.
Wadestown Tennis Club

