

Welcome to this edition of our school newsletter. I hope you are looking forward to a long weekend, starting tomorrow with Canterbury Show Day. Hopefully the weather will be fine, and we can all enjoy some worthwhile family time.

Last week saw the last of the Year 8 camps, with Room 9 returning on Thursday evening and Room 3 returning on Friday. I have been fortunate to be able to attend all of the camps, albeit for a short time with each. I was really impressed by the behaviour and attitude of all our students, and the obvious care and support from the accompanying staff and parents. We talk a lot at our school about being the best we can be, and representing ourselves, our families and our school to a very high level. It was so good to see our students doing this and living our school values even when tired. Thank you to all involved – we are super proud of you!

On Tuesday this week we held the second “Kirkwood Kid for a Morning” where we invited students who are pre-enrolled for 2027, other than those from Ilam School, to spend a morning experiencing our school. This went well despite the misty weather. We are looking forward to welcoming all our new students in 2027. If you have missed this opportunity, please feel welcome to contact the school and we can see what we can do to make your child’s transition easy and smooth.

As the year progresses, we are beginning to make plans for 2027. Part of these plans will include a reorganisation of our Year 7 classes – if your child is in Year 7, please keep an eye on your inbox over the next week or so as we will be sending you some information shortly.

On Sunday our PTA – Friends of the school are holding a fundraising sausage sizzle on Sunday at Mitre 10 Brougham St. Thank you to all who are helping by working on the BBQ – your help is much appreciated. If you are passing by, please pop in and buy a sausage and support our school.

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is next Thursday at 5:15pm in the school staff room. Interested people are most welcome to attend.

You will see later in the newsletter our school's **Draft Strategic Plan for 2027 – 2028**. I would really appreciate it if you could look through this document and, if you have any suggestions, email them to the school office **by 27 November**. This will allow our Board to collate and discuss before deciding what, if any, changes need to be made before they ratify our plan at the last Board meeting in December. Thank you for your help with this.

As always seems to be the case, the rest of this term is looking quite busy. Our swimming pool is nearly ready for use – hopefully we will get some fine, warm weather before the end of the year. There are many sporting opportunities still to happen, and it would be really appreciated if you could ensure your child has a good quality sunhat with them at all times. We do have sunscreen available at school for anyone to use – perhaps you could remind your child about good, sun-safe practices. Please remember we are here to work with you to ensure your child has a successful end of the year.

Kind regards

Phil Tappenden
Principal

School Council Visits Ilam School

Last Thursday, many of the students on the School Council (photo below), walked over to Ilam School. Each student had taken time to choose books from our library or from home that they thought the children would enjoy. Two or three students were allocated to junior classes and then spent half an hour reading to the children. As with the other years we have done this, the Kahikatea Kirkwood students had a very enjoyable time. Comments were: "they are so small, they asked us some good questions, it was fun, I read better than I thought I would, I was a bit nervous, but I really enjoyed being like a teacher."

Reading stories to the children at Ilam School is part of the Kahikitea Kirkwood Intermediate School Student Council's role to organise activities to connect with other young people. As leaders in the school, thinking beyond yourself and showing caring and support for others, is a core purpose of the Council.

Thank you very much to the Ilam School teachers for helping us organise this activity, it is much appreciated.

The School Council and Mrs Knight



Year 8 Wellington Camp – Rooms 3, 4 & 9

It was a very tiring first day. We all had to wake up early and get to the airport by 5:50am. Everyone was drowsy and some of us were in bad moods but as soon as we landed in Wellington we all knew that we would enjoy all the adventures before us.

A highlight for our class was Capital E. We had to work together to create a TV production and had fun being ourselves and had lots of laughs along the way! Each minute went by so quickly and before we knew it, it was time to head back home.

The ferry had beautiful locations and views while the train had an amazing outdoor carriage so you could get a better view of the world around us. For the Year 7's next year you will be looking forward to a whole lot of fun and magical places along the way! It's not about the destination but the journey.

Brenna Room 3































We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the New Zealand Business and Parliament Trust for supporting our school with a Travel Fund grant. Thanks to their generosity, our students were able to travel to Wellington and visit Parliament. A major highlight of our Wellington Camp, this visit gave students an unforgettable, front-row look at our government system—especially exciting as it coincided with the 2026 General Election!

Christchurch Schools' Music Festival

Our school Choir had a wonderful time performing at the Christchurch Schools' Music Festival on Friday night. The Douglas Lilburn Auditorium at the Christchurch Town Hall is such a special place to sing in, and with the addition of the representative orchestra and concert band - they sounded fantastic! We've been learning the repertoire all year, so it was highly rewarding to do it justice. A big thank you to Jun Beom for accompanying our choir during rehearsals.

It was impressive to have two of our students, Tatiana and Jun Beom, in the Senior Rep Choir and the Rep Orchestra, respectively. These are always highly regarded groups, and with the popularity of the festival, challenging to get selected for. A huge congratulations to them both for all their mahi and effort over the past 2 terms in preparation for 4 massive performances.

We now look towards the Arts Assembly in Week 8, where we'll be performing.











A Little Hair, A Lot of Heart

For the past four years, I've been growing my hair, and now I'm getting ready to say goodbye to it for a very special reason.

I'm having my hair cut off and donating it to help make a wig for a child experiencing hair loss through cancer. I hope that my hair can help another child feel a little more confident, happy and like themselves during what can be an incredibly difficult time.

I have also turned my big haircut into an opportunity to help me achieve a dream of my own. I'm raising money towards attending the 2027 Girl Guiding New Zealand Jamboree in Hamilton, where I'll get to spend six days making memories, meeting Guides from around the country and have a once in a lifetime opportunity.

It feels really special to know that something I've spent years growing can be given to a child who needs it, whilst also helping me get closer to something I've been looking forward to for so many years.

If my hair can bring a smile to another child's face, then every centimetre will be worth it.

Thank you so much for supporting me and helping make both of these dreams possible.

Hayley and Aimee's Jamboree Journey givealittle page





School App

Our school uses the Hero App for communicating to our school community.

This is also our emergency contact system.

Please click on the following link for instructions on how to download" HERO APP



PTA Mitre 10 Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser

The Kahikatea Kirkwood Intermediate Friends of the School (PTA) is seeking volunteers for our **Mitre 10 Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser** on Sunday 15 November at Mitre 10 Mega, Brougham Street.

We are needing 12 volunteers throughout the day to help run the sausage sizzle. If you can help, please email the PTA committee at pta@kirkwood.school.nz with your name and a shift that suits you.

Please refer to more information sent out via Hero earlier this week.

Thank you for your support.

Public Health Nurse Information

My name is Natasha and I am the allocated Public Health Nurse for your school. I work within a team of Public Health Nurses. We are Registered Nurses with knowledge and experience in child/tamariki and family/whānau health. We work with children/tamariki and families/whānau where health and wellbeing concerns impact on their home and school lives.

Please contact me if you have any health concerns for your child/ tamariki.
My details are: Email: Natasha.mailto:graham@tewhatuora.govt.nz
Referrals to service: Link

Ngā mihi
Natasha Graham
Public Health Nurse

For Review: Draft Strategic Plan 2027 - 2028

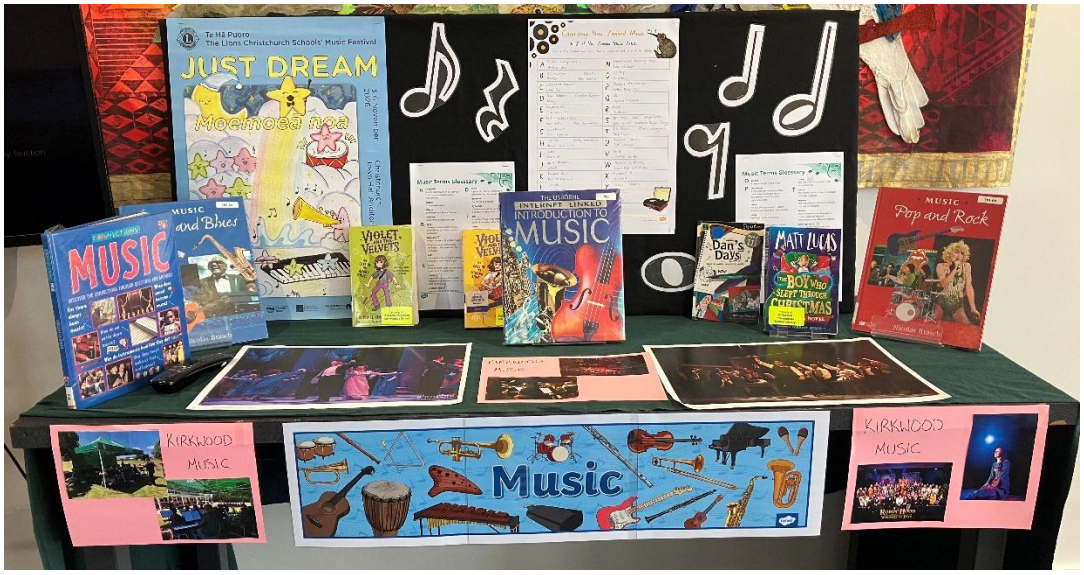
The Draft Strategic Plan for 2027–2028 is now available for community consultation. Please click the following link to view the document.

Draft Strategic Plan 2027 – 2028

If you have any comments or feedback, please email us at school.information@kirkwood.school.nz by 27 November 2026.

Library News

Week 4: Was a time for celebrating music. Students helped compile an A-Z of New Zealand music artists.



Week 5: Room 4 displayed their artwork on their recent camp in Wellington, complete with a video they made at Capital E studios.

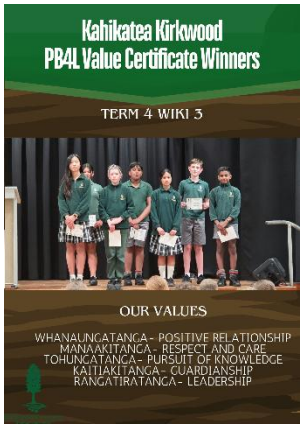


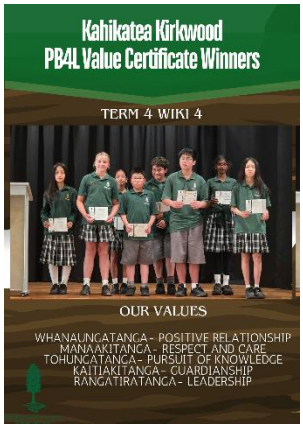
Period Products

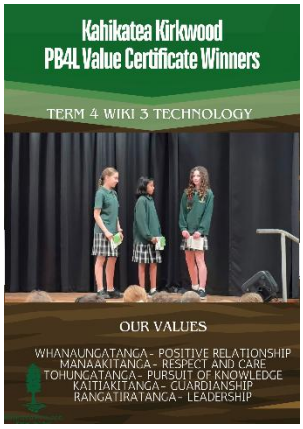
Period products are available at the school office at no cost.

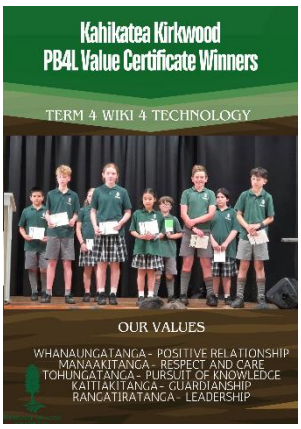
Value Certificate winners

Congratulations to the Classroom and Technology Value certificate winners for Term 4 Weeks 3 & 4.









Kahikatea Kirkwood Blues Awards

We offer Blues Awards for Academic, Cultural and Sports. The goal of our Blues Awards are to:

- Acknowledge the achievement and attainment of our students;
- Acknowledge the depth and breadth of their attainment; and
- Acknowledge citizenship and students who display our school values;
- Encourage students to strive;
- Place a high value on 'In-school' achievement.

For details regarding eligibility criteria please visit our website: Blues Award Criteria and Application Form

Home Stay Families

We are looking into the future for homestay families to host short and long term international students for 2026 & 2027. For those interested please contact Alison Xie, our International Director alisonxie@kirkwood.school.nz. Alison will give you a Homestay Application form along with a Police Vetting form. These need to be filled out and delivered to the school office. Thank you

Lunch Orders (Friday's only)

You can order lunch via Ezlunch on Fridays by simply clicking here!
Sushi Ninja and Subway is available and will be delivered in time for lunch.

You may order (or cancel) **before 9am** on this day or schedule in advance. Click here to view the menu.

Orders are made online through your MyKindo account. One account for the whole family! Please click here or go to www.mykindo.co.nz to start ordering!
Note: For Apple and Android users, please download the mykindo app.

Help? Visit support.mykindo.co.nz or tel. 09 869 5200 weekdays 8am – 4pm.

www.ezlunch.co.nz
www.mykindo.co.nz



Parenting Tips from Real Parents



Parakuihi Club / Breakfast Club

At Kahikatea Kirkwood we are fortunate to have a **Parakuihi Club/Breakfast Club** before the school day starts on Monday - Friday from 8:20am - 8:40am.

We've got yummy cereals and toast with delicious spreads – all free, all for you! Bring your friends, fill your tummy, have a chat with the youth workers and get ready for a great day.

Thank you to our awesome sponsors: Anchor, Sanitarium, and Woolworths Church Corner.

Please look at the Daily Notices on our website for more information.



Road Safety

Please can you emphasise to your children how important it is to cross Riccarton Road at the pedestrian crossing by Wharenui Road.

If you are dropping your child off opposite the school, they must walk down the road to this crossing. Please do not help them to cross opposite the school.

Thank you

Scholastic Book Club

Orders are due by **Monday 30 November**. To order online, please follow the instructions below:

LOOP is the easy way for families to order and pay for Book Club. Log in,

or create a new account at bookclub.scholastic.co.nz

1. If you are new to Book Club, follow the Wizard to set up your profile;
2. Click the ORDER tab, and select your school and child's class;
3. Add your child's first name and last initial (so the school knows who the book is for);
4. Enter the product item number shown on the Book Club catalogue;
5. Make payment via credit card.



School Driveway

Please ensure you **do not** drive up the school driveway (Riccarton Road & Kirkwood Avenue entrances) to drop off or pick up your children either before or after school. It is too unsafe for our children.

Please plan to pick up and drop off your child outside the Kirkwood grounds. Kirkwood Ave and Karamu Street are good options.

Thank you for your support with this.

Sprout for Starship

With every Sprout ordered helps the mission, with $10 from each purchase going to Starship Foundation. Every order helps get Starship closer to their $10,000 goal.

Thank you for helping a little Sprout make a big difference.

You can order your Sprout here.



Health New Zealand / Te Whatu Ora

For information on the School Based Immunisation Programme, please click here.

School Calendar

Please view via our website: School Calendar

School Bank Account Details

Account Name: ***Kahikatea Kirkwood Intermediate Board***
Account Number: ***12-3147-0180900-00***
Particulars: ***Child's name (surname and first name)***
Reference: ***Parent's/caregiver's name (surname and first name)***

For those of you who wish to pay by internet banking for any school activities during the year, please make sure you submit your online permission along with your payment.

Community Notices

Family Cabs – 24/7 Airport Transfers, Cabs4Kids and Taxis4Teens. Visit their website for more information.
Avonside Girls' High School – If you know of whānau who will struggle to purchase uniform items for Avonside Girls', then please ask them to email Nardine who will be able to help.
Parent to Parent – Workshops, events, resources for parents & whānau of disabled kiwis can be found on their website.
Sara Cohen School Centenary Celebration – On Saturday 5 December at 12:30pm. For more information email mailto:centenary@saracohen.school.nz
Paint our Wall – You're invited to design and paint a mural for the Brockworth Walkway. For more information including design criteria please email.
Muka Youth Print Exhibition – Coming to the Christchurch Art Gallery from Friday 13 – Sunday 15 November, 10am – 5pm.
Summer Writing School for Teens - Now open for bookings. Please refer to their website for more information.
Helping Tamariki find their school rhythm again - For more information please refer to their website.
Kip McGrath - Does your child need extra help or extension? Is your child ready for high school? We can help at Kip McGrath Avonhead with face to face, small group tutoring with actual trained teachers. Help your child build confidence in a safe environment. Book for a free assessment visit our website or phone 03 3427110.

Sports/Clubs

Free Kids Tickets at Mainland Pouākai Basketball – When you select a Bronze Adult Ticket. On Saturday 14 November, 7:30pm at Parakiore Recreation & Sport Centre. Tickets here.
Luminaires 2027 Summer Theatre Camp – Auditions coming up over Show Weekend for the Theatre Camp show held in January. Please click on the link to apply.
Z Manu World Champs - Where bomb legends from all walks of life come together . The Christchurch Qualifiifier is on Saturday 6 March 2027 at Jellie Park. Info found here.



Please note: Kahikatea Kirkwood Intermediate does not necessarily endorse or support any of the services advertised