



Kahikatea Kirkwood

Intermediate School



FROM THE ACTING PRINCIPAL

Kia ora e te whānau and welcome to the newsletter. The past fortnight has been a busy one, packed with curricular and extracurricular opportunities for our rangatahi. In the past two weeks, students have completed the final Otago Problem Solving competition set, taken part in the Kahikatea Whaikōrero (speech) Challenge, played in the CAIMS Basketball Tournament, attended the Dawn Raid workshop and supported Daffodil Day.

Our value of whanaungatanga has really shone through in these activities, with students supporting and encouraging one another along the way. As we move into the second half of the term, our focus shifts to kaitiakitanga (guardianship of our school, environment and learning), and we look forward to seeing this value shine through too.

There is plenty more to come over the next fortnight with visits to Kate Sheppard House, Art Gallery and Quake City visits, and the Kiwi Spelling Bee. The upcoming Dance Showcase has pushed many students out of their comfort zones and is creating a real buzz around the school, with some discovering hidden talents.

Our recent Teacher Only Day was productive, with classroom teachers deepening their knowledge of the mathematics curriculum changes, and our Technology Team looking into AI.

We want to acknowledge the busyness of the past two weeks for our staff, whānau and students. Balancing so much has not been easy, and it has been a team effort to get so many events off the ground. Thank you for your mahi tahi.

Ngā mihi

Kim Robertson
Acting Principal



Daffodil Day Highlights

Daffodil Day was held on Thursday 27 August at Kahikitea Kirkwood Intermediate School. The school was flooded with all sorts of yellow outfits with many students and staff dressing up in yellow to support the Cancer Society. Our goal was to support others by giving a donation and do an act of kindness, which is good for our own wellbeing.

A bake sale was also held at interval on 27 August. This was organized by members of the School Council. Thank you to the wonderful parents and whānau who helped provide an item of baking. There was a very long queue of students wanting to buy the delicious cakes, biscuits and slices!

In total, approximately \$380 was raised for the Cancer Society which we are very pleased to pass over to them.

School Council members and Andrea Knight, counsellor



Kahikatea Whaikōrero Challenge

Yesterday we were lucky enough to listen to our Year 7 and Year 8 speech finalists perform in front of their respective year groups. The calibre of the speeches and their presentation was outstanding and it is obvious that a huge amount of preparation went into them. It is inspiring to hear our rangatahi discuss issues of importance to them with such passion. The winners and runners up will be announced at assembly and the winners will represent Kahikatea Kirkwood at the CAIMS finals early next term.





Dawn Raiders Workshop

A small group of our Pasifika students had the wonderful opportunity to attend an engaging and inspiring workshop at Tūranga, led by authors Pauline Smith and Brooklyn Taylor, creators of *The Apology*, the sequel to *Dawn Raid*.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the interactive session and gained a deeper understanding of the story, the history behind the book, and the experiences that influenced its creation. Pauline and Brooklyn shared insights into their writing process, including the different styles and techniques they used to bring the story to life.

The workshop also gave our students valuable tips and encouragement around writing, storytelling and finding inspiration through their own experiences. Hearing the authors share their personal stories and connections to the history made the session particularly meaningful for our Pasifika students.

It was a fantastic opportunity for our students to learn from published authors, ask questions, share ideas and see how real-life experiences and history can be transformed into powerful stories.

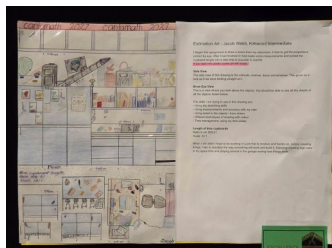
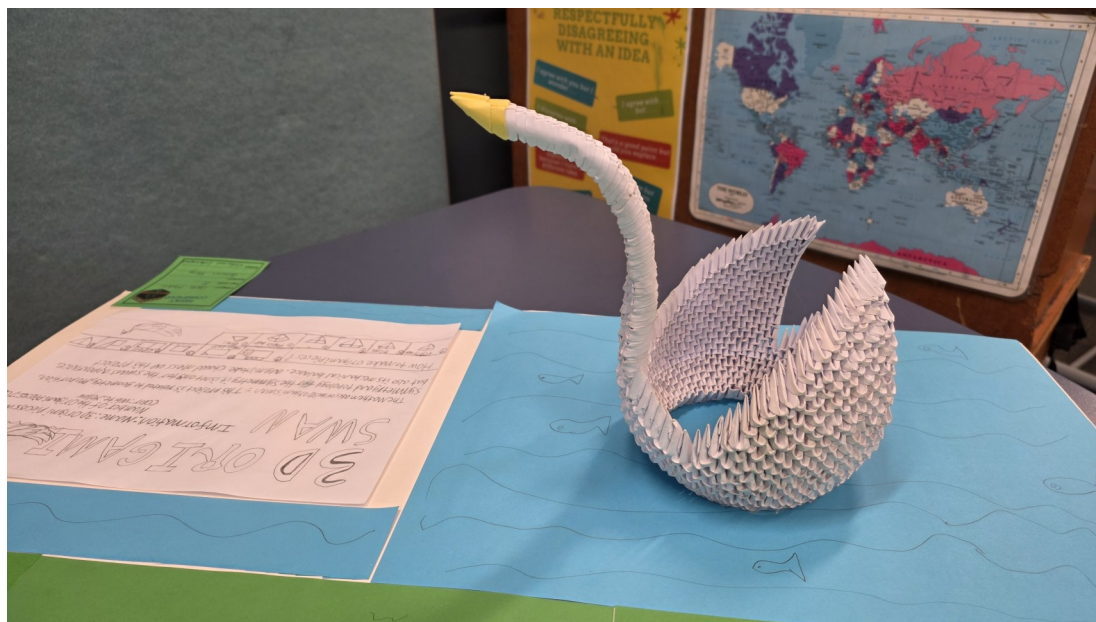
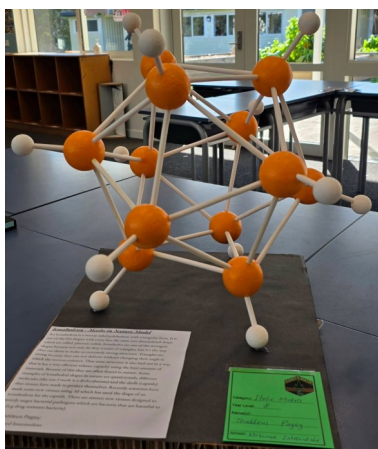




CANTAMATH Display Competition

A huge congratulations to all of our creative students who participated in the CANTAMATH Display Competition. The quality of the entries was exceptional, and we are thrilled that the following students earned special recognition for their outstanding work.

- Harry: Excellence in Publicity Motif
- Jacob: Excellence in Mathematical Poster
- Cici: Highly-commended in Mathematical Model
- Yaeka, Sheana and Eden: Highly-commended in Games and Puzzles





CANTAMATH Teams

On Wednesday 19 August two Kirkwood intermediate school teams went to the CANTAMATH Problem Solving Competition at Wolfbrook Arena. These two teams had trained hard over the course of Term 1 and Term 2 being exhausted after every practice with too many numbers in their heads.

The CANTAMATH competition is run by a team of four, one runner and three other mathematicians. The team answers the question and passes it on to the runner where the runner runs to the table to see if they got the question right or wrong. It goes like this until 30 minutes ends.

We felt very anxious before the competition but as soon as it got underway we were in competition mode. Our Year 7 team got a superb 80 points after answering just over 16 questions (1 question equals 5 points for the team) and our Year 8 team had an impeccable score of 100 points entering them into the top 5 of over 70 different schools.

Jobe and Kayden



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](#)



Download the Hero App today



School Calendar

Please view via our [website](#)



Basketball

For the last twelve weeks, four Kirkwood teams have been playing hard in the Gators Basketball League against other schools. All teams spent so much effort in training and the progress was outstanding. Everyone tried their best and got involved all the time. Even though there were losses, everyone stayed cheerful and had a good attitude. Whenever a win occurred, it felt like all that training paid off. All in all I think that this year's basketball season went very well and I'm excited to see what next year's season will be like. We thank our coaches for giving their break times and Friday afternoons for us.

By Adonis



School Bank 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.



Library News

Week 6 the Library displayed all the amazing posters and projects entered into the Cantamath competition by our students.



Week 7 display was put together by Room 5. They have studied a few films this year and put together a video, theme essays, film booklets and books that inspired films.



Scholastic Book Club

Orders are due by **Monday 21 September**. 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.





Year 8 Wellington Camp

Wellington Camp should now be fully paid. If you still have an outstanding balance, please arrange payment as soon as possible to ensure your child is able to attend camp. Thank you

Please make payment via internet to the following school bank account :

Account Name:

Kahikatea Kirkwood Intermediate Board;

Account Number: 12-3147-0180900-00;

Particulars: Child's name (surname first);

Reference: Wellington camp.



Wellington Camp Dates

The Year 8 classes will be leaving for Wellington camp on the following dates in Term 4:

Week 2

- Monday 19 - 22 October - Room 13
- Tuesday 20 - 23 October - Room 12

Week 3

- Tuesday 27 - 30 October - Room 4

Week 4

- Monday 2 - 5 November - Room 9
- Tuesday 3 - 6 November - Room 3

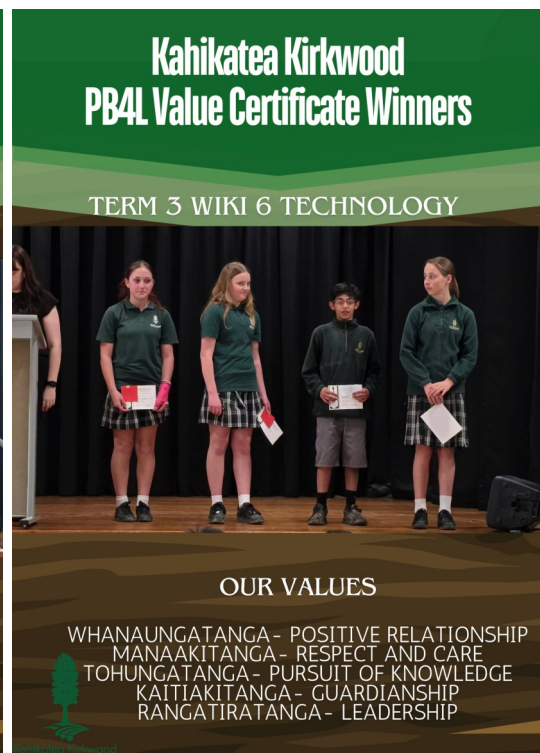
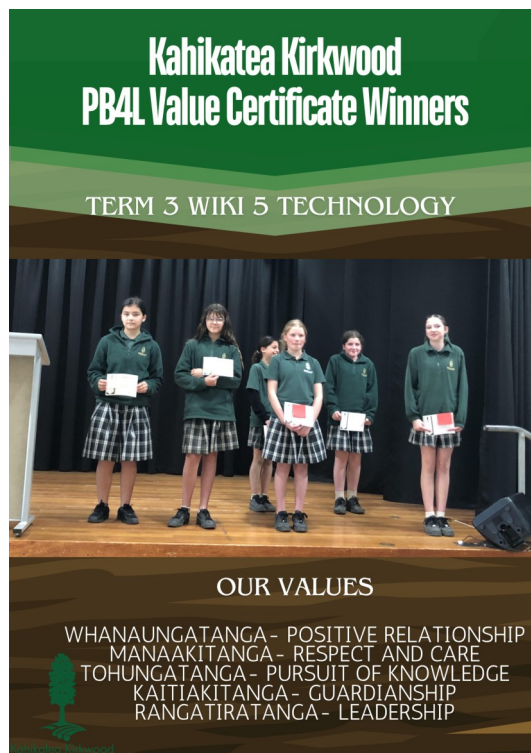
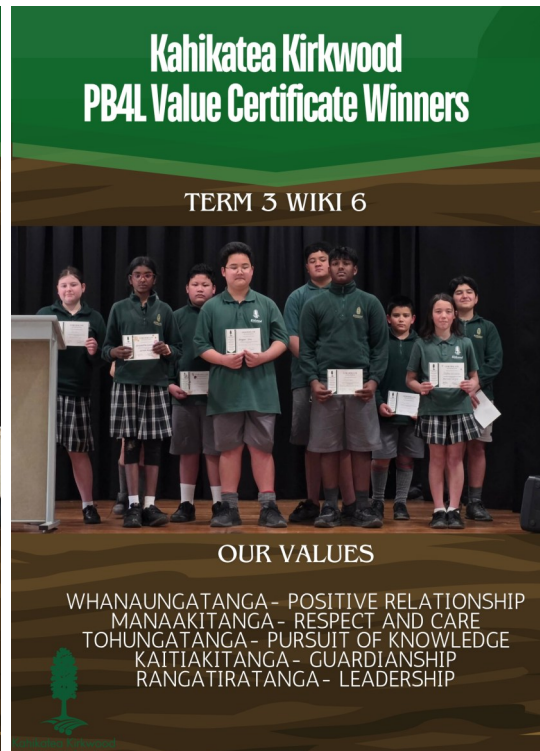
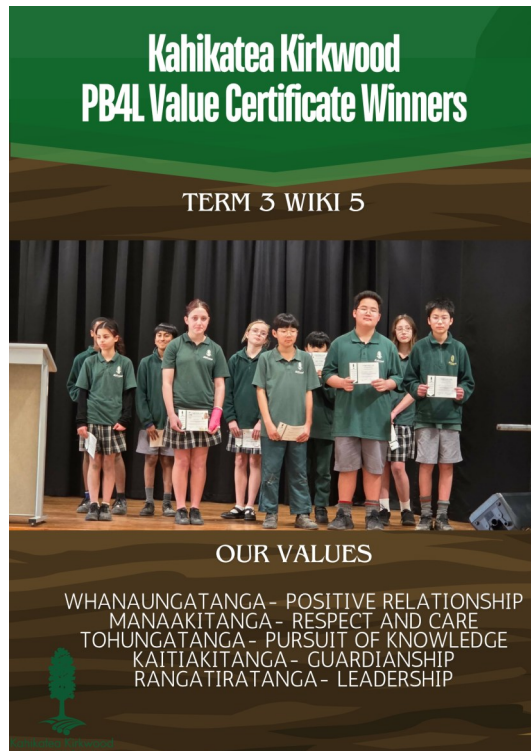
Please mark these dates on your calendars.





Value Certificate Winners

Congratulations to the Classroom and Technology Value certificate winners for Term 3, Week 5 & 6.





School Based Vaccination Programme

During Term 3 & 4 2026 the Public Health Nursing Service will be returning to school to offer HPV and Boostrix immunisations to Year 8 students. If you receive a consent form, please complete this form either YES or NO and return to school.

Any queries, email: CA-NPHS-Immunisationphn@tewhatauora.govt.nz



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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

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](#)

Period Products

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

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 download the mykindo app.

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

www.mykindo.co.nz

www.ezlunch.co.nz



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.

Thanks 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

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





Community Notices

Book and Clothing Sale - Beckenham School Hall on 12 September 8am - 4pm and 13 September 9am - 1pm. Donations welcome, please [email](#) to arrange drop off.

How to decide if your child is well enough for school - Please click [here](#) for info.

Online GP Care - Now free for all under 14's. For more information on how to use this service, please click [here](#).

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.

Dyspraxia Support Group of NZ - Conference, 2 - 3 October called 'Paving the Way for Success'. For info & to register click [here](#).

Free After School Sports - At Harrington Park from 3:30pm - 4:30pm. Open to the entire community ages 6 & up. For more information and to register, please click [here](#).

Sports/Clubs

Volleyball - In Term Four the Canterbury Volleyball Association are running a six week series after school on Tuesdays (4-5:30pm) inside at the Wharenui Sports Centre (Just down from Westfield Mall). These sessions are focused on learning skills and developing gameplay for Year 7-8's and open to students from any school - but we want to get as many Kahikatea Kirkwood students registered before the spaces sell out. Cost is \$60 for the six sessions and they start on Tuesday 20 October. More information and registration link is available [here](#). If Tuesdays don't suit, CVA also run sessions on Monday (Avon Hub), Wednesday (Heaton) and Thursday (Hillview).

Bring your team to the Mainland Pouākai Season - Entries are limited to one per person. The more entries your team gets, the higher your chances. More info found [here](#).

Pioneer Drama Service - For more information please visit their [website](#).

Riccarton Softball Club - Registrations now open for the 2026/2027 season. You can register online [here](#).

Kung Fu Classes - Celebrating 10 years in Chch this year and to celebrate they are offering half price registrations for all new students. Register [here](#).

Harmony School of Music - Classes in keyboard, guitar and singing. Gold coin donation if low income family. [Email](#) Trish for more information.

Te Kura Hagley Park Tennis Club—'give it a go' Sunday 13 September 10am—2pm. All welcome.

Learn to sail: Pleasant Point Yacht Club (PPYC) runs learn to sail programmes from age 10+. For further info email: secretary@ppycsailing.nz or visit: [PPYC](#) website.

Holiday Programmes

AKOTECH Code Camp - Happening in the Term 3 holidays. For more information and to book, please click [here](#).

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