



Kahikatea Kirkwood

Intermediate School



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to this edition of our school newsletter and to Term 4. Term 4 is usually a very busy term and I am sure this year will be no exception. Over the next four weeks we will be having our Year 8 classes visit Wellington on their annual trip. I am sure these trips will be of great value to our students, and hope they will all enjoy the experience. A lot of extra work goes into the preparation for these camps, as well as the extra efforts put in by staff and accompanying parents on camp. I am sure our community joins me in thanking all of the adults involved for their commitment and effort.

On Tuesday this week we held our annual Athletics Day. We made the decision to move the day one day forward as the weather forecast for the scheduled day, Wednesday, was pretty horrible. This turned out to be a wise decision and a successful and enjoyable day was held. Thanks to all involved, but in particular to Mr Botting and Miss Brensell for their hard work.

Later this term the Board will be circulating our Draft Strategic Plan for 2027 – 2028. This document outlines the priorities the school will focus on over the next two years, and is supported by an Annual plan which will be developed and circulated early next year. The Board would appreciate any feedback that you may have on this plan, and ask that you send any comments through the school office. Thank you for your support with this.

The PTA has been very supportive of our school recently, allowing us to purchase three new TV's for the school. These new devices are much clearer and have significantly better sound, adding value to our classroom and technology room programmes. We really appreciate the support of our PTA.

Can I please ask parents and whānau to encourage their children to bring a sun hat to school for this term. Sun screen is available in all classrooms, but wearing a hat will certainly provide extra protection. A wide brimmed hat is definitely the best option, but often children feel more comfortable in a bucket style hat. This does provide protection from the sun, but even a cap is better than nothing. Please ensure your child understands the value of active sun protection.

I am really looking forward to working with our school and community through this last term. Please remember that we are here to work with you and your child, and do not hesitate to get in touch should you have any queries or concerns.

Kind regards

Phil Tappenden
Principal

Term 4 Week 1

15 October 2026



Koru Games

In the last week of Term 3, Kahikatea Kirkwood Intermediate sent eight teams to the three day Koru Games Tournament which was held in Selwyn. It was the first time we have attended, and everyone absolutely loved it! All teams played incredibly well and showed heaps of manaakitanga out there.



John F Reid Memorial Trophy

Beyond the winning and losing there is the John F Reid Memorial Trophy - awarded for fairplay and sportsmanship. Out of 530 teams (the whole tournament for all sports), our Kahikatea Kirkwood Boys' Basketball team was presented with this trophy. We are beyond proud of these lads - clearly showing all our kura values and living up to the Kahikatea Tree crest. Ka rawe!

A massive thank you to all the staff and whānau that supported us in making this such a successful experience for our tamariki. We truly couldn't have done this without you.





Koru Games Medal Placing

Koru Games 2026		
Results		
Basketball	Girls	13th / 16
	Boys	6th / 24
Table Tennis	Boys	3rd / 12
Futsal	Girls	3rd / 4
	Boys	3rd / 10
Touch	Mixed	8th / 12
Volleyball	Girls	12th / 40
	Boys	9th / 12



Sporting Calendar for Term 4

Tuesday 27 October - CAIMS Touch Tournament | Boys & Girls Teams

Tuesday 3 November - CAIMS Futsal Tournament | Boys Team

Tuesday 10 - Wednesday 11 November - CJCA Girls Cricket Tournament

Wednesday 18 - Thursday 19 November - CJCA Boys Cricket Tournament

Please email us at sport@kirkwood.school.nz if you have any questions.

Ngā mihi,

Lawrence Botting & Micaela Brensell

Sport Coordinators





Tau Tag

South Island Tau Tag ran two sessions of Kiwi Tag at lunchtime at the end of Term 3. Mr Burke's team drew 3 all with Mr E's team. We can't wait for a rematch.



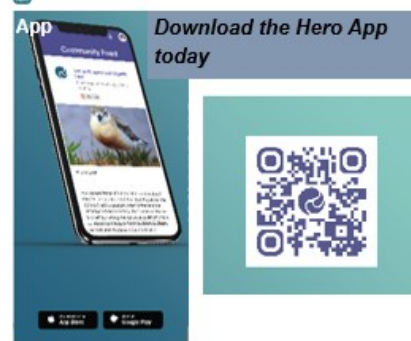
School App

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](#)



School Calendar

Please view via our [website](#)



Athletics Day



CAIMS Speech Competition

On Tuesday night, Hugo and Jun Beom represented Kahikatea Kirkwood at the CAIMS Speech Competition, with their speeches on 'Strictness' and 'Why Your Choices Matter'. Both took their performances up a notch from the school speech finals and spoke with confidence and heart. They represented the school admirably and should be proud of their efforts.



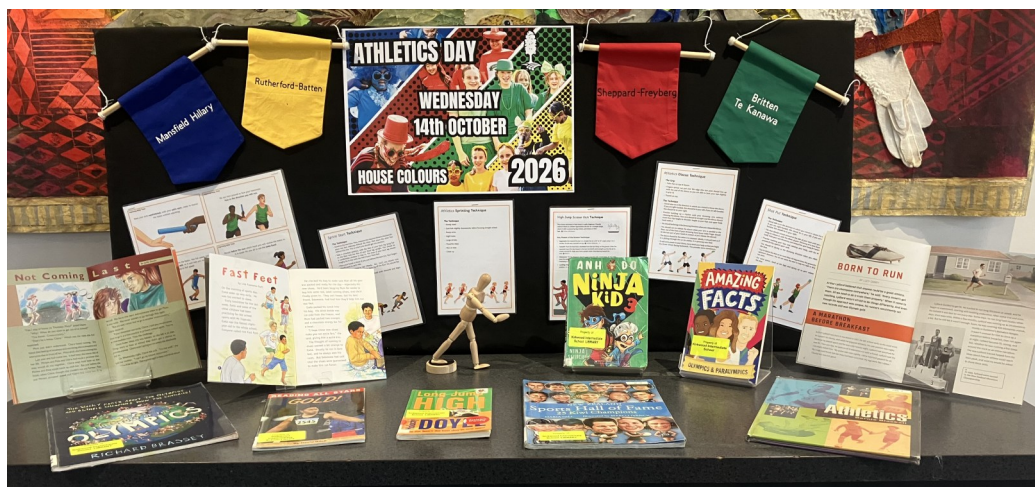


Library News

Week Ten: Library Display was Pasifika Proud, celebrating the richness, beauty and diversity of our Pasifika cultures. Week Ten also saw the students and teachers vote for their favourite genre in the Library. Adventure just beat Fantasy.



Week One: Term four, celebrated the school's Athletics Day.



Lost Property

We have a number of puffer vests and jackets in our lost property. If your child is missing one, please encourage them to come to the office to see if it belongs to them.



Absentees

Please use Hero (our School App) for leaving absentee messages.

If you have an urgent or important message that you want passed to your child, please ring the office on 03 348 7718. (If you text or email, we may not read the message in time.)

Thank you.

Attendance Policies

Ministry of Education message to Whānau

Ākonga/students are legally required to attend school every day. Support is available for families of children who are struggling to attend.

- *Parents play a big role in helping their child do well in school. You can do this by making sure your child goes to school every day and letting the school know if they are sick.*
- *Parents must make sure children are enrolled and attend school every day.*
- *Family holiday or taking time off for extracurricular activities are not considered acceptable reasons for being absent by the Ministry of Education and absentee children will be recorded using the Ministry's code.*

What are my legal responsibilities as a parent or caregiver?

Regularly attending school helps students to get the most out of their education.

Children must be enrolled in a school. If they leave a school you need to make sure you enrol them in the new school right away.

You must let the school or kura know if your child is going to be absent for a day, or intends to be absent for a portion of the school term for whatever reason, like a tangi or medical procedure.

You are responsible for letting the school know if your child is moving schools.

Getting help if your child is not attending regularly

We know there can be important reasons why children aren't coming to school, such as long-term illness, bullying, or financial challenges for families. If your child is affected by any of these, talk to your school first.

Your school will work with you to remove barriers to attending. There are many kinds of support available that might help make it easier for students to come to school. Your school might also connect you with other agencies or alternative education pathways.

Please refer to the Ministry of Education website for more information:



Attendance Pathway

Please see below for Attendance information. Alternatively you are able to view the attendance Pathway on our website - [Attendance Pathway](#).



Kahikatea Kirkwood
Intermediate School

Attendance Pathway

Less than 5 Days Absent in a Term - Good (Green Zone)



Parents/Guardians

- Ensure daily attendance where possible
- Reinforce good attendance habits
- Communicate openly with the school around absence via **Hero**, phone: 03 348 7718 or email: school.information@kirkwood.school.nz
- Follow school policies and processes



Schools

- Communicate attendance expectations and processes at enrolment and start of each term
- Monitor attendance using **Hero** and contact parents for every absence
- Provide regular attendance updates to students and parents
- Foster a safe, supportive, and engaging learning environment



Ministry of Education

- Monitor that schools have attendance policies and plans in place
- Track attendance patterns at national and regional levels
- Support schools to be safe, inclusive and effective learning environments

Up to 10 Days Absent in a Term - Worrying (Yellow Zone)



Parents/Guardians

- Return student to regular attendance
- Contact the school to discuss reasons for absence
- Support the student to catch up on missed learning
- Engage with supports offered by the school



Schools

- Send formal notification and contact parents
- Support students to catch up on missed learning
- Use in-school resources to lessen attendance barriers



Ministry of Education

- Support schools with formal notifications where required

Plus previous interventions

Up to 15 Days Absent in a Term - Concerning (Orange Zone)



Parents/Guardians

- Return students to regular attendance
- Attend meetings to analyse absence and create a support plan
- Implement agreed strategies at home



Schools

- Send escalated formal notification to parents
- Hold meetings with parents to develop a support plan
- Implement tailored strategies and request external support if needed
- Use in-school and external resources to lessen attendance barriers



Ministry of Education

- Identify schools with high 'concerning' level students and provide additional support
- Facilitate multi-agency responses
- Monitor interventions and adjust regional resources
- Develop new policies if required
- Support resolution of conflicts

Plus previous interventions

15 Days or More Absent in a Term - Serious Concern (Red Zone)



Parents/Guardians

- Return student to regular attendance
- Participate in improvement plan and regular meetings



Schools

- Send warning notice and arrange meetings with parents
- Escalate to multi-agency response
- Implement and monitor improvement plan
- Undertake or request Ministry-led prosecution if supports are not taken up
- Unenrol students who are not returning



Ministry of Education

- Provide additional support to schools with many 'serious concern' level students
- Facilitate and coordinate multi-agency response
- Provide direct support to parents where required
- Consider system-wide solutions for high-risk attendance
- Lead prosecutions when appropriate
- Work with Attendance Services to re-enrol unenrolled students

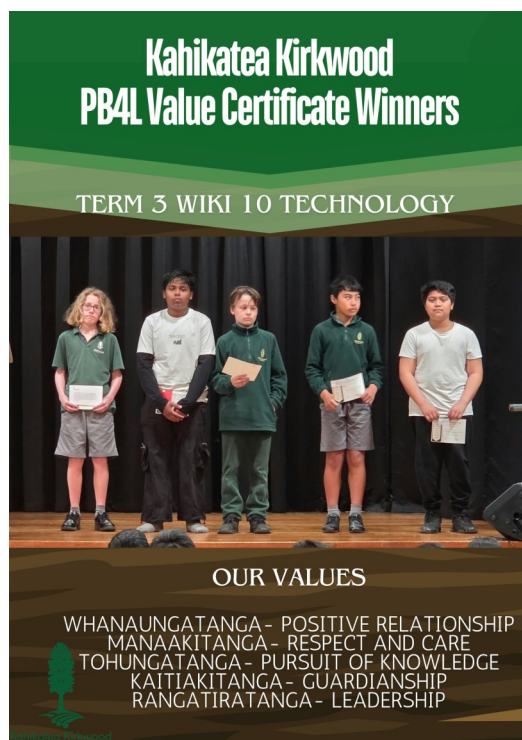
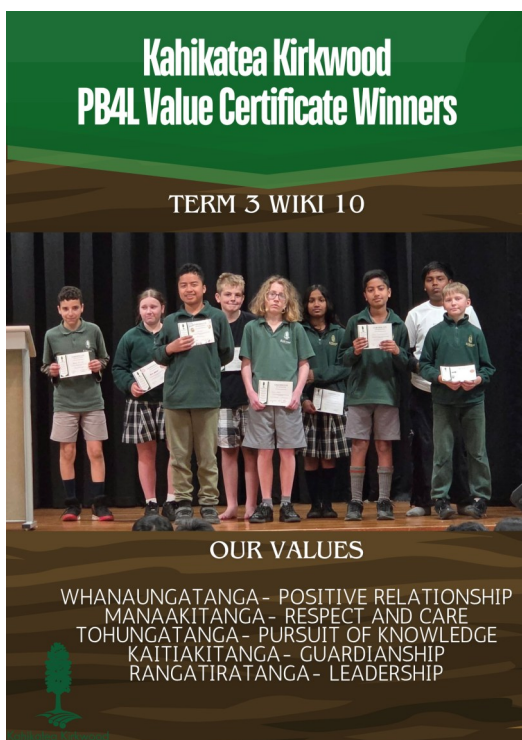
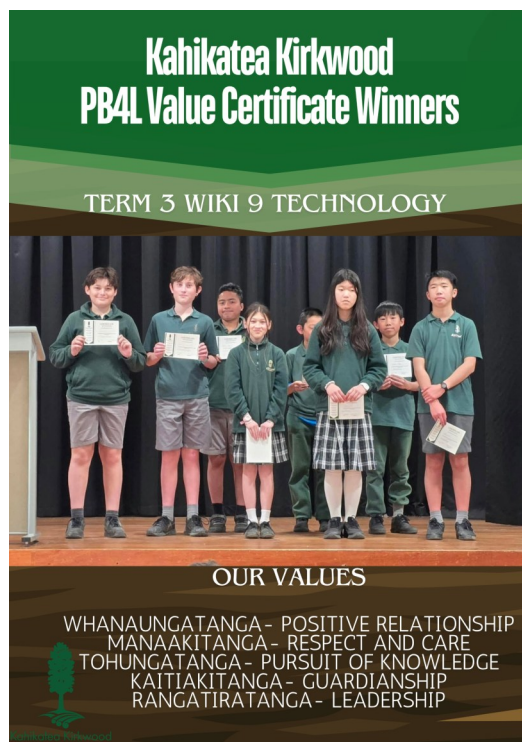
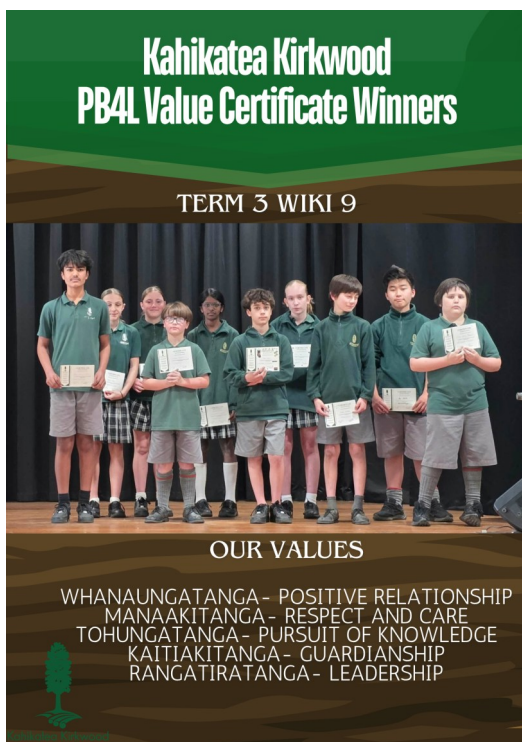
Plus previous interventions

Kahikatea Kirkwood Intermediate School: 03 348 7718 school.information@kirkwood.school.nz **Hero**



Value Certificate Winners

Congratulations to the Classroom and Technology Value certificate winners for Term 3, Week 9 & 10



Friends of the School (PTA)

Friends of the school (PTA) meeting at 2:00pm on **Tuesday 27 October**. Please meet in the office foyer and we will direct you to the meeting from there.

All are welcome to attend.



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.





SchoolDocs Policies Review - Term 4

Term 4 policies

- **Curriculum and Student Achievement Policy**
- **Reporting about Student Progress and Achievement**
- **Learning Support**
- **Māori Educational Achievement**
- **Health Curriculum**
- **Privacy Policy**

We invite you to visit the site at <http://kirkwood.schooldocs.co.nz/> or click on the [link](#)

Our username is **kirkwood** and password **Kahikatea** .

If you would like to make any comments with regards to these policies please follow the instructions below:

- Visit the website <http://kirkwood.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.htm>
- Enter the username (kirkwood) and password (Kahikatea).
- Follow the link to the relevant policy as listed.
- Read the policy.
- Click the Policy Review button at the top right-hand corner of the page.
- Select the reviewer type "Parent".
- Enter your name (optional).
- Submit your ratings and comments.





Motu Move is replacing Metrocard & cash

If you or your child catches the bus, here's what's changing and what you need to do before Metrocard is retired.

Motu Move is New Zealand's new public transport payment system, and it's time to choose your new way to pay. With Motu Move, you can choose how you want to pay for public transport, and you'll soon be able to use it anywhere in NZ:

- Contactless debit or credit card
- Smartphone
- Smartwatch
- Prepaid Motu Move card

Now is the time to get set up with Motu Move, which can be used anytime from now. Later this year, Metrocard and cash will no longer be accepted.

Learn more at motumove.govt.nz, or call 0800 66 77 88, Monday to Friday, 8:00am–5:30pm.



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	+		=	
20% from your Membership		20% from Entertainment		40% to our cause

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*T&C's Apply.



Period Products

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



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](#)

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 (Riccartern 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

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.



Community Notices

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](#).

Riccarton Community Street Party - Sunday 1 November 11am - 1pm at 44 Elizabeth Street. Live music, bouncy castles, activities & games for the kids. Free candy floss & sausage sizzle, plants, competitions, free preloved clothing, stalls & more.

Christchurch Boys' Choir - Are looking for new members. Any questions, please look them up on FaceBook - Christchurch Boys Choir

Find My Tribe - A social group for Tamariki identifying as Neurodivergent. For more information, click [here](#).

St Christopher's Community Fair - Saturday 17 October, 9:30am - 12:30pm at St Christopher's Church on 244 Avonhead Road. Donation days 14, 15 & 16 October.

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

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).

Z Manu World Champs - Where bomb legends from all walks of life come together. The Christchurch Qualifier is on Saturday 6 March 2027 at Jellie Park. Info found [here](#).

Pools & Hoops at Parakiore - For information and to purchase tickets, click [here](#).

Basketball, Girls Summer League - On Thursday evenings, starting 15 October. For info and registration, click [here](#).

Luminares Term 4 Workshops - Acting, singing and making a movie. Trial the first session for free. Sign up [here](#).

Riccarton Softball Club - There are still some spaces left for players, in particular the U13 girls and boys and the U15 girls teams. For more info and to register, please click [here](#).

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