



Kirkwood

INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Welcome to this final edition of our school newsletter for 2023. The year seems to have passed by so quickly. It's hard to believe that school will finish next week but I do believe both staff and students are ready for the holiday break.

This week we recognised some of our student's achievements through our Blues programme. It was really good to see a wide range of Blues being awarded, both for personal achievements and for displaying leadership in our school. It was a little disappointing that we were unable to invite parents and whānau to this assembly but our space available just does not permit large gatherings. Thank you for your understanding.

School will finish for our Year 8 students on Wednesday 13 December at the conclusion of the final assembly. This year we are really fortunate to be able to use Riccarton High School's Hall. This means we are able to invite families to join us. There has been information sent home to our Year 8 families concerning this event, and we look forward to seeing you there. The final day for Year 7 is Thursday 14 December. Children will be dismissed at the conclusion of the leaving assembly. We are estimating that this will be around 12:10pm. If your child normally catches one of the school buses, these buses will not be running around this time. Please check the Metro Bus [website](#) for public bus timetables. Unfortunately we have no large space available for this assembly, so it will be just for our students. Thank you for your understanding.

On Friday this week, end of year reports will be available through the Hero student management system. We hope that you will spend time with your child reading through these, especially the next learning steps. It can be useful to spend some time with your child over the holidays reinforcing learning – reading fiction books can be really helpful. If you have any questions regarding your child's report, please feel welcome to contact your classroom teacher.

Preparations for 2024 are well underway. During the holiday break you will receive an email from us, explaining the start of year times and procedures. We hope that this information, along with the rest of the orientation pack will help to make the return to school as easy as possible.

As the year comes to a close, I would like to thank, on behalf of our school community, all those who contribute in a positive way. In particular I wish to thank the Board of Trustees for their hard work and continued support. I would also like to thank Shirley Jones for her hard work on our PTA for the last three years. It would be really good to see our PTA grow in 2024 so please consider if you might be able to give an hour of your time two or three times a term next year. I must also mention our staff. They work incredibly hard to support, encourage and look after your child. All of the staff, teaching, support, caretaking and administration are focused on doing the best they can for our children and our school. I also wish to thank the vast majority of our students and our families – these are those who value school, who participate positively, who encourage others to do their best, and who support our school everyday. Without all of us working together, our school would not be the place it is. Thank you.

In conclusion, may I take this opportunity to wish you all a happy Christmas break, and a peaceful and enjoyable new year.

Nga mihi nui,

Phil Tappenden
Principal



Year 8 Camp

Full payment should have been made. If not, please ensure this is paid now.

The school bank account is:

Kirkwood Intermediate School Board of Trustees; 12-3147-0180900-00

Particulars: Child's Surname, First Name; Ref: Year 8 Camp

The final cost for camp is \$220 per student.

School Calendar

Please view via our [website](#)

Kirkwood School Canteen



Canteen orders are made online. Orders need to be made by 9:00am on the day. For information on how to order, please visit our [website](#).

Please note: Last lunch order available is Wednesday 13 December

Absences

Please ensure you let the office know the reason for absence for your child via the Hero App.

If you are unable to access the Hero App, you can contact the school office by phone 03 348 7718 or [email](#).

Home Stay Families

We are looking into the future for homestay families to host short and long term international students for 2024. Our current Homestay Fee rate pays \$320 per week.

For those interested please contact Alison Xie, our International Coordinator 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

Kirkwood Intermediate School App

Our school uses the **Hero APP** for communicating to our school community.

Please visit our [school website homepage](#) for more information on how to download.

Community Notices

'The Star of Christmas' singing competition - Win Transport, Accommodation & Studio Time with Nathan King. To enter, students need to email a recording of them singing a Christmas carol or song to Christmas@newstalkzb.co.nz

Envirokids - Meet at the Kiosk in the Christchurch Botanic Gardens anytime from 10am—1pm for free events for your children. For more information visit Facebook @ChchEnvirokids.

Dynamic Developments - For speech and language therapy services, visit their [website](#) for more information.

Barista Class at International Culinary Studio - Learn the art of crafting espresso beverages. For more information visit their [website](#).

CASE Ocean School - Seeking individuals with a passion for nature and conservation, who thrive on hands on learning. Visit [website](#) for more information.

Kip McGrath Avonhead - Come for a free assessment. Helping your child to succeed and feel more confident in a small safe environment. To book your free assessment visit www.kipmcgrath.co.nz/avonhead or phone 03 3427110.

Sports/Clubs

Delta Rhythmic Gymnastics - Come and try a free trial class. To book, please [email](#) Erica.

Athletics New Zealand - To search for your local club and register for the coming season, please click [here](#).

Waimairi Surf Lifesaving Club - Are on the search for clubbies aged 7 or older. Please [email](#) for more information .

Holiday Programmes

FC Twenty 11 Holiday Programme - For more information, please visit their [web-site](#)

AKOTECH Code Camps - Create and train your own AI Avatars, make games, code drones etc. For more information visit their [website](#). Enter their [competition](#) to win a free 4 day pass to one of their Code Camps.

Coding NZ - Free coding holiday activities this summer. Suitable for beginner to advanced coders. Sign up for free [here](#).

Junior Chef Holiday Programme - Give your child the gift of being self-sufficient in the kitchen. Two course coming up in the summer holidays. Click [here](#) for more details.



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