

Important Date

20 February

Options Classes Start
Music Assembly starts
CZ Boys Tennis

25 February

Immunisation Talks
CZ Girls Softball
Water Polo Trials

27 February

CZ Boys Softball
Water Polo Trials

4 March

Core Conferences
3:30pm – 7:30pm

6 March

Core Conferences
3:30pm – 7:30pm
CZ Boys Cricket
Water Polo Trials

7 March

Ski & Snowboard Parents
Meeting @ 8.30am
(School Staffroom)

11 March

Netball Parent/Player
meeting @ 6pm
(School Hall)
CZ Girls Cricket

13 March

Modular Conferences
3:30pm – 8pm

17 March

School Photos

18 March

BoT Meeting – 6pm

Principal's Message

We've had a busy start to the year with school events, trips and sports trials taking place daily. Our students have been fully engaged, and we're grateful for the ongoing support from our community. It's been a fantastic start and things are definitely on track.

As you may know, the government plans to revise the Maths and English curriculums, introducing a more structured and precise teaching approach. This is a great opportunity to highlight the strengths of Ponsonby Intermediate and our specialist teaching model.

Our Maths and English teams consist of seven expert teachers each, all of whom are fully equipped to deliver the new curriculum requirements. We are confident that these specialists will continue to maintain and build on the excellent programmes we already have, ensuring consistency and high standards across the school.

While other schools may need to upskill their teachers in these areas, Ponsonby is already ahead with its strong, adaptable model. Our specialist teachers are ready to pivot with confidence, ensuring our students continue to receive the best possible education.

Thank you for your continued support. We're excited about what lies ahead!

The upcoming Market Day on Friday 21 March, is always a highlight of the 'Ponsonby Experience' and I warmly encourage all parents and whānau to attend. This event provides an excellent opportunity for students to apply their entrepreneurial skills in a real-world setting. We'll be dedicating time at school to discuss financial literacy, focusing on how they can make their day a success. It's a fantastic, authentic learning experience for our young, forward-thinking students - an inspiring example of *articulate, energised achievers ready to for the future.*

If your child plans to participate in Market Day, please support them by discussing key topics like profit, loss and the logistics involved in running their stall.

Thank you to everyone who has already made their payment for school costs. In our previous newsletter, we shared details about school costs and fees. For your convenience, we've included this information again in this week's newsletter as a gentle reminder.

Finally, we have included important information in this newsletter about the application process for our Vietnam overseas trip.

Nick Wilson
Principal

In this Week's Issue...

- **Student Led Conferences**
- **World Challenge – Vietnam Trip**
- **Market Day**
- **2025 School Fees**
- **Sports Update: Swimming sports results and Upcoming Trials**
- **Central Zone Sports Calendar**
- **Student Safety**
- **Homework Club**
- **Lateness and Absences**
- **Appointments**
- **School TV – Managing Screen Time**
- **Rob Cope – Parenting Tips and Tricks**
- **School App**
- **Term 1 Calendar**

Maths, English and Modular Student Led Conferences

Student led conferences are run every term at Ponsonby Intermediate.

Core subjects (English and Mathematics) hold conferences twice a year in Term 1 and Term 3.

Modular conferences happen every term (as students are involved in two different modular subjects each term).

On Line Conference Booking Core Conferences

Tuesday 4th March - 3:30pm - 7:30pm

CORE code: **s3mus**

Please include your child's room number.

<http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/s3mus>

Thursday 6th March - 3:30pm - 7:30pm

CORE code: **2ku3r**

Please include your child's room number.

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/2ku3r>

Jane Jeon (SCIENCE) will be at this conference only

Thursday 20th March - 1:20pm - 6:00pm

CORE code: **95rum**

Please include your child's room number.

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/95rum>

Modular Conferences

Thursday 13th March - 3:30pm - 8:00pm

MODULE code: **z6335**

Please include your child's room number.

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/z6335>

Below are the list of teachers and the classes they teach to make booking easier. Please find your child's room number and book in with those teachers.

Thanks,

Cobey Bennett

cobeyb@ponsint.school.nz

Core Teachers:

English:

Katie Fiddian: Teaching Rooms 11, 14

Lauren Collins: Teaching Rooms 3, 12, 16

Inger Moffat: Teaching Rooms 9, 25, 30

Penelope Dunn: Teaching Rooms 15, 17, 23

Kellie Spencer: Teaching Rooms 1, 21

Stephanie Bruce: Teaching Rooms 8, 26, 28

Angela Lane: Teaching Rooms 18, 20, 22

Maths:

Ian Wannamaker: Teaching Rooms, 12, 21, 25, 30

Jennie Chatfield: Teaching Rooms 1, 14, 18, 22

Katherine Busch: Teaching Rooms 15, 17, 23, 28

Lisa Stephenson: Teaching Rooms 3, 9, 16, 20

Andrea Sherrock: Teaching Room 8, 11, 26

Module Teachers:

Design Technologies: Cobey Bennett

Teaching Rooms 1, 16, 17, 23, 26

Art: Sarah Valintine

Teaching Rooms 1, 16, 17, 23, 26

Art: Racheal Wilson

Teaching Rooms 17, 26

Performing Arts: Christine Cullen

Teaching Rooms: 14, 15, 18, 25, 30

Music: Claire Holmes

Teaching Rooms: 14, 15, 18, 25, 30

Health & P.E: Brooke Jameson

P.E & Health - Teaching Rooms - 1, 3, 14, 15, 17, 28

P.E - Teaching Rooms - 12, 16, 18, 23

Health & P.E: Michelle Murray

PE & Health - Teaching Rooms 8, 9, 20, 25, 26, 30

Health - Teaching Rooms 11, 12, 16, 18, 21, 22

Home Economics: Kelly Richardson

Teaching Rooms: 8, 9, 11, 12, 21

Science: Sione Taupeaape – available 13 March only

Teaching Rooms: 8, 9, 11, 12, 21

Science: Jane Jeon – available 6 March only

Teaching Rooms: 3, 20, 22, 28

Exploring Technology: Andy Wilson

Teaching Rooms: 3, 20, 22, 28

Social Sciences: Sarah Howie

Teaching Rooms: 8, 11, 14, 18, 20, 23, 26, 28, 30

Learning Languages: Brooke Jameson

Teaching Room: 25

Learning Languages: Holly Francis

Teaching Rooms: 1, 3, 9, 12, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22

Vietnam World Challenge – Overseas Trip

We are now opening the online sign-up process for the 2025 Vietnam trip with World Challenge.

Last year we had a successful trip with 10 of our students travelling through the beautiful southern region and we will be following in their footsteps with the same journey.

For those who would like to sign up for the journey to Vietnam, please follow the link below:

<https://www.myworldchallenge.com/tour/E3A83DB>

Signing up through the World Challenge portal is the initial stage to secure a space. Signing up does not guarantee you a place on a trip, it simply notifies the school and World Challenge of your interest.

The final date to apply online is **Sunday 2nd March.**

(please ignore any deadline dates on the website as they may be incorrect)

After 2nd March we will be contacting all students and parents to confirm their place on the trip.

If you have any questions, please follow the link below to look at the itinerary & parents' pack.

<https://weareworldchallenge.com/trips/e3a83db/>

Please feel free to contact: tgreenem@worldchallenge.com.au if you have any questions about this great experience or Kelly Richardson who is the lead teacher on this trip, kellyr@ponsint.school.nz



VIETNAM - CULTURE, COMMUNITY & THE MIGHTY MEKONG (10 DAYS)



Market Day 2025 – Friday 21 March

On Wednesday 19th February we held our first Market Day meeting for students interested in setting up a stall this year. This meeting provided all the initial Market Day information. The students have received a handout with questions to think about before signing up. There is a Google Classroom code attached where we will add information. There will be weekly meetings with stallholders where we teach them about the financial literacy of running a stall. Please talk to your children about their ideas.



THINGS TO THINK ABOUT BEFORE SIGNING UP

- What is something I could sell or an activity I could run?**
- Who would I work well with?**
- Who will help me get organised? Family, friends etc**
- Will my idea be able to be set up in 45 minutes?**
- How long will I need to prepare any product?**
- How much product might I want to prepare?**
- How much should I charge for items / activities?**
- Will I have time to get organised or do I have a lot of activities on?**
- Who will be our group leader**
- When will we get together to plan and work on our stall?**

MARKET DAY 2025 GOOGLE CLASSROOM CODE: **lhk67ym**

2025 School Fees (5% Discount Ending Soon)

To maintain the high standard of facilities and the educational opportunities/programmes our school now offers, it is necessary to supplement the grant we receive from the Ministry of Education with specific funding via student costs. The Ministry of Education grant does not provide for any of the 'extras' or 'frills' of the educational programme/resources we provide.

We are very aware of the expenses facing parents/caregivers at the beginning of the school year. We have therefore tried to keep costs as low as possible. We are also aware that schools have a terrible habit of asking for money throughout the year for various reasons and know that this becomes an inconvenience for parents/caregivers.

For 2025 we pledge that the total cost asked for now will cover all costs for the entire year's activities/trips with the exception of the Term 4 Class Camp. However there are additional costs for activities such as – Ski Team, Hockey, Netball, Basketball, ICAS exam etc...

Yes, that is correct! We will not ask for money for trips, fundraising activities, educational excursions etc...

Below is a breakdown of costs. The total amount is \$620.00 for the year or \$155.00 per term.

We thank you for your support and trust this format of payment makes it easier for you.

Activity costs are expenses that all schools would collect at the beginning of the year and for such things as Special Events/Trips, Special Programmes, etc. and throughout the year as events occur.

School Donation is optional although we obviously encourage you to pay this and appreciate it greatly if you do. School Donations can be claimed back on your annual tax return.

Costs and Donations can be paid by Automatic Payment, Credit card, Term by Term or the total for the year

Ponsonby Intermediate - ASB a/c - 12 3019 0486833 01

We offer a 5% discount on the full amount of \$620.00 if paid before the end of March 2025.

Sports and Ed. Outside the Classroom	\$55.00
Special Events/Trips	\$55.00
Options Modules	\$55.00
Printing (including School Magazine)	\$45.00
The Arts	\$55.00
Extension and Enrichment	\$55.00
Transport	\$35.00
Technology	\$115.00
Activity Costs	\$470.00
School Donation	\$150.00
Total Per Year	\$620.00

Sports Update

Ponsonby Swimming Sports 2025 - Results

Year 7 Boys Finals

Event	1 st Place	Rm	Time	2 nd Place	Rm	3 rd Place	Rm
100 Freestyle	Austin McElwee	15	1:41.32	Harrison Laing	16	Rory Dawson	11
33m Butterfly	William Zhang	11	40:37	Alex Park	16	Edward Jones	15
33m Backstroke	Alex Park	16	32:25	Harrison Laing	16	Max McKimmon	1
33m Freestyle	Alex Park	16	25:75	Austin McElwee	15	Mack Sweet	25
33m Breastroke	Alex Park	16	32:66	Mack Sweet	25	Kieran Saunders	28
Class relay		28			1		11

Year 7 Girls Finals

Event	1 st Place	Rm	Time	2 nd Place	Rm	3 rd Place	Rm
100 Freestyle	Amelia Bell	28	1:34.57	Indi West	28	Annabelle Lawrence	11
33m Butterfly	Luna Gan	3	38:75	Tilda Denyer	11	Edie Crysell	9
33m Backstroke	Ruby McKubre	1	32:63	Liliana Bidlake	11	Chloe Harpur	11
33m Freestyle	Olivia Amarasinghe Arachchillage	15	26:85	Amelia Bell	28	Ruby McKubre	1
33m Breastroke	Alex Milkop-Kerr	15	33:78	Amelia Bell	28	Ruby McKubre	1

Year 8 Boys Finals

Event	1 st Place	Rm	Time	2 nd Place	Rm	3 rd Place	Rm
100 Freestyle	Darragh Coll	12	1:50.00	Adam Gillies	17	Aleph Reade-Shareef	23
33m Butterfly	Baden Kerr	18	33:88	Noah Petersen	12	Alvin Shao	12
33m Backstroke	Xavier Timmers	18	29:00	Darragh Coll	12	Logan Crosswell	22
33m Freestyle	Xavier Timmers	18	25:44	Darragh Coll	12	Ethan Hao	22
33m Breastroke	Ethan Hao	22	37:19	Aleph Reade-Shareef	23	Baden Kerr	18
Class relay		14			23		12

Year 8 Girls Finals

Event	1 st Place	Rm	Time	2 nd Place	Rm	3 rd Place	Rm
100 Freestyle	Ella Wilson-Winiata	14	1:21	Angie Broughton	23	Evie Cui	14
33m Butterfly	Ella Wilson-Winiata	14	24:69	Izzy Roberts	14	Mya Boaza	17
33m Backstroke	Ella Wilson-Winiata	14	24:96	Mya Boaza	17	Lily King	17
33m Freestyle	Ella Wilson-Winiata	14	22:85	Izzy Roberts	14	Mya Boaza	17
33m Breastroke	Ella Wilson-Winiata	14	31:07	Mya Boaza	17	Olivia MacDonald	23

Upcoming Trials

Netball - School top courts

Monday 24th February

Year 7: 11am - 12pm

Year 8: 12pm - 1:15pm

Water Polo - AUTM Main Pool

Tuesday 25th February 12:30pm - 2:30pm

Thursday 27th February 12:30pm - 2:30pm

Wednesday 5th March 12:30pm - 2:30pm

Central Zone (CZ) Sport coming up for Terms 1- 4

Ponsonby Intermediate is one of 26 schools in the CZ Sports Cluster.

Events are a one day tournament played during school hours.

We encourage students to 'have a go' at trialling for one or more of the CZ Sports Teams.

Central Zone Intermediate Sports Term 1-4 2025		
Week	Date	Term 1
4	Tues. 18 Feb. / Thurs. 20 Feb.	Tennis - Year 7,8 Girls / Year 7,8 Boys
5	Tues. 25 Feb. / Thurs. 27 Feb.	Softball - Year 7,8 Girls / Year 7,8 Boys
6	Tues. 4 March	Cricket Year 7, 8 Boys
6	Tues. 11 March	Cricket Year 7, 8 Girls
8	Tues. 18 March	Orienteering
8	Thurs. 20 March	Swimming
9	Mon. 24 March	League Tag
9	Wed. 26 March	AAIMS IZ Swimming - Ponsonby Int. Event
Week	Date	Term 2
2	Tues. 6 May	Futsal Year 7,8 Boys
2	Wed. 7 May	Futsal Year 7,8 Girls
3	Tues. 13 May	Water polo
3	Thurs. 15 May	Rugby Girls/Boys U45/U55 Open
4	Tues. 20 May	Football Year 7 Girls
4	Thurs. 22 May	Football Year 8 Girls
5	Tues. 27 May	Football Year 7 Boys
5	Thurs. 29 May	Football Year 8 Boys
8	Mon. 16 June / Tues. 17 June	Hockey - Year 7,8 Boys / Year 7,8 Girls
8	Thurs. 19 June	Table Tennis
Week	Date	Term 3
2	Tues. 22 July	Netball Year 7,8 Boys
3	Tues. 29 July	Squash
3	Fri. 1 Aug.	Netball Year 7,8 Girls
4	Thurs. 7 Aug.	Rugby league Year 7,8 Boys/Girls
5	Wed. 13 Aug.	Cross Country
10	Mon. 15 Sept. / Wed. 17 Sept.	Basketball - Y7,8 Boys / Y7,8 Girls
Week	Date	Term 4
2	Tues. 14 Oct. / Thurs. 16 Oct.	Volleyball - Year 7,8 Boys / Year 7,8 Girls
3	Fri. 24 Oct.	Badminton
4	Tues. 28 Oct.	Touch Year 7,8 Girls
4	Thurs. 30 Oct.	Touch Year 7,8 Boys & Mixed
7	Wed. 19 Nov.	Athletics - Ponsonby Int. CZ Event
8	Tues. 25 Nov.	Ki-O-Rahi

Note: Changes may occur for some events, updates will be made in the daily notices. For more information contact Sports Coordinator **Michelle Murray** michellem@ponsint.school.nz

Student Safety

At the front gate on Clarence Street there are painted yellow lines which indicate that there should be no stopping or parking. These lines are there for reasons of safety. We also have a teacher on duty at the gate for safety reasons. While the majority of parents have proven to be responsible and have not picked up their children on these yellow lines there have been incidents when the teacher on duty has had to remind people about the existence of the yellow lines and the need for caution.

Clarence Street gets very busy at 3:05pm with children being picked up. This situation turns into a traffic jam on wet days, with the whole street getting blocked up. A very dangerous situation for hundreds of children exiting the school all at once.

There are alternatives to picking up your child at the front gate at 3:05pm. Firstly, we have a rear car park at the bottom of Sheehan Street where there is far less traffic. Your child could meet you there. Another idea is to avoid the 'rush' altogether, which only ever lasts 10 minutes, and pick your child up 10 – 15 minutes later than usual.

The main car park and driveway on Clarence Street cannot be used for picking up or dropping off children.

Homework Club

We have a FREE homework club which runs for most of the year. This operates on a Wednesday from 3.10-4pm, students are overseen by a teacher to support them with a quiet space and extra help if needed. If you'd like to learn more and sign up, please collect a form from the front office.

Absences and Lateness (repeat notice)

If your child is absent or going to be late to school, **please call and leave a message on the school absence line (09) 376 0096 Extn 1, or complete an absence report from the School App or Website.** If you know in advance your child will be away, please email the office and copy in your child's Form Teacher.

If your child is late, they must provide a note from a parent/caregiver providing an explanation. This can be written in their Student Planner.

For student safety if the school is not notified of your child's absence you will receive a text message.

Following Ministry of Education guidelines if the school is not advised of a student's absence they will be marked as truant.

Appointments (repeat notice)

If your child has an appointment during the day please arrange to meet them in the office at a designated time and ensure you advise their Form Teacher by email. As your child moves around the school to different classes during the day we are not always able to contact them easily. Students must be signed out by a parent or caregiver registered on their enrolment details.

School TV – Managing Screen time

As a result of the global pandemic, there has been a noticeable shift in the amount of time people spend on screen-based devices. Families are transitioning back to pre-COVID routines but many are still struggling to re-establish the boundaries and rules around screen use. Some continue to deal with digital conflict and tech-tantrums on a daily basis. The latest research found that 77% of teenagers spend more than five hours on screens per day, but it is important to note that not all screen time is considered equal.

Parents play a crucial role in modelling a positive and healthy approach to using screens and assisting children to navigate the content they watch. It is better to model and mentor screen use, rather than monitor it. Children tend to do more of what they see us do, and less of what we tell them to do. However, it is still important to outline the risks and highlight the benefits of screen use to ensure you keep a balanced attitude. Encourage discussions around the issues that people experience in monitoring their screen time and be honest about your own difficulties.

Parents need to remain firm in their approach to managing screen time. Excessive screen time can be detrimental to a child's overall wellbeing. Ensuring the correct privacy settings are in place is vital to prevent children from being inadvertently exposed to inappropriate content or online predators. Parents need to also be mindful of the potential impact screen time can have on a child's social, emotional, educational, behavioural, and even physical domains.

In this edition of SchoolTV, care-givers will be provided with a range of guidelines and strategies to help manage screen time at home.

We hope you take time to reflect on the information offered in this edition of SchoolTV and we always welcome your feedback. If you have any concerns about your child, please contact the school counsellor for further information or seek medical or professional help.

Here is the link to the Managing Screen Time edition of SchoolTV

<https://ponsonbyintermediate.nz.schooltv.me/newsletter/managing-screen-time>

Rob Cope – Parenting tips and Tricks

Many of you attended the Rob Cope talk, 'Our Kids Online' last week. Each week Rob is sharing a video of helpful tips and tricks around device use, child well-being, relationships and many other topics that are important to parents and the community. Check out this week's video talking about **Nurturing Children's Mental Health**.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pAc9jRpFdBM>

School App

To keep up to date with notices and information please download our School App.



Stay “in the loop” with our communication app!

Events | Cancellations | Notices
Newsletters | Permission slips
Instant notifications | Absentees
Parent Teacher Interviews

Simple free download:
In Google Play & App Store search **'Skool Loop'** & choose our organisation once installed.



Ponsonby Intermediate Calendar

Week	17 Feb	18 Feb	19 Feb	20 Feb	21 Feb
4	PP Rep training Netball Trials Year 7 (11am - 1pm) World Challenge Evening @ 7pm	Setting Up for Success Conferences @ 1:20pm CZ Girls Tennis	MARKET DAY MEETING ONE Production Workshops	Options Starts CZ Boys Tennis Production Workshops	
	24 Feb	25 Feb	26 Feb	27 Feb	28 Feb
5	Production auditions start	Immunisation Talk Water Polo Trials @ AUTM Pool (12:30pm - 2:30pm) CZ Girls Softball		CZ Boys Softball Water Polo Trials @ AUTM Pool (12:30pm - 2:30pm)	
	3 March	4 March	5 March	6 March	7 March
6		Core Conferences 3:30 - 7:30		Core Conferences 3:30 - 7:30 Water Polo Trials 12:30pm CZ Boys Cricket	Ski and Snowboard team Parents Meeting @ 8:30am school staffroom
	10 March	11 March	12 March	13 March	14 March
7		CZ Girls Cricket Netball Parent and Player meeting @ 6pm (hall)		Modular Conferences 3:30 - 8pm	
	17 March	18 March	19 March	20 March	21 March
8	School Photos			CZ Swimming Core Conferences 1:20pm - 6pm	Market Day
	24 March	25 March	26 March	27 March	28 March
9		Immunisations - Boostrix, HPV CZ Orienteering	Councillors Social/Dance		
	31 March	1 April	2 April	3 April	4 April
10			IZ Swimming		
	7 April	8 April	9 April	10 April	11 April
11				Kids' Lit Quiz	End of Term

PONSONBY

2025

Intermediate

MARKET DAY

Great food, crafts, games, treats and MORE



21ST MARCH



**FRIDAY
LUNCHTIME**



**12:30pm -
1:45pm**



**PONSONBY
INTERMEDIATE**

Grab your friends, sign up and get involved

MUSIC LESSONS

AT SCHOOL!

The Music Education Centre offers specialist music tuition for a range of instruments including Piano, Guitar, Drums and more!

IT'S CONVENIENT!

Have your child's music lesson right at their school and give them the opportunity to develop their skills through our **individualised lessons that're both fun and educational!** Learning music supports all areas of learning through **developing confidence, creativity, concentration and so much more!**

To enrol, please visit www.musiceducation.co.nz/pages/mis-enrolment

Private Piano Lessons – Central Grey Lynn

My name is Finch, I'm an **18-year-old pianist with a Trinity Grade 8 qualification** offering private piano lessons for children from beginner to Trinity level 5. I make learning the piano approachable and enjoyable, helping kids build confidence at their own pace.

- ✓ **Beginner-friendly and tailored lessons**
- ✓ **Lessons available at your home or mine**
- ✓ **\$30 per half hour lesson** (or 10 lessons for \$275)

If you're interested, feel free to get in touch.

☎ Text me at 021 264 3598, or email finchthomasward@gmail.com.



The background image shows a water polo pool with a net and a player in a blue cap. The Atlantis City logo, a stylized blue and white wave with a white 'A', is overlaid on the pool. Below the logo, the text 'ATLANTIS CITY' is visible.

INTERMEDIATE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
When: Monday evenings
Dates: 10 February to 7 April, inclusive
Time: 7.00pm - 8.00pm
Where: Epsom Girls Grammar
Cost: \$180
To register: [www.acwpa.co.nz /junior-registration](http://www.acwpa.co.nz/junior-registration)
For more information email Sherren at competitions@acwpa.co.nz

Open to all Year 7 & 8 Water Polo players
Get ready for the season with Atlantis!

Growth Through Learning

We are open to change, treating each challenge as an opportunity to learn. As life long learners we strive to be the best we can be.

As members of a class, a school and a community, we are part of a whole. We come together from many different cultures to learn from each other.

Making Connections

Expressing Ourselves

We explore and share our thoughts, talents, feelings and beliefs because these make us who we are. We get the most out of life when we are true to ourselves.

Showing Respect for Other People

Because we have confidence in who we are, we are able to appreciate and let others be themselves. We care and support each other inside and outside the classroom.

Our Values are GEMS