

## Important Dates

### 6 February

Waitangi Day

### 10 February

Table Tennis Club Starts  
Netball Trials – Year 8

### 11 February

Kids Online Parents  
Information Evening with  
Rob Cope

Netball Trials – Year 7

BoT Meeting – 5:30pm

### 12 February

Netball Trials – Year 8  
Basketball Trials – Year 8

### 13 February

Swimming Sports

### 14 February

Events and Activities Expo  
12:30pm in School Hall

### 17 February

Netball Trials – Year 7

World Challenge –  
Vietnam Trip Information  
Evening @ 6:30pm

### 18 February

Setting Up For Success  
Conferences  
1:20pm – 6pm

### 20 February

Options Classes Start

## Principal's Message

Welcome to Ponsonby Intermediate School 2025.

It was great to meet so many of you last night at our Whānau Evening.

On Tuesday 11 February at 6.30pm we are holding a parent information session about how you can help keep your children safe online. Rob Cope is an entertaining speaker and will be delivering some strong messages. The feedback last year was very positive. I encourage you to make the most of this free educational evening.

On Friday 14 February we hold the 'Ponsonby Events/Activities Expo' from 12:30pm – 1:15pm. This event is designed to give students and parents information about all the additional activities on offer this year. You will find information about the sports teams and skiing, Library, Rock bands, Kapa Haka and much more.

EOTC trips started today. Parents are needed to assist with the EOTC trips so please look out for the EOTC trip information that is specific to your child.

Finally, I have included information about the school costs and donation. It is important to note that the school will not pester you for ongoing requests of money. With school aged children myself, I find it frustrating when schools constantly ask for - bus fares, photocopy fees, art club supplies etc... I trust this one off payment will suit your modern family.

**Ngā mihi nui**

**Nick Wilson**  
**Principal**

## Important Term 1 Dates

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<b>11th Feb</b>	<b>Rob Cope Talk – ‘Our Kids Online’</b> 6:30pm – 8:30pm in the school hall (all parents welcome!)
<b>13th Feb</b>	<b>Swimming Sports @ Pt Erin Pools</b> Year 7 - 9am – 12pm Year 8 - 12pm – 2:40pm
<b>14th Feb</b>	<b>Events and Activities Expo</b> 12:30pm in the school hall
<b>17th Feb</b>	<b>World Challenge Evening</b> (date changed) 6:30pm in the school hall
<b>18th Feb</b>	<b>Setting Up For Success Conferences</b> 1:20pm – 6pm in the school hall

There is an outline of the Term 1 Calendar at the end of this newsletter. Dates are subject to change. Students will be informed of these changes in our daily notices. Parents will be updated through our app and the fortnightly newsletter.

## In this Week's Issue

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- Student Safety
- Kids Online Parent Information Evening
- Swimming Sports Information
- Events and Activities Expo
- World Challenge - Vietnam Trip
- 2025 School Fees
- Lateness and Absences
- Appointments
- Sports Update
- Form Teacher Setting Up for Success Conferences
- Options Classes for Term 1
- School TV – School Transitions
- School App
- Term 1 Calendar

## Student Safety

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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 on Clarence Street cannot be used for picking up or dropping off children.

## Kids Online Parent Information Evening – Tuesday 11 Feb

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We want our school to be a safe place.

Because of the rapidly changing times our tamariki are growing up in, and the mounting challenges and harms they are facing online, we need to start talking about and tackling this as a community. As such, Ponsonby Intermediate and our School Board have organised Author, Filmmaker and Speaker Rob Cope, producer of the documentary 'Our Kids Online', to come and give what promises to be a humorous and eye-opening evening talk to our parent community. The talk will be held at Ponsonby Intermediate School Hall on **Tuesday 11 February from 6:30-8:30pm**. We would like at least one adult from each Ponsonby Intermediate family to attend, this topic is too big for you not to pay attention to. This is a free community event for our parents and we would really appreciate your support around this topic by attending.

We had a large number of parents attend last year and we had very positive feedback on how informative and useful the presentation was.

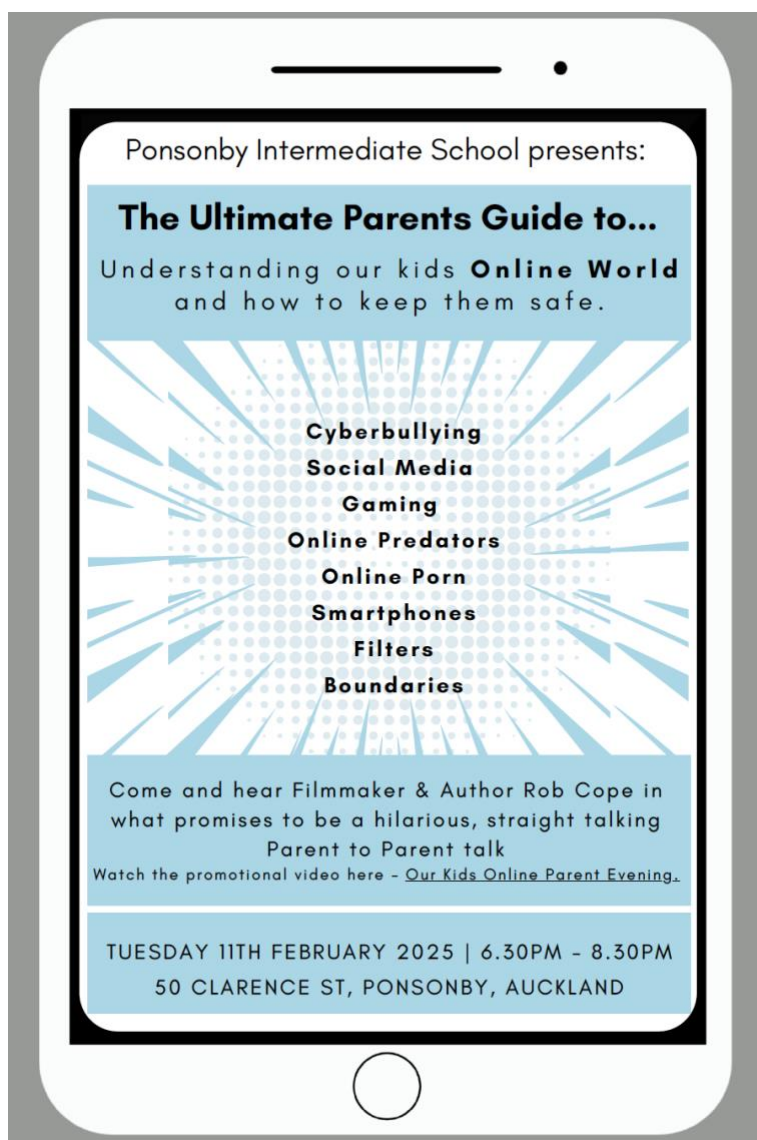
You will find some of the information confronting, but it is important that we discuss these concerns as a community to ensure our kids are safe.

## Attendance Confirmation

Please complete this [form](#) to confirm that you will be attending. If you have registered through the google form and then decide not to attend, please let us know asap so that we can offer your position to someone else.

***Students and children are NOT to attend this event. It is for parents and caregivers only. Content that is covered is not for younger audiences.***

Rob's mantra - "We need to tackle this as a community so that all of our kids are safe. When you protect your kids online, you are also protecting mine and when I protect my kids online, I am also protecting yours."



# Swimming Sports Information

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**Our School Swimming Sports will be held at Point Erin Pools, Thursday 13 February.**

**Parents and caregivers are welcome to come along and cheer on the students for our first full school house competition for the year.**

## **Year 7 Classes:**

Assemble on the Basketball Court at 8.35am – walk to Point Erin Pools where the programme begins at 9.00am.

**Year 7 students will finish the programme at 12:00pm, wait until the Year 8 students have entered the pool and have lunch upon returning to school.**

## **Year 8 Classes:**

Assemble on the Basketball Court 11:00am at the end of Interval. Walk to Point Erin Pools where the programme starts at 12pm. Finish at 2.40pm and walk back to school.

## **All students will need:**

**Togs, Towel, Sweater or Rain jacket, Sunhat, Sunscreen, Lunch and their drink bottle.**

Finals will be held in Backstroke, Breaststroke and Freestyle. All events are 33 metres in length, apart from 100m Freestyle. There are 2 fun races if time allows. All students are encouraged to enter at least 2 events, and will accumulate House Points.

If your child cannot participate in the Swimming Sports, please make sure you have organised a note that is to be given to the form teacher on the morning of the event.

There is no use of the Point Erin Tuck-Shop, no chewing gum, energy drinks, fizzy drinks, and no glass bottles to be taken.

A timetable of events is at the end of the newsletter.

# Events and Activities Expo

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**Friday 14 February, School Hall - 12:30pm - 1:15pm**

This is a chance to find out more about our school in detail. For example - Sports programmes, Music lessons, after school clubs, Arts opportunities, Kapa Haka, and much more. There will be parking on the field for this. Students and parents are all welcome to attend to find out from teachers running activities what is involved.

## World Challenge – Overseas Trip September 2025

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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.

World Challenge held an initial presentation for this trip on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November and will be hosting another presentation in Term 1 on the **17 February at 6:30pm**.

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 on the trip, there will be an interview process following during Term 1. Signing up does not guarantee you a place on a trip, it simply notifies the school of your interest.

You do not have to attend any of the presentations before signing up, but it is strongly encouraged so you can make an informed decision before applying.

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.



## 2025 School Fees (5% Discount Ending Soon)

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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.**

<b>Sports and Ed. Outside the Classroom</b>	<b>\$55.00</b>
<b>Special Events/Trips</b>	<b>\$55.00</b>
<b>Options Modules</b>	<b>\$55.00</b>
<b>Printing (including School Magazine)</b>	<b>\$45.00</b>
<b>The Arts</b>	<b>\$55.00</b>

<b>Extension and Enrichment</b>	<b>\$55.00</b>
<b>Transport</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>
<b>Technology</b>	<b>\$115.00</b>
<b>Activity Costs</b>	<b>\$470.00</b>
<b>School Donation</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>
<b>Total Per Year</b>	<b>\$620.00</b>

## Absences and Lateness

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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

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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.



## Sports Update

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Ponsonby Intermediate offers a range of sports to students who are keen to play in weekly team competitions throughout the year. Letters cover extensive information and costs for these sports and can be collected from the Hall foyer (as they come out) and at the Events and Activities EXPO coming up on Friday 14 February. See trial dates/times below.

**Table Tennis Club (no trials)** starts this term on Monday 10 February in the school hall from 3:05pm-4:30pm.

### **Netball Year 7, 8 TRIALS - School top courts**

Year 8: Monday 10 February 11am-1pm and Wednesday 12 February 12pm-2pm

Year 7s: Tuesday 11 February 12pm-2pm and Monday 17 February 11am-1pm

Year 7,8 Call back: Tuesday 18 February 12pm-2pm

### **Basketball Year 8s TRIAL - School Hall**

Year 8: Wednesday 12 February 12pm-3pm

### **Water Polo Year 7, 8 TRIALS - AUT Millennium Pool**

Tuesday 25 February 12:30pm-2:30pm AUTM Pool

Thursday 27 February 12:30pm-2:30pm AUTM Pool

### **Hockey Year 7, 8 TRIALS - School covered basketball court**

Monday 3 March 7:30am-8:15am TBC

### **Swim League Year 7, 8 Sign Ups Hall Foyer**

Friday 21 February 12:30pm

### **Ski/Snowboard Year 7, 8 Sign Ups Hall Foyer**

Friday 21 February 12:30pm

Friday 7 March 8:30am-9:30am Parent Meeting - Staffroom

Students will be notified of any changes to sports trial days/times in the school's daily notices. If you are available to coach or manage a sports team, please email Ponsonby Intermediate Sports Coordinator, Michelle Murray [michellem@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:michellem@ponsint.school.nz)

# Form Teacher Setting up for Success Conferences

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**Tuesday 18 February - Form Teacher Setting up for Success Conferences - from 1:20pm - 6pm.**

A chance for you to book in a one-on-one meeting with your child's Form Teacher. It is a great opportunity to discuss priorities and student goal setting for 2025.

The school will close for instruction at 12:30pm this day. Supervision will be available in the Library for students that need this. Please contact the school office if your child requires supervision [office@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:office@ponsint.school.nz)

## **Online Conference Booking**

Bookings can be made at <http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz> using the school code.

**Tuesday 18 February – 1:20 – 6:00pm**

**(Code: jna8e)**

<https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/jna8e>

Below are the list of teachers and the Form Class they teach to make booking easier.

Thanks,

Cobey Bennett

[cobeyb@ponsint.school.nz](mailto:cobeyb@ponsint.school.nz)

**Room 1: Jennie Chatfield**

**Room 3: Lisa Stephenson**

**Room 8: Stephanie Bruce**

**Room 9: Inger Moffat**

**Room 11: Chrissie Cullen**

**Room 12: Lauren Collins**

**Room 14: Jane Jeon**

**Room 15: Sione Taupeaafe**

**Room 16: Kelly Richardson**

**Room 17: Brooke Jameson**

**Room 18: Sarah Valintine / Racheal Wilson**

**Room 20: Cobey Bennett**

**Room 21: Kellie Spencer**

**Room 22: Angela Lane**

**Room 23: Penelope Dunn**  
**Room 25: Sarah Howie**  
**Room 26: Andrea Sherrock**  
**Room 28: Katherine Busch**  
**Room 30: Ian Wannamaker**

The Conferences will be 10 minutes long and will be held in the school hall.

## **School TV – Parent Resource**

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**Welcome to our new families. Here at Ponsonby Intermediate we have a resource which you all have access to, School TV. You can access this resource anytime, and in our newsletters we will put up links to articles that might be helpful to you at a specific time.**

Because parenting doesn't come with instructions, SchoolTV is a wellbeing resource implemented at our school to help support you in the challenges of modern-day parenting relating to youth mental health and wellbeing. Parenting is a learning journey and SchoolTV supports families by providing credible information from trusted sources with practical strategies to help alleviate some of the challenges being faced by young people today.

Watch video interviews with leading wellbeing specialists and browse a library of resources. Each topic is accompanied by factsheets, podcasts, books, articles, apps and other videos. This award-winning resource helps families build relationships, foster connections, enable understanding and break down barriers to navigate a pathway towards better mental health and wellbeing for young people. It will assist you in starting those conversations on topics that can sometimes be awkward or difficult to tackle.

Parents and caregivers are the greatest influence on a young person's life and SchoolTV focuses on empowering confident parenting. Explore SchoolTV today!



## In this edition of SchoolTV - School Transitions

Whether it is starting school for the first time, moving up to a higher grade or embarking on a journey through secondary school, there is no doubt that any school transition is a very exciting time for children and parents. It means your children are growing up!

However, transitioning is an ongoing process. It can continue long after students have entered their new environment and may encounter difficulties at a number of different stages. These stressors may appear as anxiety and frustration and result in negative or disruptive behaviours. Such behaviours can become problematic making the transitioning process even more difficult for children and parents.

In this edition of SchoolTV, parents will learn practical strategies to assist your child during the transition process and reduce stress and anxiety levels.

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 **School Transitions** edition of SchoolTV

<https://ponsonbyintermediate.nz.schooltv.me/newsletter/school-transitions>

## School App

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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.



# Term 1 Calendar (subject to change)

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
2	3 Feb	4 Feb	5 Feb	6 Feb	7 Feb
	Timetable Starts	Leadership Meeting <b>Whanau Evening</b> @ 5:30pm	<b>EOTC starts</b>	<b>Waitangi Day</b>	Assembly - Table Tennis Promo
3	10 Feb	11 Feb	12 Feb	13 Feb	14 Feb
	Table Tennis Club starts Netball Trials Year 8 (11am - 1pm)	<b>Rob Cope Talk</b> 6:30 - 8:30pm Netball Trials Year 7 (12pm - 2pm)	Netball Trials Year 8 (12pm - 2pm) Basketball trials year 8 (12pm - 3pm)	<b>Swimming Sports</b>	<b>Events and Activities Expo</b> @ 12:30pm
4	17 Feb	18 Feb	19 Feb	20 Feb	21 Feb
	Netball Trials Year 7 (11am - 1pm) <b>World Challenge Evening</b> @ 6:30pm	Netball Trials (Call backs Y7/8 12pm - 2pm) <b>Setting Up for Success Conferences</b> @ 1:20pm CZ Girls Tennis	<b>Production Workshops</b>	Options Starts CZ Boys Tennis  <b>Production Workshops</b>	
5	24 Feb	25 Feb	26 Feb	27 Feb	28 Feb
	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)	
6	3 March	4 March	5 March	6 March	7 March
		<b>Core Conferences</b> 3:30 - 7:30 Leadership Meeting		<b>Core Conferences</b> 3:30 - 7:30 Water Polo Trials 12:30pm CZ Boys Cricket	Ski and Snowboard team Parents Meeting @ 8:30am school staffroom
7	10 March	11 March	12 March	13 March	14 March
		CZ Girls Cricket  Netball Parent/Player meeting @ 6pm (hall)		<b>Modular Conferences</b> 3:30 - 8pm	
8	17 March	18 March	19 March	20 March	21 March
	<b>School Photos</b>			CZ Swimming  Core Conferences 1:20pm - 6pm	<b>Market Day</b>

9	24 March	25 March	26 March	27 March	28 March
		Immunisations - Boostrix, HPV <b>CZ Orienteering</b>	<b>Councillors Social/ Dance</b> <b>IZ Swimming TBC</b>		
10	31 March	1 April	2 April	3 April	4 April
11	7 April	8 April	9 April	10 April	11 April
				<b>Kids' Lit Quiz</b>	<b>End of Term</b>



# Swimming Sports Programme

Thursday 13th February 2025

Year 7 Programme: 9:00am – 11:45am

Year 8 Programme: 12:00pm – 2:40pm

<b>HEATS</b>	
<b>Event</b>	<b>Grade</b>
100m Freestyle (straight Final)	Boys
100m Freestyle (straight Final)	Girls
33m Backstroke	Boys
33m Backstroke	Girls
33m Freestyle	Boys
33m Freestyle	Girls
33m Breaststroke	Boys
33m Breaststroke	Girls
33m Butterfly (straight Final)	Boys
33m Butterfly (straight Final)	Girls
33m Running Race (If time allows)	Boys and Girls

<b>FINALS</b>	
Year 7 start time approx: 11:10am      Year 8 start time approx: 1:50pm	
<b>Event</b>	<b>Grade</b>
33m Backstroke	Boys
33m Backstroke	Girls
33m Breaststroke	Boys
33m Breaststroke	Girls
33m Freestyle	Boys
33m Freestyle	Girls
Class Relay (Form Teacher organises Team)	2 Boys and 2 Girls



## 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](http://www.musiceducation.co.nz/pages/mis-enrolment)

## 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

**'SIMPLE THINGS DONE AT A HIGHER STANDARD'**

**DT  
COACHING  
CLINIC**  
ALL AGES & ABILITIES

## Professional Football Coach

- FA Level 2
- FA Level 1 Talent Identification
- OFC / NZF C Licence



Instagram - @jh\_f\_1on1



Facebook - DTCoachingClinic



Youtube - DTCoachingClinic



tiokusderek@hotmail.com

JUST HAVE FUN 😊

## DT Coaching Clinic Registration





ATLANTIS CITY

**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](mailto:competitions@acwpa.co.nz)**

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