



NEWSLETTER

Week 9, Term 1 2024

Thursday 28 March

CONTENTS

[Mai te pene a te Tumuaki | From the Principals' Pen](#)
[Strategic Plan](#)
[Poly Club](#)
[Education Review Office](#)
[Reminder School Arrival Time](#)
[Our Kids Online - The Big Reconnect is available to you!](#)
[School alert programme](#)
[Fono coordinator](#)
[Seesaw Account](#)
[School Photos - Sue Allman People 8-12 April](#)
[Annual Charges/Donations/Emergency Contact Details](#)
[Musac Edge App - New Feature - Absences \(preferred option\)](#)
[Emergency Contact Details/Medication](#)
[Discovery School Facebook page](#)
[Community Notices](#)
[Kelly Club Before and After School Care](#)
[Kelly Club Holiday Programme April 2024](#)
[DSPTA Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser 4 April \\$2 each](#)

He waka eke noa – we're all in this together
E so'o le fau i le fau – unity is strength

Mai te pene a te Tumuaki | From the Principals' Pen

Kia ora e te whānau

It's been a great term so far and we have a few weeks left. This weekend is Easter and it is important to remember that school closes for Friday, Monday and Tuesday. Tuesday is a long standing inclusion in the Easter Break for schools, but Easter usually falls in the holidays. Please make sure you have arranged care for your child.

We are working hard at school to ensure all the students understand and show our school values. These are RESPECT, EXCELLENCE, INTEGRITY and RESPONSIBILITY. Classes talk about our values regularly and we work to help children understand what they look like in a school setting. A good way to frame this for children is to ask *what would it look like, sound like and feel like if everyone was demonstrating respect?*

We have 439 students currently attending our school, who come from 298 families. Different families have different values and ways of 'being'. We have noticed over the last term that some of our children don't always demonstrate our values in ways that we expect. We have some students who are not always kind to others, who can be disrespectful to adults and students, or don't always show integrity by doing the right thing at the right time. Our hunches are confirmed by a survey that we are currently undertaking with our Year 4-8 students about behaviour in the playground. We have had some instances of children taking things that don't belong to them. In many instances, when we contact parents about this, they are rightly unimpressed by their child's behaviour. I thought it would be a good idea to reach out to families and ask you to have a discussion as a family together around what our values look like, sound like and feel like at home and what you as a whānau would expect from your child at school. By doing this, it helps children to understand that the expectations we have are shared and that we work as a community and 'team' to ensure they are happy and safe at school. It would also be a good idea to make sure your children know to talk to an adult at school if they experience something that doesn't reflect our values. This is important as if we don't know something has happened that sits outside our expectations and values, we can't deal with it.

You will have read in my recent communication that our caretaker, Aaron Semmens, has resigned to take up a grounds maintenance role at Porirua City Council. Aaron has been with us for nearly 10 years. The role of a caretaker is varied and rewarding, however does also include jobs that aren't always the ones we all jump to do! We appreciate the work Aaron has done and wish him all the best for his new role.

I wish you all a wonderful Easter break and we look forward to seeing the children back next Wednesday.

Ngā mihi

Kaylene

Strategic Plan

Our strategic plan has been submitted to the Ministry of Education. It outlines the school's direction for the next 2 years. Our goals were developed following consultation with parents late in 2023. Our 3 key strategic goals are:

- Grow our knowledge of Te Ao Māori
- Learn through a refreshed, rich local curriculum
- Create spaces that support learning

The detailed initiatives and actions that we are taking in relation to these goals can be [found on our website](#).

Poly Club

This year we have new Poly Club tutors. The team at Breed Music are working with our students and they will start their first sessions in week 11 with our Senior teams and next week with our Middles. Next term we will also be including our Junior classes in this programme.

Education Review Office

We have had notification from the Education Review Office that they will start working with our school next term. The process for reviews is different from previous reviews and we will have more details as our work together progresses. We welcome the opportunity to have an external set of eyes supporting us with our school review and planning processes.

Reminder School Arrival Time

Just a reminder that children should not be at school before 8.30am. We have had a number of children coming early and we are unable to supervise them. Teachers have preparation work to do before school and need uninterrupted time to do so. If you require care for your child prior to 8.30am, please enrol them in Kelly Club.

On dry days, we lock the classrooms during break times so that everyone is outside getting fresh air. This is after the students have had a chance to eat and if they are still eating, they take their lunch outside to finish off. If you are going to be picking your child up for an appointment during the day, please let the office and your child's teacher know. Classrooms (and bags) are not easily accessible during the hours of 11-11.30am and 1.10-1.50pm.

Our Kids Online - The Big Reconnect is available to you!

Many of you attended the parent evening early in 2023 to hear Rob Cope talk about how to keep our kids safe online. We have continued our school subscription to this and will use it in classes to educate children on keeping safe. The programme is usually \$99 per family per year, but you can access it for free. The resource includes a course for parents that covers all the things you need to know about keeping your kids safe online. Alongside the information above for parents, you also get access to the modules for your children. There is a whole series to sit and watch with them.

To access The Big Reconnect course, please click on the following link: [The Big Reconnect](#)

This will take you to the main page for you to enrol in the course. Click **ENROL NOW** This will then take you to the enrolment page.

Step 1 On the left side of the page put in your email address

Step 2 On the right-hand side of the page click on **Add Coupon Code** then copy and paste DISCOVERYFREE

Step 3 Then click on **apply**

Step 4 Click on **get it for free**

This will then take you to a new page for you to:

Step 5 Add your name

Step 6 Create a password

School alert programme

Our school has opted in to a new Wellbeing focused initiative lead by the Ministry of Education and Police across the Porirua area. The purpose of the Programme is to notify schools in a timely manner when one of its students has been affected by a family harm episode. The Ministry of Education will manage and monitor alerts from Police and send a notification to the enrolling school with no other detail other than the students name. As a result of these notifications the school is then aware that a child has experienced an event within the last 24 hours and is then better able to assist these students through more appropriate and sensitive behaviour management, and the provision of additional supports when required. This programme fits within our Child Protection policy requirements and supports a small number of selected staff to support Tamariki who may require a little extra care. The school has created a process to ensure information is kept private and safely stored. Please speak to Kaylene if you have any questions about the process.

Fono Coordinator

We are looking for a Pacific Coordinator to work with us. The role is a paid job for someone to coordinate Pacific Language week activities and support our teachers and students as we learn about pacific cultures. If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please get them to contact Kaylene.

Seesaw Account

Please take the time to look at your child/ren's Seesaw account. Tamariki appreciate it when their whanau comment on their work and/photos. If you have any issues accessing their account, please contact your child's teacher so that this can be sorted.



School Photos - Sue Allman People 8-12 April

Below is the link to the Sue Allman People Google form to order this year's school photos:

[Discovery School Photo Order Form](#)



Discovery School photos are being taken from Monday 8th to Friday 12th April. Note: Room 8 photos will be taken in term 4 and a separate order form will be sent out for ordering these. **The closing date for orders is 1pm on Friday 5th April.** Please note that there will be a \$10 charge for late orders received after this date. If you have any queries please direct them to www.sueallmanpeople.co.nz

Annual Charges/Donations/Emergency Contact Details

The annual charges, donations have been added to the Musac Edge portal. You can either pay through the portal using a credit card (surcharge applies) or pay directly into the school bank account (account details are on the stationery lists)

Musac Edge App - New Feature - Absences (preferred option)

You can now inform the office of absences via the app and it is super easy. We really encourage parents to use the app for absence notification if you can as it logs directly into the attendance register, which will assist with efficiency and accuracy at our end!

It's super easy to download the app (<https://www.discovery.school.nz/parentcaregiver-portal>)

Access to the edge caregiver portal and app uses the existing email address that Discovery School has on record. This App allows you to view school information about your child(ren), notify the school of absences and view and pay school bills online (note there is a small surcharge for credit card payments). It gives you quick and easy access to the information for students in your household. Once you are in, click on 'notify school of absence' and follow the prompts. If your child is away sick, we do need the type of illness/reason noted. If you have any questions, please contact the office. You can also check your contact details and emergency contacts on the App. Please let the office know of any changes by emailing contactupdates@discovery.school.nz

Emergency Contact Details/Medication

Please check your child's caregiver and emergency contact details in the Musac Edge portal. If you have any changes please email contactupdates@discovery.school.nz. Click on this link if you need instructions on how to download the app. [Musac Edge portal instructions](#) Please check that your child's medication has not expired, eg asthma inhalers, epi pens etc. If you are unsure please contact the office.

Discovery School Facebook page



Please join our [school Facebook page](#). This has regular updates, reminders and notices as well as photos of school events. You need to state your child's full name and class to be accepted into this closed group. Please note that students won't be accepted to this page and commenting is always turned off on posts. Private messages to administrators will not be answered, please contact your child's teacher or the school office via email if you have questions about school programmes and/or events.

Community Notices

For information on activities in our community click on this link, these will be updated as we receive information regarding events in the community. [Community Notices](#).

Kelly Club Before and After School Care

Click on this link for more information about our before and after school care.

<https://www.discovery.school.nz/about-us/kelly-club-before-and-after-school-care>

Kelly Club Holiday Programme April 2024

APRIL 2024 HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

DISCOVERY SCHOOL

A timetable and full programme information is available online or at the programme venue.

Who can attend: Children aged 5-13 yrs

General information: We believe in giving children opportunities to do the things they love and enjoy in a supportive and encouraging environment. Our friendly staff are passionate about working with children. They are provided with training on behaviour management techniques, first aid and activity planning/delivery.

What do you need to bring: Shoes and appropriate clothing, jacket or sweatshirt, hat, drink bottle and food for morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea.

Payment details: Payment is required before the holiday programme begins. An invoice will be issued when a completed booking is received. All payment details will be included on the invoice.

Work and Income OSCAR Subsidy: Parents/caregivers that meet certain criteria will be able to access a WINZ subsidy to help cover the cost of our programme. For more information visit www.workandincome.govt.nz.

Please note: Every care will be taken to ensure the safety of your child/ren and their property. However, organisers of Kelly Club accept no liability for any injury sustained to your child/ren or any loss or damage to his/her property whilst at a programme. If your child/ren are collected late after the conclusion of the programme you will be charged \$20 per 15 minutes or part thereof.

Prices & Session Times:

Full Week: \$280 7am-6pm	Full Day: \$55 7am-6pm	Event Day: Extra \$20 (Included in Full Week)
School Day: \$45 8:30am-3pm	Half Day: \$35 7am-12:30pm or 12:30pm-6pm	

Website: kellyclub.co.nz/discovery
Contact: Julie England
Email: discovery@kellyclub.co.nz
Phone: 027 321 2112
Facebook: @KellyClubDiscoveryWhitby
Address: Pullen Lane, Whitby



BOOK ONLINE NOW AT www.kellyclub.co.nz


KELLY CLUB

HOLIDAY PROGRAMME
 DISCOVERY SCHOOL

WEEK 1

Mon 15 April	Tues 16 April	Wed 17 April	Thurs 18 April	Fri 19 April
				
KELLY CLUB NINJAS	RAINFOREST ADVENTURE	AQUATIC CENTRE	WHEELS DAY	ROCK 'N' ROLL

WEEK 2

Mon 22 April	Tues 23 April	Wed 24 April	Thurs 25 April	Fri 26 April
				
BUBBLES & BOUNCE	SERGEANTS & SOLDIERS	THE LETTER S	PROGRAMME NOT ON TODAY	HUMAN BOARD GAMES

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT
www.kellyclub.co.nz

DSPTA Sausage Sizzle Fundraiser 4 April \$2 each



Sausage Sizzle



Thursday 4th

April

\$2



Orders in the hall between 8:30-9:00

