ALLENTON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 4 Week 6

20 November 2026

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Together We Learn and Grow
Me akotahi hei oranga mō te katoa

Principal's Comment
Nga Korero o te Tumuaki



Ka nui te mihi ki a koutou - greetings to you all

The last few weeks have certainly been busy at Allenton and it's an indicator that the end of the school year is now less than four weeks away. This term and indeed the whole year has gone very quickly. Looking in the calendar later in this newsletter shows how much there is going on between now and the end of term.

At the end of this term we will be saying farewell to two of our teaching staff. Megan Jansen will be moving to Ashburton College to take on a role of Reading Intervention Teacher, and Lydia Wilson will be taking on another teaching role at Dunsandel School. Megan has been at Allenton since 2019 and we have certainly benefitted from her experience, knowledge of children's learning and connections with staff, whānau and students. Lydia has been in our teaching team this year, and as a Learning Assistant when she was training to be a teacher. It has been great to see her development over this time, and also the wonderful atmosphere that she has fostered in her classroom. On behalf of everyone in the Allenton community, I wish both Megan and Lydia all the best for the next chapter in their teaching careers.

We will therefore have some new staff joining us in 2027. Charlotte Moller will be teaching in the Year 2 area, Kelly Wilson at Year 3-4, Kate Kelly - Year 5-6, and Georgia Sisson continues with us in the Year 1 area. We are also in the process of appointing another teacher at the Year 3-4 level. This part of the school will go from five to six classes in 2027, due to growth coming through from the juniors and a desire to keep class sizes at manageable levels. I congratulate these teachers on their appointments to Allenton and we look forward to welcoming our new staff at the start of 2027.

We have looked at the location of where syndicates are based for 2027, so there will be some changes to the traditional layout of the school from next year. We will also be realigning how classrooms are numbered, to enable better flow through the school, so you will be hearing classes like J2 for Junior 2, or M4 for Middle 4. We will share more details with you about these changes before the end of the term.

Two Fridays ago Ruralco's Head of Retail, Tina Thompson, presented a $500 cheque to our school, proudly sponsored by Hoopers Outdoor Power Centre.



Through Ruralco's Spend for Your School programme, members can support local schools simply by using their Ruralco Card. For every 10 transactions made, members receive one entry into the monthly draw for the chance to win a $500 donation for their chosen school.

Ruralco's September 2026 winners, Murray and Lynette Thomson, chose to nominate Allenton School as the recipient of the donation, having attended the school themselves, along with their children.

Many thanks to Hoopers, Murray and Lynette Thomson, and Ruralco for this generous donation, which we will put towards new sports uniforms - a current fundraising focus for our PTA.

We have been thinking ahead to our end of year assembly, and recognise the challenges of fitting a large number of students into the hall for an extended period of time. As such for this year, we will be organising the end of year assemblies as follows:

- **Year 6 final assembly - Thursday 10 December at 5:30pm.**
  - Year 6 students are required to attend, and their parents are invited also.
  - Year 5 students are encouraged to attend this assembly, wearing their uniform and will be under the care of school staff. Their parents are also invited to attend.
  - Students in Year 0 - 4 may attend, but will remain and be seated with their parents / whānau.
  - Likely to last an hour.
  - Please refer to the flyer later in this newsletter

- **Final School Assembly - Tuesday 15 December at 10:45am**
  - All students to attend.
  - Parents and whānau welcome to attend as usual.
  - Likely to last an hour.

We are currently reviewing our strategic goals for 2027. These are broadly focused, with a more specific Annual Plan describing what we will do to progress towards the strategic goals. They currently focus on two key areas:

Curriculum:

Raising achievement, being responsive to recent curriculum changes, and improved student attendance to meet the learning needs of our children

People and Environment

Strengthened home-school partnerships, cultural inclusivity, developing responsive learning and outdoor spaces

Next week we will send out a brief survey to parents on Hero to gauge thoughts about the above goals and to see what else may need to be considered for the next couple of years.

Two weeks ago we sent 35 Year 5 and 6 students to the County Athletics, and they all represented Allenton School very well. We received a high number of 1st, 2nd or 3rd placings, including 1st placing in the Year 6 boys / Year 6 girls / Year 5 girls relay, along with a 2nd in the Year 5 boys relay. We congratulate all that took part in this event.



That same week, we had five students represent Allenton at the Mid Canterbury Schools' Tennis Tournament - Harrison N, Tai, Nixon Genevieve and Georgina. Harrison came 2nd in the Year 5/6 boys, Genevieve won the Consolation draw for Year 5/6 girls, Nixon placed 2nd in the Year 3/4 boys and Georgina won the Year 3/4 girls. Some fantastic results by these tennis stars! All games were played in good spirits and there were some very tight tie break games!



He kitenga kanohi, he hokinga mahara. He kawenga mahara, he hāpori kitea.

A familiar face stirs one's memories, a collection of memories is a community seen

Until next time,

Andrew Leverton
Principal | Tumuaki

New students

We extend a warm welcome to the following children and their families, who have recently started at Allenton. We hope your time with us is a positive and rewarding one.

Room 12 Aniea **Room 17** Eylah, Henry, Charlie, Mary

Cohort entry from the start of 2027

Cohort entry is where children start school for the first time on set dates through the year, rather than on or after their fifth birthday. There are eight set dates throughout the year - the start of each term, or at a midpoint in the term. Other than the first day of the school year, the dates are determined by the Ministry of Education. Once a child turns five, parents can start them on one of the dates following their fifth birthday. Following consultation, the School Board has elected to proceed with Cohort Entry from 2027. The Cohort Entry start dates for 2027 are listed below.

Term 1	2 February and 8 March
Term 2	27 April and 31 May
Term 3	19 July and 23 August
Term 4	11 October and 15 November

If parents have any queries about Cohort Entry please feel free to see either Andrew Leverton - Principal, or Julie Tayles - the Team Leader of the Junior Area.

New Entrant enrolment for 2027

If you have a child who is starting at Allenton in 2027 as a New Entrant, or you know of someone who has a child in this situation, their 2027 enrolment should have been completed and returned to the school office by now. It is important for our planning that we know who will be enrolling throughout the year, as this enables us to determine when classes will start. This is particularly important with Cohort Entry as noted above. It is also important to remember that we have an enrolment zone and that parts of Allenton that were in our zone several years ago, are no longer zoned for our school. Please contact the school office for details about this if you are unsure.

If you know that your child will not be at Allenton in 2026 (other than current Year 6s), please also let the school office know.

2026 Term Dates

Term	School closed
4	
Mon 12 Oct to Thurs 17 Dec	Mon 26 Oct (Labour Day) Thurs 12 November (staff development) Fri 13 Nov (Canterbury Anniversary Day)

2027 Term Dates

Term	School closed
1	
Tues 2 February to Fri 9 April	Monday 8 Feb (Waitangi Day observed) Friday 26 March (Good Friday) Monday 29 March (Easter Monday) Tuesday 30 March (Easter Tuesday)
2	
Tues 27 April to Fri 2 July	Monday 7 June (King's Birthday)

	Friday 25 June (Matariki)
3 Mon 19 July to Fri 24 Sept	Monday 23 August (Staff Development)
4 Mon 11 October to Fri 17 Dec	Monday 25 October (Labour Day) Thursday 11 November (Staff Development) Friday 12 November (Canterbury Anniversary Day)

Calendar of school events - Term 4, 2026

**** Please recheck these events each newsletter for any additions or changes ****

Tuesday 24 November	ESOL end of year celebration
Wednesday 25 November	Canterbury Primary Schools' Athletics
Friday 27 November	Cultural / Choir / Dance groups sharing afternoon, 2pm on the main court
Wednesday 2 November	Junior Carols, 12:45pm
Thursday 3 December	Year 4 - 6 Top Team, 1:30pm. Year 2 - 3 activities, 1:30pm
Friday 4 December	Whole school assembly, 10:50am
Monday 7 December	School Board meeting, 7pm
Thursday 10 December	Year 6 Leavers assembly, 5:30pm
Friday 11 December	Middle Carols and Picnic, from 10:40am
Monday 14 December	Reports home
Tuesday 15 December	Whole school assembly, 10:50am
Thursday 17 December	School year ends, 1pm

Year 6 Poroporoaki

A celebration of achievement and
a farewell to our Year 6 leavers

Thursday 10 December

5:30pm

Allenton School Hall

All parents and caregivers
are warmly welcome

Allenton School Board Mid-Term Parent Election 2027

Nomination Round

Our school will be holding a mid-term parent election to fill two School Board vacancies. The election process will begin with nomination emails being sent to our parent and caregiver community by Friday 5 February 2027.

The current Board has appointed Election Pilot as the Returning Officer for this election, which will be conducted online. Election Pilot has been assisting schools with elections for over 22 years and has been the only election provider accredited by the Ministry of Education to provide online election services since online school board elections began in 2022.

Nomination and voting forms will be sent directly to all eligible voters by email from Election Pilot. If we do not have an email address for you, nomination and voting papers will be sent by post to ensure everyone has the opportunity to participate.

School Board elections must be conducted in accordance with the Education and Training Act 2020 and the Education (Board Elections) Regulations 2022. Your name and contact details have been provided to Schooled Election Pilot to enable it to provide election services for our school, as required by legislation.

Your contact details will only be used for the provision of election services for our school and will be deleted 60 days after the election date, as required by legislation.

Nomination forms will also be available at the school office from 5th February 2027.

Nominations close at 12 noon on Wednesday 24 February 2027.

We look forward to your participation in this process.

Returning Officer
Election Pilot
89 Nazareth Avenue | Middleton | Christchurch | PO Box 414 | Christchurch 8140
P (03) 338 4444 Web www.electionpilot.nz

Community Notices



Whether you're a speedy little cyclist, a keen runner, a weekend walker or just looking for a fun family adventure, the **Ruralco Longbeach Coastal Challenge** has something for EVERYONE!

Bring the whole family! All ages and abilities are welcome.
Bike, run or walk – choose your own adventure!
Team up or go solo – get your mates together or take on the challenge yourself.
Little ones welcome too! Children in prams can join in for FREE!
Exciting spot prizes up for grabs!

School Challenge – a special event for Year 5–8 students, with teamwork, fun and a little friendly rivalry!
Every finisher gets a medal! Everyone deserves to celebrate crossing that finish line!

KAI FOR KIDS

We're asking our wonderful farming community to take **less than a minute** to nominate **Kai for Kids** in the PGG Wrightson Cash for Communities programme. It's free to nominate Kai for Kids.

Your nomination can help us continue providing healthy, nutritious food to children coming to school without food across Mid Canterbury.

It's quick and easy to do! Click on the link below and it will take you directly to the PPG Wrighton Cash for Communities website.

👉 **Nominate Kai for Kids here**

You'll need your **PGG Wrightson account number**.

Simply:

1. Enter your PGG Wrightson account number and name.
2. In the first **"Nominate your cause"** box, select **Other**.
3. Select **Mid/South Canterbury** as the region.
4. Select **Kai for Kids** as the recipient.

That's it — it takes less than a minute!

Please nominate Kai for Kids and encourage your **friends, family and farming connections** to do the same.

Every nomination helps us provide nourishing food to children coming to school without food at the **17 schools and kindergartens across Mid Canterbury** we currently support. 💚

Thank you and we really appreciate your support!



KAPA HAKA, KAI, FUN AND GIVEAWAYS FOR THE WHOLE WHĀNAU. COME THROUGH, BRING EVERYONE.

Ashburton Police, Fire and Emergency, Connecting Mid Canterbury, Step Ahead, Family Help Trust, Sport Canterbury, Hakatere Marae, RRT (Rapid Relief Team), Eco Educate, Zumba (Vibe and Moves), HIPPY, Safer Mid Canterbury, Waitaha Health, Base/Hype, YMCA, Neurohub, Tangata Awamutu Trust, Neighbourhood Support, Great Potentials, Welcoming Communities

HE WAKA TAPU
Hakatere | Ashburton

life Pharmacy · FUSION GALLERY · Kathmandu · Joe's Garage. · CHEMIST WAREHOUSE · Stirling Sports · THE PHAT DUCK · Violet. · Kmart