ALLENTON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 3 Week 8

11 September 2026

110 Harrison Street, Ashburton
Phone (03) 308 6495
Email: office@allenton.school.nz
Website: www.allenton.school.nz
School app: Hero and select Allenton School

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

Our new accessible playground was completed two weeks ago and is getting plenty of use, both during break times and after school. We are grateful to the Lotteries Grants Board for their tremendous funding support for this project. It looks amazing and is bringing lots of fun and joy for our tamariki! We anticipate having an official opening in the middle of next term.

Cohort entry from the start of 2027

Over the past two terms, we have been investigating the possibility of cohort entry for new entrant children from the start of 2027. This has involved giving early childhood centres and parents of prospective and recently started children the opportunity to be involved in the consultation process. 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.

There is evidence that starting school alongside other children helps them build relationships and supports a smoother entry to school life. We also feel that Cohort Entry will allow for better management of the start date, with children starting in groups, rather than individually throughout the year as can be the case now. I have added the Cohort Entry start dates for 2027 later in this newsletter. More information will be shared at the New Entrant Welcome Wednesday information morning in early November, but if parents have any queries about Cohort Entry in the meantime, please feel free to see either myself or Julie Tayles - the Team Leader of the Junior Area.

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, then please ensure that they are enrolled by the end of term 3 - **Friday 25 September.** 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.

We have previously posted information on Hero and Facebook about the **PTA Fun Run** on Tuesday 22 September. This is being organised by our dedicated PTA, who are raising funds to update our sports uniforms. Please see the flyer later in the newsletter for more information, or refer to the recent Hero / Facebook posts. Currently Kowhai House is leading the house challenge and just over $3,400 has been raised. Keep up the great work over the next week and a bit!

This past week we have hosted the **Life Education** caravan at school. Classes have been visiting the caravan, and of course, the adored Harold, to learn about key aspects of being healthy. Harold made a surprise visit to Allenton today, and attracted a crowd of supporters along the way.

Next week will be a busy week for a number of groups across our school. Year 6 students are heading off to camp at Woodend from Monday to Wednesday. On Thursday we have hockey, rugby and netball teams representing Allenton and Mid Canterbury at the Canterbury Primary Schools Winter Tournament. On Friday we have just over 100 middle and senior kapa haka students taking part in a Te Wiki o te Māori (Māori Language Week) ceremony at Ashburton College. Some of our Year 6 students are involved in all of these events! I wish everyone involved - players, coaches, parents, and tutors, all the best for the week ahead.

Next week I am at the International Confederation of Principals conference, an event that draws in around 1,500 delegates from New Zealand and around the world. This year Auckland is hosting the conference. Chris Miller will be Acting Principal for the time that I am away.

Ko te pae tawhiti whāia kia tata, ko te pae tata whakamauakia tina

Seek out distant horizons, and cherish those you attain.

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 1	**Mia**	**Room 17**	**Teghveer**

End of day arrangements

If parents need to get in touch with their child regarding end of day arrangements, a reminder that this needs to be done through the school office as teachers don't clear emails or Seesaw during the school day when they are teaching.

Policy Review

Parents and whānau are able to have input into the policy review process. This term's policy review focuses on school community engagement and the specific policies are in the adjacent box. Our policy portal - School Docs, can be accessed through our website - allenton.school.nz and by clicking on the Policies and Procedures tab further down the front page, which will in turn take you to the School Board page.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

TERM 3
School Community Engagement Policy (board)
Inclusive School Culture (board)
Enrolment
Student Attendance (board)
Student Uniform / Student Dress Expectations
Concerns and Complaints Policy (board)

A community user name and password is noted on this page. Click on the School Docs icon then the Current Review tab on the following page to start the review process. Alternatively, go to https://allenton.schooldocs.co.nz/ to get started, using the Username allenton and Password 7700.

2026 Term Dates

Term	School closed
3	
Mon 20 July to Fri 25 Sep	Fri 7 Aug (staff development)
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

In addition to the dates below, there are two Staff Development days which are yet to be scheduled. These are likely to be in the second half of the year

Term	School closed
1	
Tues 2 February to Fri 9 April	Mon 8 Feb (Waitangi Day observed)

	Fri 26 March (Good Friday) Mon 29 March (Easter Monday) Tues 30 March (Easter Tuesday)
2 Tues 27 April to Fri 2 July	Mon 7 June (King's Birthday) Friday 25 June (Matariki)
3 Mon 19 July to Fri 24 Sept	
4 Mon 11 October to Fri 17 Dec	Mon 25 October (Labour Day) Fri 12 November (Canterbury Anniversary Day)

2027 Cohort Entry Dates

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

An example of how cohort entry would work:
A child who turns five on 4 February, would start on 8 March, or an entry date following this. If they started on 8 March (week 6 term 1), their school visits would typically occur in week 5.

Calendar of school events - Term 3, 2026

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

Monday 14 September	Year 6 Camp (until 16 September)
Thursday 17 September	Winter Tournament, Christchurch
Friday 18 September	Kapa haka group to Ashburton College
Monday 21 September	Court Theatre performance
Tuesday 22 September	PTA Fun Run (pp 24 September)
Wednesday 23 September	Middle School sharing of learning, 9:15 - 10:00
Friday 25 September	Term 3 ends, 3pm

Calendar of school events - Term 4, 2026

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

Monday 12 October	Term 4 commences, 8:55am
Tuesday 20 October	School Athletics Day (pp 21 October)
Thursday 22 October	Hakatere Festival (Yr 5 & 6 kapa haka / multicultural performance groups)
Monday 26 October	Labour Day (school closed)
Wednesday 28 October	School photos
Friday 30 October	Middle Area assembly, 10:50am Junior Area assembly, 2:00pm

Monday 2 November	Board meeting, 7pm
Tuesday 3 November	PTA meeting, 7:30pm
Wednesday 4 November	Welcome Wednesday New Entrant parent information morning
	Mid Canterbury Schools Athletics (pp 6 November)
Friday 6 November	School assembly, 10:50am

ALLENTON SCHOOL

FUN RUN FUNDRAISER

CHECK HERO FOR MORE INFO AND LINK TO REGISTER

SPOT PRIZES

TUESDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER 1.30PM

ALLENTON SCHOOL FIELD

GET READY TO LACE UP YOUR RUNNING SHOES!

COLLECT ONLINE SPONSORSHIP AND SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL

All proceeds will go towards new sports uniforms.

go raiseit SCHOOL & CLUB FUNDRAISING

READY, SET, SIGN IN!

SCAN ME
TO DOWNLOAD

Stay in the loop by following these steps

1. **DOWNLOAD THE HERO APP**

   Once downloaded, click 'Sign In'

2. **ADD YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS**

   Select "Next"

3. **SELECT "NEW USER"**

   Your account will be set up by your school using the email address that you provided when you enrolled your children, use this address to request a password.

4. **SELECT "SUBMIT"**

   Hero will send you an email with a link to follow.

5. **CHECK YOUR EMAIL**

   You should receive an email within five minutes.

6. **FOLLOW THE LINK**

   This will take you to a secure page to enter your chosen password.

If you encounter problems logging in, please check with your school to make sure they have the correct details for you.

Hero

Community Notices

Hakatere Kapa Haka group for children

Tēnā koutou kātoa!

I am spreading the word about our Community Kapa Haka rōpu. Ngā Tamariki o Hakatere aims to be a group that allows younger performers to partake in community celebrations such as Matariki, Multicultural Night, Waitangi Day, etc.

As such, we would like to invite new members to come along. Our rōpu aims to offer tamariki the chance to build confidence and connections with tamariki from other schools across Hakatere, learn new waiata and celebrate Te Ao Māori with us!

Our practices are on Sunday from 10 am to 12 pm at Ashburton Borough School. However, we are looking at potentially also having Wednesday practices as well!

You can send a message to: ngatamarikiohakatere@gmail.com or phone: 0212499088

I would love to hear from you soon!

Nga mihi nui,

Ngāhuia Maeva

Handbags & Gladrags 2026

SEPT 18

MSA 6.30PM
MYSTERY HANDBAG AUCTION
SILENT AUCTION, RAFFLES
MUSIC & DANCING

Tickets $35pp (tables of 6) includes glass of bubbles on arrival and table platter

Tickets from Anna Arrowsmith 027 722 3204
annaarrowsmith@hotmail.co.nz

Safe Families Network
VIOLENCE FREE MID CANTERBURY

Proceeds for Ashburton Safe Families

Safer Mid Canterbury
Together we're safer

KIDS

A FREE SUMMIT KIDS EVENT

GLOW Party

COME DRESSED IN WHITE
OR NEON TO GLOW!

6.00PM - 7.30PM
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 6TH

- AN EVENING OF FUN!
- DINNER PROVIDED
- FOR KIDS IN YEARS 0-6
- FAITH BASED ELEMENTS

ASHBURTON NEW LIFE
58 MELCOMBE ST, TINWALD

For all the details & to complete the registration form:

Scan the QR Code
using your phone camera or QR app

Find us on Facebook
Summit Kids Ashburton

Email Us
summitkidsashburton@gmail.com

Registrations are essential and close Monday November 2nd

love tennis

WIN A VIP TRIP TO THE ASB CLASSIC!

IT'S FREE!

Come give tennis a go!
All equipment provided. Prizes, giveaways, BBQs & more.

SUN 13 SEPT
10AM - 2PM
lovetennis.kiwi

Mid Canterbury Tennis
70 Oak Grove

& PARTICIPATING CLUBS NATIONWIDE

Entries for The Show are open NOW

KIDS! Display your art, crafts, lego, baking, pets and more in the Show!

Check out the Student Section in our Show Schedule: August 20 Courier Newspaper or www.showdayonline.co.nz

Colouring Competition available soon at: ashburtonshow.co.nz

Entries close 25 Sept.

The Ashburton Show is centred around farming, family and fun!

This year there is free entry for all school kids, plus FREE activities including pony rides, crazy bikes, pet shed, facepainting, and more!

Come and experience the carnival, sit on a tractor, pet some animals and watch shearing, dog trials, and showjumping, PLUS the whole family can enjoy our **FREE** Carnival Friday night, starting at 5pm

IT'S OUR SHOW!

A&P SHOWGROUNDS, BRUCEFIELD AVE ASHBURTONSHOW.CO.NZ