



# ALLENTON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Term 4 Week 9 - 5 December 2025

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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



This will be the final school newsletter of the year, and it contains information about end of year events, as well as for the start of the 2026 school year.

In the last newsletter I noted new staff who will be joining the Allenton team in 2026. A full list of teaching staff has been included later in this newsletter.

We do have three staff who will be leaving Allenton at the end of the term. I'd like to take this opportunity to acknowledge **Philippa Young** who has taught at our school in a part-time capacity for several years. Much of her time has been spent teaching in our senior classes, where her experience, steady guidance, and strong relationships have made a real difference. Philippa has contributed greatly to the learning and wellbeing of ākonga, and her commitment to our school has been truly valued. Staff and students alike have appreciated the professionalism, warmth, and consistency she has brought to her classes. As she moves on from her role, we extend our sincere thanks for her service to our kura. We wish Philippa all the very best in the next chapter.

We also warmly acknowledge and farewell **Lorenz Miralles**, who has been part of our teaching team for the past three terms in Room 11 - one of our New Entrant classes. Lorenz has made a wonderful contribution to her class, bringing enthusiasm, professionalism, and genuine care for students. Her dedication and calm, supportive approach have been appreciated by staff, students, and whānau alike. As Lorenz moves on to new opportunities, we extend our thanks and wish her all the very best for the future.

We also farewell **Bill'e O'Brien** who has been part of our learning support team since the start of term 3. We acknowledge the work Bill'e has carried out during their time at our school and thank her for the support she has provided to students in the senior area. We appreciate the role she has played in helping our ākonga with their day-to-day learning. We wish Bill'e all the best for the future and for the opportunities that lie ahead.

### New School Board member

I have previously mentioned a vacancy on the School Board that arose due to a resignation at the triennial election in September. The Board decided to fill this vacancy by selection as the required threshold from eligible voters to hold a by-election wasn't reached. The Board have decided to select Craig Donaldson, who was the next highest-polling candidate at the triennial

election. We know that Craig will bring many skills to the Board and that these will complement those of other Board members.

Members of our School Board are: Jaclyn Pow (Presiding Member / Board Chair), Rachel Cawte, (Deputy Chair), James Cochrane, Hayden Marshall, Craig Donaldson, Julie Tayles (Staff-elected representative) and myself as Principal.

### **2026 House Leaders**

Today some of our Year 5 students delivered speeches to their respective house groups, to be House Leaders in 2026. There was a significant level of interest this year with 57 children giving speeches across the four house groups. I congratulate all those who put their names forward for these positions of responsibility, which is an achievement in itself. The successful students will be announced next week.

Acknowledgement also needs to be given to the **2025 House Leaders** for the way they have been role models for all other students in the school and for the commitment they have shown across the year. Thank you and well done to: Willow, Natalie, Sione and Charlotte (Kakariki), Harper, Sioape, Lincoln and Lorcan (Whero), Savannah, Margo, Quinn, and Charlie (Kowhai), Angus, Maggie, Reuben and Aaliyah (Kahurangi).

**End of year reports** will be sent home with children in Year 3 - 6, and some Year 1 and 2 students on Monday 15 December. The reports will be in an envelope, and apart from current Year 6 students and other known leavers, the class placement details for next year along with booking details for the start of year 3 Way Conferences. Stationery lists for 2026 will be sent home through the Hero app. If you haven't downloaded this app yet, please see the flyer later in the newsletter, or call in at the school office for assistance.

### **End of Year Assembly**

Our End of Year assembly is on Tuesday 16 December, beginning at 11am. The school will attend this assembly, with parents and families of Year 6 students invited to attend. These limits on numbers are to ensure that the whole school and parents / whānau of Year 6 students can all be accommodated in the hall.

### **Last day of school**

School finishes for the year on Wednesday 17 December at 1pm and all students will need to be collected by this time, or make their own way home. Students can be collected by their parents / caregivers from 12:30pm.

### **Buses**

The last day the school bus service will operate from Allenton School will be on 16 December. Parents of children who travel by bus will need to make their own travel arrangements to get their children to and from school on Wednesday 17 December.

### **Start of year - 2026**

Looking ahead to 2026, classes will commence on Monday 2 February. 3 Way Conferences for parents / students / teachers will be held on Friday 30 January. These serve as an ideal introduction for the children, parents and teachers before the start of the school year.

The School office will be open from Wednesday 28 January to Friday 30 January from 9am to 3pm, and from Monday 2 February at the usual hours of 8:30am to 3:30pm. Other start of year dates have been included later in this newsletter.

I wish to thank several groups of people in this, the last newsletter of the year. To our **PTA group** for the valuable contributions that they make to Allenton School. I thank them for their tireless efforts and the time they all give to our school. The money they raise directly supports the education of our children and the experiences that we can provide, so a big thank you to the team of enthusiastic parents for what they have achieved this year.

Our **School Board** is a group of parents who ensure that the school is well-governed so that the students can learn in a safe and secure environment. A lot of their work takes place behind the scenes, but the role they perform is a vital one. I thank them for the contributions they have made, the various skills they bring and the support that has been given to myself and the staff in the ongoing development and direction of our school.

To our **parents and school whānau** - thank you for the partnership and support you have provided to your children and the staff and for your involvement in our wider school programmes. Without this level of support and engagement, the experiences that we could offer students would be greatly reduced. The staff, Board and myself appreciate what you have done over the past year to support your own child(ren)'s learning and make Allenton School the special place that it is.

To our **staff**, thank you for all your efforts and mahi over the past year. I appreciate how you all combine to make learning happen, in order for our children to achieve and progress and for our school to be well-run and presented. Congratulations for the way you all work together and the support that you provide to each other.

The **children** of Allenton School bring energy and enthusiasm to school each day. I urge them all to continue to strive for their best in 2026. Next year may see children in a new class group, possibly in a new part of the school or with people they don't know so well. Changes such as these are all part of growing up and I hope they will make the most of the opportunities that come their way in 2026. I congratulate them for all their achievements over the past year.

Wishing all members of the Allenton School community a safe and enjoyable summer break.

*Meri kirihimete kia koutou me te whānau* - Merry Christmas to you and your family.  
*Ka kite ano a te tauhou* - see you in the new year.

Until next time,

Andrew Leverton  
Principal | Tumuaki

## **New Entrant enrolments for 2026**

If any Allenton families, or other families that have children who will be starting as New Entrants at any stage through 2026, please contact the school office for an enrolment pack to enrol as soon as possible. Pre enrolment is important as it helps us to know when individual NE children will be starting, as well as knowing when each NE class will commence. Please note that we will not be accepting out-of-zone enrolments at any year level for 2026.

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 as soon as possible.

## Teaching and Leadership Staff list (start of 2026)

### Leadership Team

Principal	Andrew Leverton
Deputy Principal	Chris Miller
Associate Principal / Middle Area Leader	Janine Barker
Junior Area Leader	Julie Tayles
Senior Area Leader	Liz Wells

### Junior Team / Year 0 - 2

#### Team Leader - Julie Tayles

Room 12	Year 1	Julie Tayles / Susan Moore (release)
Room 13	Year 1/2	Sonya Hurst / Susan Moore (release)
Room 14	Year 1	Sarah Yeoman / Jude McKendry (release)
Room 15	Year 1	Anna Brosnahan / Sandra Wright (release)
Room 16	Year 1	Krystel Elliott / Sandra Wright (release)
Room 20	Year 2	Lydia Wilson / Jude McKendry (release)
Room 21	Year 2	Megan Jansen / Jude McKendry (release)

### Middle Team / Year 3 and 4

#### Team Leader - Janine Barker (Associate Principal)

Room 6	Carol Efford / Gaye Leverton (release)
Room 7	Janine Barker / Gaye Leverton (release)
Room 8	Jacinda Watson / Andrea Woolf (release)
Room 9	Holly Breen / Andrea Woolf (release)
Room 10	Tania Marshall / Andrea Woolf (release)

### Senior Team / Year 5 and 6

#### Team Leader - Liz Wells

Room 1	Liz Wells / Bronwyn Hortin (release)
Room 2	Nicky Gill / Kim Wall (release)
Room 3	Porsha Coley / Andrea Woolf (release)
Room 4	Livvy Sheehan / Christine Moore (release)
Room 5	Nichola Maginness / Bronwyn Hortin (release)

### Learning Support Team

Special Education Needs Coordinator	Trudy Hulme
Learning Support Coordinator	Glenda Dawson
ESOL Coordinator	Gaye Leverton
Structured Literacy Teacher	Nola Leov
Specialist Learning Support Teachers	Kim Wall, Nola Leov, Anna Young
Year 2-4 Maths support	Carol Efford (release Glenda Dawson)
Year 5-6 Maths support	Chris Miller
Talented and Gifted	Chris Miller

## Primary Schools' Tennis Tournament

This tournament was held at the Ashburton Tennis Centre on Wednesday. Representing Allenton was Genevieve, Harry, Brax, Harrison N, Lorcan, Jerry and Tai. Harrison came 2nd in the year 3 / 4 grade, making it to the final. Tai made it to the semi finals in this grade. Brax made it to the semi finals for the Year 5 / 6 grade, and Harry made it to the quarter finals. Genevieve made it to the consolation finals, Lorcan made it to the consolation semi, and Jerry went through to the consolation final. Congratulations to you all for some great results and for representing Allenton so well.



## Kotahitanga Day

Yesterday we held our biennial Kotahitanga Day. This is where students of all ages are grouped together to support each other and engage in a range of tikanga-based activities. This year's activities were te rakau, Te Reo bingo, traditional games and making headbands.



## Canterbury Zones Athletics



These students represented Mid Canterbury and Allenton School at the Canterbury Zone Athletics last Wednesday in Christchurch. The team achieved some competitive results amongst other students from schools across Canterbury and the West Coast.

- \* Yr 6 girls relay (Natalie, Suliana, Margo, Sophia) - 6th in the final
- \* Lincoln - 9th Yr 6 boys discus
- \* Mila - 6th Yr 5 girls 800m
- \* Luke - 4th Yr 5 boys 800m
- \* Charlie - 2nd Yr 6 boys long jump, 3rd Yr 6 boys 80m sprint.

### Calendar of school events - Term 4, 2025

Monday 8 December	School Board meeting, 7pm
Thursday 11 December	Middle Area Christmas Concert, 10:50am
Friday 12 December	Mural unveiling, 2pm, followed by PTA end of year surprise
Monday 15 December	End of Year reports home
Tuesday 16 December	Meet 2026 teachers
	End of Year Assembly, 11am
Wednesday 17 December	School year ends, 1pm

### Calendar of school events - Term 1, 2026

**\*\* Please recheck these events each newsletter, as the dates / times may change \*\***

Wednesday 28 January	School office open, 9am - 3pm
Friday 30 January	3 Way Conferences
Monday 2 February	Term 1 commences, 8:55am
	School office normal hours from this date, 8:30am - 3:30pm
Friday 6 February	School Closed - Waitangi Day
Tuesday 10 February	PTA meeting, 7:30pm - all welcome
Friday 20 February	PTA Family Fun Night, 5pm
Friday 27 February	Whole School Assembly, 10:50am

## 2026 Term Dates

### *Prior to the start of the school year:*

Monday 26 January to Friday 30 January  
Friday 30 January

Staff call back days  
3 Way Conferences

### **Term**

### **School closed**

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<b>1</b> Mon 2 Feb to Thurs 2 April	Fri 6 Feb (Waitangi Day) Mon 9 March (staff development)
<b>2</b> Mon 20 April to Fri 3 July	Mon 27 April (Anzac Day observed) Fri 22 May ((staff development) Mon 1 June (King's Birthday)
<b>3</b> Mon 20 July to Fri 25 Sep	Fri 7 Aug (staff development)
<b>4</b> Mon 12 Oct to Thurs 17 Dec	Mon 26 Oct (Labour Day) Thurs 12 November (staff development) Fri 13 Nov (Canterbury Anniversary Day)



# READY, SET, SIGN IN!

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.



# Relay for Life Mid Canterbury Saturday 21 March 2026

Sign up now



You and your whānau are invited to join Relay For Life in March 2026. Celebrate, remember, and fight back with the Southern Cancer Trust!

Small steps can make a remarkable difference for people affected by cancer in our community. Everyone and anyone can get involved – so rally your friends, whānau, classmates, and workmates, and join your community in the fight against cancer.

Relay For Life Mid Canterbury will be held on Saturday 21 March 2026 at the Ashburton A and P Showgrounds. Registrations are now open with an early bird registration fee at <https://midcanterbury.relayforlife.org.nz/>

More details to come as we get more of this amazing event organised.

Relay is an incredible event where hundreds of wonderful Kiwis come together to honour survivors and carers, remember loved ones lost, and take action to support those currently facing cancer. Relays have been held across Aotearoa since 2001, and they remain one of the Cancer Society's most powerful and meaningful fundraising events.

Whether you have a personal connection to cancer or simply want to make a difference, Relay For Life is a chance to come together as a community, show your support, and make a real impact.

We are so grateful to all our amazing participants for stepping up and doing something remarkable for those affected by cancer – and we'd love for you to join us next year.

There will be a full day of entertainment and refreshments to keep you going as your team takes turns passing the baton. Keeping with tradition, the emotional **Celebration Lap** and **Candlelight Remembrance Ceremony** will be meaningful highlights of the day.

To meet the growing need for our services, we're aiming to make this year's Relay For Life more successful than ever. We've set a bold fundraising goal of \$175,000 but we can't reach this without you.

**So, sign up, spread the word, and start fundraising today. We can't wait to see you on the track!**

With gratitude,

**The Relay For Life Mid Canterbury Committee**

**Sign up now!**  
**relayforlife.org.nz**



# hit <sup>Play</sup> Merry Christmas

## DECEMBER SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Come join us at HitPlay - for the December School Holidays, our team can't wait to see you!  
 For more information, visit us online [www.hitplay.co.nz](http://www.hitplay.co.nz), call 03 423 2270 or email [info@hitplay.co.nz](mailto:info@hitplay.co.nz)  
 HITPLAY Hampstead - 55 Wellington Street, Hampstead - Primary School Hall



Scan me!

**15 DEC**



**XMAS TREE**

Tree Decorating

Decorate the HITPLAY Xmas Tree and create your own wonderful decorations for your own tree or to give as gifts.

This is a full craft day!  
 Fun themed Xmas Games

**16 DEC**



**CLAUS KITCHEN**

Gingerbread Cookies  
 Reindeer Hot Chocolates  
 Melted Snowman  
 Marshmallows

A day full of delicious treats for your child to make and take home to enjoy with family

**17 DEC**



**ELF WORKSHOP**

We are making plushies...  
 There is a Xmas Tree  
 Gingerbread Man  
 Reindeer Stocking

A day full of creating and Christmas cheer. We love how cute these activities are and the kids will have these toys for a long time!

**18 DEC**



**ELF GAMES**

Minute to Win It Xmas Games is back...

Can you win our Xmas challenges and beat the Elves?

Spot prizes and activity prizes are there for the taking!  
 Good luck!

**19 DEC**



**SANTA HUNT**

Can you find Santa?

Join us on a hunt to find Santa and save Xmas for all boys and girls.

This is a full day of activities, puzzles and clues...

Good Luck!

**FEELING UNWELL? PLEASE STAY HOME! Absence text 0212227770**

## Christmas Breakfast



### MONDAY - Santa Pancakes

Whimsical Santa Face, made from a pancake, blueberry eyes, banana beard, strawberry hat and whipped cream fluff - Maple syrup just for fun!

### TUESDAY - Snowman Pancakes

Enchanting Snowman, made from 2 pancake, blueberry eyes, pretzel arms, gummy snake scarf, chocolate chip mouth, carrot nose. Maple syrup just for fun!

### WEDNESDAY - Reindeer Pancakes

Reindeer face pancake, nutella face, banana & blueberry eyes, pretzel antlers and strawberry nose.

### THURSDAY - Eggy Toast

Sweet Christmas Shapes made into eggy toast!

### FRIDAY - Gingerbread and Xmas Tree Waffles

Fun waffles, with fruit, cream and sprinkles



hit <sup>Play</sup>

# JANUARY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Come join us at HitPlay - for the JANUARY School Holidays, our team can't wait to see you!  
For more information, call 03 423 2270 or 021 222 7770 or email info@hitplay.co.nz  
**HITPLAY ALLENTON** - Allenton Primary School Hall, 110 Harrison Street, Allenton

## Bikes & Wheels



Bikes, scooters & all wheel related things are welcome, children MUST have a helmet and suitable footwear (no jandals please)

Please keep wheels home on trip days or if expected to be wet.

## What to Pack



Food for the day and a drink bottle with water  
We are happy to refill water bottles



Outside - a warm layer and hat, **pack spare clothes there is alot of water and messy these holidays!**

Inside - the kids are welcome to bring slippers or spare socks



Medicine - This must be signed in and in a labled zip lock bag  
Sunblock - only if your child is unable to use ours.

## Sun Smart Space



We are a sun smart space. **This means no hat no outdoor play!**

Please send your child with a sun hat! We ask parents to sunblock thier child before arriving. There is sunblock positioned around the venue for your use if you forget.



Scan me!

**hit** play



# Trip Information

Come join the team at Hitplay Allenton - We are going out and about this January holidays - Check out where we are off too and what we will be up to. Make sure your booked and packed for fun!

**hit** play

## Where are we going?

### 6th - Geraldine Pool & Picnic

Departure 9am - Return 4:30pm  
Togs & towel required

### 8th - Orari Farmyard

Departure 9am - Return 4:30pm  
Suitable footwear required  
Petting farm, food included for the animals and picnic in the adventure playground

### 13th - Cbay - Swim and Hydroslide

Departure 9am - Return 4:30pm  
Togs & towel required

### 15th - Flip It & Picnic @ Caroline Bay Playground

Departure 9am - Return 4:30pm  
Socks required & suitable footwear

### 20th - Temuka Mini Golf, Swim and picnic

Departure 9am - Return 4:30pm  
Togs & Towel, suitable footwear required

### 22nd - Cbay - Swim and Hydroslide

Departure 9am - Return 4:30pm  
Togs & towel required

### 27th - Shearers Quarters

Departure 9am - Return 4:30pm  
Suitable footwear required  
Petting Farm, food included for the animals, Mini Golf, Maze and picnic

### 29th - Movies

Departure 11am - Return 3:30pm - Movie selection to be confirmed.

## What to Pack



Food for the day and a drink bottle with water (Morning Tea, Lunch & Afternoon Tea)  
Drink Bottle - We are happy to refill water bottles (No Fizzy Please)



Outside - a warm layer and hat



Medicine - This must be signed in and in a labled zip lock bag  
Sunblock - only if your child is unable to use ours.



On swimming days please pack togs, & towel  
A bag for wet gear is helpful too.



Suitable footwear - Jandels are fun and cute but easily get caught in the bus/vehicles or come off please wear closed toe shoes.



On flip it days socks are needed for the activity

## Sun Smart Space



We are a sun smart space. **This means no hat no outdoor play or trip!**



Please send your child with a sun hat! We ask parents to sunblock thier child before arriving. There is sunblock positioned around the venue for your use if you forget.

**BOOK ONLINE NOW! Just scan the QR code.**

Excursion costs as advertised online

Talk to our team about a WINZ subsidy - Your care maybe free.

Check out our breakfast menu!



Scan me!

FEELING UNWELL? PLEASE STAY HOME!

FEELING UNWELL? PLEASE STAY HOME!



**PEEL FOREST  
OUTDOOR CENTRE**



# **LEVEL UP THIS SUMMER**

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# ASHBURTON RIVER TRAIL MARATHON

5k | 10k | 21k

FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH  
SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MARCH  
2026  
**REGISTER NOW**



[ashburtonrivertrailmarathon.co.nz](http://ashburtonrivertrailmarathon.co.nz)

21 Melrose Road, Ashburton

