

# Coming Up.....

**Tuesday 3 December**

Final Board Meeting of the Year

**Wednesday 4 December**

Room 1 Picnic at Domain

Year 6 Surf Trip

Music Recital 630pm School Hall

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**Monday 9 December**

Written Reports home to parents and caregivers

Ellesmere College Coffee and Cake for Year 5/6

Parents 600pm School Library

**Wednesday 11 December**

End of Year Assembly at Ellesmere College

630pm start.

**Thursday 12 December**

Christmas Cracker

**Friday 13 December**

School closes at 1200pm for 2024.

All details in our newsletters



## COMING UP

### The 2025 School Year

Next year we will have six classrooms which means we have had to look closely at the make-up of these classes. It could mean for some children that they 'miss' a teacher or classroom they were expecting to be in next year. Our class make up for 2025 is as follows: -

Room 6 Year 5/6 Mrs Kim Jones Monday to Thursday and Mrs Linda Douglas on Fridays

Room 5 Year 4/5 Miss Tracey Harrold

Room 4 Year 3/4 Miss Esther Weir

Room 3 Year 2/3 Miss Lydia Wilson

Room 2 Year 1/2 Mrs Anna Robinson

Room 1 Year 1/NE Mrs Lizzie Ewing

Some key dates for next year

Tuesday 28 January School starts for children

Thursday 30 January School Picnic – 500pm-700pm

Thursday 13 February Leadership Assembly

Friday 14 February Senior Swimming Sports at Southbridge Pool

Friday 12 September Country Day

28-31 October Year 6 Camp to Aoraki Mount Cook

Friday 12 December Final school day for 2025

# Dunsandel School News and Notes

## The Weekly Family Newsletter

Monday 2 December 2024

# PRIDE



PRIDE IN OURSELVES,  
OUR LEARNING AND  
OUR COMMUNITY.

### Key Information in this Newsletter

- 2025 School Year News
- This Week and Coming Up
- End of Year Assembly 2024 Information

### News and Notes from the Principal

Nau mai, haere mai.

Ngā mihi nui kia koutou katoa,

We have two weeks to go of the 2024 school year. There is a lot happening at school – all details are in this and class newsletters.

**This evening Mr French (Acting Principal)** and other members of the Ellesmere College Senior Leadership Team will be hosting a 'Coffee and Cake' evening at **6:00 pm** for the **parents and caregivers of our Year 6 students** going to Ellesmere College next year. **I would encourage parents and caregivers of children in Year 5 to come along as well.** This will be held in the Dunsandel School Library. This is an opportunity to meet the Senior Leadership Team at Ellesmere College and ask any questions that you might have in an informal, casual meet-and-greet style evening.

Our **final Friday Assembly** was held on Friday. We appreciate the support we get from our families and friends at our Assemblies. For the last two Assemblies we have had in excess of 50 adults coming along to be part of these with us. Thank-you to everyone who has come along over the past school year. Thank-you to Miss McCloy for her organisation of our Assembly programme and to the class teachers and children for making our Assemblies special.

Last Wednesday **Cedric Unabia and Pippa Michael** competed at the Canterbury Primary Schools Athletics at Ngā Puna Wai. Pippa threw 18.22m in the Year 5 Girls Discus which was a 3<sup>rd</sup> placing and Cedric was placed 7<sup>th</sup> in the Year 6 Boys Discus with a throw of 22.32m. These results were fantastic. Well done to Pippa and Cedric. Thanks to our supporters.

**Food donation** – Thank you to all those who have donated a non-perishable item for the Ellesmere Food Bank – we are going to run this for another week and all donations can be dropped off in the school foyer under the Christmas tree.

**End of Year tidy up** – We have two weeks left of school and we would like to tidy a few things up before our last day. Please check with your child if they have any outstanding school library books that need to be returned. There will be a \$20 charge if they are not returned by Friday. School accounts were sent home last week and another reminder account has been sent home this week. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to speak with the office or your child's teacher.



## THIS WEEK

**Monday 2 December** Coffee and Cake 600pm for parents and caregivers of Year 6 students going to EC next year; School Library.

**Tuesday 3 December** – Board Meeting #8

**Wednesday 4 December** – Year 6 Surf trip; Room 1 Picnic at Domain

**Wednesday 4 December** – Music Recital in School Hall 630pm

## Coming Up

**Monday 9 December** Written Reports sent home to Parents and Caregivers.

**Wednesday 11 December** – End of year Assembly at Ellesmere College 6:30pm (see note below)

**Thursday 12 December** – Christmas Cracker; Our Christmas Cracker will be held for our children on this school day – it will be a Wear What You Like Day – Please wear something red, green or Christmas themed. Staff will organize some games including some with water.

**Friday 13 December** – Last day of school 12:00pm close (buses will run at this time)

## OUR END OF YEAR ASSEMBLY

**Our End of Year Assembly will be held at Ellesmere College on Wednesday 11 December. This will start at 6:30pm.** Children will need to be at the Ellesmere College Hall by 6:15pm in correct, clean uniform including white or navy socks. At this assembly, all of our children will perform on stage and there will be a variety of presentations. This is a formal occasion. We look forward to all our families coming along and sharing this occasion with us.

There will be some special Awards presented at the Assembly which are listed below.

### **Koru Award donated by the Pluck Whānau**

This Award is presented to the pupil who has shown an all-round commitment and growth as a cultural learner. For 2024 this means being part of the Kapahaka group, being a positive role model during classes and performance, and has shown a willingness to learn new concepts and has a positive impact to the group he or she has worked with.

### **Barron Family Trophy for Excellence in the Arts**

This trophy is awarded to the Year 6 pupil who has shown excellence in the Arts. The Arts comprises of 4 areas – Art, Dance, Drama and Music.

### **John Griffith's Shield for the Highest Achieving Sports Person in Year 6**

This Shield is awarded to the pupil who achieves the highest placing in any sport while in Year 6 – either individually or as part of the team.

### **Mervyn Barnett Trophy for All Round Achievements in Year 6**

This trophy is awarded to the pupil who demonstrates all round achievement at school while in Year 6.

### **AJ Sheat Memorial Prize for Academic Excellence in Year 6**

This Prize is awarded to the pupil who has demonstrated Academic Excellence across all curriculum areas in Year 6.

### **Pride Cup**

These cups are awarded by the Principal to the Year 6 pupil (girl and boy) who has consistently shown the PRIDE values during their whole time at our School. These cups were introduced in 2015.

**Children who win these awards will have the opportunity to have photos with the award/cup etc but we are asking for the cup/trophy to remain with us. We have had trouble getting some of these back in previous years due to families moving away and changes in circumstance. We will be displaying the Cup/Trophy at school with a photo of the recipient. Thank-you for your understanding with this.**

Have a great week everyone.

Ngā mihi



Dave Robinson; Principal/Tumuaki/Punong-guro



## PRIDE AWARDS

**Room One – Zadok Dewhirst** - Zadok, you are such a champion! We've been so impressed with how well you've been using your listening ears and helping out in the classroom. It's fantastic to see you taking the lead and doing things without needing to be asked—what a great helper! Your reading is absolutely amazing, and your learning is going full speed ahead. Thanks for being such an important and groovy member of the Room 1 team. You're a total star! 🌟🌟🌟

**Room Two – Ella Anderson** - Ella, we are so lucky that you arrived in our class in June! You are a very clever cookie who always makes absolutely certain that you are doing the right thing at the right time. Ella you are a star worker. You read and write beautifully and you can also work with very tricky numbers at maths time! You have a beautiful and kind heart and I know I can count on you to be the best kind of friend to the others in our class. I'm super proud of you Ella 😊and also - Happy Birthday!

**Room Three – Matias Vargas Cifuentes** - Matias, you are a super star. I love your enthusiasm, and you always arrive at school with a big smile on your face. You have been working so hard with all of your learning this year, and you are a writing whizz! You are kind, considerate and empathetic to everyone in Room 3. I know that I can always rely on you to lend me a hand whenever I need it. You are a fantastic role model Matias, and I couldn't be prouder of you! Kai pai! 😊

**Athalia Dewhirst** - Athalia, you are an amazing member of Room 3. You are super hard working and always try your best, no matter what. I am blown away with how neat and organised you are, especially with your handwriting and art. You always put 100% into your work, and I love seeing your creativity shine! You are always willing to share your ideas in class, and I love your positive attitude towards learning. Thank you for being such a star Athalia, I am so proud of you! 😊

**Jasper Ellis** - Jasper, I could not be more proud of how far you have come this year. I have been super impressed with all of your determination and hard work. You are always willing to give things a go, even when they might be tricky. You have general knowledge that is out of this world, and I love all of the cool and crazy facts you have taught me. You always arrive at school with a cheerful attitude, ready to tackle the day which I love. It has been a privilege to be your teacher Jasper. We are super lucky to have you in Room 3! 😊

**Room Four – Richie Mosquera** - Richie, what a great term you have had. I am impressed by your enthusiasm for learning and your determination to complete tasks within time. Your maths is coming along in leaps and bounds and you are beating the speed timer with your times tables. You are a great friend to everyone and I like the way you support your mates when they need help or just someone to hang out with. Thanks for putting your hand up for extra duties and being 100% reliable both in and out of the class. Top job Richie, you are awesome!

**Room Five – Ezra Harrison** - Ezra, what a pleasure it has been to have been your teachers this year. We have really enjoyed your sense of humour, your enthusiasm for motorbiking and soccer, and your positivity in Room 5. On top of all that, you have been trying so hard with your school work and you have made some awesome progress with your learning as a result of your hard work. We know that you will be a fabulous leader in our school in 2025! Keep being the best that you can be, Ezra.

**Victor Asenjo Suazo** - Victor, you can be so proud of the two terms that you have had in Room 5 - you worked quickly to learn the routines of our classroom and your kind nature and friendly personality meant that you fit right into our wee whānau. Victor, it is great to see you trying so hard with your learning - you are a clever young man who is capable of achieving great things when you put your mind to it. You are a maths whizz and you have awesome ideas at reading. Good luck for next year, Victor. You'll be a fabulous leader in our school.



### Calendar

[Click here](#) for our School Calendar on Google. School Calendar can be accessed on our School App.

### Buying Uniform

Go to the **Mainland Uniforms** website - personalised page for our school: - <https://www.mainlanduniforms.nz/241-dunsandel-school>

### Dunsandel School

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Dunsandel 7682  
Phone 033254079

[www.dunsandel.school.nz](http://www.dunsandel.school.nz)

#### Office Email

[admin@dunsandel.school.nz](mailto:admin@dunsandel.school.nz)

#### Principal

Dave Robinson

[principal@dunsandel.school.nz](mailto:principal@dunsandel.school.nz)

#### Deputy Principal

Tracey Harrold

This link is also on the home page of our school website.

[tracey@dunsandel.school.nz](mailto:tracey@dunsandel.school.nz)

**School Secretary**

Felicity Pluck

[felicity@dunsandel.school.nz](mailto:felicity@dunsandel.school.nz)

**Board Presiding Member**

Mick O'Connor

**PTA President**

Katharine Sheppard

**School Account Number**

02-0860-0049250-000

## PTA News

Kia ora all!

Can't believe this is the second to last week of term. First things first, we have a catering job coming up on Tuesday the 10th of December (not this week but next), at the Dunsandel Community Centre. We are still looking for a couple plates of baking, as well as a helper on the day from 11-2. If you can help out with either of these things, please text Shae on 027 335 5020. Thanks in advance to anyone who can help, we know this time of year is super busy and everyone's time is pretty precious. Baking needs to be at school by 9am on Tuesday the 10th.

Secondly, I'd like to say a massive thank you to all of the amazing folks out there in the school and wider community who have supported our calf fundraiser this year. Thanks so much to Scott Perkins from Livestock Exchange for selling the calves on our behalf and not taking a commission, to Selene Harvie and Johnny Michael for organising the fundraiser and all the pick-up logistics and everything in between, and to the following people who donated calves to the fundraiser: Reinier Undan, Hayley & Tim Anderson, Lexie & Sam Groundwater, Megan Bowis & Gethin Owen, Shae & Johnny Brown, Cara & James Curvis, Selene & Blake Harvie, Becs & Josh Dondertman, Claire & Joe Gillespie, Jimmy & Louise Geddes, Matt & Tracey Stone, Anna Smith & Brendan Glassford, Justin & Nicky Wolff, Sam & Anna O'Reilly, Tony Coltman & Dana Carver, Mick & Kirsten O'Connor, Stu Vanderweg, Johnny & Tracey Hamilton, Graham & Adele Wells, Zoe Berry & Stacy Whatuira, Ash & Liz Des Landes, Alisha & Fraser Laurie, and Steph and Andy Smith. The calf fundraiser has the potential to be (and will definitely be this year) the biggest fundraiser the PTA does all year, and it would not hit that mark without all of you generous folks donating calves! It is amazing to have the support of folks outside the school community too - there are a few whose kids were Dunsandel School pupils once upon a time, and others who don't have a personal connection to the school but farm locally and have supported this fundraiser for years. PTA is super grateful for everyone's hard work - I for one do not have the means or knowledge to rear a calf, so big thanks to all of you who have both of those things, and have donated for the benefit of the Dunsandel School kiddos!

I think that's all from me this week - please get in touch with Shae on the number above if you're able to give us a hand with baking or helping on Tuesday the 10th, and have an awesome penultimate week of the term - feels like someone has hit fast forward!!

Until next week

Katharine



# HELP ELLESMERE FOOD BANK OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD

Join our food drive donation and help us replenish Ellesmere Food Bank for families in need. Your generosity can make a difference.

## 2 - 9 DECEMBER 2024

DROP POINT: DUNSANDEL SCHOOL

THINGS YOU CAN DONATE:

RICE

CANNED FOOD

PET FOOD

NON  
PERISHABLES

CONDIMENT

NOODLE

TOILETRIES

