TERM 1 ● DONOVAN PRIMARY ● 2026

PŪTANGA O NGĀ TĀONGA

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSPAPER

Welcome to the 2026 Newspaper

Kia ora koutou, I'm a School Council member for 2026 and I'm here to welcome you to the first newspaper written by our School Councillors for this year.

My name is Amelia Thomas. The other School Council members are: Harper Birchfield and me (Room 15), Monika Adamson, Leonne Morales, Nevaeh Tagomoa-Kaa and Annabelle Claridge (Room 16), Sam Cook, Jonathan Robertson and Chloe Sutherland (Room 2) with Jeremy Kim and the 2 School Leaders, Raff Hyland and Hunter Ashworth (Room 20).
Being a Year 6 in the School Council is great! Trust me, it is absolutely and definitely. Although it may be a weird experience feeling that you're on the very last year of school and next year you're off to High School.
Enjoy this years School Council Newspapers that are full of what we do, what is happening in the school, interviews, sports and cultural reports and of course photos!

By Amelia Thomas

A real treat to be entertained with magic during the Be Bright Eat Right Show










The Rippa Rugby Tournament was on Wednesday 1 April. Everyone had a great day!

TERM 1 DONOVAN PRIMARY 2026

PŪTANGA O NGĀ TĀONGA

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSPAPER

Term 1 At Donovan Primary

What a busy term jam packed with exitement, effort and resilience.

Middle and Senior Athletics day is rushing toward us followed hopefully by Zones and Southlands. Running training is crazy, a bunch of warmups vary including starting, skipping then sprinting, to lying on our stomachs starting backwards. Crazy right? Well the intense training paid off and everyone did exquisitely well on the day.

We had a talk about internet safety with an incredibly intelligent man called John Parsons about having a parent in your profile picture and stuff.

Three amazing drummers came for a performance in the hall, they were very interactive getting everybody to clap. Everyone loved the show, and when we were back in class everyone was doing mini drum solos on the desk with our pens.

We're in summer and with summer comes hats. At Donovan we wear sunhats in term one and term four. 🧢

Me and my best friend Jeremy Kim set up and pack down the school chess club where you can go to learn or test your skills against other students. We have twenty boards including a massive chess board outside (if it's nice weather).

When you're a year 6 a bunch of responsibilities start to pop up such as Librarian, Road Patrol, and PALs (PALs stands for physical activity leader).
-PALs lead games like Farmer Farmer or Master Tag on Fridays.
-At road patrol we make sure people get across the road safely.
-Librarian is exactly the way it sounds, scanning books, putting books away etc.
The Senior Syndicate has opened the gear shed at lunch times where we get sports equipment to play with.

Our cultural groups include Kapa Haka and Pasifika which are open to join for Junior, Middle and Senior syndicates starting in term one.

Room 18 with Constable Herrick learning baout Road Safety



TERM 1 DONOVAN PRIMARY 2026

PŪTANGA O NGĀ TĀONGA

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSPAPER

Term 1 At Donovan Primary cont...

Miss Ormand is teaching Ukulele to students now which is really cool I reckon because it's a really cool experience to learn an instrument.

For mathematics we do PR1ME maths which includes book one, two, three, four, five and book six. In these books we learn how to figure out word problems and angles which teaches us to try and grow resilience in these areas.

"La La Laaaaaaaaa," that's the Choir practicing again. They practice on any day Miss Wheeler chooses pretty much but it's really epic when they do.
Miss Wheeler finds the most random but brilliant songs.

The Year 5 and 6s went to the Invercargill City Library which was really interesting especially when they showed us the archives and all the cool paintings and portraits there.
We had Trudy from Active Southland come and teach us Kī o Rahi and the story behind it, we had to do it in the hall cause it was raining just that little bit too much to not quite be pouring but not mist either. Any way we still had a blast running/walking around and guarding the cylinder.

Constable Herrick came to educate the Juniors about road safety and how to cross the road properly. Walking past the hall I always smile at the grinning faces of the little year 1 & 2s having fun crawling and jumping around in the hall for PMP (Perceptual Motor Program).

Cricket is a brilliant sport and that's what Cricket Southland is all about. Teaching and giving every child a chance to bat a ball into oblivion.

Junior Athletics is in week nine (or if postponed, the day after.)

The girls Fern-Fever day, they played football, cricket, tennis, golf, touch and some more in only a day!

By Raff Hyland





Room 16 practising their Hockey skills with Will from Hockey Southland

TERM 1 DONOVAN PRIMARY 2026

PŪTANGA O NGĀ TĀONGA

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSPAPER



Girls Fern Fever Day was a hit. The girls only event covered a wide range of sport experiences



















GIRLS FERN FEVER DAY







TERM 1 ● DONOVAN PRIMARY ● 2026

PŪTANGA O NGĀ TĀONGA

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSPAPER

Room 15 learning how to play Kī o Rahi with Trudy from Active Southland





Donovan's Kī o Rahi team braved the elements to play in a tournament on 30 March

Sports and Cultural News in Term 1

Hi my Name is Monika Adamson and I will be telling you about what sports have happened so far this year. We have had a total of 7 different sports so far this year. We are so excited and happy.

First up we have **Futsal** which has 7 Teams which is so great for our school. They play on Mondays after school .

Donvan Primary also has a very impressive number of **Touch** Teams which is a whooping 10 Teams. They play Thursday afternoons .

Donovan also has **Cricket** teams. They all play Wednesday afternoons and there are a crazy 8 teams. How lucky are we!

Donavan Primary also has 3 amazing teams for **Waterpolo**. They are so outstanding to watch. How good they are under the water and everything they do takes courage.Their games are on Friday afternoons at Splash Palace.

We also have 1 Team for a **Kī O Rahi** but only seniors can play but that's ok .They play on Thursdays. The Kī o Rahi team went to a tournament in the last week of school and played so well.

Donvan also played **Rippa Rugby** at a tournament in the last week of school.

We also had a Girls **Fern Fever** day on 26th March which was only year 5 and 6. We played hockey, rugby, kī o rahi, soccer, golf and cricket. We had a blast. It was such an amazing time we really enjoyed this.

In term 2 and 3 we have **Jump Jam** starting up (All Syndicates) All practices are held at school and in school hours. They will perform 15th August and it's $35 per student to enter.

Pasifika also starts up week 1 in Term 2 on Friday 24th April. It is $2 per student.

Kapa Haka will also be starting in Term 2 for all students enrolled.

Now that's a wrap for Term 1 Sports. Thank you for reading.

By Monika Adamson

TERM 1 DONOVAN PRIMARY 2026

PŪTANGA O NGĀ TĀONGA

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSPAPER



The Amazing School Council rolling ice creams with the help of the P.T.A.



Room 10



Room 2

ICE CREAM DAY



Room 16

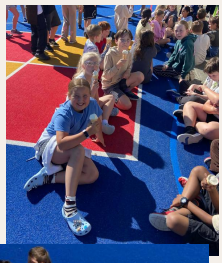


Room 18



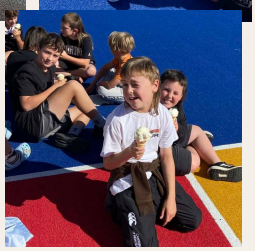
Room 15













Room 13























HOP

TERM 1 DONOVAN PRIMARY 2026

PŪTANGA O NGĀ TĀONGA

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSPAPER

School Council Happenings

Okay this was the tense moment of the election of the exquisite School Council about to be chosen. All these brave students have applied to be a team of responsible leaders for 2026. A speech is required to get into the School Council, spoken in front of the entire Senior Syndicate about why they would enjoy and like to be a School Councillor. Now that the brilliant School Council have been voted in, lots of responsibilities start to kick in such as Kaitiaki starting first. Everyone participating in the Kaitiaki is doing fabulous at making sure students are safe and having awesome times with their friends at play time and lunch time everyday.

Every second Friday the School Leaders run the whole school assemblies and the other Fridays are the School councillors leading Syndicate Assemblies. All teachers select 2-3 students who have stood out the most in their class (some teachers are greedy and sometimes choose 4-5 students, which is not very often).

At every whole school assembly some different councillors announce a class to take a squishy kiwi, a certificate and a bag of popcorn for every student in their class as a reward for having the tidiest class in the school that week.

In week six there was the Middle and Senior Athletics day. Some students who came early to school helped the teachers running Athletics day set up the equipment on the back field to get it done twice as efficiently.

Now that the Seniors and Middles have had their Athletics day followed by that is the Juniors athletics day. A fraction of the councillors are going to help set up the day for the Juniors who have trained extremely and all of their hard work will pay off on the day just like it did for the Seniors and Middles.

So you know how everyone loves ice cream? Well, it's coming to Donovan this year for every student in the school. The School Council are charging you only $1.50 for a delicious cone filled with vanilla ice cream to die for.

By Hunter Ashworth



Room 20 and 21, lead by Miss Wheeler, preparing a fabulous and entertaining song with cues to perform at assembly