Newsletter Rima Tekau ma tahi Pipiri

Donovan Primary 11 June 2025 Issue 5

From the Principal's Desk

Nau mai, Haere Mai to this newsletter.
This is the last newsletter for Term 2.
Life is always full of changes and the general up and downs of life. A school is no different.

In this newsletter I want to acknowledge a huge change for us at Donovan. Helen Fallow leaves us on the last day of term. Helen started with us on the first day Donovan opened, just over 20 years ago. It would be nice to hang on to great people for ever but they all have to retire one day. We will miss Helen and offer our gratitude, thanks and aroha for a job well done. Words can't express entirely what a teacher brings to the lives of many children but please know Helen, you have made a difference to the lives involved at Donovan Primary. Go well, don't look back as you head north to be with family.

As one door closes another opens. Heather Boniface starts with us at the beginning of Term 3 and we look forward to getting to know her and welcome her to the Donovan Whanau.

At the beginning of Term 3 we will be opening our next New Entrant class in Room 11. We welcome back Mrs Keast and Miss Grant. This room will be open for terms 3 and 4.

Keep warm out there, some of our wee learners are coming to school with clothing that is not keeping them warm. Rug them up.

Further in this newsletter is the swimming information for our juniors which starts at the beginning of next term.

Also keep an eye on the calendar. The Ministry of Education as granted us two Teacher Only Days for the teachers to continue their development with the new maths curriculum.

Have a great break from making school lunches.

Ma te wa.

Peter Hopwood
Principal

Important Dates

2025
JUNE

Fri 13- Sthld Cross Country
Wed 18– PTA 7pm
Fri 20 -Matariki—School closed
Tues 24– Parent Interviews School closed 1pm
Wed 25 -Parent Teacher Interviews
Term Two ends 27 June

Term Three starts 14 July
JULY
Mon14-Wed 16 Jnr swimming
Mon 21-Wed 23 Jnr swimming
Tue 22 –BOT meeting
Mon 28-Wed 30 Jnr swimming
AUGUST
Thur 14 –Retell Finals
Fri 15—Teacher Only day, school closed.
Tue 19-BOT Meeting
SEPTEMBER
Tue 16 –BOT meeting
Wed 17 - School photos
Term Three ends 19 September

Term Four starts 6 October
OCTOBER
Wed 8 Oct - Rm16 Camp
Mon 13 Oct —Rm15 Camp
Wed 15 Oct Rm20 Camp
Sun 19 Oct –Rm2 Camp
Tue 21 Oct –Rm21 Camp
Fri 24 –Teacher Only day – school closed.
Mon 27 Oct –Labour Day School closed.
Tue 28-Thur 30 Mid/Snr Swimming
NOVEMBER
Tue 4-Thurs 6 Mid/Snr Swimming
Mon 10-Thurs 13 Mid/Snr Swimming
Term Four ends—TBA

Public Holidays during term breaks.
Fri 20 June –Matariki
Mon 27 Oct –Labour Day
End of Term—To be advised

Assemblies

Fri 13 June—Whole School 1.30pm.

Fri 27 June –Whole School 1.30pm.

The New Zealand Ministry of Education is currently undertaking a refresh of the national curriculum to ensure it is relevant, fit for purpose and prepares young people for their future. Here are key things parents need to know about these changes:

This will be ongoing for many years-it will continue to evolve and teacher development will also take time as part of the change process. Teachers are working hard incorporating these changes, and as always the needs and interests of your child are at the heart of what they do and classrooms.

The Curriculum is being updated in stages, with new content for English
(years 0-6) and Mathematics and Statistics Years (0-8) currently available, Schools have until the beginning of 2027 to fully implement the refreshed national curriculum. The updated curriculum is intended to be more consistent.

For mathematics, the content expected to be taught at each year level has been revised and designed to be internationally comparable. Due to these higher benchmarks in the revised mathematics curriculum, it's possible that your child's initial progress and achievement levels might appear lower as the expectations for what they need to know at each age have increased.

You will continue to receive twice yearly reports on your child's progress in relation to these new learning objectives. Mid and end year reporting is interim until there is more understanding of the curriculum and assessment tools as the government is still looing to release new information and resources to schools.

Some important dates coming up so keep an eye on School Stream.

Parent Interviews—School Closed 1pm Tuesday 24 June—Normal day Wednesday 25 June

Teacher Only Days—School Closed—Friday 15 August and Friday 24 October

Junior Swimming starts first day of next term.

Retel Finals Thursday 14 August

BOT Elections—Nominations close 12pm Wednesday 6 August.
Voting closes 4pm 10 September.



Congratulations to the above children for receiving a R.E.A.L Certificate on Friday 10 May. R.E.A.L stands for Resilient, Empathetic, Adaptable, Lifelong Learners and these children have shown these values and thus awarded a certificate to be proud of.

R1 Ryan Sutherland
R15 Zion Nicholas
R16 Marley Allison
R20 Emilie McManaway
R21 Ace Antonio
R5 Tangaroa Waddell
R6 Jonathan Robertson
R7 Bailee Buchan
R8 Hannah Forbes
R9 Theo Garrett
R12 William Horsburgh
R13 Syrus Selwyn
R14 Aura Tuhi
R17 Hugo Egerton
R18 Keziah Corpuz
R19 Abby Kim

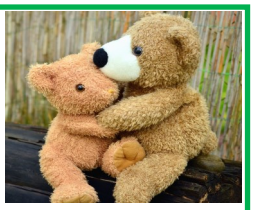


Congratulations to the above children for receiving a R.E.A.L Certificate on Friday 30 May. R.E.A.L stands for Resilient, Empathetic, Adaptable, Lifelong Learners and these children have shown these values and thus awarded a certificate to be proud of.

Rm1 Macey Chisnall
Rm15 Noel Wedge
Rm16 Georgia Savage
Rm20 Lila Dunbar
Rm21 Charlotte Batt
Rm5 Kara Williamson
Rm6 Lyla Wilton
Rm7 Syrus Selwyn
Rm8 Indie Hamilton
Rm9 David Jenkins
Rm12 Hero Ashworth
Rm13 Addy Little
Rm14 Maci-Jay Stephens
Rm17 Everly Van Lieshout and Toa Hufanga
Rm18 Willa Sinclair
Rm19 Emily Tretheway

NEW STUDENTS

A warm welcome to Caspar Mair, Te Manu Pennicott, Everly Van Lieshout, Taylem Birchfield, Fern Dunbar, Layla Young, Jackson Talaifono, Braxton Young, Nina Casey, Mackay Egerton, Kora Aitken, Oakleigh Drake and Sebastian McLellan-Reece. We hope that they all enjoy their association with Donovan Primary.



Absences

School Stream App—go to Forms then Absentee Form and complete absence and submit or text your absences on 0273 727070—child's first and last name, class and also reason for absence. You can also go to the url on your computer - https://donovanprimaryschool.myschoolstream.net

OUR VISION: **The Donovan way celebrates uniqueness where learning is encouraged through personal growth and engagement to create resilient, empathetic and adaptable lifelong learners.**

Donovan PRIMARY

learning for tomorrow



Year 2 - 6 students

2025

Retell Festival

* Week 4 beginning Monday 4th August — Class selects 2 people
* Week 5 Tuesday 12th August — Syndicates select 3 people for School Finals
* Week 5 Thursday 14th August — SCHOOL FINALS



Your job is to prepare and present a retell to an audience.

Retell in ***your own words.***



- A story, fable, legend, fairy tale, narrative you are familiar with.

This is not to be a word by word recital of the book.

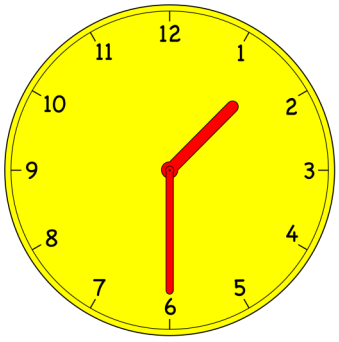


For more information on the Retell Festival, please refer to the notice posted on School Stream. This will give you the criteria for each group and how to prepare your child. Everyone is expected to have a go.

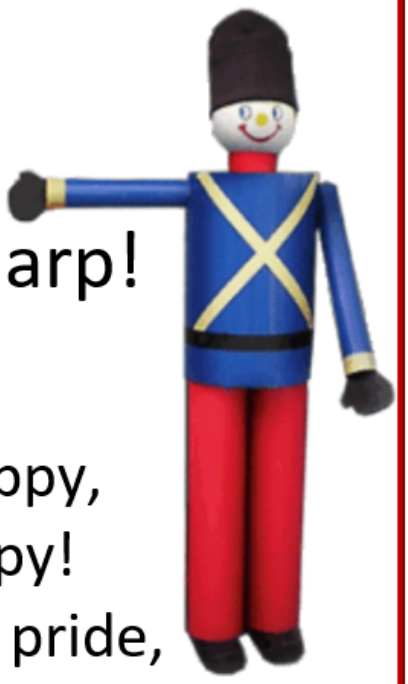
Humour, actions and props are all aids that can help as well. If your child practices and is prepared, it does make it a bit easier.

We have communicated many times about the major priority of the Government around attendance and being at school on time. This year NZ schools are implementing new procedures, these are to be in place by Term 1 2026. The Government target is for 80% of students to attend regularly, that is to attend school more than 90% of the time.

Good Attendance (Good chance of success)—is less than 5 days absence in a school term.
Worrying Attendance (Less chance of success) is up to 10 days absence in a school term.
Concerning Attendance (Hard to make progress) is up to 15 days absence in a school term.
Serious Concern (Very hard to make progress) is 15 days or more of absence in a school term.
We will communicate with you if your child is at any of the above stages and we will endeavour to work with you to achieve good attendance.
Lateness is electronically recorded and monitored. Of all absence problems, this is by far our biggest concern. Having learners at school, in class by 8.50am is what we need to achieve., A reminder—children are NOT to be dropped off before 8.20am. There is no supervision of care until 8.20am.



BE A TIME HERO



School starts at 8:50am sharp!

Don’t be late—be bright and snappy,
On-time kids feel strong and happy!
The Donovan Soldier stands with pride,
Let’s all be in class—on time, inside!



SWIMMING for Junior syndicate students .

Swimming will begin for our junior syndicate students at the beginning of term 3. **Dates for Rm 12,13 and 14 are—Mon 14 July, Tue 15, Wed 16, Mon 21,Tuesday 22 from 11am to 12 noon.**

Room 17,18,19 and 11 will swim on Tue 22 July from 12pm-1pm. Wed 23 11am-12pm, Monday 28, Tue 29 and Wed 30 July from 11am-12 noon.

The children will need to bring named swimming togs, towels and goggles (if required) in a waterproof bag. Most children benefit from the use of goggles and they can be named along the elastic strap. Children with long hair may need a cap or hair tie while swimming and either a brush or comb and they should be able to dry their hair. You can also help from home by teaching children to get themselves dried and dressed unaided. Also ensure that they take note of what they are wearing on their swimming days. Some children get themselves quite confused in the changing rooms as they have no idea what they wore to school that day and if you show them clothing, they don't always recognise it as theirs. So naming their clothes is very helpful to the staff and helpers in the changing rooms. We also require some helpers especially a couple of Dads or Grandads to help Mr Hopwood in the men’s changing room and Mums cannot go into this public area and there are insufficient family rooms available. Please complete the form on School Stream.

If children have an upset stomach, vomited or diarrhoea (runs) they cannot swim for 48 hours. (Splash Palace guidelines)

Helpful Tips for Minimizing Notifications on School Stream.

We understand that everyone is busy and reading the endless notifications we send out on School Stream can be time consuming. So if it would help, you can thin down the notifications you receive to ones that are relevant. Please read the link below.

Please keep the 'Whole School', 'Newsletters', 'Canteen', 'PTA', 'Community Notices', and relevant syndicate levels as essentials. (Sports folders and any others you select can be hidden). Do not panic, you can retrieve the folder again if your child decides to play sport, or change syndicate or has camp etc. I will post everything to the 'Whole School' folder if relevant for the whole school, but reminders etc will go to the respective folder. If you have not kept that folder, you will not see any notifications posted to it. Sports draws will go straight to the respective sports folder.

If you have not set up your account and try to start this process, School Stream will ask you to set this up first. Just follow the steps and once completed you will be able to hide folders. Have a look at the link and see if this would help.

https://support.schoolstream.com.au/en/articles/2115370-manage-notifications-and-hide-folders

Medication

Just a reminder that if you are requiring your child to have any medication administered during school hours, there are a few things we need. (This includes inhalers and cough lozengers)

- All medication must be handed into the office for safe keeping
- If it is a prescription medication, we do require it to be in a container showing the name and doseage on the script label.
- A medical consent form needs to be signed by the caregiver.

We do have a fridge in the medical room if medication needs to be kept cool. If your child has to take medication home each day, perhaps talk with the chemist and they may split the medicine into two containers, one for school and one for home. If medication does need to be taken home after school each day, it is the responsibility of the child to remember to come and collect it.

School Directory	
Office phone	03 2159664
Office email	office@donovanprimary.ac.nz
Office cell for texting absences only	0273 727070 (Text only)
School Stream Web version	https://donovanprimaryschool.myschoolstream.net
School Bank account	Donovan Primary B O T 03 1742 0052461 00
PTA Bank account	03 1742 0052744 00
Donovan Primary Website	www.donovanprimary.ac.nz
Principal's email	principal@donovanprimary.ac.nz
School Hours	8.50am –12.30pm, 1.00pm-3.00pm
Entry/Departure times	No entry before 8.20am, collected by 3.15pm
Policies and Procedures	**https://donovanprimary.schooldocs.co.nz/** Username: donovanprimary Password: drurylane

Community Notices: Keep an eye on the separate Community Notices for upcoming community events.