TERM 3 DONOVAN PRIMARY 2026

PŪTANGA O NGĀ TĀONGA

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSPAPER

Term 3 at Donovan Primary

Kia ora, my name is Nevaeh Tagomoa-Kaa and I'm on the School Council. I'm going to be talking about what's been happening in Term 3.

POLYFEST

This year the whole school went to Polyfest and performed. We had the Junior, Middle, and Senior Kapa Haka groups. The ukulele group also performed at Polyfest with the Middle Haka Haka. The Pasifika group was tutored by Liana and had a beautiful auraful soloist, Nevaeh, which is me.

CHOIR

This year the Choir has been practising very hard. On Thursday 17th of September they performed at the Civic Theater, and made Miss Wheeler very proud. The song they sang this year was Don't Stop Believing.

NED SHOW

At the start of this term, a lady came in and showed us some cool yo-yo tricks. The School Councillors sold yo-yos to fundraise for another school so they can watch the NED Show, because one school paid for Donovan to watch the NED show. It was a pay it forward idea. NED was all about resilience, doing your best and never giving up.

CALENDAR ART

The whole school made cool art calendars. I hope you brought them before they closed!

EARTHQUAKE SIMULATOR

This term the whole school got to experience an earthquake in an earthquake simulator. We also learnt about how to keep yourself safe when an earthquake happens. It was a fun experience.



Donovan Primary Gymnasts



Year 5 and 6 Netball

TERM 3 ● DONOVAN PRIMARY ● 2026

PŪTANGA O NGĀ TĀONGA

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSPAPER

Term 3 at Donovan Primary cont...

CRT ROOM

This term in Room 1 and 6 with Mrs Nally and Miss Gerken we are learning about magnets and North Pole and South Pole. If you put a North and a North magnet side together they repel but if you put a South and a North together they attract.

RETELLS

This term was Retell term. Each class did retells. The Juniors did poems and everyone else had to retell a story. Each class picked 2 people to represent their class at the Syndicate finals. From this, there were 3 people picked to go to the Whole School Retell finals from each syndicate. Well done everyone for giving it a go and well done to the winners.

BOOK WEEK

All the classes got to dress up on the Friday of Week 5 as a book character. We did a parade in the hall and every class lined up and took part. During the week, teachers went to different classes to read books. There were lots of activities in the class based on books and also scavenger hunts for each syndicate to do. All the senior teachers dressed up as Goldilocks and the 5 bears. Mr Ryan was Goldilocks! We had Mr Goodall and Pauline Smith come in and talk to the students about their books they have had published.

SKI TRIP

Some lucky year 5 and 6 students got to go on a Ski trip to Coronet Peak. They had a great day. Miss Holland and Mrs Butt were the two teachers who took the students on this trip. They had a really early start as they had to be at school by 5am!

HOT CHOCOLATE AND COOKIE DAY

The School Council all met in the hall and helped the PTA make the hot chocolates. They also got to drop them off to all the classes. Thank you to the PTA for organising this. We all loved it!

FRONT FIELD

The front field has been closed heaps this term because of the bad weather!



Senior Kapa Haka



Winners of the Book Week Scavenger Hunt

TERM 3 ● DONOVAN PRIMARY ● 2026

PŪTANGA O NGĀ TĀONGA

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSPAPER

Term 3 at Donovan Primary cont...

Winners of the Syndicate Haka Competitions



Room 15



Room 8



Room 14



Room 10

STUDENT TEACHERS

The student teachers in Rooms 2 and 16 started at the beginning of the school year and have taught in those classes for some Mondays. Then they did 2 weeks of teaching in Term 2. This term they taught for 3 weeks. Room 15 also had a student teacher for this term too. Now they have gone back to Teachers College but we will see them for school photos.

SENIORS

Some students chose to participate in CAMs Assessments that are run by the University of Canterbury.

HIGH SCHOOL

All the year 6 students enrolled for High School this term. I hope you guys all got into the school you enrolled at.

TE WIKI O TE REO MĀORI

In week 9, for te wiki o te reo Māori we did a scavenger hunt, a he patai of the day for each syndicate, colouring comp and the teachers used more reo in their classrooms. Each syndicate did a haka competition with the winners being; Year 1 - Room 10, Year 2 - Room 14, Middle syndicate - Room 8 and Senior syndicate - Room 15.

DODGEBALL COMPS

The dodgeball comps have been held over weeks 9 and 10 by Miss Holland. The winner of the Junior comp was Room 12. The Middle winners were Room 5 and the Senior winners were Room 20.

SUNHATS

Just a reminder that in term 4 we need our sunhats.

This term I enjoyed Polyfest because I got to 2 solos and I made my whanau very proud of me. In Term 4 I am looking forward to going to camp because I will get to have fun with Harper and Leonne.

By Nevaeh Tagomoa Kaa

TERM 3 ● DONOVAN PRIMARY ● 2026

PŪTANGA O NGĀ TĀONGA

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSPAPER

School Council Happenings in Term 3

Welcome everyone to another awesome edition of the School Council Newspaper.

HOT CHOCOLATE AND COOKIE DAY

Huge shoutout to everyone that joined in on the hot chocolate and cookie day. Scientists have proven that a nice cup of chocolatey goodness boosts focus for lessons 100%. Thank you to the P.T.A. for organising this.

THE TIDY KIWI

Remember to keep your class tidy to win the kiwi because winning the tidy kiwi is the hugest flex on the playground right now.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Hope you are getting ready because school photos are coming up. Make sure you are looking nice and practise those long lasting smiles. So dress nicely and be ready.

NED YO-YO SALES SALES.

We had a visit from NED and we could buy yo-yos. I was one of the salesmen. The most expensive ones sold out like nobody knows about petrol nowadays!

KAITIAKI

I be feeling like I'm the president strolling on the playground breaking up inmate fights. We really are goated. (Jokes. There really are no fights!) But we help out students who are lost, unhappy or a little hurt at playtimes.







Winners of the Syndicae Dodgeball Champs.
From top: Room 12, Room 5 and Room 20

ASSEMBLY

Doing assemblies is really fun - for YOU! I have been embarrassed by dancing on stage and had to banish myself all alone. But other than that we have been doing very well, calling up classes and singing in front of the school while a song plays. At least a tip for the opera performance would be nice. The School Council each have a turn at running Syndicate Assemblies every second week.

I've liked doing assemblies and the yo-yo sales. I picked up how to use a paying machine. Also, I liked delivering the hot chocolates to everyone. It was fun. I've enjoyed being in the School Council doing lots of fun activities for everyone.

Jonathan Robertson

TERM 3 DONOVAN PRIMARY 2026

PŪTANGA O NGĀ TĀONGA

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSPAPER

Sports and Cultural News for Term 3

Kia ora, My name is Harper and these are all the Cultural and Sports we've done in Term 3.

NETBALL

There are only a couple more games left and there are 5-6 teams. Fun Fact: if you hold the netball for over 3 seconds you have to give the ball to the other team.

HOCKEY

Hockey finished in Term 3. There was 4 teams this year.

JUMP JAM

Jump Jam is one of my favourites. I was going to be in Jump Jam but I was too late. There was 8 teams. All of these teams did so good but congratulations to the 4 teams who got trophies for placings. There was 135 students in Jump Jam and all did amazingly well to stay in sync.

GYMNASTICS

Gymnastics had 8 teams and the festival was on the 13 September at the Invercargill Gym Club.

FUTSAL

Futsal started this term with 5 teams and they play on a Monday.

TOUCH TAG

Touch Tag works very hard every practice. There is 5 teams and only Year 4-6 are allowed to play.



The Senior Syndicate 'CO2 Dragster Race Day' after a Science Unit on Force and Motion.

Below: The winning team with their CO2 Dragster.





Donovan League Team



Donovan Primary School Choir at Sing Out

TERM 3 ● DONOVAN PRIMARY ● 2026

PŪTANGA O NGĀ TĀONGA

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSPAPER



Book Week Dress Up Day

Sports and Cultural News in Term 2 cont...

CHOIR

Choir is also one of the groups at Donovan Primary. Choir has 63 students. Thanks to Miss Wheeler and Amelia (Amelia is the Sports coordinator). They performed on Thursday 17 September at the Civic Theatre. The Donovan Choir sung the song 'Don't Stop Believing' by Journey. A group of Donovan Students also did a dance to 'Eye of the Tiger' as the opening act.

KAPA HAKA AND PASIFIKA

There is also some cultural groups like Kapa Haka and Pasifika. I, myself, was in Kapa Haka. Kapa Haka represents the Māori culture and Pasifika represents the Pacific Culture. After Polyfest, our Kapa Haka and Pasifika kaiako prepare a whole bunch of treats and yummy snacks for us, set up in the hall for morning tea.

UKULELE

The ukulele group has practiced a lot over the last 2 terms as they prepared to perform at Polyfest for the Middle Syndicate Kapa Haka group.

PUTANGITANGI

There is another cultural group that is a bit more serious than the others and it is called Putangitangi. This group has been practicing hard for their performance in Term 4.

WATERPOLO

Waterpolo has started again. There are three teams. They play on a Friday at the pool.

MINIBALL

Miniball started in Week 9 of Term 3. Miniball is basically like basketball but some rules don't apply and the ball is just a tiny bit smaller.

There are other groups at lunch times like Drama and Chess that we can be part of.

By Harper Birchfield

TERM 3 DONOVAN PRIMARY 2026

PŪTANGA O NGĀ TĀONGA

SCHOOL COUNCIL NEWSPAPER

An Interview with Miss Kennedy

Favourite Hobby: Knitting

Favourite Food: Japanese Curry

Favourite Colour: Blue

What do you like to do in your own time?
Knit, meet friends for coffee, go for a walk and camping.

What did you do before you worked at Donovan?
Worked at Collingwood Intermediate, James Hargest College and Mount Anglem College.

What do you like best about Donovan Primary?
The kids stuff and community.

What is the best part of your job?
The kids and no 2 days are never the same.

What is your favourite subject to teach?
Maths

What's your favourite thing about being a part of the staff at Donovan Primary?
We have fun together and help each other.

What is your favourite time of the year at school?
Summer, being outside with the kids and not stuck inside.

What has been your favourite memory from your time at Donovan so far?
The 20 year celebration and all the camps.

What is your favourite spot in the school?
The library.

By Chloe Sutherland



Chess

On the 10 August the Donovan Primary Chess team attended the Chess Power Invercargill Regionals at Southland Girls High School. It was an awesome day and the team not only competed to a very high standard, they also supported each other and displayed excellent sportsmanship. The Donovan team placed 2nd overall which was phenomenal considering we had 3 Rookies competing with more experienced teams. Jeremy placed 2nd overall in the Individual points section; a brilliant achievement.

Tino pai Jeremy, Dwayne, Matteo, Hunter and Raff. Not only are you talented Chess players but you also keep our club running smoothly and always make time to teach Chess novices.