



Wilson School

*Me Mahi Tahi Tatou Mo Te Oranga O Te Katoa
We work together for the well-being of everyone*

Newsletter Term 4

Message from the Board



Welcome to our families, students and staff to term 4.

Welcome to our families, students and staff to term 4. We hope that you have enjoyed all the activities your child has participated in during term 3.

Glenfield Transition Class

Our transition class is finally completed, the students and staff are delighted with their larger new learning space. We have three classes at the college with varied programmes and learning opportunities to meet the needs of all our students. Nicola Sanders is the teacher in the junior class.

School Ball

The school ball was once again a huge success and enjoyed by students, their families and the staff. The board would like to thank the staff for their hard work and for ensuring that it was such an enjoyable and successful evening for everyone. The positive feedback from all the families was very well received. The board would also like to thank the Benefitz who very generously donated all the printing for the ball as well as Nadia Kennington for the photography, Windsong Catering for the students' meal and DJ Wilson for the sounds on the night.

Principal Appointment

We are sure many of you are wondering about the new principal appointment. I want to reassure you that we, as a board are working on appointing the right person for our school.

Measles

Thank you to everyone who has supported our request for up-to-date Immunisation Information. We appreciate your assistance in providing the necessary information.

Digital Technology

A strong focus in our school is ensuring that we are digitally fluent and that our students have the best opportunities to access and utilise digital technology tools to support their learning. The board is supporting our staff to participate in professional development related to the new technology curriculum and how they can adapt this for our learners.

Greg Davey

Wilson School Board of Trustees Chairperson



Principal's Message Term 4

Welcome to term 4, term 3 was an extremely busy time with fun, exciting, interesting and highly engaging learning activities happening across the school. It is always a highlight for me to visit our classes and experience the relevant and meaningful learning happening across our school.

New Entrant Class

Due to our roll growth we have opened a new entrant class at our base school. It is lovely to have our energetic 5-year old's at school and lovely to see how quickly they have settled into the routines of their school day. Debbie Schaffler is the class teacher.



School Ball

What a magical evening, it was the highlight of my social calendar. It was amazing to see our students, families and staff have so much fun. The organisation was second to none; from the walk down the red carpet, to the incredible décor, great music and excellent food. The absolute highlight were the students themselves, they all looked dashing and rose to the occasion enjoying the evening as mature young adults.



Rotary Takapuna

We would like to thank the people from Rotary Takapuna for very generously donating their time to help us make Coreboards for our students, a fun and productive night was had by all.



Welcome to our new students and their families

Bayswater 1 – Krish

Bayswater 2 – Fraise

Room 4 – Ajay, Alexander, Moo, Thomas and Zizo

Windy Ridge 1 – Alexa and Christine

Notices

Transportation to and from school



It is the parent/caregiver's responsibility to secure car seats into the vehicle, buckle children into their seats and to receive the child at the end of the day. Drivers contracts state that they are not allowed to buckle the children in, so please support them by doing this each day. It is important that there is an adult at home when the child arrives from school. For safety purposes the driver **may not leave** the van as there are other students needing supervision.

Any change of address needs at least 10 days notification before the necessary changes can be actioned, make sure you contact the school well in advance.

Call Sue Purnell at the office or email her at suepur@wilson.school.nz or admin@wilson.school.nz if you have any changes, issues or concerns regarding transportation.

School Donations



Thank you to all those families who have paid the \$195 school donation, we appreciate your efforts. These payments go a long way to providing additional resourcing in the classrooms. We are working towards becoming a cashless school and would appreciate all payments be made into the following account:

Account Name: Wilson School

Account Number: ASB 12-3109-0011807-00 Please use your child's name and the name of what you are paying for e.g.: "Zoo trip" as a reference.

Communication with the teacher



If you are emailing a teacher, please be aware that any communication during the school day may not be seen until after the students have left, so anything urgent should be relayed to the class by ringing the school office on **09 489 5648**. Messages will be passed on to the class teacher. Please do not expect emails or phone calls after 5pm unless in an emergency. It is not our school policy for teachers to provide their personal mobile numbers. Although some teachers do use text and mobile contact, it is not encouraged. Where possible, contact should be through the school telephone and emails.

Telephone: 09 489 5648

Email: admin@wilson.school.nz. school.nz



Term Dates for 2019

Term 4: *Monday 14 October – Wednesday 18 December*

Monday 28 October – Labour Day

Dates for Term 4

October:

Mon, 14 Oct - Term 4 begins

Wed, 30 Oct - Special Olympics

Fri, 15 Nov - Royal New Zealand Navy Band concert

Tue, 19 Nov - Prize Giving Assembly

10.00am - Rm 6, Bayswater, Manuka, Windy Ridge, New Entrants

12.15pm – Rooms 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Glenfield College, AJHS

Tue, 26 Nov - Board of Trustees meeting at 7.00pm

Thu, 5 Dec - Base School Christmas Party

February 2020:

Mon, 4 Feb - School reopens for all students

Wilson School Outreach Service

The Specialist service has had another busy term supporting identified ORS students in the mainstream as part of the wider support team. We have been attending IEP's and appreciate the ability to work as part of a team to support change and consolidate skills.

The service supports 16 students across 10 schools. The service has recently undertaken its annual evaluation and the very positive feedback again reflects that the skills and knowledge that the specialist teachers bring to supporting students, schools and families/ whanau is very much valued.

Jenny and Joanne



Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy

Students and their trusty steeds

On Monday mornings, seven students with a variety of special needs from Wilson School step into the Riding for the Disabled (RDA) arena at Silverdale with their ponies. During these weekly lessons, students ride and practice skills such as focus, balance, communication and more. A trained volunteer leads each student's mount, and two volunteers walk along either side to ensure the rider's safety.



From the barn, to the sensory forest, to the arena and back, the ponies are kind and grounded with the students. They walk calmly, slowly; and the students pick up on the relaxed nature of their ponies.

While it might seem counterintuitive to mix large, powerful animals and children with challenges ranging from autism to visual impairments, the size of these gentle creatures is one of the factors that make them ideal therapy animals. RDA offers a unique form of exercise for our students.



From a physical standpoint, riding gives students the chance to stretch and move muscles in a way that may not be possible with other forms of exercise. The student's position in the saddle and the complex movement of the horse is a form of therapy, enabling students to develop their sense of body awareness, and help improve balance, muscular strength, posture and coordination.

Activities for the riding sessions vary. Students who need to build strength might practice standing up in their stirrups, while students who need to improve focus might ride through an obstacle course. Games such as throwing balls into buckets, rings onto sticks are a large part of the session. Games like this might seem simple, but they help students build core strength, balance and coordination while learning skills such as following directions.



Student's well-being also benefits from developing a connection with a social animal known for being responsive to human emotional states. Instructors say that students improve their emotional expression and self-regulation and can see how student anxiety decreases as they gain confidence in the new environment.

Most importantly, riding offers a great sense of fun and freedom. It's exciting to watch the connection between the student and their horse develop as the year progresses.

Students are selected on a rotation basis, alternating annually between Base school and Satellite classes. School Occupational therapist Angela and Physio Dermot work alongside the RDA Coach to formulate goals for each student for the year.

North Shore NZRDA also offer additional sessions for families who are interested in the child attending sessions directly through the organisation.

Their contact details: **North Shore Group RDA**: 09 426 8110. Email: info@northshorerda.org

Should you have any queries, please contact your Occupational Therapists Angela or Adrian or your Physiotherapist Dermot on 09 489-5648.



Speech Language Therapist

Communication is a big part of learning at Wilson school. In all areas of learning, students need to be able to understand their learning goal and be able to communicate with their teachers, therapists and friends. The Speech- Language Therapists at Wilson school are here to support and promote communication. We do this in many different ways within the school.

Some of the things we do are:

- Meet with Teachers to look at communication goals and strategies for students that can be worked on every day in the classroom.
- Assess individual students by observing them, working with them in the classroom or 1:1 assessment to find out how to support and develop their communication skills.
- Identify if there are any AAC systems (Augmentative and Alternative Communication) that may help the student to communicate.
- Work jointly with Talk Link to assess students who need a complex specialist assessment to identify the most appropriate AAC system for them.
- Offer training to Teachers and Parents on specific communication systems and how to use these in the classroom.
- Work directly with students within the classroom in groups.
- Assess eating, drinking and swallowing to provide programmes for students with difficulties in this area (dysphagia).
- Work closely with other members of the therapy team to find out how best to engage students in learning and communication.
- Work 1:1 with students to teach a new skill that can then be supported within the classroom.
- Meet with Parents to give advice on how to support communication/eating and drinking programmes at home.
- Support with the assessment of literacy (reading/writing and spelling) and how to build communication skills through literacy.
- Attend IEPs, Transition to Adult life (TAL) meetings and enrollment meetings.

If you would like more information on how we are working with your child, please contact us by ringing the school or email :

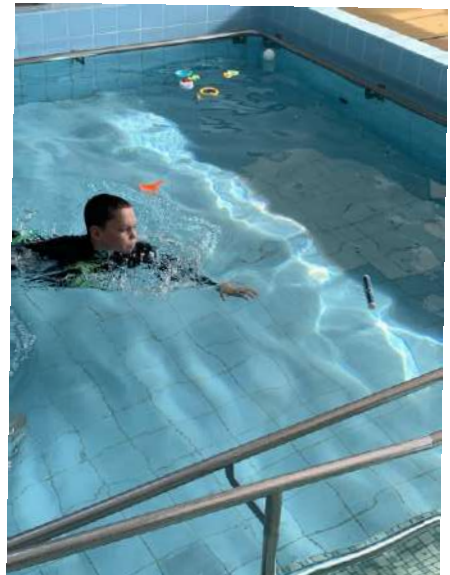
Laura Unwin: lauunw@wilson.school.nz

Susie Mole: susmol@wilson.school.nz

Room 1



In Room 1 we have had a brilliant term 3. We have managed to enjoy some swimming lessons with our Physio Dermot. We also went on some great trips to the local parks. This gave us a chance to get out into the local community and experience different things and to enjoy going on trips.



We also did some fantastic work in class this term and had a great time when Genevive came in to class to teach us about Maori culture and history.



Room 2



In Term 3, we went back in time from 1950s to 2000s.

1950s
Mickey



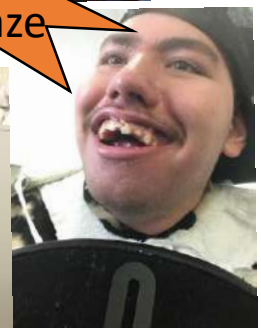
1960s
Mocktails



1980s
Punk



1990s
Cap Craze



Making centerpieces
for the ball



Room 3

Last term was a term full of celebrations. We had four birthday's in our class including a 19th, 21st and a 40th (not a student ☺). We got crafty, making decorations for the senior school ball, and making tasty Father's Day treats.

The right attitude to exercise!

Cooking tasty fruit
parcels



Blowing out the
candles in style



Watching rugby



All glammed up and
ready to dance!



Celebrating turning 21



Father's Day Goodies



Got to cut it all!





Sensory Drama in R4 with Genevieve

Genevieve's story-telling engaged us as she took us on a mythical journey of the Taniwha



Room 5

"Teaching and learning is a collaborative process"

R5 has had a LOT of amazing learning curve! We had our first School Ball night experience. We explored more on sensory-based learning through sensory stories, fun activities and drama therapy. Literacy and communication played a big part in our day to day activities and we have succeed so much! It was a team effort and its an on going process! Hurray ☺



Weather Exploration by R6

We listened to rain and storm sounds. We created our own sounds by using rain sticks, thunder tubes, ocean drums and a ju ju cluster.



Using hair-dryers we explored the wind and how it feels. Finally we used ice and ate ice-cream to feel the cold ☺

New Entrant Class



The new entrants settled in quickly and enjoyed all the fun sensory activities as well as the story time.



Bayswater 1

*What a fun-filled term we have had **exploring** our five senses!*

*We have made interesting creations such as slime, snow, salt car tracks and 'gloop' and realized some things **feel great**, but other things are **yuck!***



"All our knowledge begins with the senses, proceeds then to the understanding, and ends with reason." ☺

Bayswater 2



My name is Kipa Rangiheuea and I am the new teacher at Bayswater Room 2. Last term the students had cooking sessions every Friday where they focused on developing their fine and gross motor skills through the preparation steps. I am looking forward to further developing these skills through various activities this term.



Windy Ridge 1

Learning About Wild Animals

We learnt fun facts about the following animals:
monkey, lion, elephant, zebra and giraffe.

We also learnt about the difference between a
pet animal and a wild animal.

We visited Auckland Zoo to see the animals. It was a fun topic.



Windy Ridge 2

The farm: We learnt about different farm animals. We had fun listening to stories about the little red hen and the three-little pigs. Old Mc Donald had a farm was the favourite song while we explored objects in sensory trays and participated in animal arts.



Manuka 15



Trying



Exploring



Enjoying



Learning

Term 3 was another busy, active term where the class really came together well as a group. They have clearly benefitted from all the work we have been doing on emotional regulation skills and social interaction. The weekly gym sessions were also a highlight for parents, staff and students!



I went to gymnastics with Mum. I went on the trampoline. I was running. I was bouncing. I went home with Mum



Manuka 16 Gymnastics



On Thursday I went to the gymnastics. I liked the foam pit. Our class and Phil's class

Yesterday I went to gymnastics in the van. Two vans. I took my running shoes off. We stand on the beam at my gym. I jump on the trampoline at gym. There is a foam pit too!

Albany Junior Satellite

Our inquiry for last term focused on plants – we started the term with a fabulous visit to the Botanic gardens where we learnt how to grow plants and got up close and personal with tiger worms!



Later in the term we were lucky enough to have Bunnings come in and help us make some improvements in the garden – including two new raised garden beds – we can't wait to try all the veges we are growing!

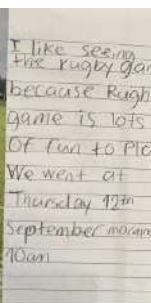
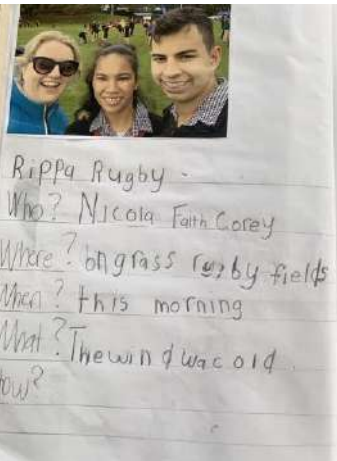
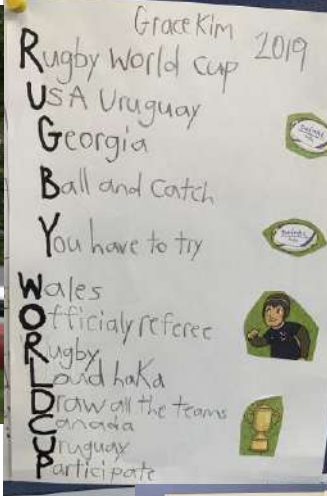




We had a great time studying plants.
We learnt so much about the plants and how to grow them.



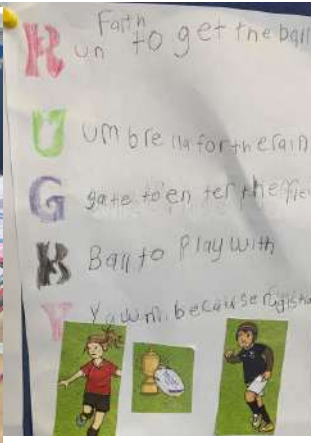
College Junior



Glenfield College Junior class has begun!

We are all doing very well and are super excited to be grown up college students now. Our class is Faith, Corey, Grace, Sophia, Nicola, Mei and Lynda.

Last term we started looking into the Rugby World Cup and learning about the different countries including the host country Japan and flags of all the countries. We did Haiku poems about Rugby and watched the Ripper Rugby tournament held on the school fields. Go the All Blacks!



Glenfield College Jr Transition

Lakehouse Art Festival

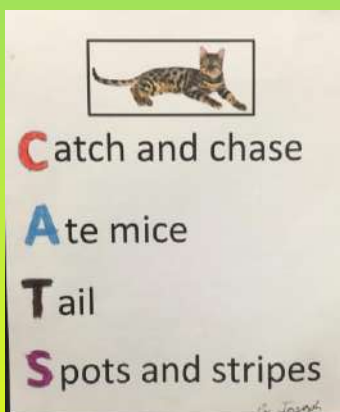
Corey, Liam and Ryan had artwork selected to be displayed at the Lakehouse



Our PE focus last term was BASKETBALL. We had a great day at Albany Senior High to show off our skills. We came first in our division!



CATS was one of our Literacy and Art focuses



College Transition Class

We stay active every week. We join the community for gym and join our friends to participate in Special Olympics.



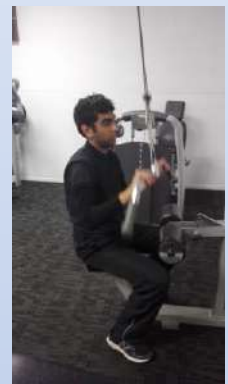
Aidan



Shohrab



Ted



Levi



Edward



Marcus



Atawhai

