



KELBURN COMMS – WEEKLY UPDATE

TERM 2 – WEEK 4

RĀAPA 13 HARATUA

WEDNESDAY 13 MAY 2026

This week...

Wednesday 13 May	Celebration of Learning from 3.15pm - 4.45pm
Thursday 14 May	Gymnastics Tupu and Māia
Friday 15 May	School hui hosted by Māia at 1.50 pm - Lyrica performing Colourful Shirt Day
Monday 18 May	Wellington College chat in Māia
Tuesday 19 May	Gymnastics Tupu and Māia
Wednesday 20 May	Gymnastics Tupu and Māia Whanake Te Papa Trip

Celebration of Learning

Today, 13 May is the Celebration of Learning from 3.15 pm to 4.45 pm. The tamariki will host you into the learning spaces to share the work they have completed so far. It is always lovely to take the time to go through the books and hear the student's voice as to what each learning experience was about in context.

Māia hosting the school hui this Friday

Our Māia students are excited to host this week's school hui, starting at 1:50 pm this Friday. We also have a performance from Lyrica that you won't want to miss.

WZ Cross Country

Congratulations to all of the tamariki who placed at our cross country last week. The top six runners from each category have now qualified for the **Western Zone Cross Country Competition**, where they will compete with their peers from schools across the Western Zone.

This event is taking place on **Tuesday, June 2nd** (postponement date June 4th), at Karori Park.

If your child has qualified for this competition, **please read and complete the permission form** below by Friday, 29th May. You can find the list of these tamariki here: [List of Tamariki](#).

Please contact Sophie Bishop if you have any questions (sophieb@kelburnnormal.school.nz).

[WZ Cross Country Permission Form](#)

Mid-Year Report Timeline Update

We want to let you know about a small change to the timing of our mid-year reports. To ensure teachers have the time they need to complete high-quality reports—especially while we wait for our updated reporting template based on the refreshed curriculum and reporting guidelines to be completed by an external provider—we will be sending mid-year reports home at the end of Week 1, Term 3, rather than on the last day of Term 2. Reports sent home: Friday 24 July (Week 1, Term 3).

This adjustment helps us maintain the standard of reporting our community expects, while also supporting staff wellbeing during a very busy part of the year.

Thank you for your understanding and continued support as we work to provide clear, meaningful information about your child's learning and progress.

Lockdown Training at Kelburn Normal School on 21 May 2026

As part of keeping our school safe we need to be able to respond safely and quickly to a range of emergency situations. **We are holding lockdown training on Thursday 21 May 2026.**

We work alongside an independent company, Harrison Tew® Ltd, who specialises in emergency management planning for schools, whose procedures have been successfully implemented in hundreds of schools throughout New Zealand.

As part of maintaining our emergency procedures in our school, specialised training is being conducted with our senior leadership and staff by Harrison Tew® Ltd.

The students will also receive information on how to respond in an emergency directed at their respective age groups from either their teacher or Harrison Tew® Ltd.

We will then be conducting a lockdown exercise under the guidance and support of Harrison Tew® Ltd.

During the exercise you will receive a notification from the school, so it is important that your emergency contact details are up to date and correct. The notification will emphasise that this is an exercise/practice and will explain that all updated information will then be posted on the school website.

In a genuine incident, should you become aware of a lockdown or evacuation at the school, can I please ask that you do not attend the school or phone, as we will not be able to respond. Your presence or contact may make it more difficult for us or the emergency services to manage a situation.

Whānau can sign up to the [eTap app](#) to receive messages, update information, notify absences and a whole lot more. Instructions to download the app are [here](#)

We thank you for your support.

Please update your child's contacts details before Lockdown Training

Please take a moment to check your contact details on the school app to ensure your address and phone numbers are up to date. If you need to make any changes, kindly inform the school office. You can also update your child's details through the school app. Click on My Child icon in the school app and then update the contact and permission information as required.



MY CHILD

CONTACT

MEDICAL

PERMISSIONS

OTHER DETAILS

ATTENDANCE FOR TODAY

Keeping your details current helps us stay connected and ensures you receive important school updates. Two emergency contacts in addition to parents/caregivers are essential in case we are unable to contact you during an emergency.

Please also check your child's permissions under the school app to ensure they are correct and up to date. If any changes are needed, kindly inform the school office as soon as possible.

NZ Playhouse- Puss In Gumboots

On Monday, 25 May, the year 1-6 will attend the NZ Playhouse production of Puss in Gumboots. These shows are an annual and much-loved event at our kura. These original productions are written and produced each year, bringing together the best actors and creative forces in Aotearoa to create a play that is funny, educational, and inspiring. Our tamariki respond positively, and it is always useful for our tamariki to engage with drama professionals and their storytelling methods. A donation request of \$6.50 will be added to your child's statement for this show.

NZSO Petrushka Schools' Concert

On Thursday, 4 June, our lucky **year 3-6** will step up to the fair and discover the magical and mysterious story of Petrushka at the Michael Fowler Centre. Tamariki can expect the sounds of a magical puppet show to fill the air as the NZSO brings Igor Stravinsky's famous tale of Petrushka to life! Meet the three puppets - Petrushka, the lively clown, the graceful ballerina who captures his love, and his swaggering enemy, the pirate. But beware! The fair is not all fun and games, and Petrushka's fate takes a mysterious turn... Alongside this captivating story, students will also experience the thrill of Mussorgsky's Night on Bald Mountain, the dramatic power of Prokofiev's Dance of the Knights from Romeo and Juliet and even join in with an original song created just for them.

For this trip, **we will require whānau helpers from each home learning team in Whanake and Whānui.** We will depart from school around 10.15am, and return by 12.30pm. If you are able to help, please email your home learning team teacher. The donation request for this exciting activity is \$14, and it will be added to your child's statement.

Tupu Updates

BSLA-Whānau Invitation for whānau 2026

Dear Parents & Whānau,

Tupu Tahī and Tupu Rua have started this year with the Better Start Literacy Approach. Tupu Toru and Whā have been continuing with the Better Start Literacy Approach.

This approach is a research-based way of teaching reading and spelling. We are excited by the progress and developments that the tamariki are making. The WOW moments are numerous.

We would like to invite you to hear about this approach and learn how you can support your child's reading journey at home for the Tupu Tahī and Rua teams and for the Tupu Toru and Whā teams to hear about their next stage in the approach.

Day and Time: **Thursday 28th May at 5:30pm to 6:30pm**

Place: Tupu Nui space to start.

We look forward to you joining us. Sorry, this is just a meeting for adults.

Ngā mihi,
Marianne, Wendy, Jo, Jodie, and Susie

Whanake Trip to Te Papa – Parent Helpers Needed

Whanake are looking forward to our trip to Te Papa next Wednesday. However, we are still looking for parent helpers for this trip. If you are able to help, please contact your child's teacher.

At Te Papa, we will be taking part in learning sessions with Te Papa Educators, where we will learn more about the journeys made to Aotearoa, and how early explorers and master navigators from across the Pacific adapted to and shaped Aotearoa into the country it is today. We will also be learning about the journeys of 19th and 20th century arrivals from around the globe, and how they continue up to the present day. We will also spend time exploring the museum in small groups.

There will be a donation request of \$16.00 for this trip, which will cover bus costs and Te Papa admission. This will be added to your child's statement.

Key Information:

Date: Wednesday 20th May

Venue: Te Papa

Times:

Whanake Tahī: 10.25am-1.20pm

Whanake Rua: 9.25am-12.20pm

Whanake Toru: 11.25am-2.20pm

Ngā mihi,
Sophie

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

Kindness includes everyone

When we celebrate our differences, everyone belongs



Many tamariki, including disabled and neurodivergent children, may sometimes feel left out or misunderstood simply because they experience the world differently.

This can be tricky for us to navigate as parents. Here are 3 small ideas you can kōrero, and encourage to support more kindness, inclusion, and belonging for everyone.

1

Be curious

Everyone is different and that's part of what makes our homes, schools, and communities interesting, creative, and special.

2

Look out for others

Everyone wants connection and friendship. If a peer looks lonely, ask them if they'd like to sit with you at lunch or join in a game.

3

Celebrate being yourself

Remind tamariki they don't have to fit in perfectly to belong. Our differences are often the things that make us shine.



Books help us understand, connect and support inclusion

The IHC Library has free books and resources exploring inclusion, disability, neurodiversity, kindness and belonging.

These are **free** for whānau, teachers and schools to borrow.

Head to: ihc.org.nz/library



@ihclibrarynz
@realparents nz

real parents

ihc
IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Yummy Fruit Stickers

The PTA is once again collecting Yummy Fruit Stickers for the school. Every sticker helps us work towards new sports equipment for our students. Sticker collection sheets are available from the office if you need one.



Time to COLLECT Yummy stickers for our School's share of

\$200,000

SPORTS GEAR

Download extra sticker sheets at yummyfruit.co.nz

EAT YUMMY APPLES & BRING YOUR STICKERS TO SCHOOL!

KNS Hoodies – Expression of Interest

The PTA is seeking expressions of interest from students who would like to purchase a KNS hoodie. The approximate cost will be \$50, depending on numbers.

If your child is interested, please email pta@kelburnnormal.school.nz by Friday 29 May. This will help us determine if there is enough interest to proceed with a hoodie order

If any parent is willing to coordinate the hoodies (with support from PTA), please let us know.



QUIZ NIGHT

\$25 per person

Scan QR code or click on link ~~here~~
to enter your team of up to 5. Single
entries will be assigned a team

Kelburn Village Pub
87 Upland Road

any questions: pta@kelburnnormal.school.nz



Kelburn Normal School Strategic Plan

This year, the School's current Strategic Plan 2024-2026 expires, and the Board must prepare a new Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan outlines the School's long-term priorities and direction for supporting student learning, wellbeing, and community engagement. It provides a framework to guide decision-making, teaching practice, and resource allocation over a three-year period. The current Strategic Plan can be seen [here](#).

The Board has established a Communications and Strategic Plan Committee to lead consultation with the School community, including students, staff, and whānau, and develop the proposed Strategic Plan for adoption by the Board.

The Committee intends to undertake initial engagement with the School community during May and June through an online survey, and hui with staff, PTA, whānau and the Student Council. The Committee will share a draft Strategic Plan in July and August for more formal consultation and feedback, with a view to finalising the Plan for adoption by the Board in September.

Please keep an eye out for further information and notices in the weekly newsletter and emails. If any parents have comments on the existing Strategic Plan, please feel free to email them to bot@kelburnnormal.school.nz

School Hui – safe transition at the end of each hui

To help ensure a safe transition at the end of each hui, we kindly ask whānau to either stay in the hall or exit the hall through the side exit doors by the road patrol shed. Please then wait in the playground at your regular pickup spot so all tamariki can use the link to return to the learning spaces to collect their bags and be released from their class on time. In the interests of health and safety, please keep the linkway and doors clear at all times. Thank you for your support and understanding.

Easymoves Gymnastics Term 2 and Term 3

In terms two and three, we will be running in-school gymnastics sessions as part of our PE programme. These will be facilitated by Easymoves. Each class will have eight 30 minute sessions.

Maia and Tupu will have their sessions in term two, and Whānui and Whanake will have theirs in term three.

There is a donaton request of \$25 for these sessions, and this will be added to your child's statement.

Looking Ahead Term 2 - dates are subject to change

Week	Date	Event
Week 4	Wednesday 13 May	Celebration of Learning from 3.15pm - 4.45pm
	Thursday 14 May	Gymnastics Tupu and Māia
	Friday 15 May	School hui hosted by Māia at 1.50 pm Colourful Shirt Day
Week 5	Monday 18 May	Wellington College chat in Māia
	Tuesday 19 May	Gymnastics Tupu and Māia
	Wednesday 20 May	Gymnastics Tupu and Māia Whanake Te Papa Trip
	Thursday 21 May	Lockdown Training
	Friday 22 May	School hui hosted by Whanake at 1.50 pm
Week 6	Monday 25 May	Playhouse Theatre Puss in Gumboots
	Wednesday 27 May	Year 7 Boostrix and Gardasil Vaccinations
	Thursday 28 May	Tupu BSLA Meeting 5.30 pm to 6.30 pm
Dental van on site	Friday 29 May	Whānui and Māia Hockey Music Assembly at 1.50pm
Week 7 Dental van on site	Tuesday 2 June	Western Zone Cross Country 11am to 2pm (pp 4 June)
	Thursday 4 June	NZSO Petrushka Schools' Concert Y1-6 School Disco 3.30pm - 6.30pm
Week 8 Dental van on site	Monday 8 June	WHS Opening Evening Sessions - @ 4.30 pm and 6.00 pm
	Wednesday 10 June	Māia tech session 9 am to 12.30 pm
	Thursday 11 June	Kamala's Recorder Student Concert @ 11 am PTA Quiz Night @ 7 pm Kelburn Village Pub
	Friday 12 June	School hui hosted by Tupu @ 1.50 pm
Week 9 Dental van on site	Monday 15 June	Wellington College Open Morning 9 am to 11 am
	Tuesday 16 June	Wellington College Open Morning 9 am to 11 am
	Wednesday 17 June	Māia tech session 9 am to 12.30 pm
	Thursday 18 June	Whānui Plays 5 pm to 6 pm Wellington Girls' College Open Day

Kelburn Normal School Variance Report on Student Achievement Highlights

Below is a summary of the Variance report that we submit annually to the Ministry of Education. You can find the full variance report on our Kelburn website. This report assists us in setting new kura goals for the current year and also in the development of the new strategic plan.

Kelburn Normal School continues to thrive as a place “where students learn creatively and strive for excellence, preparing for lifelong learning.” The strong foundations built in 2025—across teaching practice, wellbeing, cultural capability, and community partnerships—position the kura for a year of consolidation, innovation, and deeper impact in 2026.

Highlights Carried Forward From 2025

These 2025 achievements shape the priorities for 2026:

1. Strengthened Te Ao Māori and Culturally Sustaining Practice

Staff embedded te reo, tikanga, and kapa haka into daily routines, with “karakia in place at all levels” and strong engagement with Te Atiawa through Kura Ahurea. This provides a platform for deeper bicultural and multicultural learning in 2026.

2. High Academic Achievement and Curriculum Refresh

Achievement remained strong across reading, writing, maths, and science, supported by BSLA and the introduction of Maths No Problem. Staff noted that “Maths No Problem introduced as a new resource from Term 1” contributed to improved outcomes. This momentum will continue into 2026 with further PLD and curriculum refinement.

3. Creative Agency and Performing Arts Excellence

The drama kaupapa flourished, culminating in Year 7–8 performances of Hamlet and The Tempest to full audiences. The Creative Agency Framework continued to shape learning dispositions, with teachers reporting that themed units “successfully wove all curriculum areas together.”

4. Deep Commitment to Wellbeing and Manaakitanga

The school strengthened its hauora systems and pastoral care. Staff emphasised that “a culture of manaakitanga is present within the learners,” with students increasingly resolving issues collaboratively. The introduction of Mitey and continued use of Te Whare Tapa Whā set a strong wellbeing foundation.

5. Strong Community and Whānau Partnerships

Whānau engagement remained high through assemblies, celebrations, learning showcases, and kapa haka events. The school’s welcoming culture—evident in termly mihi whakatau—reinforced whānauangatanga and belonging.

6. Celebrating our academic results

In 2025, our tamariki continued to return excellent student achievement results in reading, writing, maths and science. Maths achievement continued to improve using the problem-solving approach.

BSLA has proven to make a real impact for tamariki's access to literacy and learning. For our oldest students, in Year 8, over 50% of students achieved in the “well above” category in all 4 disciplines, which is double the national average. The work of all the staff is to be congratulated.

In 2025, the school continued to work on sustaining its support for students with learning difficulties, expanding its online support toolbox and strengthening its understanding of neurodiverse learners, making improvements for children to grow their dispositions as learners. Our learning support team was superbly led by Danielle Sanders.

7. Celebrating our learning culture

Our powerful learning culture continued to develop as we referenced our Creative Agency Framework- work influenced by further delving into Claxton’s learning power, the 4 types of agency - resilience, resourcefulness, reflectiveness and reciprocity. Our drama kaupapa saw every team devise and perform a play or Drama Sharing. The progression through the school was evident in our Drama Sharing with Tupu, all the way through to our Year 7 and 8 students who performed Shakespeare’s Hamlet and The Tempest to packed houses at the Gryphon Theatre. The school research question for Teacher Inquiry continued to focus on agency and engagement.

Staff have been engaged in the refreshed curriculum around mathematics and embedded the new mathematics resource - Maths No Problem across all areas of the kura. Staff attended two mathematics professional development days with Northland School and Wadestown School. There are two more days organised for 2026. Staff also held a Whānau Information Evening for the community on refreshed curriculum changes.

Wellington College Open Mornings

Monday 15 June 2026 at 9.00 am

Tuesday 16 June 2026 at 9.00 am

This is an opportunity for prospective students and their families to tour Wellington College facilities and meet the Senior Leadership Team.

Registration is not required. All students and their families are welcome to attend.

Wellington High School Open Evening

The WHS Open Evening for students in Years 8 and above who are considering enrolment in 2026 will take place on Monday 8 June.

We will be offering three sessions. Tickets for all sessions must be pre-booked.

- 4.30pm - Principal's address followed by tour of the school, finishing by 5.45pm
- 6.00pm - Principal's address followed by tour of the school, finishing by 7.15pm

To book, click here: <https://www.trybooking.com/nz/BDML>



For our rangatahi Māori and those ākonga passionately interested in learning in Te Ao Māori spaces, we offer the following programme starting at 4.30pm:

- 4.30pm - Welcome, kai and kōrero from our senior Māori students and kaiako involved in Toi Māori, Te Ao Haka, Te Reo Māori, Kapa Haka, Waka Ama. Hosted by Te Whānau a Taraika in Taraika Marae. This includes the Principal's address.
- 5.15pm - Tours around the kura, finishing time of 6.30pm

To book, click here: <https://www.trybooking.com/nz/BDMM>

Places for all events are limited. We encourage you to limit numbers to one adult per prospective student so that all who wish to attend are able to do so.

Onsite construction means there is no parking available for Open Evening 2026. Please use public transport. Buses 3, 18 and 27 stop along Taranaki Street and by Massey University on Wallace Street, and numbers 1, 4, 23 and 29 run along Adelaide Road past the Basin Reserve. From the Basin Reserve it is a short walk up to Wellington High School across Tasman Street.

Parking may also be available in nearby streets e.g. Tasman Street, Hopper Street, Rolleston Street.

The numbers attending mean you may need to wait outside for a few minutes before you come inside - please dress for winter weather!

If you require further information, assistance with booking tickets, or are in need of a mobility parking space, please contact admin@whs.school.nz or phone 02825508824.

School Clubs and Ensembles Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lyrica – Yrs 6–8 8.30 am – 9.30 am Mahler Room Mrs Anna Sedcole & Mrs Munn	Orchestra – Yrs 4–8 8.20 am – 9.30 am Mahler Room Ms Katharina Vautier & Ms Smith	Xylobeats – Yrs 4–6 8.30 am – 9.30 am Mahler Room Ms Katharina Vautier	Piccolo – Yrs 4–6 8.30 am – 9.30 am Mahler Room Mrs Anna Sedcole & Mr Miller	Little Xylofun Yrs 2–3 9.00 am – 9.30 am Mahler Room Ms Katharina Vautier
	Code Club – to be advised	Chess Club to be advised	Tūi Choir Yrs 2–3 9.00 am – 9.30 am Hall Mrs Smith	Kapa Haka Yrs 5–8 8.30 am – 9.30 am Hall Matua Henare Parata, Ms Smith and Ms Rasmussen
	Junior Kapa Haka – Yrs 1–4 1.40 pm – 2.10 pm Hall Mr Jeremy Desmond & Mrs Blair		Eco Club to be advised	

Term Dates 2026

2026	Start Date	End Date	Public Holidays/Teacher only days
Term 2 11 wks	Monday 20 April	Friday 3 July	Friday 24 April - Teacher only Day PLD Maths Curriculum Monday 27 April - ANZAC Day observed Monday 1 June - Kings Birthday
Term 3 10 wks	Monday 20 July	Friday 25 September	Friday 14 August - Teacher only Day 3 Way Learning Conversations Friday 28 August - Teacher only Day PLD Maths Curriculum
Term 4 10 wks	Monday 12 October	Wednesday 16 December - finish at 2pm	Monday 26 October - Labour Day

School Reminders

Click to view [link to school reminders](#) published in previous newsletters

Community Notices



These are provided as a service to the community and do not necessarily reflect the policies and practices of the school - click the [link](#) to view school notices.

Help us fund gully maintenance by purchasing a

KNS Gully Tea Towel

**A GREAT GIFT
OR KEEPSAKE!**

100% cotton
Natural colour
Easily mailed
Long lasting



**\$20 EA
OR
3 FOR \$50**

You can buy these awesome tea towels at the school office
[EFTPOS AVAILABLE]

Kelly Club Notice

Kelly Club is about having fun doing interesting things with your friends & making new friends too! Our programmes are packed with activities; play sports & games, bake & cook, learn new crafts, do your homework or just relax and play. We offer After School Care every day of school term and Holiday Programmes during the school holidays too.

Kelly Club programmes at Kelburn Normal School can be searched [here](#),

or you can contact Kelly Club directly:

Phone: [021 744 636](tel:021744636)

Email: kelburnnormal@kellyclub.co.nz

- Visit: www.kellyclub.co.nz
 - e-mail: kelburnnormal@kellyclub.co.nz
- or just pop into Kelly Club any day after school.

Kelly Sports



SHORTER DAYS BIGGER PLAYS TERM 2 2026

As the days grow shorter and winter starts to set in our after-school sports programmes are here to keep the afternoon bright, active and full of fun!! Join us to sharpen your skills, try new games and burn of that extra energy in a positive structured environment!

This weekly programme gives children skills and confidence in a fun and enjoyable environment. It also encourages their enthusiasm for sport and the life skills that such involvement brings - giving them confidence to join sports clubs in the future!

For term 2 the sports we are focussing on are:

Football, Handball, Netball and Hockey (2 weeks of each).

Classes start on Wednesday 29 April 2026 (Week 2) and run for 8 weeks, 3.05pm-4.05pm

Go to www.kellysports.co.nz

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