



# KELBURN COMMS – WEEKLY UPDATE

## TERM 1 – WEEK 1

### RĀAPA 4 HUITANGURU

### WEDNESDAY 4 FEBRUARY 2026

#### This week...

Thurs 5 February  
Friday 6 February  
Wed 11 February  
  
Thursday 12 February  
Friday 13 February

Mihi Whakatau  
Waitangi Day - School closed  
Whanake Swimming  
Whānau Ara Information Evening  
Māia Tech 9 am to 12.30 KWNS  
School hui hosted by Māia at 1.50 pm

#### Schoolwide Updates

#### Mihi Whakatau – Thursday 5 February

Our first mihi whakatau is set for Thursday 5 February at 12.00 noon. We look forward to welcoming new whānau. If you are new to our kura, please come along so we can formally welcome you.

#### Whānau Information Evening – Wednesday 11 February

Next week, we have our Whānau Information hui held at 5.30 pm on Wednesday, 11 February in the teaching spaces. Each ara: Te Ara Tupu, Te Ara Whanake, Te Ara Whānui, and Te Ara Māia, are looking forward to sharing with you how each ara is set up for learning this year. Kaiako will share a presentation, including camp information, and will have time for questions and discussion. No need to sign in, just come to the learning spaces.

#### International & Bilingual Whānau Afternoon Tea – 19 February 2:30 pm

We will be hosting an afternoon tea on **Thursday 19 February** for the whānau of our international students, bilingual families, and English Language Learners (ELLs).

This will be a relaxed opportunity to connect, meet other families, and spend some time together at school. We will use this occasion to share information with you about the support we offer our English Language Learners and answer any questions you may have. More information will be sent shortly.

## Performing Arts

Our kura has a long history as a creative school, renowned for excellence in the performing arts. The first four words in our school vision are ..."where students learn creatively..."

Tamariki have the opportunity to participate in and contribute to various performing arts ensembles. The common purpose of these groups is to enrich the curriculum and promote children's engagement and well-being at school. We strongly encourage ākonga to join an ensemble, as we have observed significant benefits of joining musical ensembles for both well-being and academic success in and out of kura.

**The Choirs:** Lyrica Choir - Lyrica is the school's year 6 to 8 choir. It is our only auditioned choir and achieves a high level of excellence. The choir learns to sing a wide repertoire of music across different styles, in several parts, and in several languages, including challenging three-part pieces.

It performs regularly at school events, in the wider community, at cultural events and celebrations. Lyrica meets weekly on Monday from 8:30 to 9:30am, and is directed by Anna Sedcole, with assistance from Mrs Munn.

Lyrica auditions are tomorrow in the hall. Year 6-8 tamariki are encouraged to head along and audition by singing Happy Birthday and repeating a few notes, so come along and try out!

**Piccolo Choir** - This is an all-comers choir for tamariki who love to sing, year 4 upwards, no audition is necessary. They meet 8.30 to 9.30 am on Thursdays in the Malher music room, this is led by Anna Sedcole, with assistance from Mr Miller.

**Tui Choir:** This is our junior school choir (years 2 & 3) and is led by Ms Smith. It is held on Thursday in the hall from 9 - 9:30am.

**The Instrumental Groups: The School Orchestra** - Tamariki from years 4-8 can play in the school orchestra. The orchestra includes all sections of a full orchestra. They perform classical and contemporary pieces at school assemblies and events, as well as at the primary school orchestra festival. They meet on Wednesday at 8:20-9:30am and are conducted by Mrs Katharina Vautier and Ms Rachel Smith. Are you interested in joining the orchestra? Have you been playing your instrument longer than a year? It is lots of fun playing together. We encourage all year 4-8 tamariki who play an instrument to come along to the Mahler music room this Wednesday at 8:20am with some music that they can play.

**Little Xylofun** - This is the ensemble for our younger, Year 2 & 3, students. This is a great way to get used to making music together using xylophones, glockenspiels, and other percussion instruments. The children learn all pieces by ear; no music-reading skills are required. Led by Mrs Katharina Vautier, held 9.00am to 9.30am on Fridays in the Mahler music room.

**Xylobeats** - Our Xylophone/percussion ensemble is very similar to our Little Xylofun group, a step up for our year 4 to 6 students. Led by Mrs Katharina Vautier, held 8.30 to 9.30am on Tuesdays in the Mahler music room.

**The School Bands** - Tamariki from years 6-8 can audition to be in one of our school bands, taught by Mr Jeremy Desmond and Mr Tristan Carter. There is a small charge for whānau to cover our band teachers' time and expertise. If your child plays an instrument and wants to learn how to rock out with others, they can come to an audition. If children are in the band, they must be taking music lessons for their instruments, and singers must be in the choir and/or take singing lessons. We will collect the names of people who want to audition and what instruments they play from Monday. Auditions will be held soon, and we will let the children know.

**Kapa Haka - Senior Kapa Haka** - On Friday, 8:30 - 9:30 am, years 5-8, work to fine-tune their performance as well as learn new korero, waiata, rakau, and haka led by Matua Henare Parata, supported by Ms Rebekah Rasmussen and Ms Rachel Smith.

**Junior Kapa Haka** - On Tuesday afternoon, tamariki from year 1-4 engage with Matua Jeremy Desmond to introduce and develop our youngest students with Kapa Haka.

## Tupu Updates

### Tupu – Play Houses

How lucky are we to have these delightful new wee houses to go into our cubbies? They were created and expertly crafted by a talented parent who also makes these houses have a surprise, so exciting- they glow when it gets darker. We wonder who will get to visit and see these creations.



## Whanake Updates

### Whanake Swimming Lessons

Whanake are looking forward to launching into the first of their swimming lessons **next Wednesday** (February 11th). Please ensure your child remembers their togs, towel and goggles (if they use them), all named and in a bag.

- Whanake Rua: Departing school 12.30pm, returning 1.30pm
- Whanake Tahi: Departing school 1pm, returning 2pm
- Whanake Toru: Departing school 1.30pm, returning 2.30pm.

The cost of the bus and 8 swimming lessons, run by swimming instructors, will be \$70. This will be added to your student statement. You can also pay by direct credit to 12-3223-0190001-00 using your child's name and swimming as a reference or by EFTPOS at the school office.

## Whānui Updates

### Whānui Camp – Important Permissions

If you haven't already, please complete the online [El Rancho Camp 2026 - Whānui EOTC](#) permission form and submit it. This form by Thursday, the 5th of February.

Also, please come to the Whānau Information evening held at 5.30 pm on Wednesday, the 11th of February, in the Whānui space, if you would like to know more about the camp.

A camp packing list is also available. [El Rancho Camp Packing List](#)

## Māia Updates

### 2026 Māia Camp at Waimanaaki – Tuesday 3rd to Friday 6th March

Dear parents and whānau,

We are planning the biannual Māia Camp. It will be at Camp Waimanaaki in Riversdale. The camp's primary purpose is to set the stage for the year's learning and establish positive relationships between tamariki. Find out more at our Ara Information evening.

For all whānau, the requested donation towards the cost of the camp is \$388 per child. You can pay by depositing money into the school bank account, using account # 12 3223 0190001 00. (Please add your child's name and camp as a reference.) You can also pay at the school office, and if you would like to set up a payment plan, please arrange this through the office.

Best wishes,  
Libya Munn

## Check Contact Details and Child Permissions

Please take a moment to **check your contact details** on the school app to ensure they are up to date. If you need to make any changes, kindly inform the school office as soon as possible.

Keeping your details current helps us stay connected and ensures you receive important school updates.

Please take a moment to 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.

## Sunhats

A reminder, we are a sun smart school, so all children must have a wide-brim sunhat at school each day in term one, regardless of the weather. Tamariki find it easy to have a hat that can be left at kura.

## 2026 Stationery packs – available to order online

You can order your 2026 stationery packs from our supplier [Qizzle online](#). Please ensure that these packs are delivered to your home, not the school.

## Absences

Please let us know via the school app or absence phone line if your child is going to be absent for any reason, or more than ten minutes late. Your child's teacher may not be able to check their emails and the admin email address may also not be checked in time for the absences, so please follow the school protocol for absences:

- please download our [etap @school app](#) to notify the office of any day to day absences (login details are available from the office):

or via a browser:

[Etap @school caregiver login](#)

For login information and to reset passwords please contact our [office](#).

- or call the office main number [04 475 9351](#) and follow the instructions

For extended periods of leave, please email a letter of explanation to [admin@kelburnnormal.school.nz](mailto:admin@kelburnnormal.school.nz) and copy your child's [teacher](#) and/or the principal in.

## Looking Ahead Term 1 – dates are subject to change

Week	Date	Event
<b>Week 1</b>	Thursday 5 February	Mihi Whakatau - 12 pm - 12.30 pm
	Friday 6 February	School closed Waitangi Day
<b>Week 2</b>	Wed 11 February	Whanake Swimming 12 pm - 2.30 pm Whānau Ara Information Evening 5.30 pm - 6.30 pm
	Thursday 12 February	Māia Tech Session at KWNS 9 am to 12 pm
	Friday 13 January	School hui hosted by Māia at 1.50 pm
<b>Week 3</b>	Monday 16 February	Board Meeting @ 6.30 pm
	Wed 18 February	Whanake Swimming 12 pm - 2.30 pm
	Thursday 19 February	Māia Tech Session at KWNS 9 am to 12 pm
<b>Week 4</b>	Wed 25 Feb - Fri 27 Feb	El Rancho Camp Whānui
	Wednesday 25 Feb	Whanake Swimming 12 pm - 2.30 pm
	Thursday 26 February	Māia Tech Session at KWNS 9 am to 12 pm
	Friday 27 February	School hui hosted by Whanake at 1.50 pm
<b>Week 5</b>	Tues 2 to Fri 6 March	Māia Camp
	Wed 4 March	Whanake Swimming 12 pm - 2.30 pm
<b>Week 6</b>	Wed 11 March	Whanake Swimming 12 pm - 2.30 pm
	Thursday 12 March	Māia Tech Session at KWNS 9 am to 12 pm
	Friday 13 March	School hui hosted by Whānui at 1.50 pm

## School Clubs and Ensembles Timetable

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

## Term Dates 2026

2026	Start Date	End Date	Public Holidays/Teacher only days
Term 1 9 wks	Monday 2 February	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Friday 6 February - Waitangi Day Friday 27 March - Teacher only Day 3 Way Learning Conversations
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

## Phones and Smart Watches



This is a friendly reminder that we strongly recommend that children do not bring phones or smart watches to school. These items are not allowed in the learning spaces, or to be used at all during school hours. If students need to bring these items to school, the best thing is to hand them into the office at the beginning of the day, and collect them as they leave. If the item has the ability to record sound, take photos, message, call, or access the internet, it is classed as a smart watch or phone.



## Reminders

**School 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.

**Ezlunch orders** - Click the [link for an updated menu](#)

**Parking** - Just a friendly reminder to please follow our parking guidelines during pick-up and drop-off times. If grandparents or friends are collecting your child, we kindly ask that you remind them to park legally and respect the designated parking zones and drop-off areas.

Thank you for helping us keep everyone safe and ensuring a smooth flow of traffic around our school

**Parking on Boundary Rd** - Please do not park in front of the garages on Boundary Road. We have received complaints from neighbours who regularly have their vehicles blocked in by parents who have parked in front of their garages.

**Security Cameras** - As mentioned in previous newsletters, following the damage to the shade sail (and subsequent theft of the school bell), the School Board decided to install CCTV cameras on school premises. These cameras have been installed for the purpose of preventing and detecting vandalism and other damage to school property as well as any health and safety issues occurring outside school hours. The cameras do not record during school hours. The Board has now updated the [School's Privacy Policy](#) and has adopted a [Camera Surveillance policy](#). These are available here and I encourage all members of the school community to review these.

## Enrolments 2026

If you live in our home zone and have not yet indicated your intention to enrol your child for next year please get in touch and complete an [online enrolment](#). If you know of other in-zone families who may be planning to enrol – please encourage them to get in touch with us. This helps us greatly with planning for the year ahead.



It's great that your child is doing road patrol in 2026. Can you help them out?

We are seeking **parent helpers** to supervise the 2026 student road patrollers.

Road patrol duty is:

- 30 minutes
- once a week
- before **or** after school

Join the **friendly team** of parent volunteers who assist in keeping our children safe. (cover is available if a volunteer has another commitment during their normal shift)

This is a great way to **be seen** helping the school community, and saves the school money!

Please text Claire on 021 537 567 if you are able to help.

P.S. Orange really suits you :)

# VOLUNTEER



JOIN THE TEAM




## Entertainment Book

### Fundraising with Entertainment

Your purchase of an Entertainment Membership contributes to funds for the benefit of KNS and our tamariki. Help us achieve our goal by sharing this link with your friends and family. Thanks so much for your support!

Unlock More. Spend Less. Give Back.  
with an Entertainment Membership.

LIMITED TIME ONLY

	+		+	
<b>FREE</b> Multi City Upgrade*		<b>BONUS</b> \$30 Woolworths Gift Card*		<b>20%</b> donated to your community

[Find Out More](#)

\*When you buy a Single City Membership. T&Cs apply.



## 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.

## 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](mailto:kelburnnormal@kellyclub.co.nz)

- Visit: [www.kellyclub.co.nz](http://www.kellyclub.co.nz)
  - e-mail: [kelburnnormal@kellyclub.co.nz](mailto:kelburnnormal@kellyclub.co.nz)
- or just pop into Kelly Club any day after school.

## Kelly Sports



TIP OFF 2026 - Wednesday's from 3.05pm-4.05pm

The New Year is underway so let's JUMP in with a Kelly Sports Summer Multi Sport Programme! Come and try some new sports, sharpen some existing skills!

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 1 the sports we are focussing on are:

Basketball, Football, Ultimate Frisbee, Rippa Rugby (2 weeks of each).

Classes start Wednesday 11 February 2026 and runs for 8 weeks

Go to [www.kellysports.co.nz](http://www.kellysports.co.nz)