



KELBURN COMMS – WEEKLY UPDATE

TERM 2 – WEEK 2

RĀAPA 22 PAENGA WHĀWHĀ

WEDNESDAY 29 APRIL 2026

This week...

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| Wednesday 29 April | Band Concert @ 1 pm |
| Thursday 30 April | Gymnastics Māia and Tupu |
| Friday 1 May | Mihi Whakatau @ 1.50pm followed by school hui hosted by Whānui |
| Monday 4 May | BoT Meeting @ 6.30 pm |
| Tuesday 5 May | Whole School Cross Country 11 am - 1 pm |
| Wednesday 6 May | WGC Principal talks to Y8 girls and whānau @ 3.15pm |

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

X-Country Comms Update

Our annual school cross country and fun run is happening on Tuesday, 5th May (postponement date Thursday, 7th May). This event takes place at Karori Park and includes optional competitive cross-country races for children in years 4-8, as well as a fun run course for everyone to enjoy. The competitive races are qualifying events for the Western Zone Cross Country.

Order of Races:

| Time | Age group | Distance |
|---------|--|---|
| 11.30am | Year 7/8 Opt-in Competitive race | 2.2km |
| 11.45am | Year 5/6 Opt-in Competitive race | 1.6km |
| 12pm | Year 4 Opt-in Competitive race | 1.2km |
| 12.30pm | Whole school fun run (approximate times) - 12.30pm Maia - 12.45pm Tupu - 1pm Whanui - 1.15pm Whanake | Each ara will have 15 minutes on the course |

We welcome parents and whānau to come along and support tamariki at this event. We are also looking for parent helpers to be marshalls for both the competitive and fun run courses. If you are able to help with this, please contact Sophie Bishop (sophieb@kelburnnormal.school.nz).

Mihi Whakatau

We will hold our welcome to all our new tamariki in our Mihi Whakatau on Friday 1 May at 1.50 pm in the hall followed by our school hui hosted by Whānui.

Whanake Trip to Te Papa

As part of our learning this term, Whanake is off on an exciting trip to Te Papa. 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 small charge 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

To make this trip possible, we will need parent helpers to accompany each class. If you are able to help, please contact your child's teacher.

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

Road Patrollers

Please respect our Road Patrollers. It is both a privilege and a serious responsibility for our Tamariki who volunteer their time, in all weather, to ensure everyone can get to school safely. The road-patrollers undertake annual training with NZ Police; this training provides minimum distances of oncoming traffic before they can safely put their signs out. Sometimes this means it may take a little bit longer. Rest assured, the children know what they are doing and will open the crossing when they recognise a safe distance. Please be kind and patient while waiting, and please do not attempt to cross when the signs are closed. Thank you for supporting our road patrol.

Further details of NZ road code rules for both drivers and pedestrians at school crossing can be found here: <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/safety/keeping-children-safe/school-patrols/kea-crossings>

Headlice

Headlice has been detected in Tupu, Whanake and Whānui. Please check your child's hair regularly over the next few weeks. Please follow the [link for treatment advice](#) from regional public health.



WHAT IS MATHS MASTERY?

Maths mastery is about helping all children truly understand mathematical concepts—not just how to calculate, but how to use maths to solve real problems.

Maths mastery does not assume knowledge. Instead, it teaches children to become confident, flexible thinkers who can explain their reasoning and make connections across different contexts, concepts, and complex examples.



The five big ideas in teaching for Mastery

(From the National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics)

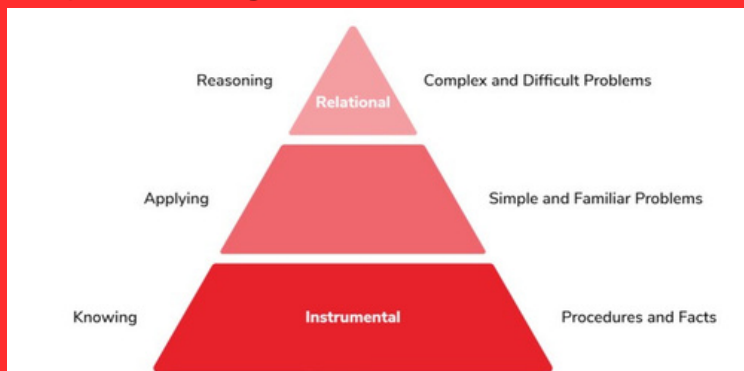
1. **Coherence** Learning is broken into small, connected steps to build understanding over time.
2. **Representation & Structure** Children use objects, drawings, and diagrams to see maths and make sense of it.
3. **Mathematical Thinking** Children discuss, reason, and explore ideas with others
4. **Fluency** Knowing number facts and methods well – and using them efficiently
5. **Variation** Concepts are shown in different ways to help children understand deeply.

What does this mean for my child?

- Your child is learning maths in a way that helps them understand, not just memorise
- They'll use real objects, images, and discussion to explore maths
- They'll become fluent, flexible, and confident with numbers
- All children are included and supported to succeed
- Advanced learners are challenged through depth – exploring more complex problems, reasoning in greater detail, and developing deeper conceptual understanding



Why Strong Foundations Matter



Imagine building a skyscraper. Without deep, strong foundations, you can't build higher.

The same goes for maths. We need to support all learners to secure the foundations of mathematical knowledge – so they can go further, with confidence.

Concrete – Pictorial – Abstract Approach

Children (and adults!) can find maths difficult because it is abstract. The CPA approach builds on children's existing knowledge by introducing abstract concepts in a concrete and tangible way. It involves moving from concrete materials, to pictorial representations, to abstract symbols and problems.

In Maths - No Problem! Children often begin by using physical objects (like counters, blocks or base 10 equipment), then move to drawings or diagrams, before using numbers and symbols.

This helps them understand **why** the maths works, not just **how**.

Looking Ahead Term 2 – dates are subject to change

| Week | Date | Event |
|---------------|--------------------|---|
| Week 2 | Wednesday 29 April | Band Concert at 1 pm |
| | Thursday 30 April | Gymnastics Tupu and Māia |
| | Friday 1 May | Mihi Whakatau at 1.50pm followed by school hui hosted by Whānui |
| Week 3 | Monday 4 May | BoT Meeting from 6.30pm - 8.30pm |
| | Tuesday 5 May | Whole School Cross Country 11 am - 1 pm (PP Thursday 7 May) |
| | Wednesday 6 May | WGC Principal talks to Y8 girls and whānau at 3.15pm |
| Week 4 | Monday 11 May | PTA meeting at 7 pm in the Tupu space |
| | Tuesday 12 May | Gymnastics Tupu and Māia |
| | 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 | Tuesday 19 May | Gymnastics Tupu and Māia |
| | Wednesday 20 May | Gymnastics Tupu and Māia Whanake Te Papa Trip |
| | 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 |
| | Friday 29 May | Dental Van Onsite Music Assembly at 1.50pm |

Wellington Girls College Principal Talk with Y8 girls and Whānau

WGC Principal, Julia Davidson, talks to year 8 girls & whānau on Wednesday 6 May at 3.15 pm in the Māia teaching space.

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.

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

The Winter Project

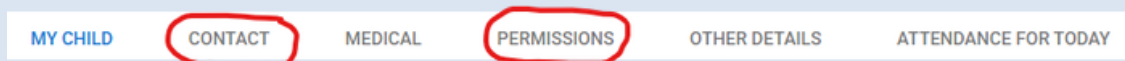
The Winter Project is working with KNS to collect Winter clothes again this year.

The Winter Project is an organisation of Year 12 Marsden students who collect winter woollens and distribute them to schools with families in need in the Wellington region. These families might need some extra warmth for the cold nights ahead entering into winter.

Please donate second-hand winter woollens. Items could include: scarves, beanies, gloves, blankets, jerseys, jackets, raincoats, puffers, warm tops/pants or shoes. Please bring any preloved, clean, warm clothing items in good condition. There is a box near Reception for donations. Thank you for your help!

Child Contact and Permission Information on School App

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.



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.

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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