



KELBURN COMMS – WEEKLY UPDATE

TERM 1 – WEEK 2

RĀAPA 11 HUITANGURU

WEDNESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2026

This week...

Wednesday 11 February

Whanake Swimming 12 pm - 2.30 pm

Whānau Ara Information Evening 5.30 pm - 6.30 pm

Māia Tech 9 am to 12.30 KWNS

School hui hosted by Māia at 1.50 pm

Board Meeting @ 6.30 pm

Whanake Swimming 12 pm - 2.30 pm

Thursday 12 February

Friday 13 February

Monday 16 February

Wednesday 18 February

Schoolwide Updates

Whānau Information Evening – Wednesday 11 February

Tonight, 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.

Orchestra and Xylobeats ensembles swap days

Our performing ensembles have made a strong start with many tamariki keen to get involved! We have to make one small change to our timetable due to Māia's technology schedule. Orchestra will now be on Tuesday morning at 8:20am and Xylobeats will on Wednesday morning at 8:30am.

Band Auditions Tomorrow

Tamariki from years 6-8 can audition to be in one of our school bands, taught by Mr Jeremy Desmond and Mr Tristan Carter. If your child plays an instrument and wants to learn how to rock out with others, they can come to an audition tomorrow. If they make it into one of our bands, there is a small charge to whānau for this, to pay for our band teachers' time and skills. 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.

Songwriting classes at Kelburn Normal School

We are excited to welcome Shan to our music teacher team. She will be offering song writing lessons.

Have you a notebook full of lyrics? A great melody but can't get it onto paper? Hear a song you love on the radio and wondered if you could do the same?

Hi! I'm Shan and I think there is nothing more satisfying than playing a song you created yourself.

I've been writing songs for a lot of my life and it is a passion of mine that I would love to share with you.

I teach fun, friendly songwriting classes where you can bring already formed songs, ideas or just start from a blank piece of paper to create something amazing! You will gain confidence and personalised songwriting sessions where we work to have songs ready for a performance and a chance to record your own demo.

Please contact Shan on 0276332807 or email at shanmusic@gmail.com to book or talk about songwriting! 

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.

Unsupervised Students in the Playground before 8.30 am and after 3 pm

As it is the beginning of the new school year and we have many new whānau who have begun at Kelburn, we would like to remind the Kelburn community of the school's expectations around drop off and pick up supervision of our tamariki each day. We have observed that some of our tamariki are not being picked up at 3 pm and left unsupervised in the playground. Our tamariki safety is important to us, and all students on school grounds before 8.30 am and after 3 pm must be supervised by an adult. There is the option of enrolling your child in the after-school care programme run by [Kelly Club](#) from 3.00pm to 6.00pm daily. If you are running late due to unforeseen circumstances please let the office know, and if you are regularly running late please make alternative arrangements to ensure your child is supervised and safe. In New Zealand, it's against the law to leave tamariki under 14 without making reasonable provision for their care and supervision.

Movin' March

Let's Get Movin' in March! - We always engage in Movin' March. While the weather is good, we emphasise walking or wheeling to school. It certainly helps our congested parking around the school when tamariki walk and wheel to school, and get some exercise as well. If you travel from outside Kelburn, then don't forget the Park and Stride concept, which is parking away from school and enabling tamariki to walk or wheel from there. For classes in Y1-6, we will have the Walk or Wheel Passport Challenge program to celebrate walking or wheeling to school; once they have filled these, they can return them to school to enter the prize draw.

Whanake Updates

Whanake Lunchboxes

As the warmer months continue, we're asking whānau to help keep our tamariki safe by sending lunches in insulated lunchboxes or with an ice pack. Food can warm up quickly in school bags and classrooms, increasing the risk of spoilage before lunchtime. Using an insulated bag or ice pack helps keep kai fresh and safe to eat, especially items like yoghurt, meat, or leftovers. It's a small practical step that supports our tamariki's wellbeing and helps ensure they have a safe, enjoyable lunch at kura each day. Thanks for your support with this.

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

Looking ahead to 2026, 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.

We have a comprehensive permission form to collect necessary information about your child. We would be grateful if you would please complete this by Term 1 2026!

[Year 7/8 Camp 2026 Permission Form](#)

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.

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 and copy your child's [teacher](#) and/or the principal in.

Looking Ahead Term 1 – dates are subject to change

Week	Date	Event
Week 2	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 - 12 pm
	Friday 13 February	School hui hosted by Māia @ 1.50 pm
Week 3	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 - 12 pm ELL Afternoon Tea and programme sharing @ 2.30 pm
Week 4	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 - 12 pm
	Friday 27 February	School hui hosted by Whanake @ 1.50 pm
Week 5	Tues 3 to Fri 6 March	Māia Camp
	Wed 4 March	Whanake Swimming 12 pm - 2.30 pm
Week 6	Monday 9 March	Hearing and Vision Testing NE & Y7s
	Wed 11 March	Whanake Swimming 12 pm - 2.30 pm
	Thursday 12 March	Māia Tech Session at KWNS 9 am - 12 pm
	Friday 13 March	School hui hosted by Whānui @ 1.50 pm PTA School Picnic 4.30pm-7pm
Week 7	Wed 18 March	Whanake Swimming 12 pm - 2.30 pm

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 Mrs Katharina Vautier & Mrs Smith	Xylobeats – Yrs 4–6 8.30 am – 9.30 am Mahler Room Mrs 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 Mrs Katharina Vautier
	Code Club – to be advised	Chess Club to be advised	Tūī 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, Mrs 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 1 9 wks	Monday 2 February	Thursday 2 nd 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.

School BBQ

Save the date for the annual Kelburn Normal School BBQ/Picnic on **Friday 13 March 2026 from 4:30-7pm**. Postponement date is 20 March. There will be a bake sale, sausages, burgers, entertainment and for the first time this year, we will be hosting a book fair on the same day. For us to run a successful event, we rely on parent volunteers. Please put your name down to help flip some burgers, donate some baking or help set up/pack down.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1WORIL-aeBYvotXfsk5301pLu-Yw9dAPy6fL1i4h7lTY/edit?pli=1&gid=0#gid=0>

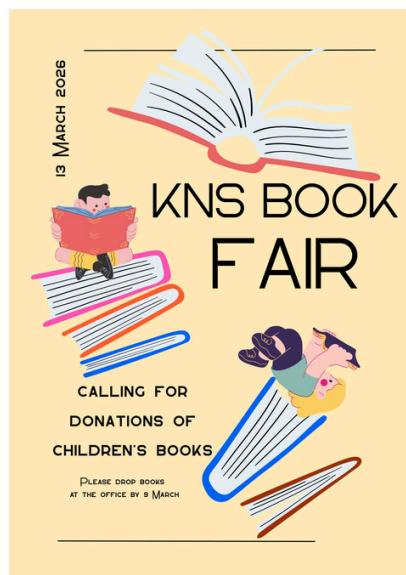


Book Fair

We are calling for donations of children's books for our Book Fair, hosted on the same evening as the annual school BBQ. Please drop off your books at the office by the 9th of March.

AGM Monday 9 March

The PTA Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday 9th of March 2026 at 7pm in Tupu space followed by the PTA meeting. We are looking for new members and welcome you to come along and contribute.



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

FREE Multi City Upgrade* **BONUS** \$30 Woolworths Gift Card* **20%** donated to your community

[Find Out More](#)

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

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



Kelburn Normal house shirts for sale



The PTA is organising another run of micromesh school t-shirts. Great for cross-country and house events.

Available in Kelburn's house colours:

Rata (red)

Ngaio (green)

Rimu (blue)

Kowhai (yellow)

Sizes 4-16

Price: \$23 each



**Orders close Monday
2 March 2026**

How to order:

- 1) Fill out your child's details on the order form
<https://forms.gle/ZbwXG8niktpgiN7c9>
- 2) Arrange payment of \$23 to the following account with your child's name and room as reference (eg Tupu Tahi)
Account name: **Kelburn Normal School PTA**
Account number: **12-3140-0240253-00**

If you are unsure of your child's House, it is listed in the Etap school app under "My Child – other details"



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



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

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.