



# Belmont Intermediate School

Newsletter 2 - 20 February 2026  
Panui 2 - 20 Hui-tanguru 2026

Leading Excellence in Intermediate School Education

[www.belmontint.school.nz](http://www.belmontint.school.nz)  
[office@belmontint.school.nz](mailto:office@belmontint.school.nz)  
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Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of the School,  
Tēnā koutou katoa me ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa.

Over the next three years, in addition to our values, our school will be guided by three powerful ideas: Care, Connection, and Collaboration. These aren't just words we put on posters. They're actions - things we do every day to make our school a place where everyone belongs and thrives. When I addressed our students at the start of the year, I described those three actions in the following way:

## Care

Care starts with the small things. Care is different to kindness. It's picking up a piece of rubbish even when no one is watching. It's noticing when someone looks a bit lost on their first day and saying, "Hey, want to walk with me?" Join my friends and play a game together. It's taking responsibility for your learning - asking questions, trying again when something is hard, and celebrating your progress. Care also means caring about our values, expectations and standards.

## Connection

Connection is what turns a school into a community. It's the friendships you build in class, the teammates you rely on during sports, the classmates who laugh with you during a science experiment that goes slightly wrong. You'll connect with people who are different from you - different cultures, different interests, different ways of thinking. That's one of the best things about Belmont Intermediate. Every person here has something unique to offer, and when you take the time to listen, you'll discover stories, talents, and perspectives that make your world bigger. But students, Connection also means being present. Engaging with your peers and teachers. Paying attention. Being part of the moment.

## Collaboration

Collaboration is what happens when we work together to achieve something we couldn't do alone. You'll see it in the school production when actors, musicians, designers, and tech crew combine their talents to create something magical. You'll see it in sports teams, service teams, kapa haka, and even in the classroom when you help someone understand a tricky idea. Collaboration isn't always easy. It means listening, compromising, and sometimes letting someone else's idea lead the way. But when we collaborate, we create things that are bigger, better, and more meaningful.

Last week at our formal assembly I set the school a challenge for the next two weeks and during their respective camp and EOTC experiences:

- Sit with someone new at lunch, at camp or on an EOTC activity
- Help a classmate who's stuck
- Ask for help when you need it
- Join a club you've never tried before
- Share your ideas, and listen to others' ideas too

If every one of us commits to these three actions, Belmont Intermediate will be a place where everyone feels they belong.

Our Year 8 campers have been busy practising putting up their tents and packing their bags in anticipation of a big week up at Waipu Cove. There is a great deal of excitement in the air, mixed with some nervous energy. My thanks in advance to all the parents who have given up their time to help out at camp. These camps can only be successful with parental support, so thank you for supporting the school and the students. I would also like to acknowledge Deputy Principal, Tim Oldham and our two Year 8 team leaders, Sarah Bothamley and Bianca Steyn for their efforts in preparing our staff and students for the weeks ahead.

Moving to the AIMS Games for 2026, we will be taking a girls' football team, boys' football team, mixed ripa, mixed waterpolo and a hip hop group to Tauranga in the first week of September. The decisions are made based on many factors including availability of accommodation, the quality of available coaches, parental support, teacher availability, cost and the ability of the teams to be competitive at the week-long tournament. Trials for these teams will begin after Camp and EOTC weeks.

Congratulations to these students who received a Principal's Certificate at the Formal Assembly on 16 February: Margaux Sumner-Brown, Melody Yu, Juno Donaldson, Ava Mcleay, Han Yu, Dominic Glen, Amelia Nachat, Eli Manjengwa, Georgia Misur, Jamie Armour, Will Watters, Rebeca Stoll, Miller Jewell, Charlotte Rataul, Finn de Vrij.

Ngā mihi nui



Nick Hill  
Principal/ Tumuaiki



Upcoming Dates for Your Calendar		
Week 5	Mon 23 - Fri 27 February	Year 8 Camp (Rangitoto)
	Tues 24 - Thurs 26 February	Year 7 Girls Netball Trials
Week 6	Mon 2 - Fri 6 March	Year 8 Camp (Motuihe)
	Tues 3 - Thurs 5 March	Year 7 EOTC Programme
	Wed 4 March	NH Tag Zone Day
Week 7	Tues 10 March	NH Swimming Zone Day
	Wed 11 - Fri 13 March	Year 7 EOTC Programme
	Fri 13 March	NH Triathlon Zone Day

## Merit Mentions

Room 1	Timothy Grenfell Ros Chapman	For your dedication and enthusiasm with your learning. You are a supportive, encouraging peer who is aiding in creating a positive classroom culture. Well done. For your positive and friendly attitude. You demonstrate care and connection with your peers, both new and existing.
Room 2	Theo Malcolm Estel Chou	In the short time he has been at BIS, Theo has consistently shown humility, respect and courage on the sports field and in the classroom. Well done, and keep it up. Estel has demonstrated strong leadership qualities in Room 2. She follows instructions responsibly and supports others with her friendly smile and calm, caring nature.
Room 3	Olivia Delaney J'Ariah Hart	For demonstrating excellence and courage; Olivia has been making sure that every piece of learning she does is to the best of her ability. For showing integrity; Ari does the right thing, even when nobody is watching. If someone is upset, she cheers them up, if there's litter, she picks it up. A real role model!
Room 4	Lulu Lehoczky Seb Walker	For displaying resilience, a willingness to learn, and respect for others, making a strong start at BIS. It is wonderful to see you making connections and building relationships. Seb has settled into BIS with ease. He has built positive relationships and contributed to a welcoming learning environment, setting a wonderful example for others.
Room 5	Kingston Clark Aila Ibbotson	For demonstrating our school value of courage, King has been taking every opportunity that BIS has to offer and supports his peers to do the same. Aila is a confident and compassionate member of Room 5. She takes pride in her work and consistently encourages her peers and supports them.
Room 6	Stella McQuoid Rishi Davidson	Stella has settled into intermediate school with confidence, contributing thoughtfully in class and consistently producing exceptional work. Rishi has adapted extremely well to intermediate school and consistently demonstrates a positive and enthusiastic attitude towards his learning.
Room 7	Coco Taylor Izzy Richardson	For demonstrating kindness and enthusiasm in the classroom; Coco approaches her learning with a positive attitude and encourages those around her. She consistently shows respect and contributes to a supportive class environment. Well done, Coco. For showing responsibility and integrity in all areas of school life; Izzy leads by example and can be relied upon to do the right thing. She is a calm and thoughtful presence in our classroom. Keep up the great work, Izzy.
Room 8	Aisling Dunne Ari Alpers	An exceptional attitude to your work and also to PE and sport so far. Aisling, you are a pleasure to have in the class and you work so diligently throughout the day. Keep it up! Ari, you always have such a positive and resilient attitude in class, especially with work which you may not always find easy. This is a great sign of maturity. Keep going!
Room 9	Room 9	A huge congratulations to Room 9 for such a fantastic start to the year! You have all consistently followed our school values and demonstrated what it means to be positive, respectful, and ready to learn. I am so proud of the way you have begun the year together as a team.
Room 10	Yufei Wang Leo Watt	For your consistently positive attitude and the 100% effort you put into your learning every day. Your dedication and determination are truly impressive — you are amazing! For being inclusive towards all members of Room 10 and for stepping up as a lunch monitor without being asked. Amazing job!
Room 11	Isabella Lusty Ollie Heron	For always showing care by noticing when others need help and offering a hand. Your constant empathy and willingness to support your peers is truly amazing! For showing incredible courage by stepping out of your comfort zone and taking on class responsibilities. Keep up your hard work and keep taking those chances!
Room 12	Clem Whittington Alisa Li	Clem, you have started the year so positively and have shown excellent dedication to your work and exhibited a high-level understanding of the school's values. Alisa, you have quickly become an excellent role model in room 12. You consistently complete work to a high standard and always find time to do jobs without being asked. Ka pai, Alisa!

## Merit Mentions Cont.

Room 13	Wilde Meredith Arlo Ford	Wilde and Arlo have had a positive start to the year, approaching their learning with maturity and responsibility. They work so well together, and their contribution to our classroom culture should not be underestimated. I am excited to see what the rest of the year has in store for them!
Room 14	Noah Simons Michelle Varghese	For demonstrating diligence in your work, and for showing kindness in the classroom at all times. You have had a great start to the year, keep it up! For the effort that you put into your work and for your kind and caring nature in the classroom. You have shown admirable manners thus far. Well done!
Room 15	Pippa Job Theo Murphy-Cumming	Pippa, your fantastic start to the year, shown through your diligence and high standards, makes you a positive role model in Room 15. Ka pai! Theo, you have shown great commitment to your learning through your hard work and the way you consistently display our school values. Keep it up!
Room 16	Jovaan Hopwood Reggie Balle	For being an extremely responsible, helpful and considerate member of Rm 16. Vaan, I appreciate your friendly, inclusive manner in which you conduct yourself daily. Thank you. Reggie, you have settled into your new school effortlessly and have proven to be an exemplary student already. Thank you for always putting 100% into your work. The hard work will pay off.
Room 17	Tom Newman Victoria Lu	Tom has begun Year 8 demonstrating excellent leadership qualities in Room 17. Keep up the great work Tom! Vicky had a positive start to the year, approaching her learning with maturity and responsibility. Ka pai!
Room 18	Harriet Phillips Eva Ding	Harriet has had a fantastic start to the year. She is taking her responsibilities seriously, completes learning to a high standard, and is a positive role model in room 18. Thank you. Eva has started the year really well, approaching her learning with maturity and diligence. Her behaviour is exemplary and her learning is always completed to a high standard. Ka Pai!
Room 19	Edie Coles Abel Lines	For settling into learning routines confidently and showing a cheerful approach to each school day. Ka pai. For being a kind and supportive classmate who is always ready to lend a hand. Tino pai.
Room 20	Eden Hick Toby Woodhead	Eden has demonstrated excellent time management skills during the first few weeks of term 1. Eden, your conscientious attitude is admirable, keep it up! Toby has consistently been contributing to classroom discussions, sharing his valuable insights and prior knowledge. Toby, you are an asset to Room 20. Ka pai!
Room 23	Ezra Meredith Marcus Nguyen	Ezra, your positive attitude toward learning and our class environment sets a great example of our school values. Well done on your positive start to 2026. Ka pai! For putting in the work and focus during lessons, asking questions and knowing what the next steps should be! Keep it up, Marcus!
Room 24	Cate Scott Gabriel Page	For demonstrating great work ethic and the willingness to speak up. I am so glad to have you in my class, Cate. Well done on a wonderful start to 2026. For settling into Room 24 so well. Gabriel, you have been a pleasure to have in my class and I look forward to more exciting growth that I am already seeing from you.

## Specialist Merit Mentions

Science	Meiyan Li, Ros Chapman, Zoe Clerke, Melody Yu, Rehansa Perera, Reynold Gunda, Renee Bi, Roya Rice, Zoe Mules, Violet Gunn, Tracy Oo	A great level of focus in the Particle Circus stations activity and reliably recording observations and explanations.
Food Tech	George Kennedy, Martin Phantang, Eli Little-Codling, Eleanor Engstrom, Freya Downie, Dominic Glen, Campbell Main, Cianna Mata'utia, Sophie Buchanan, Noah Eiem, Ava Yianakis, Elsa McKeever Sowerby	For their impressive start to food technology, displaying a positive, focussed and hard-working approach to all tasks.
Visual Art	Josh Baddeley, Adele Fournier Musset, Quinny Yeoman, Ali Khaled, Eva Delaney, Josh de Koh, Ella Wilis, Isla Fletcher-McGrevy, Miller Jewell	For contributing well in class discussions and art activities. For applying themselves with great focus and developing creative plans for their clay sculptures.

## Specialist Merit Mentions Cont.

Languages	Lulu Lehoczky, Aisling Dunne, Maisie Barber, Leo Fraser, Neve Ballard, Maddison Byrne	For kicking off your Chinese learning adventure with incredible effort and focus and a can-do attitude. 很棒!
Hard Tech	Poppy Buisson-Hiriart, Sophia Edmonds, Zoe Leggott, Wolf Schroder, Hugo Stebbing, Timothy White, Kayden Luu, Sophie Sickling, Lulu Aitchison-Stubb, Louise Lancelot, Ida McAlpine	For attention to detail, correct use of tri-square, and being highly productive. Excellent "can-do" attitudes.
Music	Juno Donaldson, Saoirse McLead, Nia Thomas, Mila Gladwell, Chris Salus, Violet Wilkinson, Daisy Hart, Stella Anderson, Jayden Chen, Jesse Legarth, Liv Gibson, Asa King	For making an excellent start to the music module by always putting their best foot forward and being great role models.
Dance/Drama	Makaia Anesi, Timmy Grenfell, Ros Chapman, Zoe Mules, Lou Pondard, Javier Tan, Dean Harel-Brad, Isla Lee, Aucktons Sudsang, Belle-Edite Richardson, Isla Nielsen, Jackson Buckle	For their excellent effort, positive attitude, and great contributions during dance and drama lessons. Well done!
ESOL	Steve Takano, Aiden Xu, Roberto Ortiz, Seth Luis Lopez, Shiya Chen, Olga Zdujic	For listening carefully to instructions and participating respectfully throughout the assessment.

## School News

At this week's formal assembly, we proudly welcomed our 2026 student leaders to the stage to receive their leadership pins.

Our Head Boy and Head Girl, School Leaders, and House Captains and Deputies stood tall as they were acknowledged by the school community. It was a special moment of recognition, not just of their achievement, but of the responsibility they now carry as role models for their peers.

Congratulations to each of you; wear your pins with pride and lead with integrity!



## Chinese New Year Potluck – Welcoming the Year of the Horse

The BIS Chinese Room had a packed lunchtime this past Tuesday as more than 50 students gathered to celebrate Chinese New Year and welcome the Year of the Horse. Students brought in an incredible range of dishes from across China, along with a few local favourites, and generously shared them with one another. It was a lively, good-natured afternoon — lots of laughter, plenty of second helpings, and a genuine buzz as everyone tried something new. 新年快乐 (Xīnnián kuàilè - Happy New Year) to all our families celebrating.

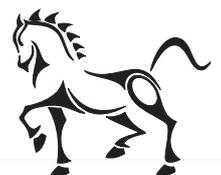
Between bites, students watched highlights from the Chinese New Year Gala and enjoyed a relaxed moment together to mark the start of the new lunar year. In China, the New Year is centred around reunion and shared meals — families travelling long distances to sit around one table — so it felt fitting that our celebration did the same in its own small way. A big thank you to the students who prepared and brought food — you did a fantastic job. Here's to the year ahead — 马到成功 (Mǎ dào chéng gōng) - May you swiftly achieve success!



### 春节团圆餐，共庆马年

周二午餐时间，中文教室里热闹非凡，五十多位同学齐聚一堂，共同庆祝农历新年，迎接马年的到来。同学们带来了丰富多样的美食，有来自中国不同地区的特色菜肴，也有一些本地受欢迎的美味。大家彼此分享，品尝各地佳肴。现场气氛轻松愉快，笑声不断，许多同学也勇敢尝试了新的口味。大家新年快乐！

在品尝美食之余，我们还一起观看了春节联欢晚会的精彩片段，共同感受新年的喜庆氛围。在中国，春节最重要的传统之一就是“团圆饭”。无论身在何处，家人都会尽量赶回家中，共坐一桌，共享美食。能够在学校里以这样的方式共同庆祝，也别具意义。衷心感谢精心准备美食的同学们——你们真的做得非常棒！祝大家在新的一年里马到成功！



## Honouring Identity – Our Iwi Mural Expands

Our iwi mural in the hall foyer gives our Māori students and staff the opportunity to identify and acknowledge their whakapapa in a meaningful and visual way to our school whanau.

We have updated the wall with our new students and their iwi, adding six new areas! The wall is getting very full now, ka rawe!



## Super Bowl LX Gridiron Gathering at BIS

Last week our BIS gridiron fans poured into the Chinese classroom for the big screen as students came together to watch Super Bowl LX — a highlight of American and global sports culture. With snacks in hand and team pride to boot, the atmosphere was electric as Seahawks fans out-cheered Patriots supporters and got thoroughly involved in the occasion, from the game itself to the entertaining songs and commercials. We had a line out the door with students keen to get in on the sporting spectacle. It was great to see so many students engaging with the event and enjoying time together in a relaxed, fun setting.

To our young fans' delight, the game itself was a lopsided affair, with the Seattle Seahawks crushing the New England Patriots 29-13 behind a dominant rushing attack featuring Super Bowl MVP Kenneth Walker III and Auckland local George Holani. The Seahawks' defense kept the Patriots under pressure all day, creating plenty of talking points for our young fans - as the old adage goes "offense wins games, defense wins championships."

Despite the tough day for the two offenses, our students kept the energy high with their lively support the whole way through. Thanks to everyone who came along — we were delighted to celebrate this classic part of sports culture with you all!



## From River to Tap: Year 7's Explore Auckland's Water Journey

Our Year 7 Science classes recently welcomed Kathryn, an educator from Watercare, for an engaging and informative session on where Auckland's water comes from and how it reaches our homes. Students discovered that much of our water is sourced from the Waikato River and were fascinated to learn about the many stages involved in treating and purifying it to make it safe to drink.

A highlight of the visit was a hands-on challenge where students designed and built their own mini water filters. There was plenty of excitement as groups competed to produce the clearest, least "turbid" water! Alongside the science, students also explored the importance of water conservation and practical ways to save water at home. Kathryn will be returning later in the year to work with more of our Year 7 classes.



## Sports



### Sports Camp Applications Now Open

Each year BIS participates in the Intermediate School Sports Camp held at Totara Springs, located 10 minutes out of Matamata.

We will be selecting a team of around 35 students for each camp to compete against 9 other intermediate schools in more than 35 sporting events. Please refer to the Hero post sent out earlier this week for more information.

**Camp 1:** Monday 15th - Friday 19th June 2026  
**Camp 2:** Monday 27th - Friday 31st July 2026  
**Cost:** \$680 - this covers the cost of food, accommodation, transport and all activities.  
**Venue:** Totara Springs, Matamata.

**Applications due:** Monday, 16 March 2026 at 9:00 am - these need to be emailed to: [sports@belmontint.school.nz](mailto:sports@belmontint.school.nz)

Students who wish to be considered for selection must submit a Sporting CV detailing how they meet the selection criteria. The CV provides evidence of the different sports they have participated in and the levels achieved (see an example [here](#)).

Please ensure that your child completes their own application - by all means, assist them with this, but please do not write the CV for them. The deadline for applications is Monday, 16 March at 9:00 am.

Teams are to be announced and communicated out on Thursday, 19 March.

**Parent help:** If you are able to help as a parent (staying for the duration of the week at camp), please include this information with the CV your child creates.

## Fast Lanes & Photo Finishes: Official Results

On Friday the 13th, we held our annual Swimming Sports at Birkenhead Pool and Leisure Centre.

Despite the rainy weather, competition was fierce with some incredibly tight finishes — see the results on the next page.

Our students showed fantastic determination, resilience, and house spirit throughout the day. We are so proud of the effort and sportsmanship on display!



FREESTYLE FINAL RESULTS			BACKSTROKE FINAL RESULTS		
Year 7 Girls			Year 7 Girls		
<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Time</u>
<u>1st</u>	Margaux Sumner-Brown	21.12	<u>1st</u>	Margaux Sumner-Brown	22.9
<u>2nd</u>	Mila Gladwell	24.35	<u>2nd</u>	Mila Gladwell	26.59
<u>3rd</u>	Allegra Child	24.72	<u>3rd</u>	Allegra Child	26.78
<u>4th</u>	Minnie Rhodes	25.19	<u>4th</u>	Minnie Rhodes	28.75
Year 7 Boys			Year 7 Boys		
<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Time</u>
<u>1st</u>	Marlin Zhang	21.75	<u>1st</u>	Marlin Zhang	25.94
<u>2nd</u>	Will Kingsley	23.78	<u>2nd</u>	Austin Wang	29.22
<u>3rd</u>	Jake Kim	24.97	<u>3rd</u>	Will Kingsley	30.57
<u>4th</u>	Otto Loveday-Rhodes	25.68	<u>4th</u>	Hadley Milligan	33.04
Year 8 Girls			Year 8 Girls		
<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Time</u>
<u>1st</u>	Chloe Nicholls	22.5	<u>1st</u>	Chloe Nicholls	25.46
<u>2nd</u>	Mackenzie Burrows	22.9	<u>2nd</u>	Ida McAlpine	26.9
<u>3rd</u>	Dana Kim	22.97	<u>3rd</u>	Lulu Burge	29
<u>4th</u>	Ida McAlpine	23.94	<u>4th =</u>	Dana Kim	29.66
Year 8 Boys			Year 8 Boys		
<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Time</u>
<u>1st</u>	Wilde Meredith	21.72	<u>1st</u>	Wilde Meredith	26.96
<u>2nd</u>	Ezra Meredith	22.06	<u>2nd</u>	Shay Legarth	27.31
<u>3rd</u>	Ben Logan	22.44	<u>3rd</u>	Finn Gibson	27.87
<u>4th</u>	Finn Gibson	23.12	<u>4th</u>	Finn Atkinson	28.16
BREASTSTROKE FINAL RESULTS			BUTTERFLY FINAL RESULTS		
Year 7 Girls			Year 7 Girls		
<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Time</u>
<u>1st</u>	Margaux Sumner-Brown	29.19	<u>1st</u>	Margaux Sumner-Brown	22.47
<u>2nd</u>	Allegra Child	31.85	<u>2nd</u>	Mila Gladwell	27.44
<u>3rd</u>	Mila Gladwell	33.53	<u>3rd</u>	Allegra Child	28.03
<u>4th</u>	Hazel Singh	35.53	<u>4th</u>	Gia Baskerville	38.19
Year 7 Boys			Year 7 Boys		
<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Time</u>
<u>1st</u>	Marlin Zhang	31.82	<u>1st</u>	Marlin Zhang	24.69
<u>2nd</u>	William Kingsley	33.82	<u>2nd</u>	Austin Wang	29.29
<u>3rd</u>	Otto Loveday-Rhodes	37.66	<u>3rd</u>	Will Kingsley	29.65
<u>4th</u>	Nixon Thompson	38.22	<u>4th</u>	Jake Kim	31.44
Year 8 Girls			Year 8 Girls		
<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Time</u>
<u>1st</u>	Ida McAlpine	31.31	<u>1st</u>	Beth Rigby	30.25
<u>2nd</u>	Beth Rigby	31.91	<u>2nd</u>	Chloe Nicholls	30.75
<u>3rd</u>	Dana Kim	33.49	<u>3rd</u>	Corina Chew	31.28
<u>4th</u>	Chloe Nicholls	35.1	<u>4th =</u>	Lulu Burge	31.8
Year 8 Boys			Year 8 Boys		
<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Time</u>
<u>1st</u>	Shay Legarth	29.88	<u>1st</u>	Finn Atkinson	27.97
<u>2nd</u>	Ben Logan	34.03	<u>2nd</u>	Finn Gibson	27.97
<u>3rd</u>	Finn Gibson	34.31	<u>3rd</u>	Wilde Meredith	30.72
<u>4th</u>	Charlie Palmer	35.09	<u>4th</u>	Ben Logan	31.06

## On Your Marks: Running Club 2026

Bright mornings, great energy, and plenty of kms already ticking over. 2026 Running Club is in full flow! Keen to join us? Email Josh to get involved: [sports@belmontint.school.nz](mailto:sports@belmontint.school.nz)



Wednesdays



7:10am



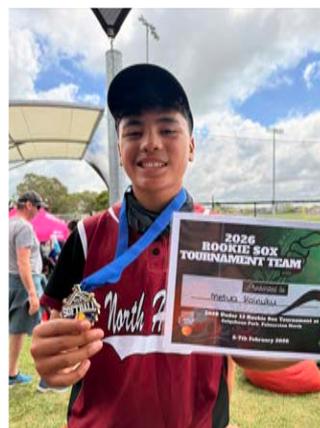
## Success Outside Of School

### Metua Hits a Home Run: Outstanding Softball Success!

Congratulations to Metua Tatare-Kainuku on an amazing weekend of softball!

He played for North Harbour in the U15 Nationals, helping his team secure an impressive 2nd place. He then travelled to Palmerston North for the U13 Rookie Sox tournament, where he captained the North Harbour side to 1st place — a huge achievement, especially with 24 teams competing and dethroning the four-time reigning champions, Counties Manukau.

Metua pitched an incredible finals game, was named in the Tournament Team, and also received the Fair Play Award. What a weekend! We are so proud of you, Metua!



## BIS Athletes Shine at the Colgate Games, Featured in Flagstaff!

Over the summer, Year 7 & 8 students from Belmont Intermediate, representing the Takapuna Athletics Club, had an outstanding showing at the 2026 North Island Colgate Games in Tauranga, New Zealand's largest junior athletics competition. This earned them a write up in Devonport's Flagstaff.

**Year 7 highlights:** Makaia Anesi won gold in discus and the 4x100m relay, silver in 100m and shot put, and bronze in long jump. Isla Nielsen, Summer McKnight, and Mackenzie France all recorded top finishes across multiple events.

**Year 8 highlights:** Leo Simons earned bronze in long jump, with strong performances from Miller Jewell, Beau Casey, and Noah Simons. Leo and Beau were also part of the 4x100m relay team, narrowly missing bronze by 0.02 seconds.

Congratulations to all our students — we can't wait to see you at the North Harbour Athletics Zone Day!

### Takapuna shines in summer athletics tournaments

Secondary and junior athletes enjoy a track and field season worth celebrating

Takapuna Grammar School students claimed three silver medals and a bronze at the 2025 New Zealand Secondary Schools Athletics Championships.

The NZSSA is the pinnacle national schools event and was held in Hastings in December, followed this month by the Colgate Games, which included a strong contingent of younger locals, competing for the Takapuna Athletics Club.

At the NZSSA champs, the silver medal winners from TGS were Connor Binley in senior pole vault, Kate O'Connell in the junior vault and Romy Jewell in the junior 400m race. Paige Harrows claimed bronze in the junior 100m race.

Connor and Paige also recorded finals placing in other events, as did Louisa Lathwood and Alex Hattie (see the TGS page for details, page 41).

Several of the TGS team backed up at both events, with Romy adding to her summer haul of silver at the Colgate North Island games in Tauranga, where she placed second in the Grade 14 girls' 200m and 400m.

Takapuna club members topped the podium with a win in the G10 girls' relay, with a team made up of Makaia Anesi, Mia Kallabi, Summer McKnight and Mackenzie France, all of whom are heading to Belmont Intermediate this year.

Makaia, from Haerangi, had standout individual success with a further four medals: gold in discus, silver in 100m and shotput and a bronze in the long jump.

Edgy team-mate Mia also competed at the South Island Colgate games, where she won gold in high jump and silver in discus. Leo Simons, who attends TGS, grabbed a



Bound for BIS... This quartet of Devonport peninsula runners — (from left) Summer McKnight, Mia Kallabi, Mackenzie France and Makaia Anesi — won a relay gold medal at the Colgate Games this month, competing for Takapuna Athletics Club. The girls are all starting at Belmont Intermediate School for 2026.



## Shredding to Success: Gold at the Funduro!

Over the weekend, the first Auckland Schools Shredder Funduro event kicked off — an exciting mountain biking race series for students aged 11–19. The three-race series is run by College Sport Auckland, and while it is a college-affiliated competition, intermediate students are also eligible to compete.

We're thrilled to share that Eloise Gladding (Year 7) rode her way to 1st place in the Under-13 four-stage event — an outstanding achievement!

The second event takes place next weekend, with the final race scheduled for April. We look forward to following Eloise's progress across the full series and celebrating her continued success on the trails.



## Making Waves in Water Polo!

Congratulations to Ida McAlpine and Finn Gibson on their selection for the 2026 Year 8 Talent Academy Programme with North Harbour Water Polo Club.

With strong competition and an impressive depth of talent at trials, this is a fantastic achievement. Ida and Finn should be extremely proud of earning their place in the 2026 squad. Ka pai and well done!



# Notices & Community News

## Part Time, Fixed Term Teacher Aide Position

Belmont Intermediate School is seeking a teacher aide to work with students who need extra support with their learning. Previous experience would be advantageous, as well as strengths in literacy and numeracy. Positions are term-time only and are covered by the current Support Staff Collective Agreement 2022 – 2024.

### Fixed term 2026: terms 2, 3 and 4

Five days per week, 9:00am – 1:00pm, commencing Monday, 20 April 2026 (start of term 2)

While induction will be provided, the following experience and skills are necessary:

- Experience (or an interest in) working with young people
- An understanding of supporting young people with learning and communication challenges
- Excellent relationship building and communication skills
- A good working knowledge of digital learning platforms
- Patience, resilience and empathy
- Able to work well with others in a team.

Email your CV, names of referees and the position you are applying for to **David Nichol (Deputy Principal and Learning Support Liaison)** at [dnichol@belmontint.school.nz](mailto:dnichol@belmontint.school.nz)

**Closing:** Friday, 20 March 2026 (unless an appointment is made sooner)



## Alumni Spotlight – Logan McAlister on Stage

Ex-student Logan McAlister is producing and starring in *The Last Five Years* at the PumpHouse Theatre from 20–27 February. This beloved musical by Jason Robert Brown tells a five-year relationship story from two opposing timelines - one moving forward, one backwards - meeting only once at the heart of the show.

The self-funded production features Logan alongside a talented cast, including NZ Opera alumni and a PhD voice lecturer from the University of Auckland. It's inspiring to see one of our former students leading professional creative work in the performing arts.

PumpHouse Theatre | 20–27 February

A must-see for musical theatre fans and anyone who has ever loved or lost. Ka mau te wehi, Logan!

**PERFORM X**  
Do you love to dance?

**START YOUR DANCE JOURNEY AT TAKAPUNA GRAMMAR NOW!**

- FREE & FUN lessons taught by senior TGS dance students
- Opportunity for BIS students to perform in the TGS School Production and the Dance Showcase
- Thursday afternoons during term time: 3.10pm - 4.15pm onsite at TGS

TO LEARN MORE CONTACT:  
[A.GRANT@TGS.SCHOOL.NZ](mailto:A.GRANT@TGS.SCHOOL.NZ)

## TGS Invites BIS Students to Join Perform X Dance Company 2026

Takapuna Grammar School would like to invite enthusiastic BIS dancers to join their Perform X Dance Company for 2026.

Perform X runs on Thursdays after school from 3:10–4:15pm and is led by TGS student leaders, who will teach a range of dance styles throughout the year. The first two sessions will be a trial, after which students will be asked to commit for the remainder of the year.

This year, Perform X dancers will also have the exciting opportunity to perform in the TGS school production of *Legally Blonde*, which will be held at the Bruce Mason Theatre.

Rehearsals take place in the Dance Studio in the Georgia Tindall Building at Takapuna Grammar School.

The first rehearsal will be on Thursday, 19 February. One of their friendly dance leaders will meet students at the bike racks at the end of the driveway connecting BIS and TGS at 3:10pm and walk them to the dance studio, as they may not yet be familiar with the location.

If your child would like to attend, please register by emailing the Teacher in Charge of Dance, Alana Grant, at [a.grant@tgs.school.nz](mailto:a.grant@tgs.school.nz) and cc BIS Dance & Drama Teacher, David Zeitner at [dzeitner@belmontint.school.nz](mailto:dzeitner@belmontint.school.nz).

## 2026 Music Classes Starting Soon!

The Belmont Music Centre classes are gearing up for 2026, and would love to ensure that local children have the opportunity to take part.

The programme is subsidised by the Ministry of Education, with a strong focus on making quality music education accessible to children who may not otherwise have the option of private music lessons.

Classes are held at Belmont Intermediate on Saturday mornings. Most classes beginning from Saturday, 21 February.

### BELMONT MUSIC CENTRE

Subsidised music lessons for children aged 7-12

2026 enrolments closing soon: **\$160-\$250 for the year**

Weekly classes Saturday mornings at Belmont Intermediate

Free extension groups: Choir, String Ensemble and Wind Band

[www.belmontmusic.org.nz](http://www.belmontmusic.org.nz)



# Notices & Community News



**TAKAPUNA LEARNING CLUB**



**LEARNING SUPPORT,  
DONE DIFFERENT!**

**JOIN THE CLUB!**

**OUR OFFERING**

- Small Group Tutoring
- Math and English
- Homework Club
- Beyond the Books - Club perks

1/28 Hurstmere Road, Takapuna  
[www.learningclub.co.nz](http://www.learningclub.co.nz) | 09 971 1553



**MILFORD KIDS Market**

Registrations now open to children under 18yo. Sell your handmade crafts, pre-loved toys, offer delicious home baking, show off your musical talent, or offer your skills with a service.

**SUNDAY 29 MARCH 2026  
10AM - 12PM**

Milford Senior Citizens Club Hall  
 (next to New World, 141A Kitchener Road)

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board Scan the QR code to register or email  
[northshorekidsmarket@gmail.com](mailto:northshorekidsmarket@gmail.com)



**NØUGHTY WASTERS**  
MAKERSPACE

Play and Create



learn how to use tools

**FREE Family Sessions**  
 15, 22, 29 March  
 1-4pm  
 27 Lake Road  
 Book on Humanitix  
 All ages welcome, Under 2s require close supervision



Devonport-Takapuna Local Board RESOURCE RECOVERY DEVONPORT

**Tākaro ki Tua**  
*Oranga Whānau, Oranga Mokopuna*

**FREE MĀORI PLAYGROUP**

**Ngā Rū:** Tāite 12 o Pēpuere 2026  
 Tāite 26 o Pēpuere 2026  
**Te Wā:** 10:00am - 1:00pm  
**Kei Whea:** Bayswater Primary,  
 181 Bayswater Avenue, Auckland, 0622

A welcoming space where you and your tamariki can learn, explore, and grow together through Te Ao Māori.  
**All whānau are welcome!**



Scan to register your attendance

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board @kituaoatariki www.kituaoatariki.org.nz Ki tua o Matariki

**JETS RUN**

EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 6:00PM | 3km / 5km / 10km

22nd Oct - 10th Dec | 4th Feb - 1st Apr  
 Torpedo Bay Navy Museum  
 King Edward Parade

**\$7 Entry**

[jetsrun@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jetsrun@xtra.co.nz) 0274 379 423

Devonport-Takapuna Local Board TORPEDO BAY NAVY MUSEUM DEVONPORT 7 DAY PHARMACY NW Devonport