ASHHURST SCHOOL
EKE TAUMATA

NEWSLETTER | Term 3 | Week 2

Kia ora e te whānau,

It has been another busy week full of fabulous learning opportunities across our school. Our CI topics have a science focus this term. It's all kicking off in the Whārite team with experiments about crystals, bottle rockets, marble runs, and liquids. These will follow the Science Capabilities and expose students to knowledge and skills around the process of variables, following the steps of an investigation, and measuring outcomes. Tararua Team are focusing more on environmental impacts and how we can measure change and impact of humans on the land, waterways, and air. They will be working closely with Sarah Williams from Manawatū District Council who will support students with various environmental studies like pest trapping, animal tracking, water quality, and cityscape studies. Our Ruahine Team are going to explore music through hands on experiences planned by the teachers, including sound walks and sound maps, instrument charades, soundscapes all while building their skills and knowledge to become Marvellous Musicians.



Thank you to the staff who have worked hard to make engaging and motivating units of work for students to participate. It is going to be an exciting term of wonderful creations.



NEW APPOINTMENT

We're thrilled to announce some exciting structural changes to our leadership team at Ashhurst School, designed to better support our students and staff.



Previously, our leadership included two Deputy Principals (one of whom also served as Learning Support Coordinator), an Assistant Principal, and an Associate Principal. Our new structure will feature Becs and James as our dedicated Deputy Principals, with Megan continuing in her role as Associate Principal. We're also delighted to have Reece (Whārite), Jess (Tararua), and Amy (Ruahine) as our Team Leaders, providing focused support across the school.

A significant part of this restructuring involves the introduction of a new, dedicated Learning Support Coordinator (LSC) role, and we are delighted to welcome Robyn Brider to this position.

As our LSC, Robyn will focus specifically on students and families who have been referred for additional support. Her responsibilities will include organising and managing cases for our ORS-funded pupils, students with health needs, and those with specific learning and behavioural requirements.

Robyn brings a wealth of experience to Ashhurst School. She is currently an RTLB (Resource Teacher: Learning and Behaviour) in Palmerston North and is an incredible years facilitator. She has also dedicated many years to being a fantastic classroom teacher in Opiki (part of the senior leadership team), Westmere, and Durie Hill in Whanganui. Furthermore, Robyn has experience working with Arohunga Specialist School. Should you have any concerns about your child at school that you prefer not to discuss directly with their classroom teacher, please reach out to Megan for students in Years 0-3 or James for students in Years 4-8.



Robyn will officially begin her role at Ashhurst School at the start of Week 6 this term. We can't wait for her to join our team and make a positive impact on our students' learning journeys!

LINDISFARNE

We hosted the Lindisfarne College Symphonic Band last week so that they had more experience playing in front of a large audience. It was a really neat way for our tamariki to see a band of this nature up close. They got to see a few solos of lesser



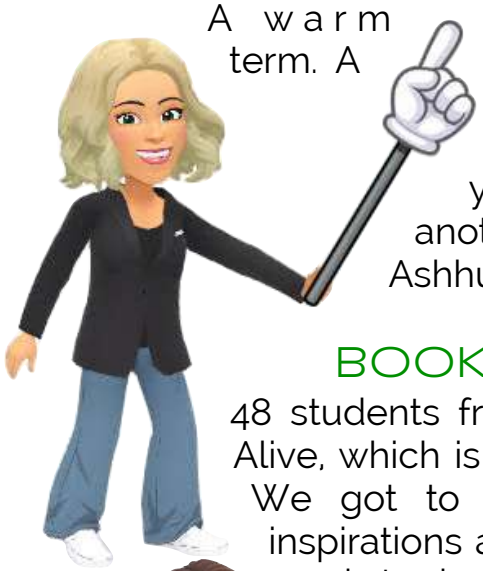


known instruments such as the euphonium. We received this email from the school:

I would like to express our thanks to your school for hosting us on Friday on our way down to Wellington for our band festival. It's always a highlight of our trips to get to perform to and meet students of primary schools around the North Island. All our staff commented on how well behaved your young students were during our 35 minute concert. It was also a great buzz for our students to show your students the instruments of our symphonic band. Thank you to James Lowry for organising the three class that were involved in this. Thanks also to Megan for setting up logistics/arrival time, and thanks also your caretaker Richard who was so helpful on our arrival. Wishing you and students a great rest of the year!



NEW STUDENTS



A warm welcome to our New Students that have started this term. A big welcome to Macklan, Brody, Callum, Thomas, Jane, Douglas, Mila, Mia, Denzel and Ivar.

We acknowledge that this is a huge milestone when you turn 5, and a big change if you are moving to us from another school. We're so excited to have you here at Ashhurst School.

BOOKS ALIVE

48 students from Tararua and Whārite were invited to attend Books Alive, which is a festival of New Zealand authors showcasing their art. We got to listen to three authors share about their passions, inspirations and books they have published. Each author was unique and took us on completely different journeys on their very creative paths. They were all relatable and extremely engaging. We hope that this is something that we can continue to do annually. The kids had an absolute blast!





HANGI PIT



We are so excited to have a specially built above ground hāngi pit on school grounds. This was something that was inspired by Pā Damian and has come to fruition over the holidays, with the first hāngi being prepared and laid yesterday as part of our TECH rotation. This is the final step of the hāngi rotation. It is a beautiful way of celebrating the knowledge and skills learnt by students about gathering and preparing kai, which culminates in a shared experience of eating food together creating a really beautiful community environment. This learning has been hugely beneficial to our tamariki and we thank everyone involved in making this dream a reality.



KI - O - RAHI

Yesterday, our Year 5 & 6 students took part in an exciting Ki-o-Rahi tournament at Manawaroa Park. It was a fantastic day filled with energy, teamwork, and a strong display of our school values: Whai Ngākau, Manawaroa, and Tū Tangata.

Our tamariki showed incredible spirit on and off the field, supporting one another, playing fair, and giving their best in every game. We were proud to finish the day on a high with a win — a well-earned reward for all the effort and determination shown throughout the tournament!

To top it all off, everyone enjoyed some delicious kai including a classic sausage sizzle and creamy hot chocolates that warmed us up perfectly.



A big thank you to all the whānau and supporters who came out to cheer us on — your presence made the day even more special!







SANITARY PRODUCTS

We have bags of free sanitary products available for our school whānau & friends. We have plenty of bags so please call into the office and collect a bag or two.

HIGH SCHOOL ROADSHOWS

Exploring Options for 2026

As part of the transition to Year 9, we've recently had visits from Freyberg High School, Awatapu College, and Queen Elizabeth College. Each school shared what they have on offer for 2026 and provided our Year 8 students with a taste of their unique environments and opportunities.

Presentations included a range of engaging items—from musical performances and academic overviews to information about sporting opportunities and Kapa Haka. These visits help our students begin to consider which secondary school might be the right fit for them as they move on from Ashhurst School.

We encourage whānau to continue these conversations at home and to look out for upcoming open evenings or enrolment information from the schools.

iBIKES

iBike4Kids is an exciting cycling event organized by the Manawatu Mountain Bike Club, designed specifically for primary and intermediate-aged children.

Where: Victoria Esplanade Palmerston North. In the Riverside below the Scenic Railway Station. Behind the Lido
When: Sunday Sept 7th
How Much: $20 per child - $10 for under 5s in the Balance Bike section. Tee Shirts $25

Please note that entries are available online only, and no registrations will be accepted on the day of the event. You can enter at any of the links below.
Our Facebook page is: https://www.facebook.com/iBike4Kidss
Tickets: https://ibike4kids-2025.lilregie.com/

We are excited to offer a larger selection of spot prizes aimed at encouraging outdoor activities for all students. Kids will have the chance to win two Scott mountain bikes, helmets, and other exciting prizes. Thanks to our key sponsor, Harcourts, every participant will also receive a medal.

Ashhurst School Term Dates

	Start / Finish	Key Dates
Term 1	Thursday 30 Jan - Friday 11 Apr	* Waitangi Day - Tuesday 5th Feb * Easter and ANZAC Day are in the School Holidays
Term 2	Monday 28 Apr - Friday 27 Jun	* King's Birthday - Monday 2 June * Matariki - Friday 20 June
Term 3	Monday 14 Jul - Friday 19 Sep	
Term 4	Monday 6 Oct - Friday 12 Dec	* Labour Day - Monday 27 Oct



SCHOOL LUNCHES

Monday / Wednesday / Friday - Ashhurst Dairy
Thursday - Subway

Please use the Kindo app to order your child's lunch



Ashhurst School Calendar & Term Dates 2025

Term 3

Monday 14th July - Friday 19th September
Teacher Only Day | Friday 25th July

Friday 25th July | Teacher Only Day
18th - 22nd August | Tui Ridge Camp Year 7/8
1st - 5th September | NZAIMS Games
Thursday 11th September | Ashhurst School Speech Finals



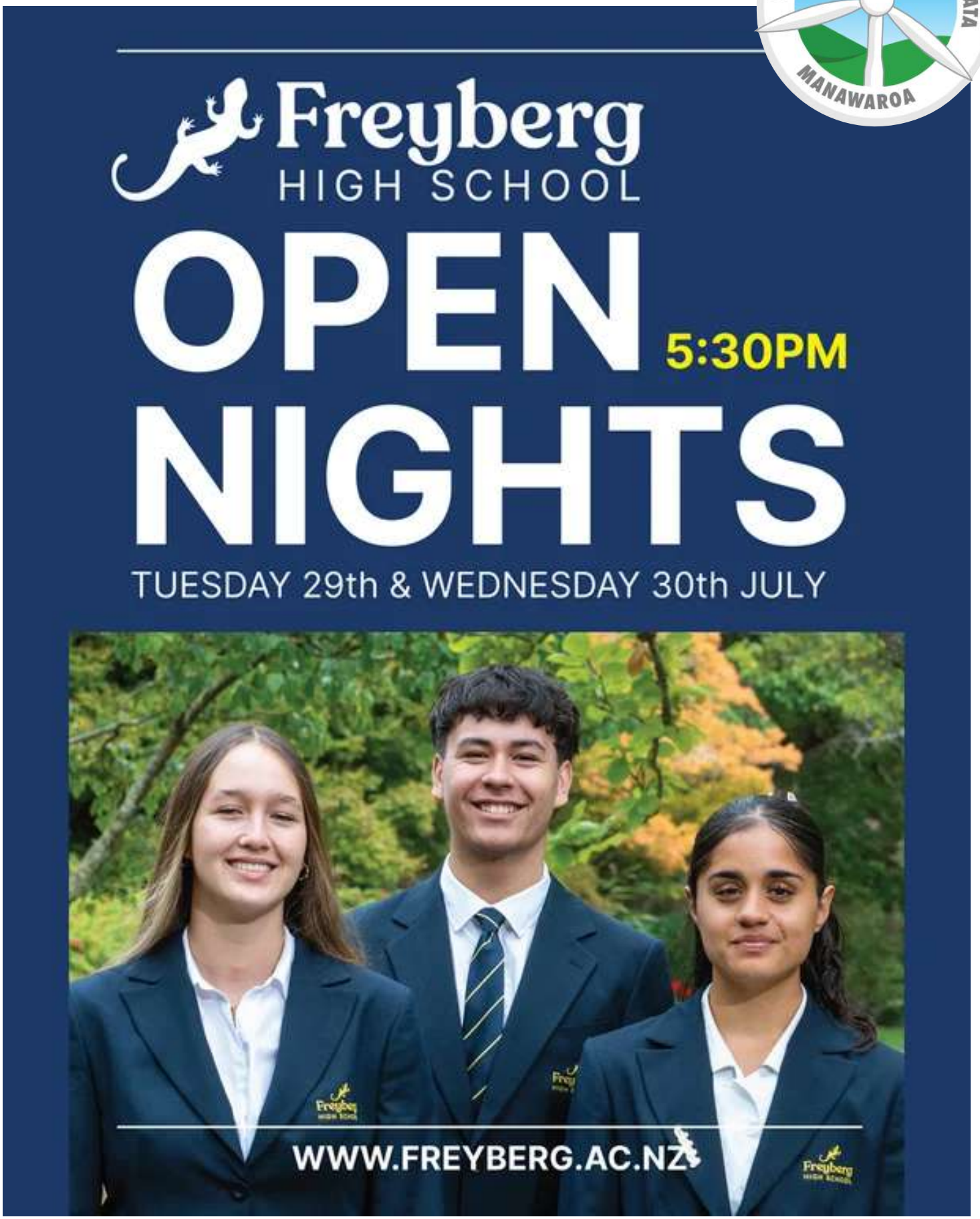






AIMS GAMES

Zespri™ KIWIFRUIT


Freyberg
HIGH SCHOOL
OPEN NIGHTS
5:30PM
TUESDAY 29th & WEDNESDAY 30th JULY
WWW.FREYBERG.AC.NZ

OUT OF ZONE BALLOT

The board of Trustees invites applications from parents who wish to enrol their children at Ashhurst School in Term 4 2025. Enrolments at Ashhurst School are governed by an enrolment scheme, details of which are available from the school office or the school website. Applications are available on the Ashhurst School website: www.ashhurst.school.nz click on Enrolment. Please fill in both the enrolment form and the out-of-zone application form. The deadline for receipt of applications, for out of zone places is 3.00pm on Friday 15th August 2025. The exact number of places for out of zone students will depend on the number of applicants from students who live within the school's home zone. If the number of out of zone applications exceeds the number of places available, students will be selected by ballot. If a ballot is required, it will be held on Monday 18th August 2025 . Parents will be informed of the outcome of their applications by 3.00pm Tuesday 19th August 2025.
Further to this, the ballot for Term 4 has 10 available spaces for Year 1, 4, 5, and 6.

PNBHS INFORMATION

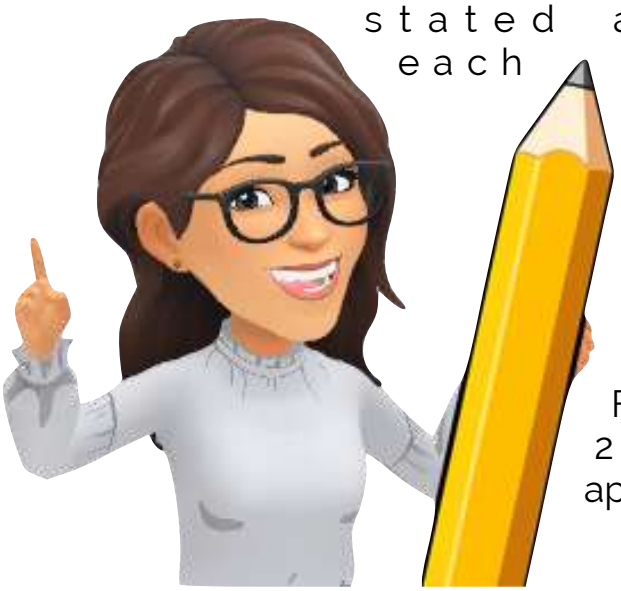


Monday 14 July 2025
Online Applications for Year 9 2026 enrolments will be available on our website from 8:00am Monday, 14 July 2025.

Thursday 24 July 2025
OPEN DAY

Day Session – 9:45am

Evening Sessions – 5:30pm and 7:00pm
Meet at the Speirs Centre at the times stated above and are each session is followed by an optional student-led tour of the school. Bookings not necessary.
College House Hostel Tour Times – 11.30am and 4.30pm.



Friday 15 August 2025
2026 enrolment applications close at 4:00pm



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Or 0276166904



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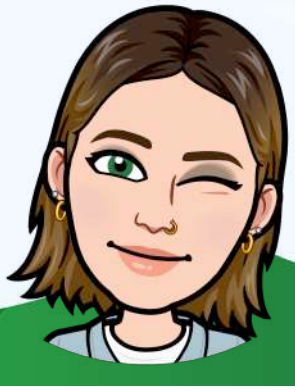

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Cleaning Concrete Prep

Harrison Jones

Owner Operator

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