

KIMBOLTON SCHOOL



November 25, 2025

Welcome to the last newsletter of the year. Traditionally, I put my end of year speech in this newsletter, however with still just under two weeks until prizegiving, it is not yet written. I thought instead, I would list six things that Kimbolton School has done well in 2025, to support student learning and achievements.

1- Free Swimming Lessons for all.

This initiative will see all Kimbolton Students have the opportunity to have around 20 free swimming lessons each, between November and March. The lessons are in small groups, and having already started, I am thrilled with the decision to introduce and support these.



2- Changes to how we teach Inquiry, allowing extension and deeper thinking for all students.

We have always done a good job educating students around different learning areas, but the changes that we have made this year to our Inquiry teaching takes the quality to the next level. Our belief is that by the use of Multi Dimensional Planning all students' needs are catered for, including specific opportunities planned for our more capable learners.

- This planning will allow students choice, will create challenges and will provide opportunities for hands-on learning.
- Deeper thinking will be promoted through this planning and facilitation.
- By integrating the needs of higher learners into our Inquiry we will be creating learning opportunities with a very high ceiling.

3- Small group digital competencies and coding opportunities.

As a school we have made a commitment to increase the hands on opportunities and focused learning on digital competencies and coding skills. One of the main reasons for doing this is to allow our learners to develop adaptability: We know that technology constantly evolves and digital competence teaches foundational skills (like critical thinking and problem-solving) that allow individuals to adapt and learn new tools throughout their lives.

4- New pool building.

I am very grateful and proud of our school rallying together so quickly to ensure that the school pool could continue to be used, when issues around the strength of our previous building were questioned by the ministry and deemed unsafe. With the strong commitment from the KSSC we were able to ensure the project was completed quickly and we now have the benefits, as my first point above highlights.

5- Continued focus on school values.

Whilst not everyone gets everything right all of the time, I continue to see our values being lived on a daily basis. This was affirmed through messages from the public and also from messages I have received from our own community. We believe in ensuring academic success for all, whilst also understanding the need to ensure our students are good people, who can be positive contributors to society, as they grow and live good lives.

6- Strong and effective use of teacher aides.

As I think I spoke about recently, the use of teacher aides has been highly effective in giving our learners the best possible start to education. Our commitment to wrapping strong support around our junior students continues to see strong academic growth as students progress through Kimbolton School. Greg

Cluster Athletics

Thanks to so many of you for making this a success. Timona Park turned on great weather and it was fantastic to see our students giving their best, at the different events. Thanks also to the four parents who stepped in and did the adult relay at the end. We will acknowledge our placegetters at assembly on Friday. Students who did place overall on the day are as follows.

5 year old girls

2nd Evie Wyatt

6 year old girls

1st Victoria Edwards

7 year old girls

1st MacKenzie Manley

3rd Violet Cadwallader

8 year old girls

1st Neave Manley

3rd Leah Jenkins

8 year old boys

2nd Okotahi Tiopira

9 year old girls

1st Inka Ofsoski

3rd Evie Merrilees

9 year old boys

3rd Jeziah Mason

10 year old girls

1st Alex Manley

3rd Everlyn McGlashan

10 year old boys

1st Jensen Keates

3rd Sam Tabener

11 year old girls

1st Grace Jenkins

12 year old boys

2nd Quinn McGlashan

KIMBOLTON SCHOOL POOL KEYS AVAILABLE



Keys \$50
Keys available from Wednesday, November 12.
Pool open to public from Monday, November 17.



See Judy in the office or email
office@kimbolton.school.nz



Annual Goals

At the previous board meeting the board signed on our Annual Goals for 2026. These will be on the Website by the start of 2026 but I thought I would highlight some of these for you now.

- We intend to develop a deeper understanding of curriculum areas that are to be in place by 2027.
Science and Pūtaiao
Social Sciences and Te Ao Māori
Health and Physical Education and Waiora
- We will ensure that all Maori are catered for by creating a well rounded, safe environment.
- We will create a Year 7 and 8 programme of difference at Kimbolton School.

It goes without saying these are not the only things that will happen, but are some focus areas for development and implementation through 2026.

Kimbolton School Support Committee

I want to give a big shout-out to everyone who helped with the Cross Hills parking. It was the busiest fair ever held, the traffic kept flowing and the pedestrians crossed safely. So, well done and THANK YOU!

We had school staff, extended family members and a number of families who filled more than 1 spot, and individuals who worked double shifts. Your mahi supports every child at the school in one way or another. Mark 21 November in your diary for next year ;-)

Ngā mihi, Janelle Gillum (KSSC Chairperson)

Swimming

Swimming lessons are going well, and it has been impressive to see parts of Sally's lessons, and the kids' engagement during them.

We are exploring the possibility of offering after school lessons next Year for all of Term 1, 2 and 4.

Unfortunately these would not be school time lessons provided by the school, rather the user pays lessons with Sally, utilizing our wonderful facility.

Aside from Sally's ability as a swimming coach, we see this helping our community drastically reduce their travel time and costs, whilst ensuring their children get quality swimming lessons.

There will be a poll coming out via Hero later this week where you will be asked to just indicate interest in these sessions. If there is interest, then we will work through how these can work. If you wanted to meet with Sally and decide if she was right for your child, she would be happy to catch up with you at some stage.

End of Year Prizegiving

Remember to keep Monday, December 8 free for our end of year prizegiving. The formal aspect will begin at 6.10pm sharp.



Celebrating Success

Well done to Harper, Luke, Madison B and Ashlee-Rose all entered 25m swimming races at the Makino Swimming Carnival on the weekend. All four of them did very well racing against many other children. Well done to each of them.

School Trip

You should have hopefully returned your information for the end of year trip, this coming Tuesday. We apologise for the confusion around the challenging opportunity but the information about that has come out earlier today. The issues arose when staff did the challenging walk and unfortunately there were parts of the track that were very narrow and issues if we slipped off the track, due to the size of the fall.

We look forward to this trip and hope for good weather.



Upcoming Events

Friday, November 28: School Assembly

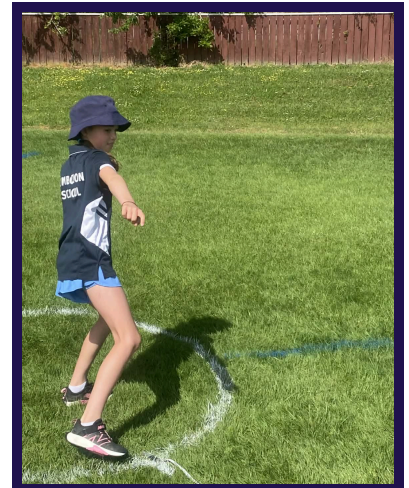
Wednesday, December 3: Year 8 Leavers Dinner

Tuesday, December 2: School trip.

Friday, December 5: School Assembly

Monday, December 8: End of Year Prizegiving.

Tuesday, December 9: Last day of the year. School will finish at 12.15pm.



Prize Giving 2025

Monday, December 8

We would like to extend a warm welcome to those attending our prize giving picnic.

Arrive anytime from 4.30

- Pool will be open.
- Kids can play on the field, or playgrounds.
- Chance for adults to relax.
- This is not a shared meal event, but bring picnic food for your families or group.
- Eat when you're hungry.
- Be seated at 6pm, ready for the formal aspect of the evening.
- There will be tea and coffee available in the staffroom.

FORMAL ASPECT

This will ideally be outside.

- 6.10 Greg to welcome families and students.
- Karakia / Whakatauki
- National Anthem
- Wayne to speak on behalf of the board.
- Song
- Student reflections
- Greg's Speech
- Presentation of Academic Awards. Class teachers to present.
- Presentation of Class WAKA Awards. Class teachers to present.
- Janelle to speak on behalf of KSSC.
- Year 8 Speeches
- Environment Award. Heidi to present.
- Song
- Trophy presentations. Wayne to present.
- Final words from Greg and presentation of the Linda Campbell WAKA Award.

