



Important Dates

2025

JULY

Mon 28-Wed 30 Jnr swimming
Rms 11,17,18,19

AUGUST

Thur 14 –Retell Finals

Fri 15—Teacher Only day,
school closed.

Tue 19-BOT Meeting

SEPTEMBER

Tue 16 –BOT meeting

Wed 17 - School photos

Term Three ends 19
September

Term Four starts 6 October

OCTOBER

Wed 8 Oct - Rm16 Camp

Mon 13 Oct —Rm15 Camp

Wed 15 Oct Rm20 Camp

Sun 19 Oct –Rm2 Camp

Tue 21 Oct –Rm21 Camp

Fri 24 –Teacher Only day –
school closed.

Mon 27 Oct –Labour Day
School closed.

Tue 28-Thur 30 Mid/Snr
Swimming

NOVEMBER

Tue 4-Thurs 6 Mid/Snr
Swimming

Mon 10-Thurs 13 Mid/Snr
Swimming

Tue 25—BOT meeting

DECEMBER

Wed 10 –Merit assemblies held
at Donovan Primary Hall

Thur 11– Yr 6 Day Out and
Graduation at Donovan Primary

Fri 12 - Prizegiving at Donovan
Primary Hall

Term Four ends –Tue 16 Dec.

Public Holidays during term
breaks.

Mon 27 Oct –Labour Day

End of Term—To be advised

Assemblies

Fri 26 July —Whole School
1.30pm.

Fri 1 Aug –Syndicate - Middle/
Senior 1.30pm. Juniors 2.15pm

Fri 8 Aug—Whole School
1.30pm

From the Principal's Desk



Kia Ora, Haere Mai to the first newsletter of Term 3.

Last week we started junior swimming with half of our juniors. They finished on Tuesday with the second half starting on that day. They will finish next week. Thanks for all the help at swimming, we very much appreciate all those extra helping hands. Our learners are loving their time in the pool.

A reminder that on Friday 15 August we will be closed for the first of Ministry of Education Teacher Only day on the new Maths curriculum. The teaching staff will be working with a trained facilitator to learn the content of the new document. Lots of new learning.

Reports go home by email on Friday 8 August. Please look out for these.

Nearly two weeks ago we welcomed Heather Boniface to Donovan. She has started getting a handle on learning the ropes and we are pleased to have her as part of our whanau team.

Ma te wa.

Peter Hopwood
Principal

TEACHER ONLY DAY

School will be closed on Friday 15 August for a Teacher Only Day to enable teachers to continue professional development on the new curriculum.

Some important dates coming up so keep an eye on School Stream.

BOT Elections—Nominations close 12pm Wednesday 6 August.

Retell Finals Thursday 14 August

Teacher Only Days—School Closed—Friday 15 August

Mobile Dental Bus

The mobile dental bus is currently at school and will probably be here for most of the year. They will work their way through seeing all the children at Donovan Primary and preschool siblings. If you have any concerns or need to see them earlier you can contact them on 0272849937. If they don't answer, then please leave a message and they will call you back once they have no patients.

The New Zealand Ministry of Education is currently undertaking a refresh of the national curriculum to ensure it is relevant, fit for purpose and prepares young people for their future. Here are key things parents need to know about these changes:

This will be ongoing for many years-it will continue to evolve and teacher development will also take time as part of the change process. Teachers are working hard incorporating these changes, and as always the needs and interests of your child are at the heart of what they do and classrooms.

The Curriculum is being updated in stages, with new content for English (years 0-6) and Mathematics and Statistics Years (0-8) currently available, Schools have until the beginning of 2027 to fully implement the refreshed national curriculum. The updated curriculum is intended to be more consistent.

For mathematics, the content expected to be taught at each year level has been revised and designed to be internationally comparable. Due to these higher benchmarks in the revised mathematics curriculum, it's possible that your child's initial progress and achievement levels might appear lower as the expectations for what they need to know at each age have increased.

You will continue to receive twice yearly reports on your child's progress in relation to these new learning objectives. Mid and end year reporting is interim until there is more understanding of the curriculum and assessment tools as the government is still looking to release new information and resources to schools.



Congratulations to the children who received the R.E.AL certificates for week nine Term two. There were quite a few absences due to Enrich or sickness.

Rm2 Bailee Buchan
R15 Marco Savory
R16 Isla Silke-France
R20 Zreah Pou
R21 Marlee Moore
R5 Carter McNaught
R6 Theo Nally
R7 Elsie Buchanan
R8 Hadley Hughes
R9 Bronson Ayers
R12 Olivia Stronach
R13 Toby Forbes
R14 Grace McCullough
R17 Fern Dunbar
R18 McKenzie Morton
R19 Larnie Stephens

Please remember the canteen do not make up noodles. If you wish your child to have noodles please make them up and put them into a flash or suitable container that will keep them hot.

Also be careful of the plastic containers that food is coming in as some of the cheap containers melt in the pie-warmers.

Sistema containers seem to be the best with either the vent on top or click clack type fastenings. If the food is suitable, tinfoil works well.

Board of Trustees Elections:

We are holding our triannual Board of Trustee elections this year. All those on the electoral role should have received an email with a covering letter explaining eligibility and a nomination form. Please check your emails junk folder if you have not received it yet. Nominations close at noon on Wednesday 6 August and must be at the office by then. If you require another form either email or collect a hard copy from the office.

NEW STUDENTS

A warm welcome to Utsav Pradhan; James Edgerton; Serena Campbell-Bungard; Harry Edgerton; Oakleigh Hyde; Lachie Little; Cameron Adams; Hadlee Birchfield and Luca Fitzek. We hope that they all enjoy their association with Donovan Primary.



Absences

School Stream App—go to Forms then Absentee Form and complete absence and submit or **text** your absences on 0273 727070—child's first and last name, class and also reason for absence. You can also go to the url on your computer - <https://donovanprimaryschool.myschoolstream.net>



2025

Retell Festival

- * Week 4 beginning Monday 4th August Class selects 2 people
- * Week 5 Tuesday 12th August Syndicates select 3 people for School Finals
- * Week 5 Thursday 14th August **SCHOOL FINALS**



Your job is to prepare and present a retell to an audience.

Retell in *your own words*.



- A story, fable, legend, fairy tale, narrative you are familiar with.

This is not to be a word by word recital of the book.



For more information on the Retell Festival, please refer to the notice posted on School Stream. This will give you the criteria for each group and how to prepare your child. Everyone is expected to have a go.

Humour, actions and props are all aids that can help as well. If your child practices and is prepared, it does make it a bit easier.

We have communicated many times about the major priority of the Government around attendance and being at school on time. This year NZ schools are implementing new procedures, these are to be in place by Term 1 2026. The Government target is for 80% of students to attend regularly, that is to attend school more than 90% of the time.

Good Attendance (Good chance of success)—is less than 5 days absence in a school term.

Worrying Attendance (Less chance of success) is up to 10 days absence in a school term.

Concerning Attendance (Hard to make progress) is up to 15 days absence in a school term.

Serious Concern (Very hard to make progress) is 15 days or more of absence in a school term.

We will communicate with you if your child is at any of the above stages and we will endeavour to work with you to achieve good attendance.

Lateness is electronically recorded and monitored. Of all absence problems, this is by far our biggest concern. Having learners at school, in class by 8.50am is what we need to achieve., A reminder—children are NOT to be dropped off before 8.20am. There is no supervision of care until 8.20am.

Helpful Tips for Minimizing Notifications on School Stream.

We understand that everyone is busy and reading the endless notifications we send out on School Stream can be time consuming. So if it would help, you can thin down the notifications you receive to ones that are relevant. Please read the link below.

Please keep the 'Whole School', 'Newsletters', 'Canteen', 'PTA', 'Community Notices', and relevant syndicate levels as essentials. (Sports folders and any others you select can be hidden). Do not panic, you can retrieve the folder again if your child decides to play sport, or change syndicate or has camp etc. I will post everything to the 'Whole School' folder if relevant for the whole school, but reminders etc will go to the respective folder. If you have not kept that folder, you will not see any notifications posted to it. Sports draws will go straight to the respective sports folder.

If you have not set up your account and try to start this process, School Stream will ask you to set this up first. Just follow the steps and once completed you will be able to hide folders. Have a look at the link and see if this would help.

<https://support.schoolstream.com.au/en/articles/2115370-manage-notifications-and-hide-folders>

Medication

Just a reminder that if you are requiring your child to have any medication administered during school hours, there are a few things we need. (This includes inhalers and cough lozengers)

- All medication must be handed into the office for safe keeping
- If it is a prescription medication, we do require it to be in a container showing the name and dosage on the script label.
- A medical consent form needs to be signed by the caregiver.

We do have a fridge in the medical room if medication needs to be kept cool. If your child has to take medication home each day, perhaps talk with the chemist and they may split the medicine into two containers, one for school and one for home. If medication does need to be taken home after school each day, it is the responsibility of the child to remember to come and collect it.

School Directory

Office phone	03 2159664
Office email	office@donovanprimary.ac.nz
Office cell for texting absences only	0273 727070 (Text only)
School Stream Web version	https://donovanprimarieschool.myschoolstream.net
School Bank account	Donovan Primary B O T 03 1742 0052461 00
PTA Bank account	03 1742 0052744 00
Donovan Primary Website	www.donovanprimary.ac.nz
Principal's email	principal@donovanprimary.ac.nz
School Hours	8.50am –12.30pm, 1.00pm-3.00pm
Entry/Departure times	No entry before 8.20am, collected by 3.15pm
Policies and Procedures	https://donovanprimary.schooldocs.co.nz/ Username: donovanprimary Password: drurylane

Community Notices: Keep an eye on the separate Community Notices for upcoming community events.