



## WELLESLEY COLLEGE: Principal's Welcome to Term 4

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Dear All, Kia Ora Tatōu,

Welcome to the final term of the year! Hopefully you managed some rest and family time during the short break. Christa, my three girls and I enjoyed a few quiet days together at home, and now I am looking forward to embarking on new adventures with the boys as we begin to enjoy the longer summer days in this special place between the bush and the sea.

As you know, the last term is always one of the busiest! Exciting times are ahead, with trips up north for the choir, the annual Battle of the Bands, sports fixtures including athletics day, a focus on public speaking for our boys in Years 5 - 8, and preparations for our first NASA Space Camp trip. I am particularly excited about this new initiative as I love science! The Camp is an opportunity for selected students to visit and experience NASA first hand.

### **RollCall - Wellesley's new bus safety app**

You will have recently received an email checking your son(s) travelling requirements. We will clarify and check this data in coming weeks in preparation for implementing a new bus safety app, RollCall - Wellesley will be the first school in New Zealand to use this system.

In essence, each child will be issued with a smartcard and by tapping on and off the bus you, and us, will be able to monitor your son's journeys.

This Australian (sorry!) system, will greatly enhance our awareness of travelling students on all trips - whether it be to and from school, day excursions, or camps. It allows parents complete transparency of where the boys are. Just like you, the boys are the most important focus for us at Wellesley. We love having them here and know the bus trip can be a worry for you and them, especially for our little ones. I am reassured that this new system, just like the digital safety app FamilyZone, will be a continuum of creating safe and happy environments for the boys as they travel to and from school.

If you missed my letter in the holidays regarding this new system, it is attached, and should you like to read more about the system, you can find more information here: [RollCall](#).

### Growing the Wellesley family

Some of you may be aware that over the last year we have successfully hosted many families interested in sending their sons to Wellesley at our [Discovery Days](#), where they can see the school in action. Many of those are now part of our Wellesley family, and we continue to host Discovery Days, the next one taking place on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November**.

For those interested in Wellesley, but unable to attend during the working week, we are hosting two **Wellesley Information Evenings** in the community - one in Heretaunga and one in Karori. If you know of anyone interested in finding out more about our wonderful school, they are welcome to email: [office@wellesley.school.nz](mailto:office@wellesley.school.nz)

### Catching up with you, the Principal's Pen and other news

It will be fantastic to have a relaxed catch up with you at the Parent's Drinks at Dillinger's on Lambton Quay from 5.30pm on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. I look forward to seeing you then. If you haven't already, you can [RSVP here](#).

Later this term, as is customary every two years, we will be sending out our **Parent Survey** to get important feedback from you on you and your son's experience of Wellesley. We value your input as it helps shape the direction of our school. We would be grateful for your participation in this.

A celebration of all the boys, staff and volunteers did to contribute to the rich fabric of Wellesley in Term 3, can be found in the Principal's Pen here: [Term 3 Principal's Pen](#). Please take time to read this newsletter.

For those interested, a summary of the Arts and well-being focus at Wellesley can be found in this link to a news article: [Well-being at Wellesley](#)

And don't forget to check out our new [Wellesley website](#) and vibrant [Facebook](#). You are all also hopefully receiving the *Wellesley Weekly* email from Karen in the office, your class teacher weekly updates and have access to SeeSaw (to peek into your son's world of learning). This will keep you up-to-date with our numerous events and life on the beautiful Wellesley campus set between the bush and the sea.

Ngā mihi nui,

**Brendan Pitman**

*Principal*

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**DISCOVER YOUR BEST**

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