



Postgate School Newsletter Term 2: Week 1 2025

To Create Life-Long Learners

We will promote life-long learning in our children by developing their social, intellectual, emotional, and physical skills in a creative and caring environment.

🎒 ✨ **New Term, New Energy** ✨ 🎒

"This new term isn't just a fresh start for the kids—it's a chance for parents to keep showing up with love, patience, and an unstoppable belief."

💪 ❤️ **#BackToSchool #ParentPower #NewTermNewGoals**

Kia ora mai anō tātou katoa whānau,

Welcome back to Term 2—a nine-week term with two public holidays. It will fly by! A warm welcome to all the new students and families who joined us at this morning's pōwhiri.

🧠 Professional Learning and Development (PLD)

This term, many of our teachers are taking part in PLD. Please note, there will be some days when your child's teacher will be out of the classroom.

Teachers in Years 4–8 are undertaking in-depth learning through the University of Canterbury to strengthen their understanding of the *Better Start Literacy Approach (BSLA)*, already in place in Years 1–3.

You may also be aware that the Ministry of Education is rolling out a *Curriculum Refresh*—a new direction for how we teach and measure progress. Teachers are actively engaging with these changes, and at the end of Term 2, you'll hear more about your child's progress in relation to the refreshed curriculum during our **Learning Conversations**.

Key Dates – Term 2

- **Wednesday 28 May** – Pio Terei Parenting Evening, 5pm in the hall
(Please note the change of date!)
- **Monday 2 June** – King's Birthday – School closed
- **Friday 20 June** – Matariki – School closed

Kelvin Harper and Adam Smith have shared details via HERO, and information is attached to this newsletter. If you have any concerns, please contact Kelvin directly.

Crazy Colour Fun Run – Thank You!

A massive thank you for your support last term!

From the Colour Run alone, we raised **\$24,115**, with **Postgate School receiving \$14,469 (60%)**.

- 30% went towards prizes
- 10% was a commission to the company

From raffles, food sales, face painting, bracelet-making, and more, you raised an additional \$5,343 plus an extra \$2k from the Wellington Phoenix.

Grand total: \$21, 620! (minus expenses) Tu meke, whānau.

Thanks to your generosity, we can continue investing in extra resources for our children.

Pasifika Parents Fono

Wednesday 14 May – 6pm – Staffroom

Please join us for our Pasifika Fono. AupaŪ Hana Tusa, Lead Advisor Pacific Engagement & Education (Ministry of Education), will join us to discuss priorities and answer your questions around *attendance and achievement*.

Positive Parenting Evening with Pio Terei

Wednesday 28 May – 5pm – Hall - Please note the change of date.

This is a *free event* for our families, proudly funded by the school.

Pio Terei shares practical parenting advice in his trademark, humorous style—offering relatable stories and easy-to-remember tips for everyday challenges. Uplifting, non-judgmental, and encouraging—you won't want to miss this!

Attendance – Our Focus This Term

This term, we're taking a firmer stance on attendance—because it truly matters.

Every day missed is a missed opportunity to learn, grow, and stay connected.

Here's what we've noticed:

- 12 students had attendance below 70%. 9 of them did not start their schooling at Postgate.
- 30 students had attendance below 80%, with only 6 having valid reasons.
- 82 students had attendance below 90%, missing more than 5 days last term.

By ethnicity:

- 36 Māori students

- 16 Samoan students
- 10 NZ European students

By year level:

- 33 students in Years 1–3 (critical learning years)
- 32 in Years 4–6
- 17 in Years 7–8

Whole-school statistics:

- **Postgate's daily attendance rate:** 92%
- **Lowest day:** Friday (90%)
- **Highest year-level rate:** Year 6 (93%)
- **Lowest:** Year 2 (89%)
- **Māori:** 89% | **Samoan:** 92% | **NZ European:** 93%
- **Females:** 90% | **Males:** 92%

While 76% of students attend more than 90% of the time (up from 69% last year!), a small group (14 students) are tracking to miss over a term this year—with limited valid reasons.

We want to stress: **regular attendance is vital**. When kids fall behind early, it becomes much harder to catch up. In the near future, families may face fines for unjustified absences.

Let's continue to work together to ensure every child is here, ready to learn.

Winter Sports Season

Thank you to every parent who's stepped up to coach, manage, or support a team at school or in the community. It's not always an easy job, but your contribution matters hugely.

There are four roles in sport:

- Player
- Coach
- Official
- *Positive Spectator*

Let's each focus on our role and bring our best energy. And as I often told my son growing up:

"One job, son. Don't be an egg."

Ordering lunch: Subway on Wednesdays and Sushi on Fridays (order online via the HERO app) If you are unsure how to do this, please ask

SchoolDocs: A reminder that our policies are on SchoolDocs.

To log in to school docs, go to - postgate.schooldocs.co.nz

User name: postgate

Password: pride

Uniform Prices: Our current uniform prices are \$30 for polo tops and **\$55 for school hoodies**; the hoodies were \$70.

Thank you for your support of Postgate School.

Maururu kotahi ano koutou mo to koutoa tautoko o Postgate School.

Term Dates 2025

Term 2 – Monday 28th April – 27 June

(Kings Birthday - 2nd June;

Matariki - 20th June)

Term 3 – Monday 14th July – 19th September

Term 4 – Monday 6th October – Friday 12th December

(Grandparents/Special Persons Day - 24th October

Labour Day - 27th October)

Term 2 Calendar 2025

| | 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 | 2 |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | Day 1 Term 2 Powhiri - 9:15pm Pedal Ready for the next 4 weeks -Years 4-8 | | | | |
| 2 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| | | | | | |
| 3 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| | Board of Trustees meeting - 5pm | | Pasifika Parents Fono - 6pm | | |
| 4 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| | | | Endeavour Trip | Endeavour Trip | Family Merit Assembly |
| 5 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| | | | St Johns First Aid - Catch up sessions An Evening with Pio - Positive Whanau's - 5pm - | St Johns First Aid - Catch up sessions | |

| | | | | | |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| | | | School hall | | |
| | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 6 | Kings Birthday - No school Gagana Samoa Language Week | | BLAKE NZVR | BLAKE NZVR | |
| | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 7 | | | | | |
| | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 8 | Board of Trustees Meeting - 5pm | | | | Matariki - No school |
| | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 9 | | | Art Exhibition Learning Conversations | Art Exhibition Learning Conversations | Family Merit Assembly End of Term 2 |



“Together, We Learn and Achieve”

**“Ma te mahi ngatahi,
ka tu pakari te matauranga”**

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