



# Devon Intermediate

*Sailing towards an Attitude of Excellence*



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# Devon Intermediate School Newsletter

5 December 2023

Kia ora whanau

Our last newsletter for 2023, and I would like to thank all our whanau and school community for their support this year.

2023 has been a year of multiple highlights but my favourite was our EOTC week. The weather was amazing, and it was fantastic to see our students out in our region being physically active and learning in the process.

As with any end of year in a school, we have staff moving on next year. We are saying farewell to Mrs Young and Ms Orme at the end of next week. Both have been in the school for quite a few years now and have made an amazing contribution to the school and the lives of our tamariki. We wish them all the best in their future endeavours. Mr Pahi and Miss Mercer are moving to Japan to teach English and I know they are going to relish the new opportunities this move will bring. Mr D-W is retiring and will now have the opportunity to expand his amazing garden at home. Hopefully we will still see him when we need a reliever. Miss Feaunati is moving to teach Drama at Spotswood College which means our amazing students who are going to Spotswood, will still be in contact with her. Miss Mott and Mrs Flynn are also leaving us to explore other opportunities. My thanks to all these staff who have been an important part of Devon Intermediate.

Next week we will be welcoming many of our new staff for 2024 with a powhiri. Our new staff includes Mrs Thorburn from Spotswood Primary who will be one of our new Deputy Principals, along with Mrs Brookes who is stepping up into the role. We will also be welcoming new teachers to the school, Mr Kwangwari, Mr McComb and Mrs Taylor will be re-joining us as our Digital Technology Teacher and Tech Team leader. Miss Young who was with us earlier this year, is also re-joining us for 2024.

Congratulations to Adele Collins and Melissa Wildbore who were recently elected to the Devon Intermediate School Board of Trustees.

I would like to express my thanks to Nicola Marsh, Tim Biesiek and Ivan Pihama for their work on the Board of Trustees as all 3 will be leaving at the end of this year. Nicola has been on the Board for 17 years and her commitment to the students and whanau of Devon Intermediate has been outstanding.

Next week we have our prizegiving events. On Wednesday at 2pm we have our minor prizegiving, and Thursday our major prizegiving starts at 11.00am. We ask that whanau be seated by 10.45am with the prizegiving concluding by 12pm at which point all students will be released.

This Friday we have our final MANA Day for all eligible students.

A reminder that 2024 Pathway and Planning meetings will be held prior to the start of the 2024 school year, and I would encourage everyone to meet with their child's 2024 teacher so the child, whanau and teacher can set some goals for 2024 and meet each other. Bookings can be made for either Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January or Monday 29<sup>th</sup>



Devon Intermediate School  
Te Kura Takawaenga o Ngāmotu

## DATES TO NOTE

**Thursday 7th  
December**  
Year 8  
Graduation Ball

**Friday 8th  
December**  
MANA Reward Day

**Wednesday 13th  
December**  
Minor Prizegiving  
At 2pm

**Thursday 14th  
December**  
Major Prizegiving  
At 11am  
Last day for the year

**Friday 26th  
January**  
Planning and Path-  
ways meetings

**Monday 29th  
January**  
Planning and Path-  
ways meetings

**Wednesday 31st  
January**  
First day of Term  
One

January using the Skool Loop app or by ringing the school office on 758 5266. Reports and letters detailing next years teacher for our current Year 7 students, will be sent home this Thursday.

The first day of school for 2024 is Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January and I would ask that all Year 8 students meet in the hall by 8.40am to prepare for the powhiri at 9am. All Year 7 students and whanau coming to support them, need to meet on the tennis courts by 8.40am. We do have a Teacher Only Day on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February with Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> being Waitangi Day and a public holiday.

If you have any uniform items you could donate to the school, could you please drop them at school by Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December. The school office will be closing at 2pm on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December and re-opening Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January from 8.30am - 2pm for any second-hand uniform items to be dropped off, second hand uniform purchases, pathway and planning meeting bookings or late enrolments.

Finally, thanks to all my staff and we wish you a Merry Christmas, an amazing New Year, and we look forward to seeing you in 2024.

Nga mihi,



Jenny Gellen  
Principal

#### GRADUATION BALL

The Year 8 Graduation Ball is fast approaching on Thursday with decorations being made, dances being learned and menu being devised. We have already booked the lighting and photo booth for the evening and are looking forward to a fantastic night to help farewell and celebrate our wonderful Year 8 students.

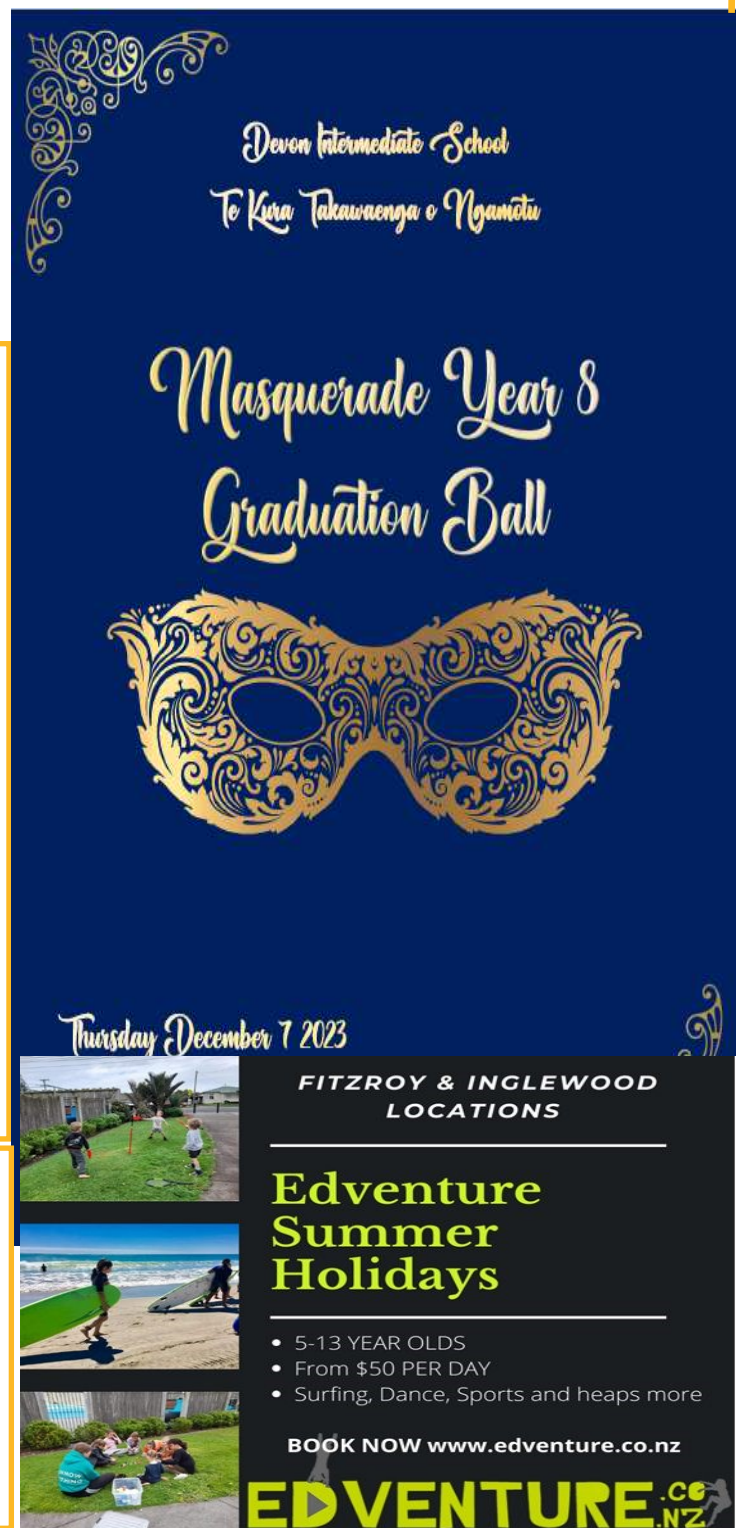
Parents are welcome to attend the first portion of the evening beginning at 6.30pm with your student and then leave them to dance the night away.

Any questions, please contact Mrs Brookes [dbrookes@devonint.school.nz](mailto:dbrookes@devonint.school.nz)

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Devon Intermediate School  
Te Kura Takawaenga o Ngamotu

# Masquerade Year 8 Graduation Ball



Thursday December 7 2023

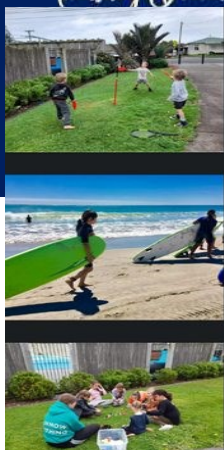
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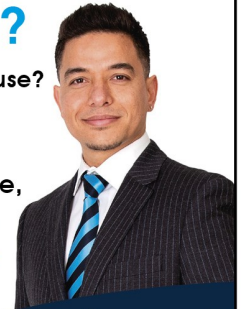
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