



# Devon Intermediate

*Sailing towards an Attitude of Excellence*



400 Devon Street West, New Plymouth

Telephone: 06 758 5266

e-mail: [office@devonint.school.nz](mailto:office@devonint.school.nz) | <http://www.devonint.school.nz>

# Devon Intermediate School Newsletter

4<sup>th</sup> February 2026

## Kia ora and welcome to the 2026 school year!

It was wonderful to see so many parents, caregivers, and whānau at our pōwhiri on Monday—a truly special way to begin the year. We're really looking forward to working in partnership with you to ensure your child's time at Devon Intermediate is positive, rewarding, and memorable.

We are thrilled to welcome several new staff members to the Devon whānau this year. Please join me in warmly welcoming Shaquille Titter (Room 9), Sarah Jamieson (Room 10), Heather Jull (Room 13), Belle Symon (Room 18), Grace Jackson (Room 20), Bianca Glockler (Room 22), and Colleen Fawkner, who joins us as our new Learning Support Coordinator.

We also share some lovely personal news—congratulations to Floyd Pahi and Jenna Mercer on the arrival of their baby girl, and to Danielle Roberts, who has welcomed a baby boy.

Some important housekeeping, our school pool is now open, and swimming is part of the programme, so please ensure your child brings their togs and a towel on their allocated swimming day. School finishes at 2.30pm on Tuesdays to allow for staff professional development, and for safety reasons, students should arrive after 8.00am, with classrooms opening at 8.15am.

As the weather warms up, please send your child with a named water bottle and ensure they wear a school hat during morning tea and lunch.

If you need to see your child or a teacher during the school day, please sign in at the office so we can help keep our school safe and secure.

Please note there is no school this Friday, 6 February (Waitangi Day). We hope you enjoy a restful long weekend with your whānau. The Devon Street driveway becomes very busy at the end of the day. Please drive slowly and consider parking on Lorna Street or at Lynmouth Park where possible—student safety always comes first.

We're looking for whānau to join our Parent Link group and to help run a simple weekly canteen (pre-ordered pies!). If you have a little time to spare, we'd really appreciate your support.



## DATES TO NOTE

**6<sup>th</sup> February**  
Waitangi Day

**9<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> February**  
Beach  
Education days

**19<sup>th</sup> February**  
Whanau  
Welcome  
BBQ

**20<sup>th</sup> February**  
TEACHER  
ONLY DAY

**23<sup>rd</sup> February**  
School Photos -  
Photolife

## Coming up

### Week 2 (9–11 February): Beach Education

Students will attend full-day beach education sessions at Fitzroy and East End, led by qualified surf lifeguards. Thanks to the Tū Manawa Active Fund, this valuable water safety programme comes at no cost to families.

To make this possible, we need adult volunteers (18+) to support us over the three days. If you can help at all, we'd love to hear from you.

### Week 3: (19 February) Whānau Connect Event (4.00–6.00pm)

Join us for a relaxed whānau evening of food, games, and fun. Bring a picnic, spread out on the field, and enjoy some friendly competition. Kai will also be available for purchase.

### Week 3: (20 February) Teacher Only Day

We're excited for the year ahead. Please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher, the Senior Leadership Team, or the office if you have any questions.

Ngā mihi nui

Jenn Thorburn

Acting Principal/Tumuaki

### Inter Intermediate Surfing Competition Wednesday March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026



Registrations At 9am - Start Time 9:30am

ENTRY: \$5 per student, payable as you register on the day.  
No eftpos available.

Each competing school group must appoint a manager, responsible for the supervision of students.

COMPETITORS SHOULD BE COMPETENT SURFERS: ALL LEVELS WELCOME.  
The structure of the Competition will be determined by the number of entries on the day.

Please email a list of competitors by Friday 27th February to Mrs Thorburn.  
[principal@devonint.school.nz](mailto:principal@devonint.school.nz)

Year 7 Girls, Year 7 Boys, Year 8 Girls, Year 8 Boys

Run with the support of Surfing Taranaki and the NP Surf riders Club.



 **MAKEROOM**  
Taranaki



## STEM CLUB

Weekly Classes For Young Makers Aged 8-13

Now @ Spotswood College, New Plymouth

Small Group Sizes With An Ongoing Programme That Builds Knowledge And Skills

Electronics, Coding, Woodwork, CAD, Robotics, Arduino, And More...



Now Booking Term 1 2026:  
email: [rick@makeroom.co.nz](mailto:rick@makeroom.co.nz)  
ph: 02902390758  
Web: <https://makeroomwellington.nz>  
FB: [facebook.com/MakeroomTaranaki](https://facebook.com/MakeroomTaranaki)



