

CHERTSEY SCHOOL

Newsletter 9
Friday 11th September 2026

Chertsey School

Kia ora e te whānau o Chertsey School



What an amazing couple of weeks it has been at Chertsey School! Our tamariki have certainly been showing that being part of a small school does not limit the size of the opportunities available to them or what they can achieve.

We were incredibly proud of Airom, who represented Chertsey School at the Year 5/6 Rotary Speech Competition and came away as the overall winner! Competing against students from much larger schools, Airom spoke with confidence and represented our school beautifully. It was a very special moment to see Chertsey School's name on the trophy for the first time.

On Monday, our Miniball season got underway, with our boys playing their first grading games in their brand-new Chertsey uniforms. It has been fantastic to see the enthusiasm for basketball growing at our school. Our children have been practising regularly and were very proud to finally pull on their uniforms and represent Chertsey on the court.

While Room 3 was exploring Auckland, Room 1 had an adventure of their own, heading into Christchurch for a fantastic day at Ninja Valley and Imagination Station. Our younger tamariki had a wonderful opportunity to explore, create, challenge themselves and enjoy a special day beyond the classroom.

On Tuesday, Room 3 headed to Auckland for our City Camp. What an experience! Our tamariki travelled by plane and spent several action-packed days exploring some of the incredible opportunities Auckland has to offer. From Kelly Taltons, Mission Bay, Zoo, Sky Tower, and MOTAT, Wētā Workshop and other city experiences, there was plenty of excitement, learning, courage and laughter along the way. For most of our children, these were completely new experiences, and it was wonderful watching them challenge themselves, grow in confidence and make memories together.We were also extremely proud that our City Camp was fully inclusive, ensuring every child had the opportunity to participate and experience camp alongside their classmates.

A very special thank you must also go to our wonderful parent helpers, Safaa and Hayley, who gave their time and energy to support us throughout camp. We are also extremely grateful to our outstanding staff Nin, Chloe and Emma, whose care, commitment and hard work helped make the camp such a success and ensured it was an experience in which every child could fully participate.

Experiences such as these don't happen without an enormous amount of support behind the scenes. Our Auckland City Camp was made possible through the ongoing support of our parents, whānau and wider community, who have supported our fundraising throughout the year. Every fundraiser you buy from, help organise or contribute to helps us provide opportunities like these for our children. Thank you.

There have been so many moments over the past couple of weeks that have made us proud to be Chertsey School. Whether standing on a stage, stepping onto a basketball court, flying to Auckland, navigating a big city or taking on a Ninja Valley challenge, our children continue to show us what they are capable of.

Small school. Big dreams. Big opportunities. We are very proud of our Chertsey Champs.



Claire Maria Tumuaki/Principal

Chertsey School

Term 3 Key Dates	
Friday 11th September	Newsletter 9
Tues 15th & Wed 16th Sept	Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences
Friday 18th Sept	Book Character Parade 2pm Assembly 2.30pm
Mon 21st - Fri 25th Sept	Swim Week at EA Networks
Friday 25th September	Last Day of Term 3 - Mufti Day Gold Coin for Nepal
Term 4 Key Dates	
Monday 12th October	First Day of Term 4
Thursday 15th October	Athletics at Netherby School
Friday 16th October	Chertsey Quiz Night
Wednesday 21st October	Board Meeting 5.30pm
Thursday 22nd October	School Photos
Friday 23rd October	Pet Day at Dorie School
Monday 26th October	Labour Day - No School
Monday 2nd November	Life Education with Harold
Thursday 12 November	Staff Only Day - No School
Friday 13th November	Canterbury Anniversary - No School
Wednesday 25th November	Board Meeting 5.30pm
Tuesday 1st December	Whole School Top Team at Wakanui School
Friday 4th December	End of Year Reports Published on HERO
Tuesday 8th December	End of Year Prizegiving and BBQ
Thursday 10th December	House of Bricks @Chertsey School
Friday 11th December	Last day of School - Finish at 12.30pm

2027 Dates

Term 1 (10 weeks)
Starts Monday 1st February and ends Friday 9 April 2027
Public holidays: Waitangi Day – Saturday 6 February observed on Monday 8 February, Good Friday – 26 March, Easter Monday – 29 March, Easter Tuesday – 30 March (a school holiday).
Term 2 (10 weeks)
Tuesday 27 April to Friday 2 July 2027
Public holidays: King's Birthday – Monday 7 June, Matariki – Friday 25 June.
Term 3 (10 weeks)
Monday 19 July to Friday 24 September 2027
Term 4 (10 weeks)
Monday 11 October to Wednesday 15 December 2027
Public holiday: Labour Day – Monday 25 October. Friday 12th November - Canterbury Anniversary Day

Chertsey School

NINJA VALLEY AND IMAGINATION STATION



We had a fantastic day out in Christchurch this week! The children were very excited to hop on the bus and head off for a day of adventure.

Our first stop was Ninja Valley, where the children had lots of fun challenging themselves on the ninja obstacles, climbing, jumping and testing their balance and strength. There were plenty of smiles and lots of encouragement as they tackled the different challenges.

We then headed to Imagination Station, where the children got creative with a range of hands-on building activities. Our Year 2 and 3 children took part in a race challenge, working together to quickly build a variety of different creations and complete challenges. Our Year 0 and 1 children enjoyed using the building materials to create different colours, patterns, shapes, animals and towers. It was great to see the children using their creativity, problem-solving skills and teamwork.

It was a busy day, and we definitely had some tired children on the bus ride home!

Chertsey School

Here's what some of the children had to say about their day:

On Wednesday, Room One went to Ninja Valley and Imagination Station. When we were on the bus everyone was so excited. When we were at Ninja Valley we happily explored the place and excitedly ran to the ball pits. Helene called us over and we went to the ninja climbing ropes where you get a waist band and a helmet. At Imagination Station we got challenges. At the end, Sam and I had the most points. - Airah

On Wednesday, we went to Ninja Valley and Imagination Station. At Imagination Station we did a challenge where we had to do what was on the note out of legos. Red team won but everyone tried. - James

On Wednesday, we went to Ninja Valley and Imagination Station because Room 3 was in Auckland. We got on the bus. I sat next to noisy Sam because she has never been to Ninja Valley, but I have. When we got there we had some tasty morning tea, then listened to the safety instructions. My favourite thing was the climbing walls because I got to the top of every wall I climbed. - Kate

First, we went to Ninja Valley. I went to the blue slide. I went quickly down the slide. At Imagination Station I was building a tall tower happily. It was 100 centimeters. - Aizack

On Wednesday, we went to Ninja Valley and it was very fun! I went on the high ropes. Trust me it was amazing. Also, I went on the big slides. There were two big slides. One you need a sack and the second slide you need a donut. It was very scary. I bravely went down both of the slides. - Manraj

I went to Ninja Valley and Imagination Station to have so much fun, learn, and play. I tried the impossible climbing game carefully, bravely, and slowly. Mia and I jumped on the trampolines. It was very exciting. Next I went to Imagination Station to do all the challenges. - Saif

At Ninja Valley I went on the trampoline and the ball pit. Eli and I had pizza for lunch. We ate it quickly. - Piper












VALLEY

















The best activity at camp was the Wētā Workshop. I was excited because we were going to the Slaughterhouse.

First, we walked through the Slaughterhouse, where there were horrible creatures and scary music. We went through a really tight space where it got creepier than I expected. We walked past more scary things while listening to the horrible music.

Next, I saw striped pigs and bodies hanging from the ceiling. They looked so realistic that they felt like real bodies and pigs! We walked through a snake-like area where we could hear screaming and shouting. One scream was so loud that I nearly jumped onto Hunter's back!

I will remember the Wētā Workshop because it was so funny when I got jump-scared. It was definitely one of the scariest and funniest activities at camp!

By Airom







Wētā Workshop

The best activity at camp was the Wētā Workshop. I was excited because we were going to see a castle.

First, we were shown a room with a man sleeping who was supposed to be working for a movie. Next, we saw him eight times bigger, and this time he was awake! Finally, we got to see the castle from the movie, which had been made much bigger. We also found a cave with a dragon and a meat-eater camp.

I will remember the Wētā Workshop because of the amazing scale of everything. It was incredible to see how small things could be made so much bigger for movies.

By Ben









Mōtū Moana Camp - Flying Fox

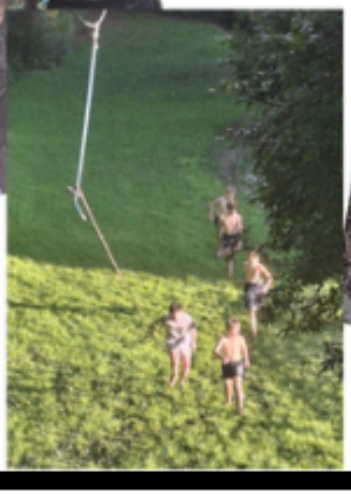
The best activity at camp was the flying fox! I was excited because we got to get super muddy. Diving into the wet, mushy grass puddle we made was so much fun. I loved getting muddy.

First, we walked down the path to the flying fox. Next, we went on the flying fox and then ran back through the muddy grass to give it to the next person. Finally, when we got off the flying fox, we decided to roll around in the muddy puddle and got super muddy!

I will remember this activity because it was so much fun getting muddy with my friends. It was one of the best parts of camp!

By Bernard







Auckland Zoo

The best activity at camp was the zoo because I pushed Karlos around in his wheelchair. I was excited because I got to see the dinosaur section.

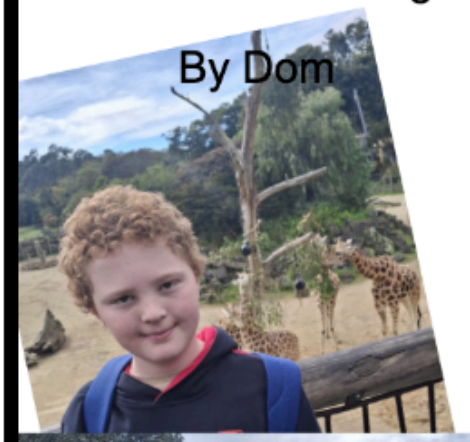
First, we got into our groups. I was with Airom and Karlos.

Next, we saw the giraffes, zebras and white rhinos.

Finally, we saw the dinosaurs. Karlos and I got so scared by the dinosaurs!

I will remember the zoo because I had lots of fun with my friends and got to see so many amazing animals.

By Dom







Wētā Workshop

The best activity at camp was the Wētā Workshop. I was excited because there were a whole bunch of real movie props and sculptures. There were also giant animatronics, like Jeff the security guard, and so many secret doors and pathways to explore.

Next, we went into a big laboratory-looking room with motion sensors that could control faces and huge avatars from movies. The third room was my favourite because it was a creepy slaughterhouse with pigs hanging from the ceiling and the sound of blood dripping. There was also a giant rubber throat-like tunnel that we had to squeeze through.

Finally, I really enjoyed this activity because it's a really cool job and we got to see things that we would never normally see at home. The best part had to be seeing the giant robot at the end and making the special effects that looked incredibly real and scary.

Overall, Wētā Workshop was the coolest, scariest and most exciting activity I have ever experienced!

By James







Wētā Workshop

The best part of camp was the Wētā Workshop. I was excited because we got to paint realistic scars on our hands and arms.

First, we practised using play dough to create different types of scars. Next, we used silicone to make our scars. Finally, we used black, dark red and light red paint to make them look realistic. We flicked the paintbrush to create a cool effect.

I will remember this activity because the scars looked so realistic. It was fun and exciting to create them!

By Grace



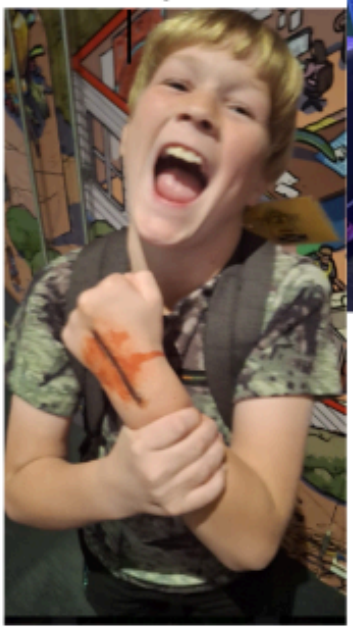
Wētā Workshop

The best activity at camp was the Wētā Workshop because we explored the magic behind lots of movies and films. Airom got so scared that he scared me too!

Next, we explored where the Wētā creatures actually came from. I think they came from space, and some people would agree with me while others would not. Who knows?

Finally, I will remember this activity because we got to go to the Sky Tower and scare people with our realistic scars. We also had an amazing view from the top. It was so much fun!

By Hunter







Wētā Workshop

The best activity at camp was the Wētā Workshop. I was excited because there were two sections: the Scars and Scrapes workshop and the Unleashed tour. I was a little scared during the Unleashed tour because there was a slaughterhouse with pigs hanging from the roof. It was crazy!

Next, we learned so much about the movies they have made. My favourite part was the slaughterhouse. I thought we would see the monster, but we didn't. At the end, Airom jumped so high he almost went through the roof! It was so funny.

Finally, we did the Scars and Scrapes workshop. The scars looked real and realistic. It was short but lots of fun!

Overall, Wētā Workshop was one of my favourite activities at camp.

By Harlyn







Auckland Zoo

The best part of camp was visiting Auckland Zoo, in my opinion, because the lions were just sitting back and relaxing. I was most excited to see the white rhinos because there are only around 16,000 to 17,500 of them left in the world.

Next, I thought I was dreaming when I discovered that Auckland Zoo had one of the three types of sea snakes they have cared for. Her name was Weherua, a yellow-lipped sea krait. She was found underweight and dehydrated on Takapuna Beach in December 2022.

Finally, I really enjoyed the zoo because we got to see lions, white rhinos, kiwis and many other amazing animals. There were over 2,800 animals and 130 different species.

I will remember Auckland Zoo because I learned so many interesting facts about animals and got to see some incredible creatures up close.

By Isaac



Wētā Workshop

The best activity was the Wētā Workshop. I was excited because the tour guide showed us the secrets of how movies are made. Some of the movies he taught us about were really old movies that I had never heard of before.

Next, we went through a scary part called the slaughterhouse. What I saw in the slaughterhouse was insane! I saw hanging guts, dead pigs and even a dead human. It was really scary!

Finally, I liked the Wētā Workshop because we got to touch things and make stuff, like swords and roses out of tinfoil. I made a rose and Airom made a sword.

I will remember this activity because my friends and I had lots of fun making the scars, exploring the slaughterhouse and learning about movies and creative inventors. It was an awesome experience!

By Sara





What an adventure! From the excitement of boarding the plane to exploring Auckland, our Chertsey camp was packed with fun, laughter and plenty of memorable moments.

There was truly something for everyone. We explored the underwater world at Kelly Tarlton's, discovered the incredible creativity of Wētā Workshop, took in the spectacular views from the Sky Tower and enjoyed the animals and exhibits at Auckland Zoo and MOTAT. Of course, no camp would be complete without a little mud! While some of us watched from the sidelines, the kids had an absolute blast on the flying fox and returned looking like they had been swimming in a mud bath!

One of my favourite parts was simply seeing the children enjoying themselves, trying new things, supporting each other and making memories with their friends. From sharing meals and enjoying ice cream at the Sky Tower to our hilarious talent show, there was never a dull moment.

The three days seemed to fly by, and before we knew it, we were back at the airport heading home. It was fast, furious and so much fun!

A huge thank you to the amazing Chertsey School team for making this experience possible. I feel very lucky to have been part of such a wonderful camp and know it is an experience I will never forget.

Emma







CHERTSEY SCHOOL PRESENTS

QUIZ NIGHT

FRIDAY 16TH OCTOBER

R18 EVENT

At CHERTSEY HALL

Doors open 6:00 PM | Quiz Begins 7:00 PM

PRIZES, RAFFLES & AUCTIONS

TICKET

$50 PER TEAM OF 4

SUPPER PROVIDED

LICENSED BAR

EFTPOS AVAILABLE

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO NEW BIKES AND HELMETS FOR OUR SCHOOL.

Find us on Facebook to Register

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Thank you to those members of the community that have contributed to our school through Fuel for Schools and Fern NZ. The funding from this initiative means that our school can redeem from a range of sports, technology, literacy, music and vegepod packages which will be hand delivered by our local Rural Sales Manager.
Our school has been nominated by these local businesses/farms that receives bulk fuel deliveries from Fern. For every 100 litres of bulk fuel they purchase, 50 cents is donated to our school.
Thank you from Chertsey School!

- **GF & AJ Biggs**
- **Hewson Farms (NZ) Ltd - Potato Sheds**
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