

SPS Year 7-8 Newsletter

Term Four, 2026



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome to Term 4!

Welcome to the final term of an extremely busy year! Term 4 is always an exciting time in the Senior Syndicate as we prepare to send our Year 8 students off to High School, while preparing our Year 7 students for the big step up next year. Our big events this term include swimming sports, triathlon, senior social, our formal assembly and the Big Day Out in New Plymouth.

As this is our Summer term, all students are required to have sun hats and drink bottles. Our summer hours also mean that school finishes at 2:55pm.

This term we have swimming each Monday from Weeks 1 to 9 at the town pools. Students will need goggles, togs, and a towel. We will not be contacting families if gear has been forgotten so please check on Sunday nights. The swimming timetable for this term is:

12.00-12.30, Room 1
12.30 -1.00, Room 2
1.00 - 1.30, Room 3
1.30 - 2.00, Room 4

Our Pākiki focus this term will be on Earth's subsystems. This will link with our writing and reading programmes.

In Week 5, our Year 8 students who are going to Stratford High School next year have a transition day. They will spend the day at the High School following a Year 9 student around to become familiar with how things work.

Our sporting opportunities this term include Touch Rugby, Swimming Sports, and the Senior School Triathlon, we also have students participating in the Rugby final on Friday 23 October.

The Senior Social is always a popular event in the calendar. This year we have Social in Week 9 on Thursday December 10. We will start practising for this early in the term so everyone is ready to waltz the night away! More information is on the back of this newsletter. We ask students to dress formally for this event. Year 7 students are asked to bring a plate of food to share.

In the last week of term, we have our Big Day Out. The Senior Syndicate will bus into New Plymouth, spend the day at the aquatic centre, and enjoy pizza for lunch! Our Big Day Out this year will be on Monday 14 December.

Our teaching team for Term 4 are:

Room 1 = Mr Zeylemaker: finnz@sps.kiwi.nz

Room 2 = Ms Todd: jot@sps.kiwi.nz

Room 3 = Miss Chubb: angelac@sps.kiwi.nz

Room 4 = Ms Taylor: suzannet@sps.kiwi.nz

Room 3 and 4 support, Team Leader = Mr King: garethk@sps.kiwi.nz

Week 1: 12-16 October

Monday: Swimming starts

Tuesday: Powhiri for new families

Week 2: 19-23 October

Friday: Linkhorn Rugby final at S.P.S.

Week 3: 26-30 October

Monday: Labour day

Wednesday: Puanga Festival - Teina

Friday: Puanga Festival - Roopu

Week 4: 2-6 November

Friday: Gumboot Friday

Week 5: 9-13 November

Friday: Year 8 orientation day to S.H.S

Week 6: 16-20 November

Wednesday: Camp parent helper evening

Thursday: Athletics champs at TET in Inglewood

Friday: Road patrollers Big Day Out

Week 7: 23-27 November

Wednesday: Camp parent helper meeting 2, if required

Friday: Senior triathlon

Week 8: 30-4 December

Monday: Road patrol training for 2027

Tuesday: Road patrol training for 2027

Friday: Swimming sports

Week 9: 7-11 December

Thursday - Senior Social

Week 10: 14-18 December

Monday: Big Day Out in New Plymouth

Tuesday: Leavers assembly, 1:00

Wednesday: Final assembly 11:00, final day of Term 4. 12 noon finish.



STRATFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL
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13 October 2026

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Our Year 7 and 8 pupils are having their Social in the Stratford Primary School Hall on Thursday 10 December from 5.45pm to 7.45pm. Doors will open for students at 5.45pm. Please ensure students arrive a few minutes earlier.

The evening will be an opportunity to put into practice the social dances we have been learning. These include the Gay Gordons, the Waltz, the Maxina, and the Veleta.

As this is our Senior Syndicate's Social, we would appreciate it if Parents/Caregivers do not arrive before 7.40pm. At approximately 7.40pm, as has been tradition, we will open the side doors and invite parents and caregivers to join the students for the 'Last Waltz'. It is a great opportunity for them to show off their dancing! Whānau are then free to take their children home.

While we expect a high standard of dress (as this is a formal occasion), we do not expect people to get carried away with this. Purchasing new clothes is not necessary. What we do ask is:

Boys – a tie, dress trousers, smart collared shirt (boys can talk to their teacher to organise a tie and shirt if necessary - we have several at school).

Girls – a dress, skirt, shirt, dress trousers, or other appropriate/tidy attire
Please no high heels (wooden floors).

Previously, we have asked the Year 7 students to bring a plate of food for the evening, and we will carry on this tradition. This means that students only provide food for the night once over two years. Plates can be handed to staff in the hall's kitchen upon arrival. Please name any containers that you wish to have returned. Water will be available for students.

We expect the evening to be an enjoyable one and to ensure this we have drawn up the following list of guidelines:

- ☺ All pupils must be collected from inside the hall at the conclusion of the dance at approximately 7.45pm. Students WILL NOT be sent to meet at cars unless the teacher has been contacted by a parent/caregiver directly.
- ☺ The Dress Code must be adhered to.
- ☺ Only Year 7–8 SPS students can attend.
- ☺ If the behaviour of anyone is found to be unacceptable, or interferes with the enjoyment of others, parents will be contacted to collect that student early.

The students always look forward to this event on the calendar. We look forward to seeing as many students as possible on the night!

Kind regards,

Year 7- 8 Teachers