

# SWIS REPORTERS

## EDITION 1

### THE STORY STARTS HERE....

#### MEET THE TEAM BRINGING YOU THE STORY ...

##### What you can expect:

- Bringing you the latest intel
- Delivering the facts
- Entertainment - riddles, quizzes, book reviews, stories and much more...
- Keeping you up to date with what's what and who's who in our community.
- Yummy tried and true recipes.

#### Note from the Editor

On behalf of all the SWIS Reporters

I would like to thank all the people which made this Term 1 Edition possible. Firstly, I would like to thank Lisa for offering this programme and supporting us along the way. Without her none of this would be possible. Next I would like to thank Mr Henderson and Mr Emson for giving supposedly confidential information about the building site to us. Lastly I would like to say how much we appreciate you for reading this – it means so much to us.

Thank you,

Yohann Upton-Besier

Lead Editor

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*Bring us the story!*

[swis-reporters-2026@swis.school.nz](mailto:swis-reporters-2026@swis.school.nz)

*Or write your suggestions on our newsboard outside Rm 7*



#### Our team of incredible reporters!

Front row. (Left to right): Iris, William, Ari  
Middle row (Left to right): Lyra, Mila, Hugo, Reuben, Xander, Sylvia  
Front row: (Left to right) Alba, Freda, Flo, Norah, Ishmael  
Absent : Grace, Yohann., Robin



#### WHAT'S HOT IN THIS ISSUE:

1. Who's who at SWIS?
2. Semi Spec - what the 'spec'?
3. Newtown Festival SWIS Stars
4. Building Bonaza
5. Baking delight
6. Puzzles & Riddles
7. School Life Hacks
8. What's happening around our School. **1**

# Who's Who at SWIS



When you first arrive at SWIS it can be pretty overwhelming! There are so many more teachers and subjects than at most primary schools. Have you ever wondered who, what or where, when you went to a new subject for the first time? If you have, read on to find out a quick summary of; who, what and where. These amazing people make up the team of .....

## SWIS Teachers



**Mr Moli**  
Rm 1  
Te Ao



**Ms Middlebrook**  
Rm 8  
Science



**Greg**  
Rm 13  
Film/Drama



**Ms Shuker**  
Art  
Art room



**Miss Amos**  
Rm 2  
Te Ao



**Ms Uini**  
Rm 9  
Science



**Cole**  
Rm 14  
Te Ao



**Mr Miller**  
Hard Tech Room  
Hard Tech



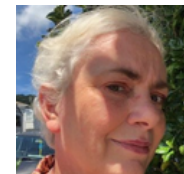
**Miss Quince**  
Rm 3  
Te Ao



**Ms Abdul Syafieq**  
Rm 10  
Science



**Aaron**  
Rm 15  
Music



**Ms Wendy**  
Rm 8  
Science



**Alex**  
Rm 4  
Te Ao



**Miss J**  
Rm 11  
Science



**Miss Bush**  
Rm 16  
Design Tech



**Ms Gasson**  
Foods Room  
Food Tech



**Mrs Gusterson**  
Rm 5  
Philosophy



**Josh**  
Rm 12  
Science



**Ms Sangster**  
Rm 17  
Textiles (and lots of PEAK activities)



Hopefully you now know more of the staff that work so hard for you to have an enjoyable time learning!

By Robin Johnston

# LOOKING FORWARD

## WHAT THE **SPEC** IS THIS ABOUT?

**Semi Spec** is new for all of year 7 and I know when I was a year 7 it was pretty confusing. I didn't know what to do, where to go and what to expect. We're going to let you know what to expect!

### **Art with Ms Shuker**

Art is a great subject! It is where you learn to create cool creations, Lucky for you, you don't need to bring any stationery. I'm sure Miss Shuker can't wait to see you. The current classes favorite thing they have done this year in art was the clay bird rattles! In art you will learn to mold clay, learn about different texture, painting styles and so much more.

### **Food tech with Ms Gasson:**

The majority of the students I asked believe that food tech is one of their favorite semi specs. They like the way they feel accomplished and happy when they take a bite of something they made from scratch. In food tech we have made a variety of foods including; sausage rolls, rice paper rolls, Anzac biscuits (the smell trialled through the hallways), banana milkshakes with popcorn and more.

### **Music with Aaron:**

Music is a great experience, you get to learn how to play the guitar, piano, ukulele and more! You also get to discover yourself as a musician (or not). " Music was fun. I learnt how to play the Harry Potter theme song on an instrument I've never played before"- Davy Karon. There is also the opportunity to join the school band!

### **Science:**

In science we learn how to apply science to our everyday life! Science is interactive and full on, you can look forward to all the fun experiments and the facts you learn!

### **Textiles**

This year in textiles we are making a ball using patchwork with Miss Sangster. Emma, room 3 said she is very excited and cant wait! We use all the skills we learn in textiles in real life like mending your clothes or stitching a button. Get stitching!

### **Philosophy with Ms Gusterson:**

Philosophy gets your brain started and thinking of curious questions! Many year 8s last year loved the fun games we played like the beanbag game and the pompom game. " I loved filming the videos at the end of term!" -Olive Wynands.

### **Hard tech/Design tech with Miss Bush and Mr Miller:**

Hard and design tech is one of the more creative sides of semi spec. You get your designs to come to life. You spend two terms building, drawing and getting to know your creative side.

### **Te Reo Māori/Aotearoa Hitori:**

It is important to learn about our roots and the history of our beautiful country, that's why the history of Aotearoa is so important! Every week you will build up on Reo skills. We have already studied so many cool topics such as Te Wharepōuri and I know lots of kids can't wait to learn more.

### **Film with Greg and Drama**

We all love the movies! Watching them feels simple but in film we learn how much effort it takes to make them and how you act can really make a difference! This is a great opportunity to bring your acting skills to the next level.

### **P.E**

Do you like getting out of the classroom? This is run by your teacher with your homeroom and with other classes. This year we have already tried lots of fun games like benchball and ball tag, if you don't want to wear someone else's stinky P.E uniform from the lost and found make sure you bring your P.E shirt!

**By Norah and Mila rm 3**

# STAY TUNED IN

Keeping you in the loop and up-to-date.

## BUILDING BOANAZA

Seen the diggers, heard the noise...but don't know what it all means?

You may have noticed that a part of our school is cornered off... but what is it all about?

According to Mr. Henderson and Mr. Emson, the school is building a brand new 2-storey technology block including a food tech, hard tech, ICT, music, media, and an art room. This process is going to take until approximately December 2026, much to the despair of the year 8s! Moving on to the eastern end of the school, this side is to be demolished over the summer, then re-grassed by March 2027.

The architectural blueprints shows us:

The **top floor** will link to the top court via a bridge, and wheelchair accessible ramps as well.

The **first floor** consists of a hard tech room, an IT room, and a food tech room.

- The **IT room** will include a classroom, yet all the others are semi-spec only. It will also have a separate 3D printer spaces and a breakout room.
- The **Hard-tech room** has several separate rooms for machining, storage, and fabrication.
- The **Food tech** room has a separate laundry and a pantry, and 9 cooking stations, plus one main central cooking station for Ms Gasson.



### On the Second Floor:

There is an **art room**, a **media/film room**, and a **music room**.

- The **art room** is a large light-filled space and contains a separate kiln room.
- The **film room** contains a separate movie theater type space for presentations and storage, as well as a classroom type area.
- Finally, the **music room** has a separate sound-proofed recording space for practice and performance.

Sounds like a lot, eh? We'll keep you updated in the upcoming newsletters when we interview the teachers moving into their new rooms, and more!

Article created by Ari Ray-Podmore, Hugo Oughton, and Xander McQuade.

Information from Mr Emson, Mr Henderson, and the official blueprints.

## The 2026 Newtown Festival - SWIS did it again!

By Lyra Scott (Rm2) and Freda Wallace (Rm14)

The annual Wellington event, Newtown Festival, took place on Sunday, the 8<sup>th</sup> of March, 2026. Newtown Festival brought fun, interesting stalls, stilt walkers, kapa haka, and so much more. It was definitely a very exciting day for all of Wellington. There were many amazing and creative stalls to admire or buy from.

The event was held in Newtown, Wellington, starting at 10am and ending at 5pm. There were about 440 stalls in the 2026 Festival. Not only were there stalls, but there was also entertainment and games.

Some of the stalls included: jewellery, food, fidgets, trinkets, etc. Hard working people helped make the day so special with good vibes, interesting products, and a really cool experience.

What was spectacular was SWIS performed Kapa Haka during the opening of the Newtown festival. Their performance was inspiring! It really made SWIS proud and an impressive bang to start the festival. The Kapa Haka group effort made the morning great and they did so incredibly well. 'It only took 2x lunch times and 2 hours on Mondays to practice.' - Reuben Robson, Room 2 shares proudly. "It was fun, but nerve wracking, and also quite cold. I wasn't that nervous throughout the process." Xander McQuade, Room 2, says confidently. SWIS is a winner again!



# LOOKING BACK CAMP CRAZINESS



## WE NEED SLEEP!!!!

Multiple sources say that waking up at 6 o'clock in the morning was very painful. A handful of people also complained about not having time to get ready and having to exercise before the sun had even come up. Many were cranky through that day..

## Cabin Inspections.

“ ... 20 minutes till cabin inspections!!!” - This made many cabin groups rush around frantically, when they were told, one group had to prepare food now. Some cabins had forgotten that inspections were soon (even after being told many times). Believe it or not, quite a few cabins also did a show of some sort to receive extra credit for their scores on inspections. Some even choosing to bribe the teachers with candy!

## Camp Talent Show.

People had very different strategies for the Camp Talent Show. Quite a few groups did some sort of performance, like Kapa Haka, plays and a well choreographed dance. Many people said the Camp Talent Show was a highlight (special shout out to Camp 1 adults YMCA!!!!).

## Safety Hazards

People noted that the Toi Toi surrounding the camp was sharp (Grace got cut by it 17 times on her left hand!).

Thanks to all the parent helpers who gave up their time to come to the 2026 camp and did a great job at keeping the craziness to a minimum!!

Written by Grace Nicolle (Rm 9) and Sylvia Jackson (Rm 13)





# S LICE OF HEAVEN



## GINGER CRUNCH

THIS IS ONE OF MY FAVOURITE GINGER CRUNCH RECIPES.

FUN FACT: DID YOU KNOW THAT GINGER CRUNCH WAS INVENTED BY THE EDMONDS COOKBOOK IN 1940? ALSO, ITS LIKELY INFLUENCED BY SCOTTISH SETTLERS AND IS A REAL KIWI CLASSIC!

### INGREDIENTS

#### BASE:

- 150G BUTTER
- ½ CUP OF SUGAR
- 1 AND A HALF CUPS OF FLOUR
- 1 TEASPOON BAKING POWDER
- 1 AND ½ TEASPOONS OF GINGER

#### ICING:

- 100G BUTTER
- 2 TABLESPOONS GOLDEN SYRUP
- 1 CUP ICING SUGAR
- 1 TEASPOON GINGER

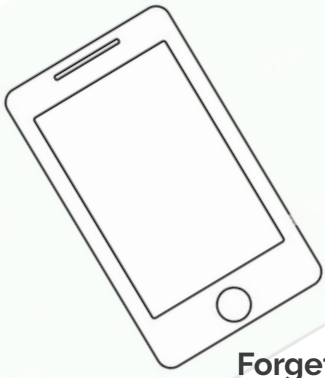
#### METHOD:

- MELT BUTTER IN A MEDIUM SIZE POT.
- REMOVE FROM HEAT AND STIR IN SUGAR.
- SIFT IN FLOUR, BAKING POWER AND GINGER.
- MIX.
- PRESS INTO A GREASED TIN.
- BAKE FOR 15 MINUTES AT 180 DEGREES CELSIUS UNTIL GOLDEN AROUND THE EDGES.

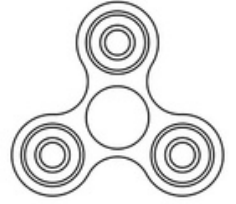
#### ICING

MELT BUTTER AND GOLDEN SYRUP IN A SMALL POT. MIX IN ICING SUGAR AND GINGER. POUR ICING ON BASE WHILE BASE IS WARM AND CUT INTO SQUARES.

## School Life Hacks



I'm sure everyone here can agree on one thing.  
School, and, let's be real, life in general, is confusing.  
Forgetting things, weird-smelling uniforms, and, of course, math.



Now, I'm not here to give you a math lesson or make life unconfusing (I'm an intermediate school reporter, not your therapist), but I CAN help you to make school a little less tricky in some ways.

Again, making it clear I'm not helping you with your schoolwork. I'm lost on that too.

Anyways, in case you haven't figured it out, this is a column for school life hacks.  
Without further ado, here are some school life hacks:

If you don't want to leave home without something you always forget (trust me, I can DEFINITELY relate to forgetting things—you name it, I've forgotten it), put something you never leave without—like your phone or maybe your Snapper card—on top of it. Then when it comes to grabbing your phone or Snapper card, you see what it's lying on, and you remember you need it!

Now for the weird-smelling uniforms.

Fill a small spray bottle with fabric conditioner, water, and a couple of drops of tea tree oil, and whenever you need, spray the bad parts with it. You'll end up smelling like a field of flowers and possibly fabric conditioner.

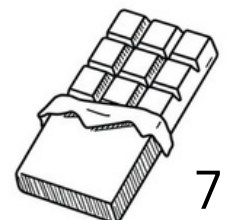
Now, I'm sure many people will be into this one. If you're studying for some test or whatever, eat chocolate while you're studying. Sounds like this was made up by a kid trying to convince their parents that the chocolate they stole was for educational purposes, but who cares? Show this awesome column to your parents as proof, fellow students.

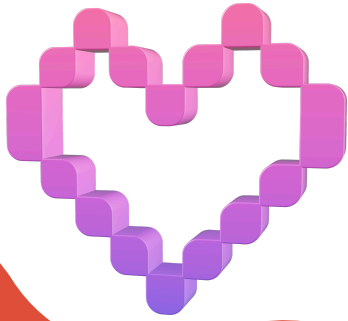
Consider this your life hack to finally look forward to studying.

Another study tip that I once heard was to fidget with something while you study and then fidget with the same thing while you do the test. It's supposed to help associate your questions with the studying you did so that you can remember the answers, or something. I think? I totally did my research on this, as you can tell.

So what are you waiting for? A world of fabric conditioner, chocolate, and Nee Dohs is waiting for you.

.By Alba Ridout





## SCHOOL ADVICE COLUMN

Dear Marsha Mallow

I need help!!!

Every day at lunch time, I take my seat in the corner of the library in a plush chair, right next to the graphic novels.

Every day, I simply sit there and mind my own business, but now everything has changed. Two boys have decided to colonise my plush chair! They sit there everyday and TALK — I mean, do they seriously have nothing better to do?

Now, I can't have this. I was elected the class librarian, and I took my oath very seriously, but I'm very shy and I CANNOT stand up for myself, even in the best of times. I can only do a couple of "shush"s every now and then.

I need assistance!

Have problems?

Join the club!

In the office, you will find a box labeled ***Student Problems***.

Here's a shocker—students put their problems in there. Sign it with an anonymous name— preferably original or there will be a lot of letters signed by Bob or Steve, and that would just be confusing.

These advice columns will most likely be written by yours truly, otherwise by Norah or Flo.

If you prefer a specific person, just ask. We're tough cookies and will not cry (too much) if you don't want us poking our noses into your business.

No problem is too small or big!  
Don't quote me on that.  
Anyways, come on up to the office to share some juicy (anonymous) drama!

***Yours, Alba Ridout  
(aka Marsha Mallow).***



# The Punchline Press

What did the refrigerator say to the cupboard?  
Don't hate me just because I'm a little cooler.

I couldn't figure out why the cricket ball kept getting larger.  
Then it hit me.

I'm so good at sleeping, I can do it with my eyes closed.

I decided to sell my vacuum cleaner. It was gathering dust.

If you see a crime in an Apple Store, does that make you an iWitness?

Singing in the shower is fun until you get soap in your mouth.  
Then it becomes a soap opera.



By Yohann Upton-Besier and William Jefferies

Credit to: Country Living

## Weekly Sudoku


7	6	2		9	3		1	
8				7			3	6
5	3	9		6		7	2	
	2	1	6					5
3			4		9	1		
6				1	2		9	
			5			4		3
2	5		7		1			
	7	8				2		




U	P	H	G	B	H	E	G	G	S
R	X	U	Q	U	I	C	K	G	V
I	U	N	A	N	H	H	L	A	T
T	H	T	N	N	I	I	T	M	B
C	A	N	D	Y	D	C	C	E	I
H	G	J	F	T	E	L	X	S	Z
I	P	F	A	H	A	P	P	y	W
C	S	A	P	R	I	L	L	Y	G
K	C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E
H	O	P	L	O	U	Y	I	D	M

**Words To Find:**

- APRIL
- GAMES
- BUNNY
- HAPPY
- CANDY
- HIDE
- CHICK
- HOP
- CHOCOLATE
- HUNT
- EGGS
- QUICK



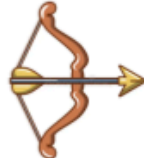
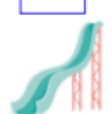
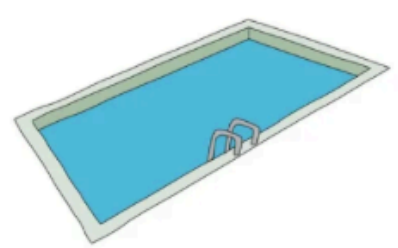


HAPPY EASTER!



## CAMP CROSSWORD

1	2					5														
		3		4																
6																				

**Clues:**

**Down:**

2. You need good aim

4. That chute is a bit dirty

5. We had fun \_\_\_\_\_ in the pool!

**Across:**

1. Keep it clean!

3. That's hot!

6. Too much running! 😞



The Quiz Whiz!  
By Ishmael Fletcher  
and Sylvia Jackson

A challenging quiz to test your knowledge  
on popular books, sports and movies!

1. What sports event was recently in Italy ?

- A) Winter Olympics
- B) The Olympics
- C) Paralympics
- D) None of the Above

3. In Titanic (1997) the movie, what is the name of Kate Winslet's character?

- A) Margaret
- B) Elizabeth
- C) Clara
- D) Rose

5. In The Hobbit, what is the name of the dragon who is guarding the treasure?

- A) Glaurung
- B) Smaug
- C) Ancalagon
- D) Vermithrax

7. In Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, how many tickets for a tour of the factory were there?

- A) 4
- B) 3
- C) 1
- D) 5
- E) None of the Above

2. Who wrote the Harry Potter series?

- A) Roald Dahl
- B) J.K Rowling
- C) C.S Lewis
- D) Des Hunt

4. What is the name of the boy who never grows up in J.M Barrie's famous story?

- A) Oliver Twist
- B) Tom Sawyer
- C) Peter Pan

6. In Finding Nemo, what kind of fish is Nemo?

- A) Goldfish
- B) Clownfish
- C) Surgeon
- D) Pufferfish

8. In Matilda, the book by Roald Dahl, what was Matilda's teacher called?

- A) Miss Sweetie
- B) Miss Honey Badger
- C) Mrs Trunchbull
- D) Miss Smith
- E) none of the above

## Which teacher are you most like?

By Ishmael Fletcher



Which animal would you have ?

1. Shaggy Cat                    a
2. Loyal Dog                    b
3. Snowy Owl                    c
4. Mysterious Wolf            d

2. Who is your favourite singer ?

1. Bruce Springsteen        d
2. Celine Dion                    a
3. Ed Sheeran                    c
4. Carl Cox                        b

3. If you were stuck on an island, which drink would you like to drink ?

1. Tea                                d
2. Shandy (beer & lemonade) b
3. Coke zero                        c
4. Pepsi max                        a

4. If you had 1,000,000 dollars for a vacation where would you go?

1. In Taranaki climbing mountains        c
2. Playing on the beach in Sydney        a
3. Somewhere with family                    d
4. Being a dj somewhere                    b



5. If you were on a plane, what food would you like to eat ?

1. spicy pasta                    a
2. kebabs!                        d
3. just right chicken            c
4. Gabes caesar salad            b



6. Biggest essential in life!

1. music                            b
2. blurry glasses                    a
3. Jazzy Books                    c
4. sleep                            d

7. If you were colour blind which colour would you want to still see?

see on page  
14 for which  
teacher are  
you



1. Turquoise                    c
2. Grey                            a
3. Swis green                    d
4. Changes every second        b

# ANSWERS

## CAMP CROSSWORD

1. Cabin
2. Archery
3. Campfire
4. Mudslide
5. Swimming
6. Orienteering

## EASTER WORD SEARCH

U	P	H	G	B	H	E	G	G	S
R	X	U	Q	U	I	C	K	G	V
I	U	N	A	N	H	L	A	T	
T	H	T	N	N	I	I	T	M	B
C	A	N	D	Y	D	C	C	E	I
H	G	J	F	T	E	L	X	S	Z
I	P	F	A	H	A	P	P	Y	W
C	S	A	P	R	I	L	Y	G	
K	C	H	O	C	O	L	A	T	E
H	O	P	L	O	U	Y	I	D	M

## WEEKLY SUDOKU

7	6	2	8	9	3	5	1	4
8	1	4	2	7	5	9	3	6
5	3	9	1	6	4	7	2	8
9	2	1	6	8	7	3	4	5
3	8	7	4	5	9	1	6	2
6	4	5	3	1	2	8	9	7
1	9	6	5	2	8	4	7	3
2	5	3	7	4	1	6	8	9
4	7	8	9	3	6	2	5	1

The Quiz Whiz  
Answers:

- (a) 8
- (b) 7
- (c) 9
- (d) 5
- (e) 4
- (f) 3
- (g) 2
- (h) 1

Answers to 'Which teacher are  
you most like?'

If you mostly got a's you are  
Mrs Toseland

If you mostly got b's you are  
Greg

If you mostly got c's you are  
Mrs Sangster

If you mostly got d's you are Mr  
Henderson

If you got a tie you're just  
special .

***Extra thanks to  
Lucy Emson ...  
for her expert advice, tips and tricks on  
how to report, giving us new techniques  
and new ideas for all the SWIS  
Reporters .***



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