

Term 1 Newsletter



Welcome to our Term 1 Newsletter!

Welcome to Term 1 2026 and a very warm welcome to all new and returning members of Franklin Gymsports. We are excited to begin the year and look forward to another positive and engaging term filled with movement, learning and development for our Tamariki.

This year is a particularly special one for our Club, as Franklin Gymsports celebrates 65 years of serving the Franklin community. Reaching this milestone is a reflection of the many families, athletes, volunteers, coaches and supporters who have been part of our journey over the decades. As we honour our history, we are also focused on shaping a strong and sustainable future for the next generation of gymnasts.

Throughout the year, we will be seeking support in a variety of ways, including fundraising initiatives, sponsorship opportunities, donations and volunteer involvement. Every contribution, whether time,

resources, or financial support plays a meaningful role in helping us continue to provide high-quality opportunities for children across our programmes.

As always, our priority remains creating a safe, inclusive and supportive environment where every child feels welcomed, encouraged and confident to participate. We thank you for the trust you place in us and for being part of the Franklin Gymsports community.

Nicole x

In this newsletter you can expect:

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Recreation

Springboard

We have been working flat out over the holiday period integrating the Gymnastics NZ program "Spring board" into both the Kiwi Gym and Gym Fun For All classes. You will notice a difference in not only the circuits that the kids are doing, but also in the way the circuits are run. We are hoping that the new program will more capture the kids imagination and help them learn the basics of gymnastics much quicker, preparing them for moving up through the pathway sooner and with a better grounding in the basics.

For parents with Kiwi Gym or Gym Fun For All participants, when you log in to the club portal, you will see a new option "Spring board". This will give you an indication on how your child(ren) are doing in in the programme. There will be formal testing near the end of the term. However, throughout the term the coaches will be informally testing their gymnasts. The results of testing will be entered against the child's record for you (the parents) to see.

We have not introduced Spring board to any of the other classes (Gymstars to Rec Extension) as they follow the GNZ Gym For All Apparatus program, which prepares children for recreational competitions.

Competitions

The recreational competition calendar has now been finalised and sent out for our GymStars through to Rec Extension participants. Kiwi Gym and Gym Fun For All classes are not included at this stage, as we want our youngest gymnasts to enjoy learning and building confidence in a relaxed, pressure-free environment.

We're also excited to have added both Thames Gymsports and Cambridge Gymnastics to our competition calendar as away competitions. This provides a great opportunity for our gymnasts to compete alongside athletes from other smaller-town clubs. Both clubs are invited to attend our home recreational competition on 7 June 2026, making it a fantastic experience for all involved.

GNZ Club Challenge

We are aiming high this year! Just as our competitive athletes work towards GNZ Nationals, the recreational pathway has its own pinnacle event, the GNZ Club Challenge.

We are hopeful to have a number of gymnasts from GymStars through to Rec Extension who demonstrate a high standard of performance and consistency, giving them the opportunity to represent our club at this competition in Palmerston North in October.

Throughout the year, we will be closely monitoring competition results from both the events we attend and other recreational competitions around the country. These results will help us determine whether we have a strong case to send a team and ensure our gymnasts are well prepared for this exciting opportunity.

Competitive

After wrapping up last year with a super fun competitive team break-up before Christmas, complete with a sleepover, lots of laughs and a few memorable mosquito bites, our competitive gymnastics team has hit the ground running in 2026.

Preparation for upcoming competitions is well underway, with the programme continuing to grow in numbers and strength. Our gymnasts have been training consistently over the summer holidays, working hard while still having plenty of fun along the way. It's been awesome to see the team working in such a cohesive manner, supporting one another and building strong foundations as we head into an exciting competition season ahead.



Building Our Future Together

We are currently finalising a refreshed Strategic Plan for Franklin Gymsports, which will be shared with our community in the coming weeks.

This plan sets a clear direction for our future, with a strong focus on community participation, programme quality and the ongoing development of our people, ensuring we continue to offer a positive, supportive experience for every gymnast and family.

While much of this work happens behind the scenes, it is all about creating a club that grows sustainably, remains family-focused, and is well supported for the long term.

As a not-for-profit organisation, 2026 will be an important year for strengthening our

community support and fundraising efforts. The generosity of our families, local businesses and wider community plays a vital role in helping us enhance our facilities, upgrade equipment, deliver quality programmes and secure a strong future for Franklin Gymsports.



Important Dates

Mon 2 nd February:	Term 1 Starts
Fri 6 th February:	Waitangi Day
Sat 14 th February:	Valentines Day
21 st & 22 nd February:	A&P Show
Mon 2 nd March:	Easter Raffle Opens
Tue 17 th March:	St Patricks Day
Mon 30 th April:	Easter Raffle Drawn
Thur 2 nd April:	Final day of Classes
Fri 3 rd April	Closed - Good Friday
Sat 4 th April:	Closed
Mon 6 th April	Closed - Easter Monday
Sat 25 th April	Closed - ANZAC Day
Mon 27 th April	Closed



Easter Raffle

Donations

We're excited to announce our upcoming Easter Basket Raffle and would love your support!

To help make this raffle a success, we are kindly asking for donations to include in our Easter baskets. Donations can be anything from chocolate and Easter treats to vouchers, small gifts or services and are welcome from businesses, families and our wider community.

Every contribution, big or small, helps us create amazing baskets and raise valuable funds for our club. Thank you for your continued support, we truly appreciate your generosity and community spirit.



Committee Update

The Franklin Gymsports Committee is made up of a group of dedicated volunteers who support the governance and ongoing development of the club. Our role is to help ensure Franklin Gymsports continues to provide a safe, welcoming, and high-quality environment for all our gymnasts and whānau, while also supporting our coaches and staff to deliver great outcomes.

This year, our focus is on continuing to strengthen the club's foundations and ensuring long-term sustainability. This includes growing and strengthening our recreational classes, while also continuing to develop and expand our competitive squads so we can support gymnasts across all pathways and levels.

A key priority for us is also continuing our work toward securing a new building that will better support the long-term needs of the club and our growing community.

We are also looking for volunteers to help support club events throughout the year. If you're keen to get involved or lend a hand in any way, we would love to hear from you, every bit of support makes a huge difference.

Thank you for being part of the Franklin Gymsports community, we appreciate your ongoing support and look forward to a great year ahead.



Thank you for reading!

FRANKLIN GYMSPORTS	 09 238 8290
58 Station Road, Pukekohe 2120, Auckland	 www.franklingymsports.com  info@franklingymsports.co.nz  Franklin Gymsports