



# What's the hAPS?

16th February 2022

Dear parents/caregivers

Happy Chinese New Year for the last few weeks – the year of the tiger. The characteristics of this year already reflect the sense that once again we are all facing struggles but also provides opportunity to show **courage and bravery**, so the New Year could symbolize resilience and strength — even in times of struggle. These traits have already been reflected in our school through being prepared, doing the right thing and sharing each step of the Omicron journey together as a strong community.

Thank you for being so respectful of our guidelines and restrictions over the past few weeks. We are pleased to see students settling quickly back into school routines with these changes in place, and despite last week's heat and humidity children, staff and visitors entering the school office all wearing their masks, as well as supporting the request for vaccination passes for water wise and camp helpers.

A warm welcome to our new students attending Albany Primary School—including those who started online learning last year but had not been in a physical classroom until this year! We also welcome Miss Jennifer Pearce as a Year 2 teacher in Area 6.

As of Monday 21st February we will no longer be doing staggered end of day collection. Students will be released from class at 2.50pm for the school bus and 2.55pm for end of day. Now that all schools are open, traffic is building and putting pressure on the road system in the mornings, please be aware your child should be in class at 8.55am. If you are running late, please remind your child to report to the school office to sign in late as if they miss roll call they will be marked absent and you will be telephoned.

We will be holding Partnership Meetings on Wednesday 23rd February (3.30pm-5.30pm) and Thursday 24th February (1.00pm—6.00pm) (with the exception of Areas 4, 17 and 18). This is an excellent opportunity to meet your child's class teacher and establish a three way partnership between your teacher, your family and your child. We recommend face to face bookings, however this year have provided an opportunity for you to also book via telephone or video conference.

**Please note that there will be a half day on Thursday 24th with school closing at the earlier time of 12.30pm (except for students in Area 4, 17 and 18) due to Partnership Meetings. Make sure you have booked your online or in person meeting through School Interviews. Buses will also run at 12.30pm.** Kelly Club will be open for supervision from 12.30pm—bookings are essential. Contact Kelly Club on phone: 022 693 7732, [albany@kellyclub.co.nz](mailto:albany@kellyclub.co.nz) or [kellyclub.co.nz/Albany](http://kellyclub.co.nz/Albany). For any parents that may not have started back at school your teachers are very keen that you also have this meeting on-line, so we can get to know your family and assist you in any way for your child to return to school.

A reminder that Monday 28th February is an teacher only day—school will be closed. Kelly Club will be available for supervision on this day. Bookings are required as per details above.

If your child is going to be catching the school bus this term, please ensure that you complete our bus users [list](#) for contact tracing purposes.

School statements have now been sent out to all families. Please be aware that Mathletics/Math Seeds subscriptions expire at the end of February (28th February 2022) so please ensure that payment is made by this date if possible. If your school donation portion as identified on your statement is paid by 31st March then you can claim a portion back through Inland Revenue.

Together in learning  
Maree Bathurst, Principal

## TERM 1 2022—Dates subject to change

Initial dates for Term 1

### WEDNESDAY 2ND FEBRUARY—THURSDAY 14TH APRIL

17th February	Board meeting, 6.00pm
17th February	Year 5/6 Millennium waterwise (Area 21)
23rd February	Partnership meetings, 3.30pm-5.30pm
24th February	Partnership meetings from 1.00pm, school closed from 12.30pm
28th February	Teacher only day, school closed for students
8th—9th March	Year 4 Camp 1 (Areas 24, 25, 26, 27, 37, 38)
10th—11th March	Year 4 Camp 2 (Areas 14, 15, 16, 19, 20)
16th—18th March	Year 5/6 Carey Park Camp (Areas 28, 29, 32)
28th—30th March	Year 5/6 Camp 2 (Areas 21, 22, 31)
28th—29th March	Year 3 EOTC experience
30th March—1st April	Year 5/6 Camp 3 (Areas 30, 39, 40)
14th April	Term 2 finishes, 8.55am—2.55pm

### ALBANY PRIMARY SCHOOL SWIMMING SPORTS

Do you enjoy swimming? Then why not “give it a go” and participate in our yearly Albany Swimming Sports day which will take place on Friday 25th February at the Northern Arena. Notices for this event can be collected from the school office and need to be completed and returned to the office as soon as possible. Please take note that you need to be at least 8 years old (on 17th March this year) and be able to swim at least 25m confidently. Mrs Rousseau and Mrs Lagerwall.

### ESOL REQUEST

We are looking for items of cultural significance to display on the walls of our ESOL room to acknowledge our various ethnicities represented at Albany Primary School. If you have items you think may suit this purpose, please email Michelle Molesworth [mcolesworth@albany.school.nz](mailto:mcolesworth@albany.school.nz) with a photograph. Thank you for support.

### SPORTS—NETBALL REGISTRATIONS

Please note that Netball registrations will be opening at 3.00pm Thursday 17th February. Information including registration link will be communicated via the usual channels at this time. Registrations close on Thursday 24th February (or when teams are full). Michelle Molesworth, After School Sports Co-Ordinator.

## 2022 DATES

### TERM 2

**MONDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> MAY – FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY**

**Public holidays:** Queen’s Birthday – Monday 6th June, Matariki – Friday 24th June

**Teacher only day:** Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June

**Student led conferences:** Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June (half day closure)

### TERM 3

**MONDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY – FRIDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER**

**Student led conferences:** date to be confirmed (half day closure)

### TERM 4

**MONDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER – FRIDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER** (end date subject to change)

**Public holiday:** Labour Day – Monday 24th October

Half day closure Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December

We understand that some of our parents are hesitant about their child returning to school. Please be assured that full contact tracing systems and procedures are in place should we be informed that we have a student or staff member identified as a positive case. For this reason it is essential that we have all current contacts.

If you have changed address, phone, email or emergency contacts please let the office know. This can easily be done through this [link](#), or telephone the office on 09 4159668.

As noted recently by Dr Caroline McElnay, Director of Public Health:

*Our experience in New Zealand and overseas with COVID-19 shows that it does not affect children and teens in the same way it does adults. Children and teens don't become as unwell if they do get infected, and they don't tend to pass the virus on so much as adults when in a classroom setting.*

*Compared to other places, schools and early learning services are not environments where we have seen significant spread of COVID-19. Household members and work colleagues who are in close contact with people with COVID-19, are the most common sources of transmission.*

*Inevitably however, when there are cases in the community, they will also appear in schools and early learning services.*

## The following information is from the Ministries of Education and Health

As you may be aware 'The Big Boost' is happening during February, and everyone in Aotearoa is being asked to get their booster dose of the Pfizer vaccine.

Evidence has shown that the Pfizer vaccine provides a high level of protection against severe disease or hospitalisation from the Omicron variant, than the two-dose course. Being fully vaccinated with the two doses provides greater protection against Delta, however the booster is the best way to fight Omicron.

If you want to know more about the booster—you can get the [facts about COVID-19 vaccinations](#).

### Who can have a booster?

Anyone in your whānau over the age of 8 and has had their second dose at least three months ago.

You can check when you are due for a booster by visiting [mycovidrecord.nz](#) or calling the COVID Vaccination Healthline on **0800 28 29 26** (8am-8pm, seven days a week).

You can book your booster at [Bookmyvaccine.nz](#) or for whānau bookings call **0800 28 29 26**.

**More tips from Netsafe to protect ākonga at school and at home**  
Head over to our friends at Netsafe and check out their wide range of resources and information with top tips for a better online experience.  
5 steps to a safer internet flyer

**It's Safer  
Internet Day**

8 February 2022

## AREA 38'S "ATTITUDE OF GRATITUDE"

Did you know that being grateful improves your health?

Studies show that being grateful helps:

- improve your mood
- you sleep better
- To improve resilience
- you to get on better with people.

Area 38 has an "attitude of Gratitude". Our Year 3 and 4 classroom have been writing about what we are grateful for in our Gratitude Journals

I am grateful for the earth and water so my family can live well - Justin

I am grateful for my Grandma who makes food for my family - Shero

I am grateful for the best sister in the world - George

I am grateful for the books I have at home - Methsarani

I am grateful because I love my parents and my brother so much - Ella

I am grateful for going to school and for the teacher teaching us maths - Jimi-Page

I am grateful for food, shelter and water - Dhiya

I am grateful for water because it is healthy and hydrating - Thripura

I am grateful for staying safe in COVID 19 - Peyton

I am grateful for a playground that has a big slides - Alan

I am grateful for my Dad he takes me to football, surf life saving and cubs - Tallis

I am grateful for my older sister - Tawhiri

I am grateful because today is very sunny - Ming Jun

I am grateful for my Grandmother, she makes food for my whole family. Her name is Booshana - Tara

I am grateful for my sister she plays with me - Won

I am grateful for my family because I have a cute brother - Saanvi

*And finally by Joyrene*

I am grateful for my Mum making me toys because they are squishy and soft

I am grateful for my dinner because it is delicious and nutritious with good proteins

I am grateful for my home because it is cosy and safe

I am grateful for this earth because it is our home

I am grateful to have a little sister because I would be lonely without her

I am grateful for the Prime Minister

