



# What's the hAPS?

18th August 2022

Dear parents/caregivers

It seems incredible that this time last year we were beginning our longest COVID 19 lockdown of 107 days, and so began bubble school and Learning at Home lessons once again. The contrast could not be greater as yesterday 40 excited Year 5 and 6 learners participated in a fantastic winter sports day (hosted by Kristin School), competing against all our Northern Bays Cluster Schools. While the shadow of COVID 19 still continues to impact on us all so too does other contagious viruses. Please refer to the separate attachment for recent information received from the Ministry of Education regarding winter illness and return times to school and vaccination booster changes.

It still feels special to have such opportunities and **fantastic additional learning experiences** that we can once again offer our students. Well done to our Green Grubs Gardening Club who, under the leadership of Alysa Lee and Cherie Goldie, have looked after and **planted over 700 native seedlings in local farmland** (photos and student writing attached). In the last two weeks we have had our Year 3 and 4 being challenged at Northern Rocks, selected students participating in a fun filled Rippa and Tackle Rugby Tournament. It is great to have team assemblies and Pōwhiri welcome assembly in our hall, after school sport, camps and day trips. So many activities that are still “not to be taken for granted” as perhaps we had done in the past. We are always appreciative of parent and whānau support for these adventures, as without it these activities could not proceed.

In a school setting we routinely hold lockdown, earthquake and fire drills. Have you ever considered or done this as a family or have **designed and practised an emergency / evacuation plan** for your home? Try running through some different scenarios with your children of what and where you would meet should a fire ever break out in your home, talk about whom they should phone in an emergency. See NZ Fire Service sites for some examples—[creating an escape plan](#), or [make an escape plan for your house](#).

Another **valuable safety plan that is very important is for children** who may walk to and from school or bus stops. There is a fine balance between not wanting children to be fearful of any adult they don't know speaking to them, to what they should do if they are concerned. Would your child know what to do if someone they didn't know approached them or said they had been sent by mum or dad to pick them up? If a child is ever concerned about situations such as this, have you reinforced they should let their teacher or our school office staff know immediately?

In this week's Friday online assembly I have reminded the children that if they enter or exit the school by the back gate to Roanoke Way it is very important that they stop and check for traffic before crossing, as unfortunately this area does not have a painted zebra / pedestrian crossing, or is supervised by staff. I have also asked the children to remind their parents who are dropping off or picking up at the back of the school **to not park in the restricted areas for the half hour before and after school**. We have used large safety cones to alert you to the areas where you cannot park. The reason for this restriction is because children cannot see from the footpath curb over the height of a parked car to cross the road, so they have no visibility until they are actually on the road.

Teachers have commented that recently a number of children appear to be bringing a range of toys or games to school. We do not encourage this as we cannot guarantee the safety of personal items, and invariably this also cause issues in relation to who can play with the item, or disappointment when teachers remove toys for the day. We have plenty of great playgrounds and outdoor sports equipment, as well as access to our fantastic library at break times. Thank you for your support in **explaining this rule to your children to keep games and toys at home**.

Our current Board would like to **acknowledge and thank** Joanne Paviour and Sophia Wang for their significant contribution to our Board and welcome our two new members, Sarah Fish (staff representative) and Lisa Battersby (parent representative) to our team. We thank Wei Lu and Alison Chambers for their continued service.

Together in learning,  
Maree Bathurst, Principal

## SCHOOL CALENDAR (Dates subject to change) TERM 3: MONDAY 25TH JULY—FRIDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER

Tuesday 23rd August	Sports photos
Friday 26th August	Athon finishes
Thursday 1st September	Parent curriculum information evening
Thursday 8th September	Board meeting, 6.00pm
Monday 12th September	Whānau/Maori language week commences
Thursday 22nd September	Student Led Conferences, <b>12.30pm early school close</b>
Monday 26th September	Book week including Book parade
Friday 30th September	Last day of Term 3—school closes at the usual time of 2.55pm



### CONFIRMED DATES FOR 2023:

- Term 1: Wednesday 1st February - Thursday 6th April
- Term 2: Wednesday 26th April - Friday 30th June
- Term 3: Monday 17th July - Friday 22nd September
- Term 4: Monday 9th October - Wednesday 20th December

**Albany Community Hub** are currently completing an investigation in relation to what services our community may need, both now and in the future.

Please do take the time to complete this 3 minute survey **as Albany residents' voice is so valuable** as the Council (and other interested agencies) identify how best they can support our needs.

There are **several incentives offered as prizes** (such as \$100 KMart or Pak n Save voucher, or \$50 Café vouchers) and who wouldn't like to win any of those treats this week?

Survey [Link](#) or scan the code:



### TEACHER PALS (Photocopying And Laminating Service)

We are looking for parent the school with photocopying, laminating, returning readers, assisting with reading groups, etc. If you feel you would like to contribute in this regard, please contact Jan Munroe in the school office, phone 415 9668.

### CLASS / INDIVIDUAL / SIBLING PHOTO ORDERS

Class/individual/sibling order envelopes have been sent home with students. You can either place an order online (using key code provided), or put cash in the envelope and hand it into the office (please put in the exact amount as the photographers/office are unable to give change). Orders close 19<sup>th</sup> August. If you have any queries please contact the office.

### OUT OF ZONE BALLOT FOR NEW ENTRANT 2023 STARTERS

Do you have a child starting school as a new entrant in 2023? If you are currently living **out of zone**, or it is likely that you may be moving out of zone before they start, you need to apply for a place for your child in the upcoming out of zone ballot. We are aware that there are several families currently living out of zone who have a sibling due to start next year. **IF YOUR CHILD IS NOT ACCEPTED IN AN OUT OF ZONE BALLOT THEY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO START AT THIS SCHOOL.** There are no spaces available for Year 2-6 students. Applications close noon on Wednesday 28th September and the ballot date is 19th October For more information please email [lelder@albany.school.nz](mailto:lelder@albany.school.nz).

### SPORTS TEAM PHOTOS—AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS

**Sports photographs are taking place on 23rd August**—If your child participates in an after school APS team, please ensure that your child is wearing school uniform on the day and **brings their sports** uniform to change into when they are called up for photos. This photo opportunity includes miniball/basketball players from Semester 1 and 2. Netball players are not to wear leggings or long sleeved shirts under netball dresses for the photos.



## Trees for Survival Excursion—by Thejal R.

On Thursday the 4th August 2022 we went on a trip to Wainui that would be challenging for us. Our task at the farm was to plant over 600 trees. This is to help prevent erosion into our waterways. We were going to get it done as a team. We first observed Gail from Auckland Council planting and giving instructions, thereafter we gave it a go, but it was a very hard challenge to push the shovel into the ground! But we did it. We had morning tea, lunch and water breaks. During planting time lots of us found different types of insects and bugs that were unusual and unique to this environment.

Leaving the school, I was a bit scared about this trip but I realized that I had good friends and teachers on this trip. When we were shown around the farm, we all were amused to learn that the toilet was in a tent! I was amazed. At the end of the day all was over, in the bus we were exhausted and worn out. Soon we arrived back at school and that was the end of our trip.

I really enjoyed every bit of the trip, learning about nature, helping the environment and bonding with my classmates and teachers.



## Tackle / Rippla Rugby Tournament

On Thursday 11th August, select students participated in a rippla/tackle rugby tournament. Many thanks to teacher support - Xu Han and Danjela Martin, as well as parent helpers on the day.

The students all tried their best and showed great sportsman spirit. We were super proud of them!





# YEAR 7 & 8

## SPECIAL CHARACTER CLASSES

At AJHS we strongly believe in ensuring that each learner is placed in an environment that is best suited to their learning style. By placing like-minded students together in our special character classes, we aim to provide a positive learning environment that enables students to reach their full potential. The following Year 7 and 8 special character homeroom classes are currently open for application.

### Deep Learning Class Homeroom (one class per year level)

Students will be provided with the opportunity to explore key issues and themes that their whole year level is engaging with in greater breadth and depth. Whilst not an extension class in the traditional sense (as the class does not have the sole aim of pushing learners to tackle curriculum beyond their year level) it is a place for students who wish to extend themselves academically by delving deeper and more fully into topics offered.

### Academy of the Arts Homeroom (one class per year level)

Students will flourish in a heavily creative learning environment where The Arts are integrated throughout the Year 7 or 8 learning programme. Suited to students who like to express themselves in creative ways e.g. through visual art, dance, drama or music.

### Sports Academy Homeroom (one class per year level)

Students will have sport and movement (both theory and practical) integrated throughout the Year 7 or 8 learning programme. A class where Physical Education, fitness and fairplay are used to bring powerful meaning to the curriculum and to motivate our more active learners.



Scan the QR code to register your interest in our special character classes for 2023. Information about the classes and how to apply will be emailed to you after enrolments.



SCAN ME