



14th September 2022

Dear parents/caregivers

Toku reo, toku ohooho (My language, my awakening)

This week we celebrate both **Māori language week as well as our own school Whānau Week**. This focus on our unique Māori culture has become an Albany Primary School tradition (starting around 20 years ago). Every afternoon, classes comprising multi year levels meet in their rōpū (group) for an interactive afternoon of learning te reo as well as a range of activities that may include waiata (singing), traditional games, arts or traditional crafts, or learning about Māori myths and legends.

He Kotuku rerenga tahi. A white heron's flight is seen but once.

At our opening whole school assembly this morning I also recognised with sadness and honour the passing of Queen Elizabeth II through sharing the whakatauki (proverb) above. Such a magnificent leader and sovereign of our commonwealth for over 70 years, whose life dedication to service was exemplary. Our flag will remain at half mast for this period of national mourning. Today cabinet announced the **"Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Day"** to commemorate the state memorial service on **Monday 26th September, with a public holiday to commemorate this event. Therefore school will be closed on this day.**

Tomorrow, information will be coming home regarding booking your time for your child's **Student Led Conference on Thursday 22nd September**. This is a valuable opportunity to hear and see your child's learning progress as well as the opportunity to speak with the teacher if you have any questions. School closes at an earlier time of 12.30pm to allow a 25 minute session with families. Unfortunately we were informed today by the bus company that neither the 061 or the 062 buses are able to come at lunch time. Bus parents will receive a separate letter as well as via our school email communications regarding arrangements for these children. If you are a parent of a bus student and do not receive these communications, please contact the school office.

You'll be aware that New Zealand will move to a new, **long-term approach to COVID-19**. These changes have been made based on public health advice and reflect high levels of immunity and declining case numbers across New Zealand. This new approach will only result in minor changes to the way we operate. The very positive news is that household contacts of a person with COVID-19 do not need to isolate, but instead are asked to complete a RAT test each day, for five days. Therefore, ākongā who are household contacts but test negative and do not have COVID-19 symptoms, should continue to attend. It is the best place for them to be so they can be engaged in their learning, and connected with their teachers, classmates and friends. Information on how to get RAT kits can be found here: Request a **[RAT– Ministry of Health](#)**. Mask wearing is no longer required, however if your family prefer your child to continue wearing a mask this is your choice and also permissible by the school. All the other recommended public health measures will stay in place as we know they reduce the spread of infectious illnesses including COVID-19. These include ensuring our indoor spaces are well-ventilated, maintaining good hand hygiene, encouraging everyone to cough or sneeze into elbows and, most importantly, staying home and getting tested if they have COVID-19 symptoms. Thank you all for your amazing support following the regulations, for these many months, as we know how difficult this was for our learners and staff.

Thanks to Mr James Hopkins (Deputy Principal of Year 3/4) and to the parents that attended his highly informative **Curriculum Information Parent Meeting** held two weeks ago. Not only was James able to explain our school curriculum but also the changes that are occurring through the new Curriculum Refreshment; including the present changes to Relationships and Sexuality and New Zealand History, with Maths and Literacy to follow. We were the first group that were able to view the amazing resource that he has created—available on our **[website](#)**. If you missed the chance to attend this fantastic opportunity he will be sharing this session again at a 2.15pm on Wednesday 21st September in the staffroom. Please do take a few moments to click onto the school website to view this highly informative resource.

Together in learning,

Maree Bathurst
Principal

TERM 3: MONDAY 25TH JULY—FRIDAY 30TH SEPTEMBER

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|---------------------------------|--|
| Monday 12th September | Whānau/Māori language week commences |
| Wednesday 21st September | Curriculum Information Parent Meeting, 2.15pm (repeat of previous evening meeting) |
| Thursday 22nd September | Student Led Conferences, 12.30pm early school close |
| Friday 23rd September | North Harbour BMX display |
| Friday 23rd September | Mufti day—no uniform required—no donation |
| Monday 26th September | Queen Elizabeth II Memorial Day— public holiday, school closed. |
| 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 |



WE NEED YOUR VOICE—BYOD Parent Consultation

While at Student Led Conferences on Thursday 22 September, we'd love to hear your feedback on BYOD with Y3-6 going forward into 2023. The team exploring this will be in the library on the afternoon of conferences and would welcome your thinking, questions or wonderings.

This is an informal collection of information and perspectives as we look at which decisions need to be made going forward. Have your say on:

- Device type and purchasing
- Online safety and cybersmart learning programmes
- Screen time - yellow light vs blue light

If you have an opinion, we want to hear it!



Missing—gold gate bracelet. Lost on site at Albany Primary School. Irreplaceable as it holds a lot of sentimental value for the family. If found, please contact the school office—phone: 09 415 9668, admin@albany.school.nz

NETSAFE'S PARENT TOOLKIT RESOURCE

[Link to Netsafe's Parent Toolkit](#)

A great resource for parents with information including online resources, setting boundaries, social media, online bullying and more.

Thank you for your support!

Thank you for your support of our athon fundraisers! We have raised over \$18,000 towards interactive play and sandpits/sand play. We are looking forward to planning these play areas with our available funds.





Have your child's own picture made into unique products!



- ★ Treasured keepsakes
- ★ Perfect Christmas presents for friends and family
- ★ Order as many items as you wish from the sale

Calendars

High quality laminated A4 print of your Child's Artwork or Photo. Wire bound to a 12-Month tear off calendar. Includes public holidays & school terms.

Cards

Display your Child's Artwork or Photo on a pack of 8 cards. Artist's name and age are printed on the reverse of Art products. Includes envelopes.

Diaries

Hard cover print of your Child's Artwork or Photo. A5 size (148 x 210mm). Wire bound. Artist's name and age printed on the inside cover. Includes week view and year planner.

Mouse Mats

Your child's Artwork or Photo print, heated on to a high quality neoprene mouse mat.

Sketch Pads

Front cover features your child's Artwork or Photo. Wire bound with 50 x A5 sized pages. Includes envelopes.

Orders to be returned

ARTWORK FOS FUNDRAISER

Students are working in class on artwork that parents are being given the opportunity to turn into calendars (\$12.50), cards (\$12.50), diaries (\$16.00), mouse mats(\$15.00) and sketch pads (\$15.00).

Artwork will be available for viewing in your child's classroom on the night of Student Led Conferences, Thursday 22nd September.

Order forms will also be available on that date.

Orders will close on Wednesday 28th September, with completed orders arriving at the school in early Term 4 ready for mailing overseas in time for Christmas.

Samples of product are available at the school office.

If you want to Upload Photos for your purchase

1 You can upload photos to create products by www.kidsartworks.com and using your School Entrance Code:

2 Once you have successfully uploaded your photos, you will be

Total of each Row

\$

of office, or online into the and KidsArt as the reference).

KZ759

Entrance Code

The Reference Number kidsartworks.com gave me is: