



What's the hAPS?

9th February 2023

Dear parents/caregivers

Haere mai and welcome to the 2023 school year!

The Year of the Rabbit has certainly started in the most unpredictable way. Thank you all for being so respectful of our enforced closure and restrictions over the last week as we know the very short notice caused significant inconvenience, not helped by some very confusing Ministry of Education and media communications. With water damage to the grounds and leaks, it was essential that our rooms were dry and odour free before we could fully re-open.

It was wonderful to see all of our families back to school and welcome our 65+ new families at Wednesday's pōwhiri welcome assembly. We also welcomed new teaching staff; Jae Kim and Emily McGall (see introductions over) and returning teachers; Deli Franklin, Kirsty Hodd, Shawnee Marcroft and Sarah Summers. We were also delighted to welcome our Mandarin Language Assistant, Fen Guo to our school and New Zealand (more information to follow).

We will be holding Partnership Meetings on Wednesday 15th February (3.30pm-6.00pm) and Thursday 16th February (1.00pm—6.30pm). 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. **Make sure you have booked your meeting through School Interviews—**

Go to: www.schoolinterviews.co.nz
Enter school code: **7awb3**
Follow the instructions

Please note that there will be a half day on Thursday 16th with school closing at the earlier time of 12.30pm. There is no bus service on this day. 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 or kellyclub.co.nz/Albany.

School statements have now been issued to all families. These invoices cover both donation and required payments. Athletics/Math Seeds subscriptions expire at the end of February, so if possible please make this payment early or as soon as possible to allow your child access to this home learning programme. **We absolutely understand** that given the pressure on family incomes—uniform, stationery, higher cost of living, plus possible flood damage causing additional pressure, that full payments may not be able to be made this month. Please email Julie (jcarrucan@albany.school.nz) as she can extend or offer alternative payment options. 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.

At this start of year we have many new parents (and some who have *simply forgotten* our road safety procedures). Every day our staff (and road patrol parent volunteers) are constantly reminding parents of our front gate and pedestrian crossing rules. This situation is only going to get busier when the construction site is fully operating in March. The school (as do any citizens) have the right to photograph and email ANY illegal parking or illegal child drop offs, and report the offence to NZ police. This is not a situation I want my staff to be faced with, however we hold the child's safety as paramount. We also cannot do anything once a traffic offence and fine notice been issued.

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The same rules apply to everyone– there are NO exceptions no matter how late you may be for work or what your circumstances are. So a few brief reminders again:

- There is NO parking in the bus bay (this is simply a drop off zone only) and NO Entry when buses are due, loading or dropping off.
- This morning the road patrol team notified me that two families had their children get out of the car whilst waiting in the queue on Bass Road. Absolutely unacceptable. Please do not do this, as if the traffic had started moving again we could have had a casualty.
- All parents please note that the back entrance to the school from Roanoke Way is not open for cars (except for a few allocated staff). When you are dropping off or picking up children from school or Kelly Club at the back entrance, you must park on the road on Roanoke Way and walk your child into school.

Together in learning

Maree Bathurst
Principal



Fen Guo, Jae Kim, Emily McGall

INTRODUCING JAE KIM

Kia ora whanau, my name is Jae Kim and I am thrilled to have joined the Albany Primary School community this year as a year 5/6 teacher. The past couple of years working as a Teacher Aide has developed my passion, respect, and enjoyment for teaching. I am eager to share my knowledge and experience with my students and grow alongside them. In my free time, I enjoy playing baduk, watching movies, and spending time with friends and family. I am excited to be a part of this wonderful school and look forward to getting to know all of my students and their families.

INTRODUCING EMILY MCGALL

Kia ora! My name is Emily McGall and I have the pleasure of starting my journey as a teacher at Albany Primary school, teaching year 5/6. Having been a swim instructor previously has developed my passion for teaching outside of the pool. In my free time I enjoy reading, cooking and spending time outdoors. I am excited to share my passion for teaching and get to know and work closely with my students and their families.

TERM 1 2023—Dates subject to change
Initial dates for Term 1

TUESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY—THURSDAY 6TH APRIL

Friday 10th February	Year 5/6 Waterwise excursion—Areas 23, 28, 31, 32
Wednesday 15th February	Basketball trials for registered players
Wednesday 15th February	Partnership meetings, 3.30pm-6.00pm
Thursday 16th February	School closes at 12.30pm
Thursday 16th February	Partnership meetings, 1.00pm—6.30pm
Friday 17th February	APS swimming grading day for registered participants
Wednesday 22nd February	Netball grading day (rainsaver 15th March)
Thursday 23rd February	Board meeting, 6.00pm
Friday 24th February	APS swimming sports for registered participants who have completed grading day
Tuesday 28th February—Friday 3rd March	Year 3/4 surfing
Thursday 9th March	FOS (Friends of the School) meeting, 6.00pm in the staffroom—all welcome to attend
Thursday 16th March	Interschool swimming for select students (rainsaver 17th March)
Thursday 30th March	Board meeting
Thursday 6th April	Last day of Term 1—school finishes at the usual time of 2.55pm

2023 DATES

TERM 1

TUESDAY 7TH FEBRUARY—THURSDAY 6TH APRIL

Half day closure for Partnership Meeting: Thursday 16th February, 12.30pm close

TERM 2

WEDNESDAY 26TH APRIL—FRIDAY 30TH JUNE

Teacher only day—Monday 24th April, ANZAC day—Tuesday 25th April

Public holidays: Kings Birthday Monday 5th June

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

TERM 3

MONDAY 17TH JULY—FRIDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER

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

TERM 4

MONDAY 9TH OCTOBER – TUESDAY 19TH DECEMBER (end date subject to change)

Public holiday: Labour Day—Monday 23rd October

PARENT HELP REQUIRED

We require helpers to assist set up 100 Math resource sets. This will involve being on site and making up the tool boxes, ie counting out 60 counters, including a pack of cards, etc. There will be some printing, laminating and cutting required.

If you are able to assist in this regard, please email Jan Munroe jmunroe@albany.school.nz with days and times that would work for you and we will co-ordinate one morning/afternoon that suits all.

HELPING HANDS

We appreciate and value the support of our Albany Primary School parents. There are many opportunities you can become involved in to support your child's schooling and make a positive contribution to our school.

Friends of the School (FOS)

Albany Primary School Friends of the School is a wonderful team of parents who are passionate about giving back to our school. We hold meetings once each term and would love to see you there. In the past we have arranged fundraisers such as discos, occasional treat (chocolate) sales, artwork fundraisers, etc and event organisation including our family fun event. All meetings and events are advertised in our newsletter. Make contact with Jan in the school office if you are interested in learning more.

Parent Help

Many teachers (especially at the Year 0—2 level) welcome parent help in their classroom for the numerous tasks that need to be completed for a smooth running classroom programme. This may be on a regular basis, or as and when required. It can be in the classroom or if you prefer there are small tasks that you can collect from the teacher to take home to complete. Let your class teacher know if you are able to assist in any way.

Parent Feedback

Surveys, questionnaires and general parent response is requested from time-to-time. We value your feedback and appreciate completion of these documents to ensure an even cross-section of opinion is obtained when decisions that affect the Albany Primary School community need to be made.

Teacher PALS (Photocopying And Laminating Service)

This group of volunteers supports 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, if you are able to assist in this regard.

There may even be areas that we haven't thought of yet that you could make a positive contribution—please let us know!

