



18th October 2023

Dear parents/caregivers,

Welcome back to our spring term. I am sure that every year the lead up to Term 4 events and Christmas gets shorter! We warmly welcomed, despite the rain, all our new families, learners and some new teachers to our Term 4 Pōwhiri. Once again our new whānau included families from all over the world including China, India, Japan, Korea, Macedonia, Middle East, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka and the United States, as well as students moving to Albany from other parts of New Zealand.

Last week we also held a very special grandparent / significant adult open morning. What a delight it was to see two and three generations interacting in classrooms. This event formed a very unique “ignite” for our Term 4 inquiry concept of Journeys. Stories were shared of ink wells and canes. The grandparents commented on how engaged the children were in their learning, “so different from when I went to school” was a common phrase shared.

At this time of year the Senior Leadership Team are beginning the process of planning next year’s classes. There are a number of factors that are considered as we place students to ensure balance across all year levels.

Looking ahead to our 2024 student numbers, we are working towards placing:

- 5 Year 1 Classes
- 5 Year 2 Classes
- 11 Year 3/4 Classes
- 11 Year 5/6 Classes

We use a digital platform to support this organisation, as well as seeking student feedback regarding their peers that they are familiar with and that may have a positive connection with. In conjunction with their class teacher they identify close friends or peers, or learner(s) that they enjoy working and being with **who do not hinder their focus on learning**.

If there are any extenuating circumstances that may require consideration (such as twins or cousins not to be in the same class) please email my PA, Lisa Elder, in confidence (email: [lelder@albany.school.nz](mailto:lelder@albany.school.nz)). If you have previously submitted a request for extenuating circumstances, we ask that you resubmit this for consideration.

We also request that you let the school office know if your child will not be returning to Albany Primary School next year or will be leaving before the end of the year (except the Year 6 2023 children who are moving onto Year 7 in 2024). Sadly it is inevitable that at the end of the year we will lose some of our amazing staff; as they can move schools, travel out of Auckland or internationally.

Thank you for your completion of the uniform survey. The information has been collated (see page 2) and does hold a few surprises. We will continue to seek feedback before any changes are introduced.

Together in learning

Maree Bathurst  
Principal

## UNIFORM SURVEY RESULTS

Kia ora e te Whānau Kura Albany / Hello Albany School Whānau.

We've recently completed our uniform survey community and student feedback sections. It showed some hugely passionate thinking around our current uniform and changes people would like to see. Key messages around pricing, safety and identity were common across multiple parent and staff comments. Colour was the only contentious issue with some fantastic student suggestions that included:

- Red as a colour choice was common in 3 classes
- One class suggested the uniform needed to be fluffy and have stars on it.

The simple graphic shows an overview of the main survey outcomes. Going forward, we have identified some clear next steps. These include:

1. The sport shirt needs further exploration as a uniform option.
2. Bucket Hats were commonly requested by all stakeholders.
3. U-B-U days to be explored as a way to reward classes / teams / year levels without a charity or collection.

We hope to have more information to share with the community before the end of this year, to allow ample preparation should there be any transitional changes for 2024. e. g new hat options.

Should Albany Primary School have a uniform?

- **90%** of staff and community members indicated they **would like** Albany to continue to have a uniform.
- **67%** of student responses (600+) **would like** Albany to continue to have a uniform.

What changes would you like to see being made to the school's current uniform?

- **40%** of community feedback wanted a different colour.
- Flexibility around hats, socks and footwear were common with around **20%** of recipients requesting each.
- **33%** requested that no changes be made.
- Bucket hats were commented on in both student and whānau surveys.

Is ecological sustainability an important consideration?

- **50%** of our community shared that ecological sustainability was not an immediate concern to them when buying uniform.
- Approximately **40%** of community responses indicated cost as being the most important consideration for uniform.

Is our uniform inclusive?

- **95%** of **all** responses felt our current uniform **is** inclusive of all students.

## TERM 4 2023

### Monday 9th October—Friday 15th December (full day)

<b>19th October</b>	Year 0/1 visit from Bio Safety Officer, 11.30am-12.30pm
<b>23rd October</b>	Labour Day public holiday—school closed
<b>25th October</b>	Year 0/1 excursion to Auckland Zoo (Areas 1, 2, 3, 20)
<b>26th October</b>	Year 0/1 excursion to Auckland Zoo (Areas 14, 18, 19)
<b>26th October</b>	Year 2 excursion to Butterfly Creek (Areas 5, 8, 9)
<b>27th October</b>	Year 2 excursion to Butterfly Creek (Areas 4, 6, 7)
<b>3rd November</b>	Gumboot Friday mufti day
<b>9th November</b>	Board meeting, 6.00pm
<b>16th November</b>	Year 3-6 athletics day
<b>23rd November</b>	Celebration of Cultures festival, 6.00pm (rainsaver 1st December) - refer flyer
<b>24th November</b>	Teacher only day—school closed
<b>28th November</b>	Northern Bays Cluster Athletics day for select students (rainsaver 30th November)
<b>29th November</b>	Year 0/1 <i>online</i> Celebration of Learning
<b>30th November</b>	Year 2 <i>online</i> Celebration of Learning
<b>1st December</b>	Donate a canned food or pantry item—donations to the Salvation Army
<b>4th-7th December</b>	Year 3/4 Big Day In
<b>5th-7th December</b>	Year 5/6 excursion to Rainbows End
<b>7th December</b>	Year 3/4 <i>online</i> Celebration of Learning
<b>7th December</b>	Board meeting, 6.00pm
<b>12th December</b>	Year 3-6 Sports Celebration, 6.00pm
<b>14th December</b>	Year 5/6 Celebration of Learning
<b>15th December</b>	Final day of the school year, school closes at the usual time of 2.55pm

### PRICE REDUCED—OCCASIONAL TREAT CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISER—PRICE REDUCED

We have stocks on chocolates that we would like to have sold before the end of the year—we have therefore dropped the price to \$1 per bar—\$36 per box. If you would like to purchase chocolates/box of chocolates please contact the school office. Payment via eftpos/cash at the office, or online into our school bank account (12 3107 0043717 00 using your child's name and FOS as the reference).

**Tickets on sale now! Get in quick. Final day for ticket sales 16th November.**

We require trestle tables, gazebos and food warmers for our families food stalls. Rather than hire these items, if you are able to assist with providing any of these for the event please contact Jan in the school office, email: [jmunroe@albany.school.nz](mailto:jmunroe@albany.school.nz), or phone: 09 415 9668. Thank you for your support.

**SAVE THE DATE**

# Cultural Festival

**RAINSAVER DATE:  
FRIDAY 1ST DECEMBER**

**THURSDAY 23RD NOVEMBER  
6:00pm-7:30pm**

**Performance by our Kapa haka group, and by  
Students representing  
Arabic, Chinese, Indian/Pakistan, Korean and cultures**

**FREE  
SAUSAGE SIZZLE**  
Provided by FOS  
One per person  
(until supplies run out)

**\$10 for 3 tasters**

**CULTURES REPRESENTED AT  
OUR FOOD STALLS:**

**FOOD VANS ON SITE  
(at users cost):**  
Harcourts Coffee & Cone  
Candyfloss  
Jesters Pies  
Mr Whippy  
Double Dutch Fries  
Coffee van

Arabic  
Chinese  
Indian/Pakistan  
South Asian  
South African  
Thai

**Tickets \$10 for 3 samples**  
(Up to one cup sized taster dependent upon food type)  
*Tickets on sale now from the school office or pay into our school bank account (12 3107 0043717 00) using your child's name and 'Cultural Festival' as the reference.*

**# AT ALBANY  
COMMUNITY  
HUB**

575 Albany Highway,  
Albany, Auckland

**MONDAYS**

**9.30AM TO  
11.30AM**

# PARENTS COFFEE GROUP



You are invited to a COMMUNITY COFFEE GROUP.  
Every Monday. All parents and caregivers along with  
their babies and pre-schoolers are welcome. Look  
forward to pouring you a cuppa.  
No rsvp is required. Gold coin donation.  
Ph 0212023864 (Erica Bariquet Lim ) for further details.



albany  
community  
action trust

CONGRATULATIONS to Ozzy P who was awarded bronze at the recent New Zealand Bouldering Climbing National Championships.

