



What's the hAPS?

29th February 2024

Dear parents/caregivers

We take this opportunity to bid farewell to Mrs Sarah Fish, Special Needs Co-ordinator (SENCO). Sarah has been with Albany Primary School for nine years. Sarah has positively managed our fantastic team of Teacher Aides to meet the ever diverse and challenging needs required. Sarah's enthusiasm for her role, advocacy for her students and families, and abundant energy and positivity will be missed by all. Sarah, we are sad to see you leave but wish you all the very best in your new role as a Service Manager with the Ministry of Education (Special Education Services), they are very lucky to be on the receiving end of your skills, knowledge and talents.

Thanks you to all parents and whanau that attended our recent Partnership Meetings. If last week's meeting dates did not suit your family, please email your class teacher for an alternative time. The teachers always reflect on how valuable it is to meet you as we learn so much about your family and your child. From your perspective we also know that to meet your teacher in person builds the start of an ongoing relationship for the year. If you ever have any concerns about your child please email your class teacher in the first instance. If your concern is of a team/school wide concern, please contact the relevant Deputy Principal. We appreciate that there is a lot of new information and routines for many families and we are always happy to meet or talk with you.

Congratulations to all our swimmers who competed in last Friday's school swimming sports and to those who have now qualified to compete in the Interschool Swimming Sports to be held at Coatesville Primary School on 12th March.

Many of our kapa haka group members performed on site at a function jointly held by the Ministry of Education, Watts & Hughes and NAWIC (who are a voluntary, non-profit association of women who work either in the construction industry or for business organisations who provide services to the construction industry). The audience were entranced with the students welcoming waiata. Our thanks to parents that brought their children back after school for this event, and to the supporting teachers, Mr Ian Thompson, Mr Faron Turner, Ms Aimee Redknapp, and Miss Summer Johnson.

Year 1 Mathseeds and Year 2/3/4 Mathletics subscriptions have now been renewed through the school. If for any reason you are unable to log in to your child's Mathseeds or Mathletics account please contact the school office (phone: 09 415 9668 or email admin@albany.school.nz).

Parents of Year 3/4 students should have received information regarding their forthcoming trip to Orewa beach for surfing lessons. There is a cost of \$42 for the bus and surfing lessons—if you have already paid your \$60 activity fee this cost is covered.

This week our Year 5/6 students are completing Waterwise sessions at the AUT Millennium pool. This is a highly successful programme that fosters water safety skills in readiness for next term's camp. There will be a Question and Answer session regarding camp for Year 5/6 parents next Tuesday at 6.00pm—this is at the same time as our Friends of the School (FOS) meeting in the staffroom—you might be able to attend both!

Together in learning

Maree Bathurst
Principal

PAYMENT OF DONATIONS

Thank you to those parents that have already paid their school donation of \$170. This contribution supports all our school resourcing. For donations paid by 31st March you can claim 33% back from Inland Revenue.

HOME STAY FAMILY REQUIRED

Our school is delighted to be welcoming an American student teacher (Sarah Richardson) from the Indiana University Global Gateway for Teachers programme who will be assisting in our Year 5/6 team for 10 weeks from 3rd April 2024.

We are looking for a homestay family for Sarah. She will be arriving over Easter weekend for approximately 10 weeks. The exact arrival and departure dates have yet to be confirmed.

The successful homestay will be able to provide Sarah with her own room and provide breakfast and evening meals during the school week (Sarah is vegetarian), and full board on weekends. Reimbursement will be paid at \$350 per week.

If you are interested in hosting Sarah as a paid home stay please contact Lisa Elder lelder@albany.school.nz.

TERM 1 2024

Term dates: 1st February—Friday 12th April

29th February	Board meeting, 6.00pm
1st March	Year 5/6 Waterwise, AUT Millennium, Areas 22, 24, 31
5th March	FOS (Friends of the School) meeting, 6.00pm, staffroom
5th March	Year 5/6 camp—parent Question and Answer session, 6.00pm, A21/22
12th March	Interschool swimming sports for select students (rainsaver 14th March)
19th March	Year 3/4 Surfing—Areas 4, 5 and year 3 students from Area 35
20th March	Year 3/4 Surfing—Areas 33, 34 and Year 4 students from Area 35
20th March	Netball grading for registered Year 4-6 students, registrations open today
21st March	Year 3/4 Surfing—Areas 12, 37 and 38
22nd March	Year 3/4 Surfing, Areas 10, 11 and 39
26-28 March	Year 5/6 North Harbour Sport—Bikes in Schools
29th March	Public holiday—Easter Friday— school closed
1st April	Public holiday—Easter Monday— school closed
2nd April	School holiday as set by the Ministry of Education— school closed <i>Kelly Club are looking at offering supervision on Tuesday 2nd April however prebooking is required.</i>
3rd—5th April	Year 5/6 North Harbour Sport—Bikes in Schools
4th April	Board meeting, 6.00pm
12th April	Last day of Term 1, school closes at the usual time of 2.55pm

We urgently require parent supervisors for Road Patrol (pedestrian crossing on Bass Road) for Monday morning and Thursday afternoon. Full training will be provided. Please contact Desirae Lagerwall (dlagerwall@albany.school.nz).

ALBANY PRIMARY SCHOOL SWIMMING SPORTS

Well done to all the students who participated at our APS swimming sports day on the 23rd of February. You all did so well and the organisers complemented our school on the positive behaviour and REACH values we displayed throughout the day.

Congratulations to the following students who will represent APS at the upcoming Interschool swimming event taking place on Tuesday 12 March.

Boys: Daven L, Christiaan O, Ashton L, Issac C, Haad E, Damian R, Hunter W, Hugo J

Girls: Lydia C, Adeline H, Kaitlyn Z, Raelyn L, Yuna O, Jessica W, Anfisa M. Tara M, Seren D, Britt D



AJHS GALA DAY 2024

Date: Saturday March 16th

Time: 10am - 1pm

Location: School Field

Albany Junior High School has their annual Gala Day coming up on Saturday 16th March!

They are fundraising for their whare wananga - a house of learning.

There will be carnival games, dunk the teacher, craft stalls, zuru target shooting, a bouncy castle for the littles ones, archery, human bumper ball games and much more.

Food trucks will be serving up a feast; candy floss, double-dutch fries, karaage chicken and spit food to name a few, as well as the super popular bake sale. Look forward to seeing you there!

For information about becoming a stall holder (\$40), please email julia.scott@ajhs.school.nz



Gardening at Albany School before World War I



Mrs Bathurst opening the Garden, 2017

Present day



Over the next few newsletters we will be focusing on different features around our school grounds that you may not be aware of. This week's edition is on our Community Heritage Garden situated behind our Middle School playground.

Community Heritage Garden

If you had come to Albany in the 1800s you would not have seen shopping centres, traffic lights, a four lane highway and lots of houses. Instead you would have seen orchards and market gardens growing almonds, apples, cherries, grapes, greengages, loquats, oats, (to grind into flour), peaches, pears, plums and quince. Cape gooseberries, Chinese gooseberries (kiwi fruit) and blackberries were allowed to run wild in the area.

In 1895 the Albany Surprise grape and Albany Beauty apple were grown by two local orchardists and named after the township. Strawberries were planted in the early 1900s and continued well into the 1980s. Many of our long term residents still recall "pick your own" gardens along the Highway and adjacent roads.

In 1903 the school Headmistress introduced "a school garden and development of a small stand of fruit trees on which pupils could practise their pruning".

With a grant provided by Transpower Community Trust, our Community Heritage Garden was created. This garden was officially opened at our Family Fun Evening on 31st March 2017. The kapa haka group performed and Principal, Maree Bathurst cut the ribbon.

A highlight of the area is a pergola with seating, over and around which plants and vines will be grown. The area is used as an outdoor classroom for teachers and students as well as a space for relaxation and reflection.

Enjoy our Garden—a legacy of those who came before.

Airborne and Clemows Orchard shops —photos taken in the 1970s/80s

