



21st November 2024

Dear parents/caregivers

Thank you to all of our families that attended our **Visual and Performing Arts Family Picnic**. Well done to all of our performers and staff involved in the planning and organisation of the festival. Many thanks to our FOS team, staff and helpers for providing the free sausage sizzle. It was an exceptional evening with warm sunny weather and perfect conditions to enjoy community time together viewing students art and performances—it really was a special occasion and wonderful atmosphere enjoyed by all who attended! Photos on pages 3 and 4.

Thanks to all the parents and whānau that were able to share in the excitement, fun and competition at **Wednesday's Year 3-6 Athletics day**. Ngā mihi nui to all staff for your planning and organisation supporting such a successful outdoor education day for our learners. Congratulations to those finalists that will represent our school at the Northern Bays Cluster interschool Athletics Day on Monday 2nd December.

Although we like to think we are “*post Covid*” and the days of my newsletter indicating “unprecedented times” and possible classes/year levels being sent home, this current wave of virus and flu seems to be even more debilitating or recurring, impacting many of our staff (or their families). You may also be experiencing this pattern with your own children, families or workplace. While we are fortunate in that we have a loyal and regular group of supportive relievers, the demand this term has been excessive. Adding to this complexity is that the external relief supply pool is also experiencing over-demand as there is a finite number of relievers on the North Shore. We have cancelled any support classes, had any non contact teachers in class, cancelled all teacher release, but despite all these efforts in the last two weeks once again we have regularly had to split 2-3 classes daily. **Thank you to you and your children for your understanding and support.**

In the next month there are a number of out of school class trips or events, which you have or will be receiving a parent consent notice to sign, eg Year 2 trip to Clip N' Climb next Thursday (28th November), Year 0/1 and 5/6 Zoo trip on 9th December. We cannot take children out of schools grounds **unless we have your signed permission** so it is vital that you return these forms as soon as possible so that teachers can progress organisation, including parent support numbers or the required staffing ratios. Thanks in advance to those parents who are able to take leave from work to support these events, as without your help and attendance we would not be able to provide these exciting end of year opportunities.

As advised to relevant parents, the **Year 5/6 end of year celebration has now been confirmed for Monday 16th December, 6.00pm-8.00pm at Northcross Intermediate School Hall**. Due to safety requirements there are restricted audience numbers so a letter will be sent home tomorrow where you can request either one or two tickets to attend.

We wish our Kapa haka group attending tomorrow's Onepoto Festival all the best, and look forward to the upcoming weeks of warmer weather and end of year events for the final four weeks of the school year.

Together in learning

Maree Bathurst  
Principal

**TERM 4 2024**  
**Term dates: 14th October—18th December**

**22nd November** Kapa haka performance at Onepoto Festival (rainsaver 25th November)

**28th November** Year 2 clip n climb trip

**2nd December** Northern Bays Cluster athletics day (rainsaver 4th December)

**5th December** Board meeting, 6.00pm

**6th December** *Year 0/1 and Year 2 end of year celebrations—online*

**9th December** Year 0/1 and Year 5/6 Auckland Zoo trip

**11th December** *Year 3/4 end of year celebration, online*

**12th December** *Year 3-6 sports end of year celebration, 5.00pm-6.00pm in the staffroom*

**13th December** Year 0-2 fun day at school, 9.00am-2.30pm

**16th December** Year 5/6 end of year celebration, 6.00pm-8.00pm—tickets required

**18th December** Term 4 finish—school closes at the earlier time of 12.30pm

**DATES FOR 2025**

**Term 1**

Monday 3rd February - first day of Term 1

Thursday 6 February - Waitangi Day - school closed

Wed 19 February - partnership meetings 3.30 - 5.30pm

Thursday 20 February - partnership meetings 1.00 - 6.30pm (**school closes at 12.30pm**)

Thursday 10 April - last day of Term 1

Friday 11 April - **teacher only day - school closed**

**Term 2**

Monday 28 April - first day of Term 2

Friday 30 May - teacher only day - **school closed**

Monday 2 June - Kings birthday - public holiday - school closed

Friday 20 June - Matariki - public holiday - school closed

Friday 27 June - last day of Term 2

**Term 3**

Monday 14 July - first day of Term 3

Friday 19 September - last day of Term 3

**Term 4**

Monday 6 October - first day of Term 4

Monday 27 October - Labour Day - public holiday school closed

Wednesday 17 December - last day of school for the year (12.30pm finish)







