



# What's the hAPS?

6th December 2024

Dear parents and caregivers

The song "*it's the most magical time of the year*" is so true in a school setting in these last few weeks of term with the energy of special trips and events; the joy of making Christmas treats and cards as well as the excitement of the music, performance and sharing our learners' success. With this time of year there can also be some anxiety around changing classroom and teachers. For our graduating Year 6 students there are also the "unknowns" of moving to their new schools. We hope that every child will be able to meet their next year's teacher before the end of the term. Please talk to your class teacher if your child is anxious so they can give them some reassurances around next year.

For some families Christmas is not magical as they struggle to put food on the table, let alone gifts, which is why we are so appreciative of today's "You CAN make a Difference" Salvation Army food bank. Thank you for your generosity and spirit of giving—we know that these items are greatly appreciated by those that receive them.

At this time of year it is with **sadness and pride that we farewell** those staff members that have accepted new positions.

To our permanent staff we acknowledge the **significant impact and difference to our school and learners**. We would like to acknowledge:

- Desirae Lagerwall—Team Leader and class teacher, 8 years service, moving to Albany Junior High School
- Cherie Goldie—Reading Recovery and class teacher, 5 years service, moving to Kaukapakapa School
- Danjela Martin—Class teacher, 4 years service, moving to Albany Junior High School
- Terri Cochrane—Class teacher, 2 years service, moving to Lyall Bay School, Wellington

Congratulations to the following teachers that held one year contracts for 2024, wishing you all the very best for your new schools:

- Kirsten Norris, moving to Kaukapaka School (and congratulations on your pregnancy)
- Sana Ahmed, moving to Albany Junior High School
- Summer Johnson, moving to Tirimoana Primary School
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We wish the following staff all the best for their next adventures:

- Deb Morrel (Teacher Aide and ELA), appointed as a Facilitator and Trainer for Playcentre NZ
- Joleen Posthumus, who will be travelling overseas
- Whaea Tanya Bavastro

Jess Hockly will be taking one year's leave to travel with her husband.

I would also like to acknowledge Viv and Steve Collins (release teachers and both retired principals) who assisted us initially through COVID "bubble school" and have never stopped since! Your wisdom and support for our school will be missed, but you have earned your well deserved retirement.

Together in learning

Maree Bathurst  
Principal

## TERM 4 2024

**Term dates: 14th October—18th December**

<b>6th December</b>	Year 0/1 and Year 2 end of year celebrations—online
<b>9th December</b>	Year 0/1 and Year 5/6 Auckland Zoo trip
<b>11th December</b>	Year 3/4 end of year celebration, online
<b>12th December</b>	Year 3-6 sports end of year celebration, 5.00pm-6.00pm <b>in the staffroom</b>
<b>13th December</b>	Year 0-2 fun day at school, 9.00am-2.30pm
<b>16th December</b>	Year 5/6 end of year celebration, <b>Please NOTE the location for this celebration is at Northcross Intermediate, 6.00pm-8.00pm—tickets required</b>
<b>18th December</b>	Term 4 finish—school closes at the earlier time of 12.30pm

## YEAR 3 –6 SPORTS CELEBRATION

We are looking forward to holding our Year 3-6 Sports Celebration at 5.00pm on Thursday 12th December in the staffroom.

A player from each of our **after school sports teams** will receive a **Most Valuable Player award** (as nominated by the team parents) and a player will receive the **Coaches award** (as nominated by the Coach). **Team Excellence awards** will be presented to all students in a team that placed first or second in their grade/competition through the season or semester. We request that all students attending wear school uniform (not sports uniform). Team Managers please remind your team about this event.

Albany Primary School sports awards will also be presented at this event.

## SPORTS REPRESENTATIVE LEVEL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**(for outside school sports teams)**

As previously advised, if your Year 3-6 child has been selected for a Sports Representative Team in 2024, we would love to acknowledge them in the Year 3-6 Sports Celebration slideshow (please note that you do not need to attend this event, unless you wish to). Please forward their name, sports code and sports representative level team that they have been selected for by Monday 9th December to Jan in the school office, email: [jmunroe@albany.school.nz](mailto:jmunroe@albany.school.nz). If you have already advised this information to another staff member please also forward the information through to Jan to ensure it is included.

## 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)



# Save the Date

Friday 14th March 2025



For the first time at Albany Primary school a fundraiser with a difference—for all year levels.



More information to come at the beginning of next year.

# Save the Date



# WHOOPING COUGH

**Whooping cough (pertussis) is a highly infectious disease and causes breathing difficulties and severe coughing fits. It can be very serious for tamariki and young babies.**



It can easily spread between family members by coughing and sneezing. It can also spread quickly around early education centres and schools, which is why it is important to make sure your whānau are up-to-date with vaccinations.

Whooping cough vaccines are free for pregnant people, all children under 18 years old and adults from 45 and 65 years old.

The Boostrix vaccine also offers protection against tetanus and diphtheria.

For more information see: [info.health.nz/immunisations/vaccines-aotearoa/whooping-cough-pertussis-vaccine/](https://info.health.nz/immunisations/vaccines-aotearoa/whooping-cough-pertussis-vaccine/)

**Health New Zealand**  
Te Whatu Ora