



8 DECEMBER 2021

School Newsletter

8th December 2021

Kia ora koutou whānau, parents and caregivers

I apologise for the additional newsletters at the moment, however, as is always the way at the end of the year there is plenty happening, which I feel is important for our school community to be aware of.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION - PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE



Sadly, due to the tight restrictions which remain for Tamaki Makaurau Auckland schools, our usual organisation for our graduates is unable to take place.

As I mentioned in our recent newsletter (29/11/21), this message from the Secretary for Education stated 'Ministers have agreed that **all schools will retain their existing COVID-19 settings** until the end of the 2021 calendar year, but guidance will recommend that schools outside of Auckland align their practices with the COVID-19 Protection Framework settings, which will come into effect for all schools **from 1 January 2022.**'

But we will not let that get in our way so, to honour our students who are leaving us for Intermediate at the end of this year, it is important that we celebrate them with the fine send-off that they richly deserve.

A link with a digital presentation will be sent to our families and whānau on Monday afternoon at 5:00pm. Normally you would come to Birkenhead College and dressed up ready to enjoy the Graduation ceremony. Although we won't be able to see this, we were hoping that at 5:00pm everyone could click in the link so it feels like you are all watching at the same time. We wondered if you might like to dress up as if this is live and share in this special celebration with your children, some of whom will be receiving prizes. If you think that's possible could you take a pic of your family and we could try to put the montage together as a wrap up for 2022.



Diary Dates

TERM 4 FINISHES

Wed 15th
December 2021 @
12.00pm



TERM DATES 2022

Term 1: 3 Feb - 14 Apr

Term 2: 2 May - 8 Jul

Term 3: 25 Jul - 30 Sep

Term 4: 17 Oct - 16 Dec

Staffing Changes 2022

We now have a new teacher for our second Y5/6 class. We welcome Barbara Henderson who comes to us with excellent experience and references and we look forward to her joining Tanekaha ready for Term 1, 2022.

LEARNING CONVERSATIONS

Following the reports going home on Friday, we want to offer you all the opportunity to chat to teachers about your child's report via zoom or mobile as we know that after a very different second half of the year, some of you may be rather anxious about next year given that teaching and learning was quite different to normal.

We feel we owe you this opportunity in recognition of the outstanding effort you each contributed to your child's learning throughout the extended lockdown.

Your child's teacher will send you a Seesaw or email offering you a time slot. When you receive that email, book in your times and your teacher will confirm your booking. Day spots will be available and some evening spots for those parents who are working.

Teachers will not be available for home learning next week. The reason is to give them time to have as many individual Learning Conversations as possible.



URGENT ITEMS TO BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL

SPORTS UNIFORMS

If your child has a sports uniform at home, please send it back into school with them by Friday 10th December as we are currently doing a stocktake. If your child is not currently attending onsite school, there will be a sports uniform return bin located at Salisbury Road gate tomorrow, Friday and Monday between 9.00 and 12.00 if you could please drop them back..



LIBRARY BOOKS

If your child has any library books at home, please send them back into school by Friday 10th December as we are currently doing a stocktake. If your child is not currently attending onsite school, there will be a book return bin located at Salisbury Road gate tomorrow, Friday and Monday between 9.00 and 12.00 if you could please drop them back..



CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Toitōi is a national journal of writing and art by young New Zealanders ages 5-13. We are so thrilled to share that Laura from Manuka class submitted some art work for the latest issue and it was published. Her illustration was for a piece of writing called "The Nerve-Wracking Mudslide".

Congratulations Laura, this is an amazing achievement. What a talent!



IMPORTANT REMINDER:

Please remember to pick up your children each day they are onsite by 3.00pm as the gates will then be locked. On Friday's it is 12.00pm for Year 6 children.

LAST DAY OF TERM 4:

A reminder the last day of term is Wednesday 15th December 2021. School finishes at 12.00pm. Teachers will bring classes to the Salisbury Road gate at 11.50am. Please collect your child/ren by no later than 12.00pm.



Adrienne Mawer
Principal/Tumauki
Birkdale Primary School

Stay well, stay safe

Term 1, 2022
starts on
3rd February