

BIRKDALE PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



Over halfway through...

With over half the term down and 4 weeks to go, we are racing to the end with a few school events that are going to keep us very busy!

Read further on for the details about our Cross-country, Kapa Haka performances, Matariki + Learning Morning and Samoan Language week.

A week ago the whole school went to the zoo which was a great experience. Buses are our biggest expense when organising trips away. I've decided to put some of our colour run money toward the buses for this trip, and for another one next term. I could see how valuable the experience was for our students and think this is a good use of funds raised, for the benefit of all. We've also used the funds to purchase a couple of gazebos. Our old one was on it's last legs, literally!

Below you'll also find information about attendance. We sent home our Term 1 attendance letter reminders a little while ago. These are to keep you informed of your child's attendance. The government's new priorities for schools have highlighted attendance rates; we now send our attendance data weekly to the MOE. We do have many students attending school regularly, but have a read below. You may be surprised to learn what is considered regular or irregular attendance.

Ngā manaakitanga,
Natasha Teinakore
Tūmuaki | Principal



MATARIKI

In a couple of weekends NZ will be celebrating Matariki.

On Thursday 27th June, the day before the long weekend, we will be having our Matariki + Learning Celebration again. A light breakfast is free but we do ask that you RSVP so we know how many to expect. You should have received a notice about this - please return to the office.

When: Thursday 27th June, 7:00-8:30am

What:

- Breakfast (outside so bring warm jackets!)
- Learning to share from this term in the Hall and Library
- Performances from Kapa haka

If you need to leave before 8:30am we will have a space in Mānuka to supervise your children when you leave. Classrooms will not be open as all teachers will be helping out with the breakfast etc.



EVENTS



Vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa | Samoan Language Week

We will be celebrating this week. We decided to postpone it 2 weeks so our newly formed Pasifika group had the most time to practise.

Hui Ahurei o Kapa Haka!

On Friday 21st June there is a combined school's Kapa Haka Festival at Birkdale Intermediate, during the day. There will be stalls for people to visit, food and performances to watch. Our school senior Kapa Haka and Te Puāwaitanga Kapa Haka groups will be performing as well - come along and support!

LOGO



We have revised our school vision, motto and values and now would like to get your feedback on whether you feel we need to refresh our logo.

Our logo definitely reflected the learning community of the time - what do you think about it now?

Do you feel like our school logo represents our school?

Please fill in the simple survey that was sent with this newsletter.

NEW SCHOOL VISION | MISSION | MOTTO | VALUES

OUR VALUES NGĀ UARA

Based on what you've told us you value, staff spent time at Teacher Only Days at the start of the year reviewing our school values. We decided that Kairangatiranga, Manaakitanga and Kotahitanga are values that guide what we are trying to achieve at Birkdale.

Since we use our values to help guide our actions and decision-making, we are seeing how they fit this year and will finalise them next year.



PROPERTY

SHADE: We are finished!

We held a morning blessing to name our shade as it is an extension of our teaching spaces.

The name for our shade is :

TE WAEKURA

Te Waekura is the name for the umbrella fern.

We thought our shade was kind of like a fern, sheltering us in it's shade. Thank you Matua Shannon for your time.



PAINTING: The plan is to start painting the school hopefully over the next school holidays.

Next 5 Year plan: this is due to be reviewed at the end of the year and begin June 2025.

We know there are issues with lighting in classrooms, carpeting and walls and some issues around the piling of a couple of our buildings.

DOWNLOAD THE SCHOOL APP -

We would like encourage all school families to download this app. We would like to start using the school appointment booking system from next term but you will need the app for this.

Download from your app store - you will need to sign up using the email you've given the school. Contact us if you need help.



ATTENDANCE

If a student misses one day of school every two weeks, they miss more than a whole year of school by 16 years of age. As a parent or caregiver, you, alongside our school, play a key role in building strong habits of regular school attendance.

You must let us know if your child is going to be absent for whatever reason, like a tangi or medical procedure. Family holidays or taking time off for extracurricular activities (not organised by school) are not acceptable reasons for being absent.

You can easily notify us of an absence through the school app HERO or email absent@birkdaleprimary.school.nz

All schools have a target of **80% of students attending regularly.**

Regular attendance is **90% present** at school (9/10 days every 2 weeks).

Birkdale Primary only had 45% of our students attending regularly in Term 1.

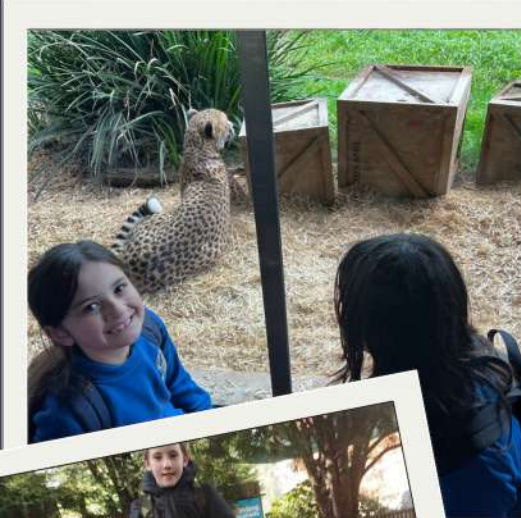
This isn't great. We will be working closely with families who are struggling to meet the 90% attendance target.

If you would like to know what your child's attendance currently is you can check through the HERO app or contact their teacher.

TERM 2 DATES (subject to change)

- Wed 12th June - House Assembly
- Thu 13th June - Cross Country
- Fri 21st June - Hui Ahurei o Kapa Haka @ BIS
- Mon 24th June - BOT hui 6pm-8:30pm
- Thu 27th June - Matariki Morning + Learning Celebration
- Wed 3rd July - House Assembly
- Fri 5th July - Last day of school, reports home.





THE TERM IN PICTURES





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