

11 February 2021

## Principal's Pen

Dear parents & caregivers,

Welcome back to the 2021 school year. I hope you all had some quality time as a family over the amazing summer holiday. Thanks to everyone for the effort put in attending the interviews. These have an incredibly positive effect on the start of the term as relationships are key to a successful year. If you were unable to make an interview time, please touch base with your child's teacher to start the home-school partnership nice and early.

I would like to welcome back to our team Kelly Mattock and Tarryn Gordon. Kelly is back from maternity leave and teaching in the Kauri Team and Tarryn has joined the Kereru Team permanently. We also welcome two new teachers, Trina Milner and Jess Rowley. Both Trina and Jess are teaching in the Totara Team.

You will notice our two Village Classrooms from the field have gone and we now have Year 3/4 classes in Rooms 21 & 22. The work is soon to be finished in the area where the two classrooms were removed from. Over the holiday period we had drainage completed on the field playgrounds so the bark doesn't turn to mush in winter. We had a new pool canopy installed with really cool logos for us and Dean Greenwood Swim School. We have also had two sandpits built for children to play in.

Keep an eye out on the school calendar for anything that is coming up this term. The Year 5 & 6 children go to camp in Week 5 and I bet they are all getting excited about that! There are also a number of other school events coming up during the first term.

I need your help if you are driving your children to school. Yesterday and today there have been a number of cars & buses going through red lights at the Onewa & Lake Road intersection. Yesterday morning I saw at least four vehicles go through red lights turning right from Onewa Road into Lake Road. These vehicles ALL drove through either the yellow lines and/or across the 'walk strip' when the green crossing symbol was displayed. Sadly some vehicles were driven by parents at our school. Someone will be seriously injured, or worse, if this driving behaviour does not improve. We have reported this to Auckland Transport and I ask that you please consider the implications of driving through an orange or red light.

You will be aware that we said a final farewell to our amazing Clare Powell on 6 January. Clare sadly passed away just before Christmas and many of our staff and school community attended her funeral. We all miss Clare so very much and know that she will have taught many of your children during her time here. We are looking at how we can make sure Clare is remembered by all those who loved and miss her at our school and will let you all know when we decide on a suitable way to do this. We were all incredibly proud of Sam, Tom & William Morrison who were pallbearers for Clare at her funeral.

Take care and stay safe.

Kind regards

Andrew Brown - Principal

andrewb@northcoteprimary.school.nz

## **Upcoming Dates**

Upcoming dates are published on the homepage of the school website and on the Calendar section of the School App.

#### **School Term Dates 2021**

Term 1 Tuesday 9 February - Friday 16 April

Term 2 Monday 3 May - Friday 9 July

Term 3 Monday 26 July - Friday 1 October

Term 4 Monday 18 October - Thursday 16 December - school finishes 12pm

#### **Public Holidays 2021**

Friday 2 April - Good Friday (term 1)

Monday 5 April - Easter Monday (term 1)

Monday 6 April - Easter Tuesday (term 1)

Monday 7 June - Queen's Birthday (term 2)

Monday 25 October - Labour Day (term 4)

### **NPS School App**

Don't miss out on what is happening at school. Download the school app and set up the correct notifications for class and team to suit you and your child/ren. Go to the App Store and search 'SchoolAppNZ'. Once downloaded search for Northcote Primary School. This is the one place to find out everything going on at and about our school.





#### **School News**



Northcote Primary Walking School Buses (WSB)

Are you interested in your child walking to school with a Walking School Bus? We'd love you to join us in 2021.

We now have three Walking School buses walking from Northcote Point to school most mornings of the week. The kids love walking to school and as a parent you just need to get them to the dropoff point, and they'll be walked to school. Parents generally need to be a "Bus-driver" once a week, however as we get more kids join, this may reduce. If you'd like to be part of this but can't commit to being the "bus-driver" every week, please get in touch as we can still work

out a way for your child to be involved. Your child can choose just to walk a few mornings a week for example, there is no need to do it everyday.

Children are collected from stops along a planned route and dropped off at the school gate. Along the way they learn how to safely negotiate the road as well as socialise with friends and neighbours, improve fitness and arrive energised at school ready to learn. In assemblies, kids will be rewarded their merit scheme in assembly and Auckland Transport run a raft of initiatives during the year to support and encourage those kids walking as part of the WSB.

If you wish to be part of a WSB or want more information, please get in touch with Lynn Drought (Lynnd@northcoteprimary.school.nz) who will be able to put you in touch with the right WSB Coordinator.

### **Community News**



#### Birkenhead United AFC

Football registrations for 2021 Winter season now open for all age grades from 5 yrs to 17yrs

Online at the club website: www.birkenheadunited.org.nz

At clubrooms on: Sundays 14th and 21st February, 10am - 2pm

For further details visit the club website or our Birkenhead United Clubrooms which are located at Shepherds Park, Melba Street, Beachhaven



# INFORMATION

# **MULTI-SPORT**

Programmes run once a week for one hour

This term we will focus on the following sports:

Touch Rugby (1 Week) Cricket (2 Weeks) Athletics (2 Weeks) Football (2 Weeks)

This weekly programme gives children active skills and confidence in a fun and enjoyable environment. It also encourages enthusiasm for sport and the life skills that such involvement brings – giving them confidence to join sports clubs and teams in the future.

#### \$89.25 PAY FOR 7 WEEKS!

Mairangi Bay School - Mon Forrest School - Wed Browns Bay School - Mon Northcote Primary - Mon Glamorgan School - Tue Campbells Bay School – Tue Murrays Bay School - Tue Takapuna School – Wed

Verran Primary - Wed Marlborough Primary – Thu Torbay School – Thu Willow Park School - Thu Sunnybrae Normal School – Fri Kauri Park School – Fri

All Sessions Start at 3:05 pm and finish at 4:05 pm.

Website: kellysports.co.nz

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