



# NewsSheet

15 March 2022

## Principal's Pen

Dear Parents & Caregivers

We are now into Week 6 of the first term and the weather is cooling a little now which makes daily life a bit easier.

We recently had a three days of aquatics training with a Swimming New Zealand facilitator who delivered 30 minute sessions with every teacher and class. This was very timely considering the horrendous drowning rates across the motu this summer. All classes are now back to their regular swimming timetable.

Covid is a word that I really look forward to not having to write about or talk about. Since our first cases at school on 17 February, we have had just over 110 children and 10 staff either testing positive or having to isolate as household contacts. During this time we have had to manage classrooms the best way we can, and we are very grateful to our pool of regular relievers and some of our wonderful teacher aide's helping fill the gap in some classrooms. With over 80% of Auckland schools affected by covid, we are certainly not alone in ticking that box. While we may be at the peak (or hopefully over it) we still have to maintain the best hygiene and safety practices that we can so please help by reinforcing the need to wear a mask if in Year 4-6 (unless your child has a mask exemption) and wash hands and sanitise regularly. Please reinforce to your children that masks must be worn correctly i.e. covering the mouth and nose, to give the best possible protection. I thank you for your support of our school and our staff during this rather tricky time.

Recently the board approved the Year 5 & 6 camp to be held at Camp Carey, Henderson, in Week 9. While at camp we will follow their, and our, health & safety protocols to reduce as much as possible the risk of covid. Camp is such an important event particularly for our Year 6 children as they missed out last year due to lockdown. Thank you to all the Year 5 & 6 parents who replied to the survey. There was overwhelming support for the camp to go ahead and Week 9 is actually a good time to go with us having hopefully gone over the peak of infections at school. In any event, colleagues I have communicated with have indicated their school camps earlier this term have had not dissimilar covid cases to those children remaining at school and not at camp.

As you will hopefully know, board elections are now to be held in September 2022 instead of May/June. Please read the recent board newsletter if you haven't already, as there is some important information in there about the upcoming elections later in the year, and the boards wish to go to 'split elections'.

Thank you all for your patience getting in and out of the Nutsey Avenue drop-off/pick-up zone before and after school and also for waving your children goodbye at the school gates if walking. Your children have adapted so well and are absolutely amazing!

You will also hopefully know that our long term caretaker, Jason Parnell, is leaving NPS on 20 April to follow some further business opportunities. I would like to thank Jason for his years at NPS and wish him the very best for the future. We have advertised for a new caretaker and will hopefully be able to have someone in place by the start of Term 2. If not, I may have to don some gloves and get some experience in another aspect of school life! If you know of someone who would be interested in this role please point them to the info.

Take care and stay safe.

Kind regards

Andy Brown - Principal

[andrewb@northcoteprimary.school.nz](mailto: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.

### **Term 1 2022**

Monday 4 April - Wednesday 6 April - Year 5&6 camp

Thursday 14 April - last day term 1

Friday 15 April - Good Friday - school closed

### **Term 2 2022**

Monday 2 May - first day of term 2

Friday 6 May - Mihi Whakatau 10.30am

Tuesday 17 May - Class & Individual photos

## 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.



## Community Information

# HEY KIDS!

Want to play football this year?

Registrations are now open to play at the best family club on the Shore...

## TAKAPUNA AFC

Junior Director of Coaching **Chris Bryson** is recognised as one of the best coaches in this age group. Come on down to Taka and be coached by the best!!



**First Kicks: \$165 Early Bird Discount, valid till 31st March**  
5-6 year olds (born 2015/16)  
**Fun Football: \$185**  
7-8 year olds (born 2013/14)  
**Mini Football: \$205**  
9-12 year olds (born 2009/12)  
**Youth Football: \$215**  
13-19 year olds (born 2002/08)

**Muster Day:**  
Sunday 20th March, 3pm to 5pm  
**Trial Dates:**  
Wed 23rd/30th March: 9th Grade  
Thurs 24th/31st March: 10th Grade  
Fri 25th March: 11th & 12th Grade  
Tues 29th March: 11th & 12th Grade  
**First Kicks** starts Friday 6th May  
**Junior Football** starts Sat 7th May

To register, go to: [www.takapunaafc.co.nz](http://www.takapunaafc.co.nz)  
To contact the club, email: [admin@takapunaafc.co.nz](mailto:admin@takapunaafc.co.nz)

# GIRLS AND WOMENS FOOTBALL

If you are interested in playing female football this season as a youth or senior player please visit our website below to register or if you have any queries please contact:

**Sian Chad**  
[sian@buafc.org.nz](mailto:sian@buafc.org.nz)  
[www.birkenheadunited.org.nz](http://www.birkenheadunited.org.nz)



## 2022

# Pop in and say hi!

Right on your doorstep is a special place where teachers, parents and children come together to build amazing communities.

Kindergartens are places where...

- Your children can make friends and learn to get along with others
- Your children learn naturally in exciting and inspiring environments
- You will meet and get to know families in your neighbourhood
- Teachers care about your child, help them develop a love of learning and prepare them for school

Visit Northcote Kindergarten today!  
7 Nutsey Avenue, Northcote  
or call us on (09) 480 7039

**Northcote Kindergarten**  
[www.aka.org.nz](http://www.aka.org.nz)  
[@mykindy](https://www.facebook.com/mykindy)

