



NewsSheet

3 March 2024

Principal's Pen

Dear Parents & Caregivers,

Welcome to Week 6. As the weather is cooler at the moment it's probably a good idea to just double check your child's bag to make sure they have a warm top with them if the temperature is not that hot. The later sunrise is an ominous sign that summer has had its peak.

We will this week start sending out our admin notifications on Hero as well as the school app. As we teachers and admin staff still learn how to 'drive' the new system, we will start using it more often. You should receive an email notification from Hero for this NewsSheet, but unless you have downloaded the Hero by Linc-Ed app and registered, or registered on their website ([here is the link Hero](#)) then you will only be able to read a minimised version of the information sent.

Our Kauri team camp from Wednesday to Friday last week was a great success. The weather was amazing, and the children had a great time doing things they may not have done before. A dedicated group of teachers led the camp with much appreciated help from some dedicated parents. Building positive relationships among your children is one of the prime goals of camp. Thanks to Heather Bartlett, Carey Thomas, and the Kauri team for putting in the mahi before and during camp to ensure its success for your children.

NZEI, which is the teacher union for primary & intermediate school teachers, has given notice of two paid union meetings (PUMs) on the North Shore on Friday 22 March. The purpose is to discuss new Government led initiatives and how they will affect education. Over 90% of our teachers are members of NZEI and under their collective agreement are entitled to attend these meetings. Our teachers are fully aware of the implications of this on our school, and your children, and are working together to spread the attendance at these meetings so each team only has one or two teachers away. There will however be teams that are offering supervision only with classes being spread across their teams. This should only be for half the school day.

Keep an eye out for upcoming events that you and your children may like to attend to support our school. The FONS family fun night is on at school on Wednesday 13 March so make sure you check out the details.

Legislative Changes

As you will be aware the Government has directed schools to undertake Reading, Writing and Maths instruction for 1 hour per day. I recently sent out a MOE information sheet for your information. This happens in most schools daily so we will not be making any wholesale changes to the way we teach. Your children, through an integrated curriculum, will be getting this instruction as has been the case before this announcement.

We have developed a draft Mobile Phone policy through SchoolDocs. Once this has been approved by the board, we will send out information to you and invite any comments you may have. This can be done through the SchoolDocs website (details will be sent about how to access this if you don't already know). In practical terms it will be business as usual for us. Any of your children who have already been bringing mobile phones to school, will still bring them to the office before school starts and pick them up when school finishes. Smartwatch use will still be permitted if the device is set to 'school' or 'flight' mode at school.

Siblings starting school in 2024

If you have any younger children due to start school in 2024 and you have not yet enrolled then please email or drop by the office to start the enrolment process.

Take care and keep smiling.

Kind regards

Andy Brown – Principal

andrewb@northcoteprimary.school.nz

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Upcoming Dates

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

Term 1 2024

Wednesday 13 March - FONS Fun night - 5pm

Friday 29 March - Tuesday 2 April - Easter - school closed

Thursday 11 April - Year 5-6 swim sports

Friday 12 April - Last day term 1 2.55pm