

25 March 2025

Principal's Pen

Kia ora koutou everyone

I hope this finds you all well and making the most of the amazing weather. It has certainly helped your children and our team here at school with pretty much every break time being enjoyed outside.

Last week the Kauri team had their Te Hana Noho Marae and Goat Island experience. The feedback so far has been amazing for both parts. The team were split in half due to numbers and everyone got to experience these valuable moments either on Wednesday and Thursday or Thursday and Friday. Our Year 5 & 6 children had a wonderful opportunity to stay at a Marae and learn about tikanga, (customary practices, values and principles), things very few of them had ever done before. The Goat Island experience was amazing and the snorkelling experience with instructors was a real highlight as well as learning about the history and significance of the marine reserve. Thanks to all parent helpers and a special thanks to the Kauri teachers for their planning and execution of a great trip.

We have recently created a communication procedure for when teachers are away from classes due to a variety of reasons. This procedure will hopefully be helpful for you to understand when and why your child's teacher is away from their classroom, under certain circumstances. The procedure will be sent out via Hero as a PDF this week.

Please be aware of congestion at our Nutsey Avenue drop-off/pick-up location. Pick-up after school is manned every day by teachers and this is for good reason. A child appearing unseen from in front or behind a vehicle could have serious consequences so please be patient when getting to the front of the queue to pick up your child/children after school. Children will be brought from the gate to your vehicle when it is safe to do so.

This year our school has been accepted into the Māori Achievement Collaborative (MAC) along with Northcote Intermediate. MAC has been running for many years now and its Kaupapa (principle or policy) is described on their website as: *"Māori Achievement Collaborative (MAC) is committed to the goal of Māori educational success as Māori, as defined by Ka Hikitia – Accelerating Success 2013-2017 (Ministry of Education, 2013). MAC's vision of 'A Change in the Hearts and Minds of Principals' reflects an intention to foster collaboration and personal and professional growth leading to changes in individual school leadership practices aimed at Māori success. MACs have worked to create a critical mass of collective leadership so that positive change is sustainable and enduring and impacts on all members of a school community, staff, students, parents and whānau."* Our school now has the opportunity to work alongside a MAC facilitator to help shape our thinking so that sustainable changes can be made for our school to meet the needs of our ākonga/children.

We have appointed two teachers to be our new Within School Leaders (WSL) for the Northcote Community of Learning | Kāhui Ako. Jennifer Brown and Jenny Lee are our new WSLs and we know they will work alongside other kāhui ako WSLs on the shared achievement challenge goals.

Family Fun Night (FFN) is this Thursday from 5-7pm. Thanks to all who have helped your children with their jolly jars. FFN is held on the school field and there is heaps of information for you on Hero if you are new to our school.

Take care and stay safe.

Andy Brown

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Upcoming Dates

Upcoming dates are published on the homepage of the school website and on the Calendar section in Hero.

Term 1 2025

- Thursday 27 March - FONS family fun night - 5pm
- Tuesday 1 April - NPS swim sports
- Sunday 6 April - Shore to Shore
- Friday 11 April - last day term 1 2.55pm

Term 2 2025

- Monday 28 April - first day of term 2
- Wednesday 30 April - Board meeting 6pm
- Monday 5 May - Friday 9 May - Book week
- Tuesday 6 May - FONS meeting 7pm

Scholastic Book Orders



Orders can be placed online directly with Scholastic or at the school office by filling in the order form and paying with cash or card. Orders close Friday 28 March 2025.