

16 September 2025

Principal's Pen

Kia ora koutou,

We are now into Week 2, with just over eight weeks to go until the end of the school year.

As you may know, all schools have been implementing the refreshed English and Mathematics curricula this year. Alongside these, we've introduced structured literacy and a structured approach to mathematics to support these curriculum areas.

Previously, children were assessed against the expectations of the old curriculum, which used Levels 1, 2, and 3 for primary schools. The refreshed curricula (and the remaining learning areas to be rolled out over the next two years) now use Phases instead of levels.

- Phase 1: Years 1–3
- Phase 2: Years 4–6

Teaching is now specifically targeted to these phases. As a result, composite classes (for example, Year 3/4) can find this more challenging to manage. To help streamline teaching, learning, and assessment within this new structure, we will move to a Phase 1 team and a Phase 2 team next year. Each phase will have two team leaders. The exact team structure is still being finalised and will be shared with our parent community once confirmed. As we head into class placement time for 2026 it is important that you let your child's teacher know of any areas of concern you have for next year regarding your child. Please do not ask for specific teachers however.

As mentioned recently, there is a strong possibility that the teachers' union (NZEI) will give formal notice of a strike on Thursday 23 October 2025. By law, the union must provide three clear days' notice, which means we may not know their decision until early next week. If the strike goes ahead, we will not have sufficient staff to safely open the school due to high NZEI membership among our staff. The Board will make a formal decision once more information is available, but we advise families to make tentative plans for school to be closed on this day.

SKIDS will be open in the school hall should you require care for your child.

Finally, a reminder about the drop-off bay before school. Some drivers have been parking and walking children to class from this area. Please note that this is a no-parking zone - it is intended for quick drop-offs only. To keep traffic flowing and everyone safe and happy, please stop only long enough for your child to exit the car and then move on. If you need to walk your child to class, please park outside the school grounds, either on Nutsey Avenue or Lake Road.

Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation.

Kind regards

Andy Brown
andrewb@northcoteprimary.school.nz

Upcoming Dates

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

Term 3 2025

- Cultural week schoolwide celebration 10.30am
- Tuesday 21 October - Board meeting 5.30pm
- Thursday 22 October - NZEI Strike - school closed
- Friday 24 October - FONS Halloween Disco 5pm
- Monday 27 October - Labour day - school closed
- Assembly led by the Tui team - 1030am
- Tuesday 4 November - NPS athletics day - year 3-6
- Wednesday 5 November - New parents meeting - 9.15am
- Thursday 6 November - Kauri social - 7pm

Sports News



Congratulations to Albie and Goldie Joyce whose outstanding individual performances earned enough points to retain the Overall Winning Primary School Trophy for another year in the 2025 Auckland Primary School Surf Championships

Albie took 1st place in the Year 6 & Under Boys division and Goldie secured 2nd place in the Girls division.

Community News

SUSHI LUNCH EVERY TUESDAY

"SCHOOL LUNCH MADE WITH FULL OF GOODNESS AND FRESHNESS"

KIDS LOVE SUSHI!!

ORDER ONLINE
Order cut off is 9pm (MONDAY)

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FRESH. DELICIOUS. HEALTHY. MADE BY REAL MUM AND DAD.

MI CASA
AFTER SCHOOL CARE & HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

CRAFTING EPIC MEMORIES IN A WARM & WELCOMING ENVIRONMENT

Pancakes, fruits and veggies everyday
Afternoon tea provided in all sessions.

Second and consecutive sibling receive 50% OFF

NORTH COTE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

We collect from Willow Park, Northcote Primary, Onepoto Primary & St Mary's Primary school.
Children from NIS can walk to Food-tech rooms

Limited places, book now!
Bookings: mi-casa.aimyplus.com

www.micasaasc.nz.co
0220841801



CALLING ALL KIDS INTERESTED IN PLAYING FOOTBALL

BIRKENHEAD UNITED AFC IS EXCITED TO OFFER THE SKILLS CENTRE PROGRAMME IN TERM 4!

Our Skills Centre Programme is a fun program for girls and boys aged 8 through 11.
It caters for all skills levels - whether you are a beginner or have been playing football for a while.
Run by experienced coaches these sessions will help your child make new friends, have fun,
improve their skills, and stay active through football.

When: Sessions will be held on Monday's: From the 3rd of November until the 8th of December

Ages U8/9 in 2025: starts 5 pm - ends 6 pm

Ages U9 - U12 grade in 2025: starts 6.15 pm - ends 7.15 pm

Where: At Shepherds Park, Beach Haven

Cost: \$70 for the 6 Sessions

We are holding a parents evening on Monday 20th of October at 6pm, at the Birkenhead United Clubrooms, for those who would like to learn more about our SKC Programme

Come join us and discover the joy of football.

<https://birkenheadunited.org.nz/term-4-skills-centre-programme-join-the-fun>