

11 November 2025

Principal's Pen

Kia ora koutou everyone

Welcome to Week 6. At the end of this term, we will farewell a few of our team. Lynn Drought, one of our Tōtara team teachers will retire from full time teaching, but will continue relieving at NPS so will still be around in a variety of classrooms next year. Carey Thomas-Senior, our Kauri team leader and Room 12 teacher leaves to take up a position as Assistant Principal at Beach Haven School. Fran Paniora, one of our Kererū team teachers will leave us to take up a permanent position at Coatesville Primary School. Yeri Heo, who is currently on leave without pay, but previously a Kererū teacher, is also leaving our team. Jennifer Brown, from our Tūi Team has resigned, as she is heading back home to the USA. As you know, joining our team in 2026 will be Melissa Grant, the new principal. Melissa comes to NPS from Campbells Bay School where she is currently a deputy Principal. Also joining our team is Courtney Ryder who will be our new Kauri team leader and Room 12 teacher. We will farewell all of our staff leavers at the end of this year, at our Prize Giving events.

Next year our school make-up will look different to better reflect the requirements of the New Zealand Curriculum changes that have occurred this year. This will continue into 2026 and 2027 with all other curriculum areas also being refreshed. This move is in line with many other schools who have already made changes, or like us are having to change their teaching and learning teams to meet the curriculum changes. Previously the curriculum had levels from Level 1 to Level 8, and each level basically covered a two-year period from Year 1 through to Year 13. The refreshed curriculum has moved to Phases. Phase 1 covers Year 1 to Year 3 and Phase 2 covers Year 4 to Year 6. From the beginning of Term 1 2026 our school will have two teams covering the curriculum phases for Year 1 to Year 6 instead of the current four teams. Phase 1 will have two team leaders and cover children in Year 1 to Year 3. Phase two will have two team leaders and cover children from Year 4 to Year 6. The Phase 1 team will have new entrant - Year 1 classes and six Year 2/3 classes. The Phase 2 team will have three Year 4 and five Year 5/6 classes.

Your Year 3-6 children recently took part in the annual athletics day up at the Birkenhead Domain and it was a pretty amazing event. Very well organised by Vicki Treanor and helped to be a success by our teachers and parent helpers for the day. Thank you so much for helping make this such a great day for all your children who attended.

I got to spend a day trip with our Tūi team last week also out to the Kiwi Valley Farm in Henderson which was such a great day. All the children loved it and it was such a nice experience for them all. It was a pretty cool thing for me to do in my final term too. Thanks to the parent helpers who gave up their time to help make this happen.

FONS has done a tremendous job fundraising for our School this term, raising over **\$8,000** in just a few short weeks through the *Mama's Lunch* and the recent *School Disco*. These wonderful initiatives, along with upcoming fundraisers such as the *Calendar Art orders* and the *Colour Run*, are making a significant contribution to supporting our School and enhancing opportunities for our tamariki.

We extend our sincere thanks to our former FONS leaders, **Astrid Powell** and **Rachel Henderson**, and to our new leaders, **Rachael Brown** and **Emma Matuschka**, along with **Mimi Gilmour Buckley**, for their outstanding efforts. Your time, creativity, and dedication are deeply appreciated, and we are truly grateful for your continued partnership in raising much-needed funds for the benefit of our School community.

There is certainly a lot happening this term as the end of year fast approaches. Please keep a close eye on the school calendar so you don't miss an important event for your child/children.

Take care

Andy Brown - Principal

Kind regards

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 4 2025

- Thursday 20 November - Interschool Athletics - Y4-6
- Friday 21 November - Onepoto Festival
- Friday 28 November - Colour Run
- Monday 1 December - Board Meeting 6pm
- Tuesday 2 December - Tui/Kereru Prizegiving - 1.30pm
- Wednesday 3 December - Totara Prizegiving - 1.30pm
- Thursday 4 December - Kauri Prizegiving - 1.30pm

School News

Scholastic Book Orders



Scholastic brochures went home with children last week. Orders can be placed online directly with Scholastic or at the school office. Orders close Tuesday 18 November.

Community News

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