

**BIRKDALE****NORTHschool***Respect Integrity Perseverance Empathy**Manaaki Whakakotahi Manawanui Aroha*

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Friday 13th December 2020

Newsletter

Term 4 No. 13

**Principal's voice:**

Tēnā koutou, talofa, bonjour, malo e lelei, kia orana and hello,

Time is flying by and Christmas will be upon us before we know it! We have a lot happening on the way to the end of the term, please keep checking the calendar on the website for updates. We have also had a few catch ups from previous terms so please forgive us with the short notices.

We started our term with the years 1-4 children getting a chance to brush up on their cricket skills. Week 2 brought a fantastic performance called The Monarch Butterfly show - scientists and sustainability. There were only two actors but they performed extremely well and kept the audience entertained and engaged.



The year 5 and 6 camp in week three was a great success with the children having a fantastic time. There was some trepidation on the first morning from some of the children, but excitement and lots of fun followed! Three days and two nights in a new environment, sleeping in cabins (not a lot of sleep the first night!) and many challenging activities. A great opportunity for all our children and one we aim to repeat every year.



We have had North Harbour sport in working with the year 5 and 6 students teaching Ki o Rahi over the past few Fridays. The children are loving the game and are very enthusiastic. If you would like to find out more about Ki o Rahi [click here](#)

There are a few events happening over the next few weeks that you may like to pop in your diary:

**November:**

- **Monday 16th School photos** - time to brush your hair and dress your best! Please ensure your children are wearing shoes.
- **Wednesday 18th Athletics day** - we start at 9:15, remember to wear appropriate footwear, hats, clothing (no little strappy tops please, t-shirts are best) and lots of sunblock.
- **Thursday 19th Interschool Swimming** at the Millenium centre, Albany
- **Thursday 19th BOT meeting, 6:30** - all welcome
- **Friday 20th Kapa Haka Festival at Kauri Park School** - Nga Muka will be representing BNS at the Kapa Haka Festival. This is in place of the annual Matariki festival which was cancelled due to lockdown. (You will remember we held the Matariki festival last year at BNS). We are due to perform at 12:30. If you would like to go and support Nga Muka that would be appreciated. (You are welcome to signout your child from school and take them to see the performance and then sign them back in afterwards)
- **Monday 23rd Cluster school speech finals, 6:30 at Kauri Park** - Good luck Alex and Raphael who will be representing BNS.
- **Wednesday 25th Interschool Athletics** at Birkenhead War Memorial Park.
- **Thursday 26th Road Patrols trip to Rainbow's End**

**December:**

- **Thursday 10th BOT meeting, 6:30** - all welcome.
- **Friday 11th Year 6 leaving function and graduation, 5-7pm.**
- **Monday 14th End of year assembly and awards assembly, 9:15 - 11:00** - This is a celebration for the whole school.
- **Wednesday 16th school picnic fun day** - A time for you to bring you whanau and be part of the day. All welcome.
- **Wednesday 16th Reports home.**
- **Thursday 17th last day of school.**

**Proposed Enrolment Scheme**

**The following letter has been advertised in the Local newspaper:**

The Birkdale North School Board of Trustees is in the process of implementing an enrolment scheme as directed by the Ministry of Education under section 11H(1) of the Education Act 1989.

The proposed zone is available for viewing on the school website:

[birkdalenorth.school.nz/bot/](http://birkdalenorth.school.nz/bot/)

All students who live within the home zone shall be entitled to enrol at the school. Further guidelines and instructions on how the scheme operates are available on the website, as well as frequently asked questions.

Members of the community are invited to send their comments regarding the proposed enrolment scheme in writing to:

The Board of Trustees,  
Birkdale North School  
213 Birkdale Road  
Auckland

Closing 1 month from the date of this notice.  
Nga mihi nui,

If you would like more information please [click here](#). This will take you to our website.

Please also be advised that we are in the process of applying for Special programme status for both Nga Muka and EDN.

### **PTA**

There will be a PTA meeting on **Wednesday 25th at 7:00pm** - we would love to see you there. We welcome fresh ideas and enthusiasm!

The PTA is organising a Christmas raffle, they are looking for some donations of new items. If you are able to help or know of some contacts who may like to support the school please let us know.

Deborah Widdowson is our PTA chairperson, please email her with any inquiries:

[deborah.widdowson@gmail.com](mailto:deborah.widdowson@gmail.com)

Or alternatively if you have any new items you would like to donate for the raffle you could pop them in at the office.

### **Road safety**

Over the past few weeks I have been becoming increasingly alarmed at the end of the day when children are walking out of school to go home.

While I have been out I have seen several parents waiting for their children on the opposite side of the road to collect children - that is fine. My concern is that I have seen those parents direct the children to cross from the opposite side of the road while ten metres down we have a patrol set up to cross your children safely **on the road crossing**. This is very alarming and extremely dangerous - my question to the parents who are doing this is - What are you teaching your children? Please take the time to get out of your car and wait for your children by the crossing on the other side of the road, this way we are teaching them how to cross safely and still allowing them their independence to meet you out of school.

Equally alarming is the amount of children walking to the church car park to find their parents' car. There is no issue with your children having independence and being able to meet you outside the school (we encouraged this after COVID as we could see how it was growing our children). My concern is that the church car park is a danger zone with cars entering and leaving, children are so busy looking for their car they are not paying attention to anything else! Please if you are picking your child from the car park, get out of your car and walk over to the fence where you can see your child leaving the school grounds and be there to guide them.

From early on as teachers we learn about Vygotsky's Zone of Proximal Development ( ZPD). The proximal refers to skills the child is close to gaining but not quite there yet - they still need a certain amount of scaffolding, like training wheels on a bike. I guess if you relate crossing the road or finding their car to ZPD for many of our children they are getting there but still need some guidance to stay safe and learn in a scaffolded way.

We want all our children to stay safe and learn good safety skills and it's our job together to make sure it happens

### **Lost property - please name your child's clothes**

The lost property went out on Friday and some got back to the rightful owners. Please make sure that you name **all** the clothing your child wears at school (including underwear -

swimming is starting soon!) It makes it so much easier to get items back to the correct person if it is named.

Can you please also make sure that if your child comes home with items that do not belong to them you bring them back to school.

### **The days are getting warmer**

Sun hats, sun block and wearing appropriate clothing will protect your child. Please make sure they come prepared for sunny weather

### **Blue Certificate winners**

Well done to all our learners for the past two weeks.



Whew! That was a lot of information, remember to take the time to put the dates that are important to you into your diary.

I have been principal at Birkdale North for two years now and was a little spoiled the other day at assembly with a certificate, some flowers and morning tea. The best part was the amazing comments from your children! When a child comes up and gives you a cuddle and says, "Congratulations Mrs McDonald, BNS would not be the same without you." It makes it all worthwhile! Your tamariki are the best!

Nga mihi nui  
Jan

## **Upcoming Events**

### **Term Dates 2020:**

Term 4                      12th October - 17th December

### **Whats on:**

#### **Term 4:**

16th - 20th November

16th November

17th November

18th November

19th November

19th November

20th November

25th November

26th November

9th December

10th December

11th December

14th December

16th December

17th December

Road Safety Week

Photo Life Class and Individual photos

Water Safety - classroom instruction

Athletics day

Interschool Swimming

Board of Trustees meeting 6pm

Kapa Haka Festival - Kauri Park

Interschool Athletics

Rainbows End trip

Helpers Morning Tea 11am - 12pm

Board of Trustees meeting 6pm

Year 6 Leaving Function & Graduation

End of School Assembly 9.15am - 11am

School Picnic Fun Day

Last day Term 4

**Photo Life: 16th November:**

The way photos are being done this year has changed. Like a lot of businesses Photo Life is changing to an Online Ordering.

Every student will get a "Key Code" with a unique code to purchase their photos through the Photo life website. The Key Codes will be the same for each student throughout the entire year, meaning all the photos they are in across the year will be available to view and purchase when Ordering Online.

The only change on Photo Day will be taking the portrait photograph of every student, whereas in the past they would have only taken photographs of those with order envelopes.

**The Walking School bus:****Currently suspended due to Covid.**

If you have any queries or need further information, please contact Mrs Singh, Room 10.

**Public Health Nurses** are available on 09 486 8996.

Alternatively call Healthline on 0800 611 116 or visit [www.health.govt.nz](http://www.health.govt.nz). The Public Health Nurses are able to help with providing things like nit treatment, action plans for students that have medical conditions and other general health queries.

**School Dental services** are based at Glenfield Intermediate, Chivalry Road, Glenfield.  
Ph 09 444 6160

**Hearing & Vision: Tuesday 27th October.**

If you have genuine concerns for your child's Vision or Hearing or want to rule it out as a contributor to behaviour and performance in school you can make an appointment at one of the WDHB clinics. Please click on the link below for further information.

<http://www.waitematadhb.govt.nz/hospitals-clinics/clinics-services/child-and-family-services/>

The vision screening is for distance only so if you have concerns for Vision you could see an optometrist, they will do a full eye check- Specsavers do free checks for children under 16 years.