



Kia Ora!

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From the Desk of the Principal:

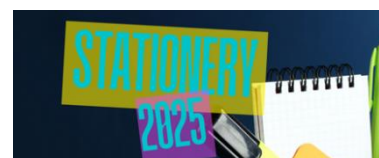
I would like to wish everyone a happy new year and a warm welcome back to another school year. We have some new families who have joined us this year and I am pleased to extend a special welcome to them. Our new students were formally welcomed at our Mihi Whakatau assembly on Monday morning.



Remember that our newsletter is sent home every fortnight, but we also have a Facebook page which reports regular events and activities at school. We also use the Skool Loop app for notices and parent interviews.

No activity fees – Once again I am pleased to announce that we will not be charging for any trips or shows this year.

Stationery Packs – The huge thank you to all those families who have purchased their stationery packs already.



Welcome to new staff – I would like to welcome Mrs Arianne Ivy Manabat who will be teaching Year 1 in Room 14. Arianne is an experienced teacher who has taught in NZ, the Philippines and Singapore. It is great that she has joined our staff.



Attendance – The Government has set a regular attendance target of 80% of students to be present for more than 90% of the term. We will be submitting weekly data from our school to the Ministry of Education and I will periodically report on our rates of attendance.

It is essential that the school is notified of any absences with an explanation given as soon as they occur. Unexplained absences are reported in our data as children being truant from school. A text reminder is sent to all caregivers if the school has not been notified. Please ensure that the office has your current contact details.

New Maths Curriculum – There is an information sheet being sent home with this newsletter that explains the **Maths – No Problem!** programme that we are teaching across the school. This is in line with the government priorities around the teaching of Mathematics. There is a link on the handout for a video outlining ways to support maths at home. If you have any further questions, please talk to myself, Mr Pickett, Miss Gardner or your child's teacher



Traffic Problems- Riverview Road – Unfortunately the congestion around the Riverview Road entrance is causing safety issues, particularly after school. Please do not double park or park on the yellow lines. Also avoid parking in the driveways of our neighbours. Children can not be seen easily and this entrance is narrow and not really suited for the amount of students and families that use it. It may be necessary to park further away



and walk to collect your children. Auckland Transport have been informed and may visit to enforce safer parking at any time.

From the Desk of Mr Pickett:

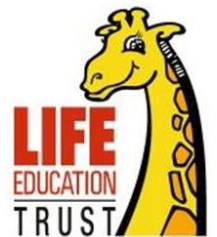
Welcome to Term 1, 2025 - Welcome back to all our returning and new families. Our wonderful teachers have been busy preparing for the term ahead. They have been learning about our new maths programme Maths - No Problem and are excited about starting this on Monday next week. Maths - No Problem uses a whole class approach (with integrated differentiation to cater for students needing extra support or extension). To make this possible the students will be splitting into single year group classes for maths time each day. Your child will be meeting their maths teacher on Friday so make sure you ask them about it! 😊

Inter-school cricket is happening in the middle of the term, students in years 4, 5 & 6 are able to try. More information will come home next week with those students that have been selected.

Free School Lunches - Lunchy is once again providing our students with a delicious free lunch every day. The students will be receiving a mix of hot and cold lunches that cater to all dietary needs. The Term 1 menu can be found here <https://www.lunchy.co.nz/menu>. The students have their Lunchy lunch at the beginning of break 1 (11am). This enables them to eat their food from home during break 2 (1pm).

Footsteps Programme - Every year our students are lucky enough to experience the Footsteps programme. This programme teaches students key movement skills that help them to work in unison with their classmates. All students in Years 1-6 will be participating in 5 x 45-minute sessions from Monday 24th February until Monday 24th March.

Life Education Caravan - The Life Education Caravan and its trusty companion Harold the Giraffe will be visiting from 6th - 14th of March. Each class will have two visits to learn about friendship, kindness, treating others with respect and resilience. We look forward to welcoming them to our school.



Coming Events:

Mon 24 th Feb	Footsteps Programme Starts
Wed 26 Feb	Board Meeting 6.30pm
Thurs 6 th March	Life Education Programme starts
Tues 11 th March	Interschool Cricket
Wed 18 th March	Duffy Role Model Assembly 9.30am
Fri 21 st March	Water Safety Pool Sessions Start Yr 3-6
Wed 26 March	Board Meeting 6.30pm
Tues 1 st April	Cross Country/Fun Run
Fri 11 th April	End of Term 1
Mon 28 th April	Term 2 Starts

Cornwallis Beach Trip -

On Wednesday 19th March the whole school is going to Cornwallis Beach for a day of fun and adventure. We encourage all of our families to join us. Pack a lunch, bring along your picnic blanket and join in the fun! Look out for more information in the notice coming home next week.

