

Welcome

Kia ora e te whānau, and welcome to our mid term update. It is always a busy time building on the amazing successes occurring each day.

Firewise

A big mihi to our local volunteer fire brigade for spending time with our tamariki and sharing the firewise message and strategies in order to stay safe in our school environment but also at home. We appreciate all that you do and thank you immensely for your service in keeping our community safe.

Ki-o-rahi

Our seniors are excited to have Matua Troy back coaching his passion for the game of Ki-o-rahi. Even on those frosty and foggy Wednesday mornings, our kids are out there, bare-feet and all, ready and waiting for each session!

School x-country

Well done to all our tamariki for having a go and demonstrating mana and perseverance during our school cross-country event earlier this week. Thank you to all our parent supporters who turned up and cheered alongside the rest of the school who chanted and encouraged runners over the finish line. There were some excellent individual results and I know Mrs Thomson will now use the timed results to select our representatives at Bush.

School Values

Our school values help to shape our expectations of ourselves in and around our environment. They are important for all of us to use and they support us in making positive choices. Keep up the great work demonstrating them!

Ngā mihi,
Pā Wes

Property Update

The school continues to be a bustling place of maintenance and upgrades. We are pleased to provide an update on several key projects:

School-Wide Paint Job: The hall is the first building to get the new coat of paint. It is not complete yet but Winter does tend to slow the drying process outside.

Hall Repairs: Still on-going but the best part is the heat pumps have been repaired and are operational again!

Block A Renovation: We are very pleased to see the progress occurring, even if our heads and ears are ringing by the constant drills and hammer noises.

Unfortunately there is definitely a delay of up to 4 weeks but fingers crossed it won't be any longer than that.

Pasifika Principals

Last week we hosted a few Pasifika Principals at our kura. They were very impressed with the learning happening in the classrooms but were blown away more by the relational 'va' (samoan term for connection/space) between all staff and students. We are very proud of the feedback from our visiting Principals; however, we know the realities of school environments are seldom consistent and there are many factors that impact on the daily experiences of our ākonga. While it is always nice getting positive feedback, we continue to pursue excellence by living our motto of whāia te iti kahurangi!

Mid-Year Reports

Our mid-year assessments are almost complete and soon after your child's mid-year progress report will be shared. While some of the descriptive wording and progress markers might have changed from last year to stay aligned with the government's new recommendations, please be assured that the written report works in tandem with our learning conferences where our in-person kōrero with you is of equal value.

AIMs Games

We are excited to announce that the trials for AIMS games are complete and the 6 players who will proudly represent us at Indoor Bowls in Tauranga will be: Molly Brown, Tim Bolton, Koda Ngametua-Smith, Delvene King, Kathy Burgess-Henson, and Fletcher Rolfe-Teahan. Congratulations to you all and now the extra training and fundraising can begin!

Support Staff Appreciation Week and Farewell

We chose to celebrate our support staff this week as some of our support staff were away during the official appreciation week. We know how important support staff are to every organisation and we are incredibly blessed to have the best of the best looking after our school and our most vulnerable learners. You are all MVPs! We would also like to sincerely thank Michelle Remnant, one of our TAs and support staff who has been with us since 2023. Today is her final day with us and we wish her all the best in her future endeavours.

Attendance Matters

Our average daily attendance rate (*percentage of students at school each day*) at the mid-point of term 2 is **91.9%** and our average regular attendance rate (*percentage of students attending school 90% or more of the time*) at the mid-point of term 2 is at **65%**. Our teachers would have made contact with you already if your child's attendance has dropped below a certain threshold. We believe a kōrero is the first step to address any issues of concern so please let us know if you require any support with attendance. That being said, let's push to increase our regular attendance so that all of our tamariki have the highest possible chance of long-term academic success.

Upcoming/Important Reminders

- Kings Birthday: Monday 1st June - School Closed
- Samoan Language Week: Sunday 31st May - Saturday 6th June
- Y7/8 Technology - Monday 8th June
- BOT Hui - Monday 8th June @ 5.15pm in the Conference Room
- Bush Cross Country, Alfredton - Wednesday 10 June
- Learning Conferences
 - Tuesday 30th June
 - Wednesday 1st July
- Cultural Festival - Thursday 2nd July

Our Awesome Ākonga

