COCKLE BAY SCHOOL
STRIVE ON
Mahi Kaha

NEWSLETTER

Children and their learning at the heart of all we do
Ko ngā tamariki me a rāatou ako kei te ngākau o ngā mihi

From the desk of Mrs Bigwood - 11 November 2026

Dear Parents and Whānau

Just recently, the Kōtuku team went on an overnight camp to Willow Park. The children had 'a blast' and so did the adults! Thank you Kōtuku parents for your support of the camp, and for all the extra help willingly offered….with transport, loading and unloading luggage and as parent helpers at camp. I'm sure our students will remember their camp for the rest of their lives! Thanks Rebecca Barton and Kōtuku team for leading the camp.

Kea team have visited the Howick Historical Village, and their costumes were imaginative and fun to wear. It was a lovely day!

The Weka Outdoor Challenge has been another exciting E.O.T.C event, as a 'stepping stone' for students having an overnight camp next year.

Then we had the senior school athletics. The weather was perfect, and all of our students showed commendable sportsmanship. It was a fun day and our competitive students showed their talents. Congratulations to those who placed, and especially to those going on to represent the school at the Howick and Pākuranga schools' competition. Thanks Krystle Hubers for leading our athletics.

We couldn't offer such amazing experiences without the support of our parent community. Thank you to all parents who have helped with our various activities, and to those who have come along to support their children and make the events special. Of course, special thanks also to the staff who made it all happen.

Writing Open Morning

We invite all parents and whānau to join us for a special Writing Open Morning on Thursday 12 November:

- 9:00am – 9:30am: Parent Information Session in the School Hall
- 9:30am – 10:00am: Classroom Visits

Come along to the hall first to learn more about our writing approach and how we support our learners. Afterwards, visit your child's classroom to celebrate their writing journey and see the fantastic progress they have made this year.
We look forward to seeing you there!





Term Dates 2027

Term 1
Thursday 28th January - Getting To Know Your Child Conferences
Tuesday 2 February 2027 - Friday 9th April

Term 2
Tuesday 27th April - Friday 2nd July
Teacher Only Day - Friday 4th June

Term 3
Monday 19th July - Friday 24th September
Teacher Only Day - Friday 22nd October

Term 4
Monday 11th October - Thursday 16th December

Term 4 -Important Dates

Thursday 12 November
Writing - Open Morning, 9-10am

Friday 13th November
HPPA Athletics

Tuesday 17th November
Junior Athletics Day (Years 0-3)
Pizza With The Principal

Wednesday 25th November
Year 0 Ambury Farm Visit

Monday 30th November
PTN Meeting 6.30pm

Friday 11th December
Year 6 Big Day In with Top Town at CBS

Sunday 13th December - Howick Santa Parade

Monday 14th December
Board Meeting, 5pm



Tuesday 15 December Term 4 ends - 2.00pm

PTN: Friday 27 November – A Taste of Our World!
Join us for our next special lunch event as we celebrate the rich diversity of cultures, communities and food traditions that make up our school whānau! Our International Food Day will feature delicious food inspired by:
Aotearoa New Zealand, America, China, India and Italy.

Food is a wonderful way to share stories, explore different traditions and celebrate the many cultures that enrich our school community.

We'd love your ideas! Is there a local restaurant or food business you'd love to see featured at a future lunch event? We welcome suggestions that reflect the diverse cultures and food traditions of our school whānau.

Please email your ideas to cbsptn@cocklebay.school.nz.
We look forward to sharing another opportunity to connect, celebrate and enjoy food together! Orders open on Kindo from Monday 2 November.

Nest: Health Education
Nest has been delivering age appropriate Health Education to Y0-5 students (Y6 earlier this year). Thanks parents for supporting this. If you have overlooked your donation, kindly go onto Kindo to fix this up. Many thanks!

Positive Behaviour for Learning (P.B.4.L.)
Students learn their values both at home and at school, and a positive partnership helps students to be confident of what 'good behaviour' looks like. Just as parents deliberately teach their children the basics of politeness, eating manners etc, at school we teach the behaviours we ask for in classrooms and in the playground. There is a weekly school or team focus which reflects school needs. Teachers have recently noticed some outside play becoming rather too physical. Only rarely is it deliberately hurtful. Usually it is boisterous, without thought of what it is like for the other child, e.g. pushing someone on the opposite team, or tripping someone up accidentally. It would be helpful if parents talked to their children about how rough play might hurt others, and that using words, taking a breath, counting to 10, walking away are better strategies when frustrated. Thanks!

The end of the year is a fun time for children, with lots of extra exciting activities, and we want everyone to enjoy all the opportunities we provide.

Junior P.E. Shed Clean up - HELPERS WANTED!
Krystle Hubers is looking for 1–2 wonderful and enthusiastic parent volunteers for a half or full day before the end of the year to help sort and stocktake our junior PE shed. If you can lend a hand, please email her directly! krystleh@cocklebay.school.nz

Junior Book Room Clean up - HELPERS WANTED!
Kimberley Rivett is looking for a few wonderful and enthusiastic parent volunteers for a half or full day before the end of the year to help sort and stocktake our Junior Book Room. If you can lend a hand, please email her directly!
kimberleyr@cocklebay.school.nz



Ngā mihi nui
Dorothy Bigwood

Singing Assemblies – Principal's Awards

Friday 13 November: Seniors
Friday 20 November: Juniors
Friday 27 November: Seniors
Friday 4 December: Years 3-6 ICAS Awards Assembly

Special Events

Tuesday 8 December: Celebration Night, 5.30-7.30pm
Thursday 10 December: Kiwi and Kea Prizegiving, 9am in the hall
Thursday 10 December Tūī and Weka Prizegivng, 11am in the hall
Thursday 10 December Kōtuku and Kākāpō Prizegiving, 1.30pm in the hall
Thursday 10 December: Takahē team Graduation Evening, 6pm in hall



Reminders:

School Uniforms
- Hats are needed daily in Term 4
- Black shoes or sandals only
- Found clothing cupboard between R 3 & 5

After School
- Students must go straight home unless supervised by a parent
- Students not collected by 3.30pm come to office