



COCKLE BAY SCHOOL

STRIVE ON
Mahi Kaha



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



Kia ora koutou

Dear Parents,

Our checks on the coloured sand used in the hall have come back. Two samples have returned a positive result for asbestos.

The hall will be professionally cleaned by a Class A licensed asbestos removal company and will remain closed and not used by anyone until this takes place. The hall will reopen once this process is complete and verified as safe.

We have also found, in another room, coloured sand that had been left over from 2024 in the cupboard. This will also be tested and, as a precaution, students from any rooms that are possibly affected will be relocated until the test results come back.

We want to assure you that we are handling this situation with the utmost seriousness and urgency. This asbestos contamination is connected to a wider product recall across New Zealand and Australia. If you have purchased or used similar coloured sand or 'magic sand' products at home, we urge you to check them immediately.

For information on how to safely identify, handle, and dispose of these products, please refer to the official government advisory:

- MBIE Website: <https://www.mbie.govt.nz/about/news/recall-expanded-samples-of-kmart-magic-sand-products-found-to-contain-asbestos>

We are following Ministry of Education guidelines. We are also working closely with an asbestos consultant team and a Class A licensed asbestos removal company. Their preliminary risk assessment is:

- **Low risk of airborne exposure:** the risk of exposure to airborne asbestos fibres is considered low. This is primarily because the material is bound together with glue, is gluggy/heavy and is unlikely to become airborne.

Worksafe NZ have been notified of the upcoming remedial work to be carried out in the hall.

We appreciate your understanding and support as we manage this situation with the utmost care, and we will continue to keep you informed.



Upcoming Dates

Junior Athletics
Thursday 20 November
Y0-2 9:00am-12:30pm, Y3 1:30pm-3:00pm

PTN Fish & Chips/Hot Dogs Lunches Y4-6,
Friday 21 November

ICAS, Mathex, Athletics Assembly
Friday 28 November 2:15pm

Board Meeting
Wednesday 3 December 5:15pm

Tuesday 9 December 5:30pm
Celebration Night

Friday 30 January 2026
"Getting to Know Your Child" Conferences

School starts Monday 2 February 2026

End of Year Dates 2025

Prize Giving Assemblies:

Thursday 11 December
Y0/Y1 9:00am-10:30am, Y2/Y3 11:00am-12:30pm

Friday 12 December
Y4/Y5 9:00am-10:30am, Y6 11:00am-12:30pm
Reports go home

Monday 15 December
Visit new class and meet teacher for 2026

Tuesday 16 December
Y6 Formal

Wednesday 17 December
Y6 Big Day In

Last day, Thursday 18 December
School closes at 12.30pm

Ngā mihi nui
Dorothy Bigwood



Swimming Pool Area – Safety Reminder

Re-fencing of our school's swimming pool began this week. Please remind your children to keep well away from the workers and the construction area at all times.

Once the fencing is complete, the pool will be re-painted in preparation for Term 1. If you notice anything unsafe or have any concerns, please contact the school office.

Yearbook - Don't Miss Out!

It's time to order this year's school yearbook through Kindo. Remember, orders close Thursday 20 November, and we're unable to accept late orders. If you're unsure whether you've already purchased one, just check your Kindo order history.

Seasons for Growth

Cockle Bay School is providing an in-school facilitator to run the Seasons for Growth programme for any students who have suffered, or are suffering from grief, loss or separation. This could be related to the passing of a loved one or a family pet, parents separating/divorcing, or the movement from one location to another (new school/new city/new country).

Please email Rochelle Stansfield (SENCo) for further information for the Term 1, 2026 group.

BOTANY TAEKWONDO

Botany Taekwondo has been training the ITF style of Taekwondo at Cockle Bay School for over 15 years.

Come and have some fun with us get fit and learn a new skill with qualifications that are recognised around the world.

We operate a 2 week free trial. Want to know more? Visit our website at botanytaekwondo.co.nz or just turn up at 6:00pm on Wednesday nights and say "hi". All ages and abilities are welcome.



Cockle Bay School

SCHOOLDOCS TERM 4 REVIEW OPEN

This term, bullying and harassment, behaviour management, and staff wellbeing and safety policies are open for review. For more information, go to the **Current Review** tab at the top of your SchoolDocs site.

Key policies

- Bullying and Harassment (board)
- Behaviour Management (board)
- Searches, Surrender, and Retention of Property
- Minimising Physical Restraint (board)
- Stand-down, Suspension, and Exclusion
- Staff Wellbeing and Safety

Measles



Measles is highly contagious.

Prevention: 2 MMR vaccines for anyone not immune (free for children under 18 and eligible adults).

Symptoms: fever, cough, runny nose, sore eyes, rash. If sick or exposed, stay home and call your doctor or Healthline 0800 611 116.

Important Reminder for Families Arriving/Departing by Car

As we approach "the silly season," tempers can fray and patience may run thin. Let's all remember to show consideration, courtesy, and care in our road behaviour to keep our children and community safe.

Please follow the road rules:

- Do not park and leave your car in the P2 drop-off area at the front of the school.
- Do not stop on dotted yellow lines to drop off children.
- Do not stop in the bus stop or mobility park - double-parking is dangerous.

Drive safely around the school:

- Avoid 3-point turns into driveways or footpaths where children walk.
- Keep your speed low at all times.

Parking & dropping off:

- Do not park on footpaths or grass verges - this is a ticketable offence and puts pedestrians at risk.
- Always let your child exit the car on the footpath side, never the traffic side.

Thank you for helping keep our school community safe!

HOLIDAY SOCCER CAMP

DEC 15 - JAN 30, 2026
FULL DAYS 9am - 3pm
HALF DAYS 9am - 12pm

OSCAR SUBSIDY AVAILABLE
BAVERSTOCK OAKS SCHOOL

CONTACT US TODAY
0210836672
www.holidaycamp.co.nz