



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

Swimming Contributions please...

The swimming lessons 2026 are absolutely fantastic, a real 'step up' in terms of safety and learning. Class teachers and teacher aides have been available to monitor swimmers for safety. SwimGym teachers are capable, enthusiastic and positive, and have been grouping students so that they are making real progress. Of course, the ratios are greater than private tuition, but all students have been actively participating, learning and having fun. The swimming timetable has been adjusted so that younger students swim later in the day when it is warmer.

What our kids say....

"Freestyle is my favourite because its the most complicated..."

"You get to cool down on a hot day..."

"I like getting wet!"

"You have goggles and can go under water and its fun."

"You can float on your back peacefully..."

"We can do deep dives under the water!"



Children in the pool are definitely having a good time! It is exciting to see them gaining in confidence and skills. Water safety is so important for children, given our beautiful coastal location.

The parent contributions for swimming tuition is \$45 per student, and we seek payment urgently now please. The school has taken on significant financial risk to offer improved safety and swimming tuition, and we need parent support for this to continue. Thanks to those who have already forwarded their contribution. If you haven't, please go onto Kindo now, thanks so very much!

Parking Problems Continue

The carpark at the Litten Road Shops is for shoppers only, not for school drop offs/collections. Getting cars towed away is a 'last resort' which is being considered by shop owners, so please respect their business needs, by freeing up their car park for shoppers. Thanks.

There is very limited parking available around the school. You are encouraged to park a bit further away, and walk. This could become a pleasant time to chat with your children, and avoid the frustrations of congested traffic.

Ngā mihi nui
Dorothy Bigwood

Term Dates

Monday 2 February: schools starts for 2026

Friday 6 February 2026: Waitangi Day (school closed)

Thursday 2 April: last day of school for term 1

Monday 20 April: Beginning of Term 2

Term 1 - Important Dates

Monday 2 - Wednesday 4 March: Kākāpō Team Camp, Carey Park

Friday 6 March: NEST Consulting, Takahē Team

Tuesday 10 March: PhotoLife School photos; Girls' Smash Cricket HPPA

Wednesday 11 March: HPPA Cricket

Thursday 19 March: HPPA Swimming; Board meeting, 5.15pm

Tuesday 24 March + Thursday 26 March: Tūi Team trip to Botannic Gardens

Wednesday 25 - Friday 27 March: Takahē Team Camp, Tōtara Springs Christian Camp

Monday 30 March: Year 1 Kea Team Fire Brigade visits school

Thursday 2 April: P.T.N. Non-uniform Day and The Colour Run Fundraiser (starting 1pm). End of term 3pm.

Attendance Matters

One of the things schools are expected to continue to focus on in 2026 is student attendance. Our school's attendance management plan is on the school's website under 'Our School' 'Guiding Documents'.

If a student misses one day of school every two weeks, they miss more than a whole year of school by 16 years of age. As a parent or caregiver, you, alongside our school, play a key role in building strong habits of regular school attendance.

All students are legally required to attend school every day and it is a shared responsibility to make sure students attend and engage in learning from when they first start school.

You must let the school know if your child is going to be absent or intends to be absent for a portion of the school term for whatever reason. Family holidays or taking time off for extracurricular activities (not organised by school) are not acceptable reasons for being absent.

Knowing if your child is well enough to go to school can be tricky. If you are unsure, there is guidance available at Health N.Z., or you can get in touch with the school office for advice, and we can work together to support your child/children's attendance.

Going to school every day is important for all school aged children. It helps build their confidence and social skills, and to achieve their education and life ambitions.

If you're struggling at home with getting your child to school, talk to us. If you are finding it hard to get your child to school, please talk with us so we can work together. Our school is committed to supporting your child to attend school.

Our school continues to build a culture that fosters attendance every day by having:

- School staff who have strong relationships with students and family.
- A school culture that recognises your child and your family for who you are, where you come from and what you value.
- School staff that take all practical steps to make sure your child is at school and progressing in their learning.
- A school that is safe and welcoming for everyone in our school community.

If you have any attendance queries and issues, please contact us so we can work together.

Term 4 Summary

How many students regularly attended school this term?

Regular Attendance

77%

Compared to 79% in Term 4, 2024

Irregular Absence 14%

Compared to 15% in Term 4, 2024

Moderate Absence 6%

Compared to 5% in Term 4, 2024

Chronic Absence 2%

Compared to 2% in Term 4, 2024

What were the main reasons given for absence this term?

1. (M) Illness / Medical Absence 47%
2. (G) Holiday 24%
3. (E) Accepted (but unjustified) 21%
4. (J) Explained and Approved 5%
5. (T) Unexplained / Trivial 2%

How many students were on time to class?

96% of students are arriving on-time regularly (i.e. over 90% of the time)



Checklist for Parents

- Swimming contribution due (no refunds for missed lessons)
- Year 6 Nest Consulting Positive Puberty payment
- Camp contributions Year 5 and Year 6
- P.T.N. Colour Run Sign up



Correct school uniform to/from school
<https://www.cocklebay.school.nz/uniform/>

Health Needs

Inform the school office (office@cocklebay.school.nz)
For students with high needs, contact the LSL/SENCo
rochelle@cocklebay.school.nz

Arrival / Departure

- School starts at 8.45am and students should be arriving by 8.30am. From 8-8.15am early arrivers need to wait under the dome.
- School finishes 3pm. All students should go straight home. If waiting to be collected, they are advised to wait by the gate, and come to the office if not collected by 3.30pm. There is no supervision of playgrounds after school.
- For safety, please use the pedestrian crossings



Trelawn Pedestrian Crossing

Can you help for 15 minutes either morning or afternoon? We need parent supervision and would greatly appreciate any offer. Please contact office@cocklebay.school.nz. Grateful thanks to those already involved, but we have gaps in the roster.

Uniform Shop - Volunteers Needed

Looking for 2 more people to join our beautiful volunteer team at the uniform shop. We ask approximately 45 min of your time on a Monday from 8.15-9am once a month. If you are able to help please email fieke006@hotmail.com

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 (LSL/SENCo) for further information for the Term 1, 2026 group.



Team Assemblies - Principal's Awards

- Friday 6 March:** Junior Assembly (Tūi Team)
- Friday 13 March:** Senior Assembly (Kōtuku Team)
- Friday 20 March:** Senior Assembly (Kākāpō Team)
- Friday 27 March:** Junior assembly (Kea Team)
- Friday 3 April:** No assembly (Good Friday)



Because life's busy - we make care easy!

WE OFFER:

- Before, After Care & Holiday Programmes
- Fun, caring and safe environment
- Healthy breakfast and afternoon tea
- Various activities - arts and crafts, sports, cooking and baking.
- Help with homework
- Experienced and caring staff
- WINZ subsidies available



BOOKINGS OPEN NOW

www.bizzybodz.co.nz
09 530 9020

Payment/WINZ

- Payment is required at time of booking to be confirmed
- WINZ forms need to be submitted when making your booking, a 25% deposit is required to secure your booking

How to book

Booking with Enrolmy
We're excited to announce that our new Bizzy Bodz site is now live on Enrolmy: enrolmy.com/bizzy-bodz. Please visit the site to register your account and get started.

With our new booking system, you will need to:
• Add your child(ren)
• Complete a safety form (enrolment form) for each child
• Finalise your bookings

Location	
Based in the school hall	
7.30am - 6.00pm	
Prices	
7.30am - 8.30am	\$8.00
8.30am - 3.00pm	see over
3.00pm - 4.30pm	\$10.00
3.00pm - 6.00pm	\$14.00



Bookings

- Bookings can be made on or before the day of attendance however, please note, there are **limited** spaces available
- Drop off and pick up outside of booked hours will incur an extra fee
- Refunds are not available once the holiday period has begun, however day swaps can be made in advance by contacting the head office (subject to availability)

2nd hand Uniform Winter Sale

Under the dome
Friday 27th of March
2.30 - 3.30 pm

Buy a fleece for only \$5!

COME AND JOIN US!

FOR MORE INFO, ASK AT THE OFFICE