



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 katoa

Dear Parents and Whānau

### Celebrating Term 1

What a fantastic term it has been for our students. Cockle Bay School has offered wonderfully exciting opportunities and it has been great to see students making the most of everything offered. Swimming has been a highlight for all, along with Tūi team going to the Botanic Gardens, and visits for Kea team by the Police and Fire Trucks. Early next term, Weka and Kōtuku teams will be heading off to the Auckland Zoo.



It was an absolute privilege to spend time with our Year 5 campers at Carey Park and Year 6 campers at Tōtara Springs. Camp is always a highlight of the school year, providing a supportive environment for our students to forge new friendships while building that all-important independence and resilience. It was a joy to watch our students step up and take charge of their daily routines, from the simple responsibility of managing their own dishes /belongings, trying new foods to the thrill of a camp fire / water slides / river plunge, and our students embraced every moment. The weather wasn't kind for Year 6 but they remained safe and had a great time. Experiences of this scale don't happen without an incredible team. A special thank you goes to camp teachers (led by Miss Hewlett, Mrs Warner and supported by Mr Marshall) as well as our amazing parent helpers. The willingness of staff to give up their time and energy is what makes these lifelong memories possible for our children.

The P.T.N.'s Colour Run was arguably the best ever! Thanks so much to all our parent community who supported this fundraiser, and huge thanks to the P.T.N. for offering the event. Our staff and students had a wonderful time on a warm, sunny afternoon.

### Staff News

Congratulations to Mrs. Mandy Fischer who is having a baby. We are very excited for her and wish her well. She will go on maternity leave at the end of July. Miss Henty leaves early next term for maternity leave and we wish her all the best in this new phase of life.

This is an opportunity for me to thank all of the staff at Cockle Bay for their work to make a very busy, short term so successful. Your commitment is really valued - you make Cockle Bay School a very special place! I wish you a good rest over the Easter holiday.

### Conference booking - links

Please book a conference with your child/ren's teacher/s.

All classes: <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/pfmfu> (link)

Rooms 15+19 ONLY: <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code/cns7u> (link)

Dorothy Bigwood



## Term Dates

**Term 2:** Monday 20 April - Thursday 2 July

**Friday 29 May:** Teacher Only Day

**Monday 1 June:** Kings Birthday

**Friday 3 July:** Teacher Only Day

## Term 2 -Important Dates

**Thursday 2 April: End of term** - school closes at normal time of 3pm.

**School Holidays (includes Easter):**  
**(Good Friday):** Friday 3 April until Friday 17 April

**Tuesday 28 April:** Conferences for Rms 15+19 (ONLY) from 2-8pm

**Wednesday 29 April:** Zoo trip, Kōtuku Team

**Thursday 30 April:** conferences (for all classes except Rms 15, 19, 26, 30, 31) from 2.20-8pm; students collected at 2pm if possible

**Monday 4 May - Friday 8 May:** Scholastic Book Fair in the library and Book Week

**Tuesday 5 May:** Weka Team Auckland Zoo trip

**Wednesday 6 May:** Kea Team trip to Butterfly Creek

**Friday 8 May:** Book Character Parade (come dressed as your favourite book character)

# Checklist for Parents

## Reminders...

### Attendance

Staff are actively following up on students whose absences are of concern this term (see Ministry attendance categories).

**In the next few days, you will receive an email**

**from eTAP showing your child's/children's attendance this term.**

The Ministry's and our school's expectation is 90% attendance, which means less than 5 days' absence per term.

It is compulsory to attend school regularly, unless a specific exemption has been approved by the school and Ministry of Education.

Parents who are experiencing challenges in bringing their child/children to school are asked to contact school staff who will do all they can to help and support.

### End of Term Checklist:

- 'Found property' is located in the cupboard at the end of Room 3. At the end of term this collection of expensive clothing is given to our second hand clothing shop unless it is named and we can find its owner.
- Wearing our school uniform correctly shows pride in our school. If you are buying school uniform items over the holidays, kindly note it includes black shoes or sandals (no colour, no crocs, no backless sandals), navy or white socks, navy tights. There is a sports uniform for Years 3-6.
- There may be workmen in the school grounds over the break. The community is welcome to come and play, but for safety, please actively supervise your children.

### Other Reminders:

- Swimming \$45 (it's not too late!) Contributions can be paid through KINDO
- School Donation reminder, please pay this through KINDO
- Advise school of any medical conditions or other student needs
- No phones/smart watches to be used at school
- Digital agreements signed and returned



Fig. 2: Stepped Attendance Response (STAR). Student attendance categories

# KEEP THE PROGRESS FLOWING

**TERM 2 2026 DATES:**  
MONDAY 20<sup>th</sup> APRIL - SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> JULY  
**AVAILABLE LOCATIONS:**

HOWICK

LLOYD ELSMORE

PAPATOETOE

OTARA

**PROGRESS DOESN'T PAUSE FOR WINTER.  
STRONG SWIMMERS DON'T EITHER.**

**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**

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## Team Assemblies - Principal's Awards

- Friday 24 April:** no assembly (first week back at school)
- Friday 1 May:** Weka Team (Junior)
- Friday 8 May:** Book Character Parade (end of Book Week)
- Friday 15 May:** Takahē Team (Senior)
- Friday 22 May:** Tūi Team (Junior)
- Friday 29 May:** no assembly (Teacher Only Day)