

19 February 2025

## Principal's Pen

Kia ora koutou everyone

Welcome to Week 3. I hope this finds you all well. Thankfully the sun is still shining, the weather is pretty settled, the ground is dry, and your lovely children have settled in so well.

### Road Safety

Please help your children be safe crossing the roads when coming to or from school. Very recently one of your children at our school was very lucky to not be hit by a car at the light-controlled crossing on Lake Road by Kawana Street. They were doing everything right, crossing on the 'Green Man', but a car drove straight through the red light. Please consider having them walk to the Lake and Onewa Road crossing which is patrolled before and after school.

### Teacher Only Days

The first stage for the rollout of the refreshed NZ Curriculum starts this term. Our schools Professional Learning & Development (PLD) for Structured Literacy started in Term 3 last year for our Year 0-3 teachers. This term PLD starts for Year 4-6 teachers. This PLD includes non-teaching staff like our AP/DP/LSC as well as myself. These sessions require teachers to attend an initial three-day session offsite, as was the case last year. We also have new Structural Mathematics PLD starting this term. We will have six teachers attending Maths PLD during Term 1. The Ministry of Education has allocated two teacher only days for PLD for Structured Literacy and Structural Maths, one for Term 1 and one for Term 2. In Term 4 last year we sent out the date for our Term 1 Teacher Only Day. We do appreciate these may cause some disruption for you, but these days are the only way to allow our teachers to engage in essential professional learning to enhance the implementation of both Structured Literacy & Structural Maths. Our Teacher Only Days (School Closed on these days) for Term 1 and Term 2 are as follows:

**Term 1 – Friday 14th March 2025**

**Term 2 – Friday 30th May 2025**

### Community

Late last year I met with Auckland Transport (AT) and BECA engineers following feedback on the Onewa Road traffic corridor. AT and BECA are working on safety improvements that could be made to the area surrounding our school, including Queen Street. AT have indicated they would like to hold some public consultation sessions and will likely hold one in our school hall. We will send out details when and if they come to us. The Onewa and Lake Road intersection is in the two most dangerous before and after school crossings in Auckland so please make sure you have your say when this opportunity arises.

Keep an eye on your Hero app for any notices and information on upcoming events. The website school calendar is also another source of dates to keep you informed.

Andy Brown - Principal

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## Upcoming Dates

Upcoming dates are published on the homepage of the school website and on the Calendar section in Hero.

### **Term 1 2025**

- Tuesday 4 March - Board Meeting 6pm
- Friday 14 March - Teacher Only Day - school closed to children
- Thursday 27 March - Fons family fun night - 5pm
- Tuesday 1 April - NPS swim sports
- Sunday 6 April - Shore to Shore
- Friday 11 April - last day term 1 2.55pm