

Respect Integrity Perseverance Empathy

Manaaki Whakakotahi Manawanui Aroha

213 Birkdale Road, Birkdale, Auckland 0626

(09) 483 8674: Mobile 027 814 0340

office@birkdalenorth.school.nz



Birkdale
North School

OUR VISION

Proud unique individuals, who are **creative, passionate** and **critical learners**

Our School policies can be found in [SchoolDocs](#).

Search for '**Birkdale North School**' from the tab in the top right corner '**Search for your School**'.

Hepetema 2025
September 2025

Kawerongo
Newsletter

Kaupeka toru
Term 3

Principal's voice

We are already in week 8 and time is speeding by. I wanted to get this newsletter out to you all as I will be away for a few weeks from Thursday 4th September. I will be back on Monday 13th October. This is a long awaited trip which was originally planned just as Covid struck. Five years on I am excited to be spending a little time in Scotland to catch up with my family, but the majority of the time will be spent travelling in Europe. Anne-Marie Wrightson will be acting principal in my absence.

What to do if your child needs medication administered during the day

We understand that there are times when your child may need to have medication administered at school. We are happy to support you with this and ask that you follow our procedures to ensure you and all other children are safe.

- We need written permission to administer any type of medication. Please ensure you email Marion - office@birkdalenorth.school.nz with permission and clear instructions regarding the medication.
- Please ensure you deliver the medication to the office and hand it over to Marion or Staff members working in the office at that time. If you are unable to deliver the medication we ask that another responsible adult delivers it on your behalf. Please remember we need written permission from you regardless of who brings the medication. (email or a hard copy is fine)
- Do not leave medication in your child's bag, children often forget about it. Their bags are often left open, which means it is easily accessible to other children.

The process is there to keep all children safe, please follow it.

Paid Union Meetings

We have recently attended our paid union meetings. We managed to keep the school open for learning without asking parents to pick up the children early. The principals, teacher aides, administration staff and teachers unions have come together to strengthen our case.

We would appreciate your support around our main priorities to ensure we maintain a high quality education. These include:

- Tamariki needs a teacher aide in every classroom.
- Value our educators fairly and ensure their work is secure.
- Uphold Te Tiriti o Waitangi in education.
- Defend quality early childhood education.

Please [sign the petition](#) to show your support.

Book Week is this week

Please check for any information about what is happening this week for book week. There are activities on each day in the library. There is a character parade at the end of the week and of course other activities happening in classes.

Yummy stickers

We are continuing to collect yummy stickers from the yummy fruits. Please if you have yummy fruit we would love to have the stickers. We are able to “buy” sports equipment using the stickers.

Here is the link to the site if you would like to know more:

[yummy stickers](#)

Teacher Only Day next term (Tuesday 28th October)

We will be holding a Teacher Only Day next term. It will take place on Tuesday 28th October, the day after Labour day. We hope that by attaching the Teacher Only Day to a long weekend this will make it a little easier to manage childcare.

We are continuing to work with the Ministry of Education on professional development for our refreshed maths curriculum.

If you would like more information around the Teacher Only days please check out the [Ministry of Education](#) website.

Mathathon

Friday 29th August was our last day for collecting any money fundraised for our Mathathon. Please, if you still have any outstanding money we ask that you get it to us immediately. Thank you so much for all the hard mahi, in the way of getting sponsors and the extra practice at home. It is very much appreciated.

Our new School Board

As we had the exact amount of nominees for our board the election process was not needed.

Our new board members are:

Matt Elliott - Presiding member
Nicole Voykovich
Paul Williams
Pierre Colin
Sarah Hartley

Anne-Marie is our staff rep at the moment. We are still in the process of voting on our school representative. The results of the election will be announced shortly after September 10th.

A warm welcome to all the board members, some new, some continuing and some returning. I am sure the trustees will want to introduce the board members further in our next newsletter.

We loved our disco!

Thank you for all your support with our Neon disco. The children were amazing and a good time was had by all!

Thank you to our staff who also looked fantastic.

We raised over \$700 to go towards camp.



Speech finals are coming soon

Everywhere I go at the moment I see students practising speeches! How lucky are we to have confident little beings who really enjoy the challenge of writing a speech and presenting it! For some of our children presenting means presenting to their class or a smaller group. For others who make it to the next stage they will be presenting their speech in the hall with a lot of people watching them and with a different panel of judges. That is a hard ask for an adult, but our students from year 1 through to year 6 write and present a speech.

Come along and support our tamariki:

Senior Speeches - Wednesday 10th September at 9:00am. (We will be following the [Rehu Tai](#) model incorporating flash talk, Rap, spoken word and traditional speeches.)

Junior speeches - Monday 15th September at 9:30am

APPA Rehu Tai and French bilingual speech finals.

We have already had success with some of our students who chose to ensure their speech was ready in time to have an opportunity to possibly reach the next stage and compete with other schools.

Our three winners from BNS were Reese, Josephine and Eliza. We went to Kristin School to compete with other North Shore schools. All three girls did extremely well and delivered amazing speeches.



We were delighted when Eliza won her category and went on to represent The North Shore with her speech. The APPA (Auckland Primary Principals Association) [Rehu Tai](#) took place last week. Eliza was pipped at the post but what an exciting opportunity for all three!



Last week we had our two winners from EDN represent us at the APPA French speech finals at Richmond Road Primary School. We are very proud of Emile and Nour who spoke extremely well. Well done to Nour who won in his year 6 category.

The winners in our French speaking speeches finals were:

Year 1: 1st Louis, 2nd Gabrielle, 3rd Amias and Tristan

Year 2: 1st Philippine, 2nd Telesia, 3rd Mahé

Year 3: 1st Marlo, 2nd Samuel, 3rd Charlie

Year 4: results on Wednesday 3rd

Year 5: 1st Emile, 2nd Alina, 3rd Xavier

Year 6: 1st Charlie-Jane, 2nd Toa, 3rd Nour

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR WINNERS. (Look out for the rest of the winners in the next newsletter.)

Bixxy Box (fundraising for BNS)

If you have a dog or a cat this is a good way to get quality worming treatments that benefit BNS too!

Below is an advertisement for Bixxy Box. It's a way to keep your pets healthy by ensuring they are wormed and flead regularly. This is a service that will be delivered to your door as a regular service. The treatments are good quality and vet approved.

BNS will benefit every time you purchase your treatment. It is simple and will hopefully be something less for you to think about. You simply click on Birkdale North school to ensure we get the benefit.

Please pass the details onto any of your friends and family who might want to keep their pet cat or dog healthy and contribute to BNS.

The cost is no more than the regular cost of flea and worming treatments.

[Click here](#) to go straight to the Bixxybox site.

The advertisement features the Bixxy Box logo (by My Rover) and a yellow badge that says 'for School Fundraising'. The main headline reads 'Keep your pets healthy AND fundraise for our school.' Below this, it states that signing up for regular flea and worm treatments at the same price as elsewhere, with up to \$5 from each box going to the school. A list of four benefits is provided, each with a checkmark icon: 'Recommended by vets', 'Boxes from \$6.22/w (\$26.99/m)', 'First month free for every pet', and 'Cancel any time'. The website 'Schools.BixxyBox.com' is listed at the bottom.

BIXXY BOX by My Rover **for School Fundraising**

Keep your pets healthy AND fundraise for our school.

Sign your dogs and cats up for regular flea and worm treatments at **the same price you pay elsewhere** and up to \$5 from every box goes directly to our school every month.

Schools.BixxyBox.com

- ✓ Recommended by vets
- ✓ Boxes from \$6.22/w (\$26.99/m)
- ✓ First month **free** for every pet
- ✓ **Cancel any time**

Have a great week. I have to go and pack my case...!

Ngā mihi Nui
Jan

Important dates

2025 Term Dates:

| | |
|--------|---|
| Term 1 | Friday 7th February - Friday 11th April |
| Term 2 | Monday 28th April - Friday 27th June |
| Term 3 | Monday 14th July - Friday 19th September |
| Term 4 | Monday 6th October - Friday 19th December |

Teacher Only day - School closed

Tuesday 28th October 2025

Upcoming Events

Check our calendar on the website for more details.

<https://www.birkdalenorth.school.nz/news-and-events/calendar/>

Community Notices:

Visit the school website at:

<https://www.birkdalenorth.school.nz/news-and-events/community-notice/>

Public Health Nurses are available on 09 486 8996. Alternatively call Healthline on 0800 611 116 or visit www.health.govt.nz. The Public Health Nurses are able to help with providing things like nit treatment, action plans for students that have medical conditions and other general health queries.

School Dental services are based at Glenfield Intermediate, Chivalry Road, Glenfield - contact on 09 444 6160 or 81 Mokoia Road, Birkenhead - contact 09 418 0043

Hearing & Vision:

If you have genuine concerns for your child's Vision or Hearing or want to rule it out as a contributor to behaviour and performance in school you can make an appointment at one of the WDHB clinics. Please click on the link below for further information.

<http://www.waitematadhb.govt.nz/hospitals-clinics/clinics-services/child-and-family-services/>

If you are unsure that your child has been tested, all children have been seen either at school or as a B4SCH check when they were 4 years.

The vision screening is for distance only so if you have concerns for Vision you could see an optometrist, they will do a full eye check - Specsavers do free checks for children under 16 years.

WINTER ILLNESS

Colds, flu and other respiratory illness are common in schools during winter. Here are some simple tips to prevent the spread of illness:

- Wash and dry hands regularly, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, sneezing, and using the toilet
- Cough and sneeze into a tissue or your elbow, not your hand
- Regularly clean high touch surfaces – door handles, taps, table tops, phones, computer keyboards, etc
- You should keep your child at home from school if they are too sick to learn and need time to rest and recover
- Get a flu jab NOW – it's FREE for people who are pregnant, over 65s, and people at higher risk of getting very sick. Check with your healthcare provider to see if you are eligible

For more information see: info.health.nz/pregnancy-children/childhood-conditions/



COUGHING & SNEEZING

Here are some important points to teach your tamariki about coughing and sneezing:

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze – then put the tissue in a bin.
- If you do not have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your elbow.
- Always turn your face away from people when you cough or sneeze.
- Wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitiser after you cough or sneeze.
- Never cough or sneeze into your hands or open air.

For more information: info.health.nz/keeping-healthy/healthy-habits/

