




School Newsletter

Term 1 Week 3, 2025




What a fantastic start to the year we have had. Students are engaged in their learning and are really enjoying the literacy and mathematics programmes. The weather has been very hot, so students sometimes find it challenging to keep learning, especially after the summer holidays. However, we are very impressed with their resilience and how they are progressing already.

The new mathematics resources are now being used in both classes. Below is some information on how this programme works.



Maths at BEGCS

- We will use lots of equipment (cubes, ten frames, number discs) to explore word problems. A key piece of research underpinning this approach is Jerome Bruner's CPA approach. He concluded that people learn in three stages through: Concrete objects, Picture representations and Abstract thought (CPA). Children (and adults!) can find maths difficult because it is abstract. The CPA approach introduces abstract mathematical concepts in a concrete and tangible way. You might hear: How would we show this? Could we show this in more than one way? Can you draw a diagram and write an equation?
- Tasks are designed to be accessible to all learners. With built in extension opportunities for advanced learners to develop a deeper level of understanding and continually be challenged in every lesson.
- Each lesson carefully builds on the previous one, one, creating small steps to build a mastery level understanding of concepts and confidence.
- Every lesson has opportunities for the students to work collaboratively and independently. The collaborative components help develop your child's ability to effectively communicate their mathematical thinking and further develop their ideas through conversation. The independent components help your child consolidate and apply the concepts they have been learning during the lesson.
- We will challenge children to use a number of methods to show that their understanding of a concept is in-depth. Multiple representations help students develop an understanding of the relationships mathematical concepts have to each other and will build their critical thinking skills.
- For advanced learners, rather than getting them to do more of the same, we want to enrich their understanding of a mathematical concept by providing them opportunities to explore a concept in more depth. Opportunities for enrichment are built into every lesson and are an expectation for the students every lesson.



The **Back to School Mass and BBQ** is a chance for us all to celebrate the new school year with a Mass. This will be held on Tuesday the 18th of February. Mass starts at 5.15pm followed by a BBQ on the school grounds afterwards. Students are to wear their school uniforms to church.

Marae Stay on Wednesday 26th and Thursday 27th of February at Pikitū Maraē. Please return all permission slips and health forms as soon as possible. Students will need to be at school at the normal time so that we can pack cars and leave on time. Home baking and cakes can be dropped off outside Roncalli on the day.

Maths Curriculum Day (Teacher Only Day) 2nd of April-school closed

Term 1 Dates 2025:

- Tuesday 18 February - **Back to School Mass and BBQ**
- Wednesday 26th and Thursday 27th February - **Marae Stay**
- Wednesday 2nd April - **School Closed Teacher Professional Development**
- Friday 11th April - **Term 1 Ends**

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