



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER - MAY 2025

*Nau Mai Haere Mai, Greetings • Tena Koutou • Talofa Lava • Malo e Lelei • Fakaalofa Lahi • Namaste
Fakafeiloaki • Ni Sa Bula • Noaia'e Mauri • Kia Orana • Asalam Alykum • Ni Hao • Konnichiwa*

***“Kia pono, kia māia, kia whakakotahi ai tātou”
“Let us be honest, let us be brave, so we all unite”***

Kia ora Parents and Whānau,

As we begin Term 2, we want to remind everyone of the importance of consistent attendance. While we understand that weather conditions can sometimes be challenging, it is important to note that staying home due to bad weather is not an acceptable excuse for missing school.

Our school continues to operate even during adverse weather conditions, and we take every precaution to ensure students' safety while at school. Missing school can negatively impact learning, and it's essential that all students remain engaged and present as much as possible.

If there is ever an extreme weather situation that causes school closure or delayed openings, parents and students will be notified via the usual communication channels. Otherwise, we expect students to attend school as usual. We understand that weather can cause significant traffic delays however, we run on the premise “better late than never”.

We have an attendance target of 90% attendance for all students which is in line with the Ministry of Education's target.

If your child is sick, they stay home otherwise, they MUST be at school.

A name change for our after school care - Kowhai Kids Club!



Carpe Diem is now *Kowhai Kids Club* - sign up for after school care in the hall with the fabulous Kylie. Kowhai Kids Club email address is info@kowhaikidsclub.co.nz. The phone number is 0800 569 424. The website is www.kowhaikidsclub.co.nz.

It is CRUCIAL that we get enough enrolments in the after school care programme to ensure that we can continue to provide this invaluable service to our school community.

Kylie brings fun, creative and sporty activities to the after school care programme and makes it an extension of your child's learning at school. The after school care programme runs from 3.00 pm to 6.00 pm for after school care and the prices include afternoon tea. Please contact Kowhai Kids Club if you need further information.

Your children must be collected after school by 3:15pm **AT THE LATEST**. Teachers are often in meetings after school and are not available to supervise your children if you are late picking them up. Therefore, any children who are still waiting to be picked up at 3:15pm, will be taken across to the hall for after school care. You will then be invoiced by Kowhai Kids Club.

Board Elections coming up

More information about this

Board elections take place every three years and there is the requirement to undertake a formal voting process to elect the board for the next three year period. The next election is set for **September 2025**.



What is a school board? A school board is a Crown entity, which is an organisation that receives public funding and is part of the New Zealand public sector. As schools receive public funding, there are certain things that school boards must do and laws they need to follow. For more information click [here](#) for a more detailed introduction.

What does a school board do? A school board works in partnership with its school, its community, and the government to ensure the best possible outcome for all students and their whānau.

Who is the school board? The Anchorage Park school board is currently made up of four parent representatives (Rachael Kouka, Erin Bennison, Gareth Hawkins, Jarrod Bayly), Principal (Tracy Leader) and one staff representative (Jo McCreanor). Each board member plays an important role including being on a sub-committee of either policy, finance, property or health and safety. Our current presiding member (previously called Chair) is Rachael Kouka and this position is voted at the beginning of each year or when a new board starts.

What does the presiding member do? The role of the presiding member is to:

- preside over board meetings
- lead the board to work as a team and ensure the work of the board is done
- develop an effective and professional working relationship with the principal
- promote effective communication between the board and the wider community
- speak for the board when delegated to do so
- uphold the school board's responsibility to give practical effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi

For more details [here](#) to understand the role of the presiding member. When asked, Rachael stated she enjoys her role as presiding member as it's an opportunity to give back, it helps to lead the ongoing progress and success of Anchorage Park School and that she is lucky to work alongside a committed board. If you are interested to learn more, please email her at rachael@anchoragepark.school.nz and she will answer any questions you may have.

If you are interested in attending a meeting to see what it is like to be a Board member, please feel free to come along as they are open to the public. They start at 6.30pm in the school staffroom and run approximately 1.5 hours. There are 2 per term covering standard business and a further 2 focusing on strategy only.

The meeting dates for the rest of the year are:

- Term 2 - 21 May, 18 June, 25 June (25 June, strategy only)
- Term 3 - 06 August, 10 September
- Term 4 - 29 October, 03 December, 10 December (10 December, strategy only)

HERO app - have you downloaded it yet?

We are delighted to launch our new communication and reporting system, **Hero**. An online sharing platform with a complementary parent app. **Hero** allows us an online environment that enables teachers, students, and parents to view and share content anytime, anywhere on any device. The software is secure, easy to use and brings together all school-related information in one place.

With **Hero**, you can:

- Read and comment on posts relating to your child's learning
- View information on your child's progress and goals
- Read and comment on school notices sent to the class or groups your child is part of
- Respond to school notices such as surveys and trip permission requests
- View school term dates
- View a school calendar of events
- Notify the school if your child is absent or late
- Book your school interviews
- Navigate to the school web page
- Customise your account by adding a profile image
- Select how you wish to receive notifications



Learning posts combined with curriculum information and goal-setting will form an online report designed to build year-on-year so that over time you will have access to written posts, images, videos, work samples, and helpful resources all in one place.

We are looking forward to sharing this with you, including you in your child's learning journey.

For information about **Hero** including how to log in, go to the [Hero website](https://our-hero.com/parent-guide) (<https://our-hero.com/parent-guide>) or see Ashley at the school office before school to assist you with logging in.

Term 2 Calendar - important dates to remember

- Wednesday 7 May - Transition to school visit
- Friday 9 May - Whole school trip to MOTAT
- Friday 16 May - Pink shirt day, mufti/non-uniform day
- Wednesday 21 May - Transition to school visit
- Wednesday 21 May - Board meeting in the staffroom at 6:30pm
- Monday 2 June - King's Birthday, school is closed
- Thursday 5, 12, 26 June - Developing our talents (DOT Days)
- Wednesday 18 June - Transition to school visit
- Wednesday 18 June - Board meeting in the staffroom at 6:30pm
- Thursday 19 June - HPPA Soccer tournament
- Friday 20 June - Matariki, school is closed
- Monday 23 June - School cross country (saving day Wednesday 25 June)
- Wednesday 25 June - Conceptual inquiry big reveal day
- Thursday 26 June - Ronald McDonald House 'wear your pyjamas to school' day
- Thursday 26 June - Last day of Term 2
- Friday 27 June - Teacher only day, school is closed

Ngā mihi nui

Tracy - Tumuaiki/Principal