



What's the hAPS?

22nd May 2020

Dear parents and caregivers

Welcome back on site to Level 2 Albany Primary School! It has been wonderful to connect again as a community and to have most of our students back. To once again see our learners' excited faces as they meet with their friends and teachers has shown that "school" is indeed a very special place.

A huge THANK YOU to our wonderful school community for your full support of our Level 2 guidelines and your kindness shown at the school entrances. As you know we pride ourselves on our welcoming environment so being unable to encourage parents on school grounds was not something we could ever have imagined we would need to do. You have made our role in providing a safe and positive environment for your children possible during the Level 2 stage.

Thank you also for keeping us updated with your child's attendance and information for our bus lists. Unfortunately as more children are now taking the bus (**and some families had not been booked in as requested**), some children were not able to get on the bus this morning. As you can imagine this caused extreme distress for those children and their parents. Despite requesting an additional bus this has not been able to be actioned at this stage. **As a result, while Level 2 regulations continue you must wait at the bus stop to confirm if your child is able to travel on the bus.** Please read the information provided from Auckland Transport regarding Level 2 bus travel on page 3. We will maintain the 'track and trace' list for our 061 and 062 bus services next week. If your child has not been on the bus and you would like their name added to the list, please email: jmunroe@albany.school.nz as soon as possible. A double check of the 'track and trace' record is conducted as we take your child's name as they get off the bus each morning, and on the bus each afternoon.

If you still have learning packs—either books or digital devices, please return these to the office as soon as possible (you will need to sanitise your hands outside our office and sign in before bringing the books/devices into the office). Your child is able to return these on your behalf if they are able to transport them safely to the office.

We have a few 'new faces' around the school since we have returned, including our new entrant starters in Area 17 and Area 4 with returning teachers, Mrs Sandy Tollemache and Miss Shari Turner, and children transferring from other schools around New Zealand. We would also like to introduce Mr James Hopkins, Deputy Principal—you will see him at our gates before/after school—be sure to say "hello" as he is looking forward to getting to know our families. We wish you all a warm welcome to our Albany Primary School community.

At this time we understand that some families may be under stress or have suffered loss (whether this be financial or personal). If your family requires support in any way from the school such as deferment of fees, care packages, or just would like us to be aware of changes to home situations, then please email me in confidence, principal@albany.school.nz.

Together in learning,
Maree Bathurst, Principal

Kia ora, ko James Hopkins toku ingoa.

For the last five years I've worked as a National Consultant and Facilitator across the education sector and been lucky enough to visit hundreds of schools. Around two years ago I walked into Albany Primary School as an external Facilitator and immediately felt something special. I'm so excited to now be here as part of the incredible team of teachers. At home, I have a beautiful wife and seven year old son and we enjoy life living up on the Whangaparaoa Peninsula. In my downtime I love to run and can be seen pounding the pavements and trails around Auckland. I'm passionate about education and learning, and almost as passionate about cars and engines! My wife and I moved to Aotearoa at the beginning of 2010 from London and have never looked back. Our son is a Kiwi kid and we all see New Zealand as home. I can't wait to meet even more of the community and become part of the Albany Primary School whānau.





TERM 2

(dates subject to change dependent upon covid-19 restrictions)

Wednesday 15th April—Friday 3rd July

1st June	Queen's birthday public holiday—school closed
25th June	BOT meeting, 6.30pm
16th/17th June	Class and individual photos
3rd July	Last day of Term 2



Urgent Help Needed

We urgently require parent helpers (grandparents or other family members) to supervise our student road patrollers on our morning and afternoon pedestrian crossing, as at the moment four teaching staff are taking on this duty.

You do not need to have a child in Year 6 to take on this role, full training will be provided.

Please email Fiona Francis (ffrancis@albany.school.nz) if you are able to assist, or would like some further information before making a commitment.



Children's Community Dental Clinic

Free for children 0-17 years

Monday, 18 May 2020

To our community

Now we are in **COVID-19 Alert Level 2** we wanted to let you know about the services that will be available from the Children's Community Dental Service (Auckland Regional Dental Service).

We are not able to offer routine appointments just yet, but we will let you know as soon as this changes. This means that routine appointment may be delayed.

Some of our dental clinics will be open to offer appointments to children with urgent dental care needs. Our staff will be in contact with the parent or caregiver of any child who requires an urgent appointment.

If a child is in pain, or if you have an immediate concern about a child's teeth, please ask the parent or caregiver to phone **0800 TALK TEETH** to speak to one of our therapists. The therapist will be able to give advice and may arrange an appointment for the child if needed.

INFORMATION FROM AUCKLAND TRANSPORT

School bus services in Alert Level 2

Following guidance from the Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Health and NZTA National Emergency Response Team (NERT) to ensure the safe and practical operation of school bus services under Alert Level 2, Auckland Transport (AT) school bus services will be allowed to operate at full seated capacity, with no passengers standing, with the following three provisions:



- 1) Vehicle cleaning is undertaken in accordance with Ministry of Health guidance
 - 2) Passenger lists are maintained to support contact tracing
 - 3) Hand sanitiser is made available for students boarding and departing the bus
- Vehicle cleaning of AT school buses is undertaken in accordance with Ministry of Health guidelines.
 - Schools are responsible for maintaining a list of students using the service to facilitate contact tracing if necessary
 - Hand sanitiser will be made available at the school but we recommend passenger carry their own supply as well
 - There will be no standing passengers allowed
 - **Due to lowered capacity we recommend people look for back-up public transport options**
 - **Recommend parents of young children wait with their child at the bus stop in case the bus is too full to take more passengers**
 - Public buses (i.e. not dedicated school buses) have additional physical distancing requirements with fewer seats available for passengers.
 - Buses will not be accepting cash to pay for fares, however they will accept students onto school buses (assuming there is room on board) if they do not have an AT HOP card for a limited time.
 - Passengers will enter and exit through the rear door only and the seats immediately behind the driver will be blocked from use to maintain distancing between passengers and drivers.