



Whanaungatanga



Rangatiratanga



Wairuatanga



Manaakitanga

WELCOME TO TERM 3 WEEK 7

Tēnā koutou e te whānau o Blockhouse Bay Intermediate,

Welcome to our Term Three, Week Seven Newsletter.

Kia ora e te whānau,

It feels like winter has dragged on this year, and with it we've seen the usual wave of colds and bugs making their way through school and the wider community. Even so, it's been great to see our students and community of schools making the most of our grounds. We have recently hosted the annual inter-school primary football competition on site, as well as with our own teams competing with visiting teams as they get ready for AIMS next week.

We know illness has hit many families this term. Our simple message is the same as the Ministry of Health: if your child is unwell, please keep them home and seek advice from your GP if needed. This keeps everyone healthier, other students, our staff, and their families too. Like schools across the nation, we are dealing with a shortage of relievers, which sometimes means splitting classes. It's not what any of us would choose, but it's the reality we are working with, and we are appreciative for your support and understanding.

CALENDAR:

- Aims Games - 30th August - 5th September
- Board meeting - 2nd September
- Japan trip departs - 5th September
- School Board Election - 10th September
- Culture and Arts Festival from 5:00 - 6:30 - 11th September
- Term Ends (2pm Finish) - 19th September

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Teacher Collective Negotiations

You may be aware that teachers across Aotearoa are currently engaged in collective agreement negotiations, led by NZEI Te Riu Roa. Many of our staff have attended paid union meetings recently as part of this process. Teachers are advocating for fair pay, recognition of their workload, and the resources they need to give every learner the best chance to succeed. These negotiations are important for the future of the profession and, ultimately, for the success of all students. We thank our community for your understanding and support of our staff during this time.

Visitors from Tokyo Oizumi Junior High School

On Monday 25th August, we welcomed our sister school, Tokyo Metropolitan Oizumi Junior High School, back to Blockhouse Bay Intermediate. 20 students and 3 teachers, including their new principal, Mr Yoshishige Harada, arrived in Auckland on Saturday and spent the weekend with host families before a few days at our school.

The exchange is always a rich opportunity for both sets of students to learn from one another, and we thank our host families and teachers for their support. Our own Japan trip departs next week, and our students will now arrive in Oizumi with friendships already established, making the experience even more memorable. We look forward to hosting them again in 2026.



Uniform Reminder – No Makeup

The school uniform is seen by the School Board and community as the major form of identity and belonging to our school. The development of pride in belonging to the school is fostered through the wearing of the school uniform. A reminder that, in line with our school's uniform guidelines, makeup is not permitted. Our focus is on creating a safe and inclusive environment where learning is the priority. We ask that parents please support us by reinforcing these expectations at home.

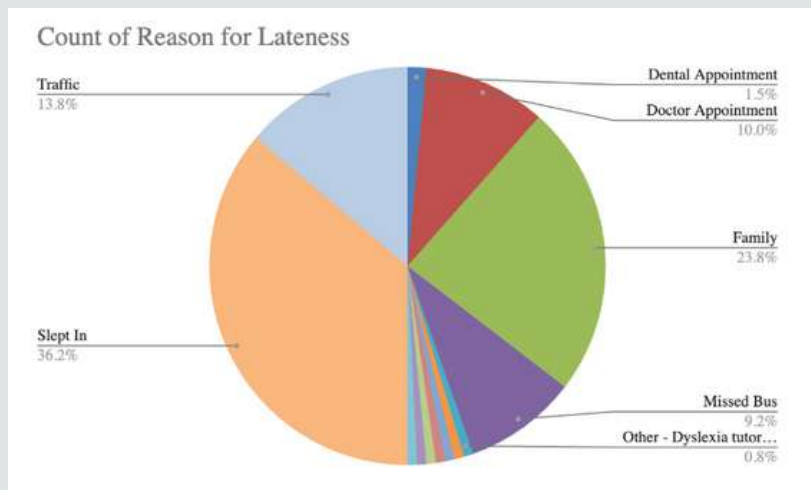
[Click here for uniform expectations](#)

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Lateness

We continue to monitor punctuality, as regular lateness affects not just the individual learner but also the wider classroom. The chart below shows the main reasons given for lateness this term, with “Slept In” and “Family” as the most common.

We ask parents and caregivers to help by establishing strong routines at home so that students are arriving at school ready to learn. Every minute counts, and arriving on time makes a big difference to your child’s learning and confidence, as research shows and supports.



AIMS Games 2025

Next week, Mr Vincent, Mr Carney, Miss Abbott and Miss Niuula will accompany our students to Tauranga for the annual AIMS sporting tournament. This is a significant investment of time and resources for families and staff. Thank you for the support of our wider community in making it possible through various fundraisers throughout the year. We wish all our teams and individual competitors every success in what is a truly unique opportunity. This is an event that rivals the Olympics in scale for the number of participants!

Festival of the Arts

We warmly invite you and your whānau to join us for our annual Festival of the Arts on Thursday 11 September at 6pm in the school hall. This evening will showcase the creativity and talent of our students, with performances from our cultural, musical, and drama groups. A sausage sizzle will be running from 5.30pm, so come along, share some kai, and celebrate the incredible work our students have been putting in throughout the year.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Ngā mihi nui,

Julie Wong

Acting Principal

Blockhouse Bay Intermediate School

BOARD CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS
VOTING CLOSES : 4PM ON 10 SEPTEMBER, 2025

ASHLEY QUENSELL

Tēnā Koutou, Malo e lelei, Talofa lava, Kia Orana, and Greetings to our Blockhouse Bay Intermediate School community.

As a proud kiwi of pacific island heritage, I am very proud to have completed my first term on the Pasifika Advisory Committee (Komiti Faufautua) at Mt Albert Grammar School, my second term on the Blockhouse Bay Intermediate School Board, and my fourth term on the New Windsor School Board. I would like to re-assure you all that I am motivated and energised to be standing for re-election here at Blockhouse Bay Intermediate!



My wife (Lee-Anne) and I have had 2 children (Khaleen and Makaia) complete their intermediate school journey at Blockhouse Bay Intermediate School already with our 3rd child (Layla) currently Year 7. Lee-Anne works at One Tree Hill College as the Funding & Grants Coordinator and I work in the Private Security Services Sector as the General Manager of Events & Venues at Red Badge Group.

Within my work environment I am constantly interacting with people from all walks of life on a daily basis, which has given me great insight, understanding, and appreciation of many nationalities, cultures, customs, and beliefs.

I firmly believe an effective dynamic Board needs a broad mix of life skills, knowledge, experience, resilience, energy, and enthusiasm within the functioning group to fulfil its responsibilities.

I am very passionate about our family life, our school, our community, and our rich and diverse country. With our children fully immersed into the New Zealand curriculum, I am highly motivated to continue my involvement and contribution towards all our children's futures as lifelong learners at Blockhouse Bay Intermediate School.

If I am re-elected, I look forward to continuing to serve our school as a parent Board member and I thank you all in advance for your endorsement and support.



KHARTIK PATEL

I am interested in being part of the Blockhouse Bay Intermediate school board. I have previously been involved with cultural sporting board, social club executive member and a regular helper at Halsey drive primary school when my child was schooling there. Some of the skills I can contribute to the board would be dealing with community engagement and decision making.



BHB | Blockhouse Bay
Intermediate
Stand Tall • Ruia Taitea

BOARD CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

MELANIE SORBY

My name is Melanie Sorby and I am a current member of the school board. I am putting myself forward as a candidate for the next term as I believe that stability and continuity is key to successful governance that supports the leadership team and staff to grow and develop our future citizens.

I have sat as a member of school boards since 2012, as well as being the board chair for Sainsbury residential school for girls in the Tasman region. I am a classroom teacher of 26 years and have worked locally at Arahoe school. I am now supporting our more vulnerable students as an RTLb, based at Arahoe. I am currently studying a Masters in Educational Psychology. As such I bring a wealth of knowledge that supports the leadership team to deliver the world class education our children receive and deserve.

As a working mum raising three children, I know that making a commitment to our educational success benefits our whole community. It is a commitment I am willing to make once again to ensure the best outcome for all.



BRIDGETTE MARCHANT



I'm standing for the Board of Trustees with a personal connection to BBI—my husband is a former student, and one of our two sons currently attends the school in Year 7, while the other is in primary school.

In my role as a Senior Operations Manager within the dynamic Freight and Logistics sector, I lead two logistics operations and maintain partnerships with major global organisations. I oversee diverse teams from different backgrounds and ethnicities across sites, fostering strong staff engagement and development.

My strengths—building relationships, process improvement, while delivering strategic and financial outcomes.

Academically, I hold a Bachelor of Business, majoring in Management, along with diplomas in Business, Management, and Human Resources from The Open Polytechnic of New Zealand. Qualifications completed while working full-time, demonstrating my resilience and commitment to lifelong learning. I also hold a Certificate in Supply Chain which further strengthens my operational insight and a Diploma in Tourism and Travel.

Beyond my career, I've actively engaged with the community through cultural leadership roles, including serving as a delegate for Auckland to the Piping and Dancing Association of New Zealand and sitting on several Highland Dancing committees across the region. These experiences have strengthened my commitment to youth development and collaborative leadership.

I look forward to the opportunity to bring my skills, perspective, and energy to the Board of Trustees to help shape an inclusive, innovative, and student-focused future.



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BOARD CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

JOT S BISHT

My name is Jot Bisht, and I am honored to stand as a candidate for the school board. I believe deeply in democratic values, practical problem-solving, and standing up for what's right.

My career and community work reflect a hands-on, no nonsense approach to leadership. With over a decade of expertise in procurement, supply chain management, and cost optimization, I have worked with leading organizations such as Douglas Pharmaceuticals, Rocket Lab, New Zealand Customs and NZ Navy projects. Across these roles, I've proven my ability to establish strategic processes, collaborative working, and deliver measurable efficiency gains through smart sourcing and supplier engagement.



Born in farming family of Uttarakhand, Himalayan Region of India, I spend good 5 years in Middle East and Afghanistan as a Procurement professional. My professional experience and working with different cultures within Indian subcontinent, I will bring strong mix of cultural understanding and will represent all school community. I have shown me the immense value of careful stewardship—finding ways to reduce costs, streamline operations, and ensure sustainable practices. If elected to the school board, I will bring practical skills to serve our students and community. I am ready to suggest procurement and cost-saving practices and financial efficiency. I have already raised issue to install pedestrian crossing on Portage Road for safety of our Tamariki.

My focus will also be on building partnerships locally, ensuring we tap into the strengths of our community and promote greater engagement between families, educators, and the board. Away from work, I am actively involved in local social groups, environment and heritage clubs, and community initiatives. I strongly believe we have a duty as residents of this planet to safeguard it for the next generation and to uphold values of virtue, family, and faith while maintaining respect for all. My commitment is to fair, transparent, and value-based governance and representation.

As a school board member, my goals are clear: foster values-driven educational environment, academic achievement, support equity and excellence, and secure the funding and resources needed to help every student reach their highest potential. I am confident that together we can fix what needs fixing, encourage innovation, and leave a legacy rooted in strong principles and responsible action.

I respectfully ask for your support so I can contribute my skills, passion, and community minded approach to the school board—helping to secure a better future for our school, our children, and our wider community. "Nau mai, Tautoko.

MUKUL BHALLA

Visionary, disciplined, spokesperson.



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BOARD CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

RUSSELL MATTHEWS

My name is Russell Mathews and I am the current Board chair at BBI I have been privileged to have been a member of a strong board who have supported the leadership team to transform our Kura into a modern, responsive and highly respected leader of learning. Serving our community and preparing our students for their future.



I have a very strong relationship with this school, having three children excel at BBI and I am willing to continue to serve all students and our community.

Responding and being adaptive to the likes of the current curriculum refresh reflects a Board that is committed to strong leadership. Strong leadership guides the board to successfully navigate today's challenges and prepare for the next three years. We have a great school and one that has grown under stable and knowledgeable management and governance.

If successful, this will be my last term. We have a new strategic plan to develop and implement, to see the school safely into the future. A stable board brings a stable future.

BOARDS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR:

- Setting the school's strategic direction in consultation with the community, parents, whānau, staff, students and the wider school community
- Developing policies, procedures, and bylaws to ensure the school meets its legal obligations
 - Monitoring and evaluating student learning outcomes
- Overseeing the management of personnel, curriculum, property, finance, and health and safety
 - Being a good employer of all staff in the school
- Reporting on the school's progress to the community and the Ministry.

School boards help shape futures

Giving every ākonga in our schools and kura the opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive.

ORAL LANGUAGE FINALS



The Oral Language Competition Finals were held in our school hall last week, showcasing the best presenters from across the different whanau groups. This year's focus was Oral Reading, with students sharing powerful readings from books, poems, and short stories of their choice.

In a fiercely competitive field, our special guest judges from Green Bay High School faced the daunting task of choosing our winners.

All finalists were recognised with a Red Star for their efforts.

Our 2025 Oral Language finalists were:

KOWHAI

Mayan Narsey - Year 7
Elisha Sang - Year 8

MATAI

Ayesha Patel - Year 7
Ben Tari - Year 8

MIRO

Emma Steinherr - Year 7
Yoyo Zhang - Year 8

RIMU

Gloria Das - Year 7
Bruce Lei - Year 8

NIKAU

Diyana Naran - Year 7
Caydan Simon - Year 8

TOTARA

Noah Reynolds - Year 7
Viral Patel - Year 8

Congratulations to all students who presented their oral reading, and a special acknowledgement to our finalists and overall winners.



WINNERS.....

**Year 7: Noah Reynolds,
Whanau Totara**

**Year 8: Bruce Lei,
Whanau Rimu**

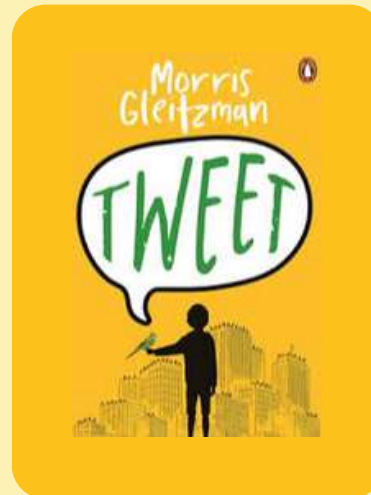
FROM THE LIBRARY

BOOK OF THE WEEK!

In Morris Gleitzman's latest book, readers follow an exciting adventure that explores environmental conservation through the eyes of Jay and his pet budgie, Clyde. Clyde is no stranger to puzzles, and loves completing jigsaws with Jay and his family. However, with Jay's parents missing in Africa and large unexplained bird gatherings being reported across the globe, Clyde discovers that some puzzles aren't so easily solved. Soon caught in a whirlwind of events, Clyde and Jay set off to solve what's behind these mysteries, making new feathery friends and foes along the way.

Gleitzman's master storytelling shines through in *Tweet* with an engaging narrative between two best friends that blends adventure, humour, and heart.

<https://www.readings.com.au/reviews/tweet-by-morris-gleitzman>



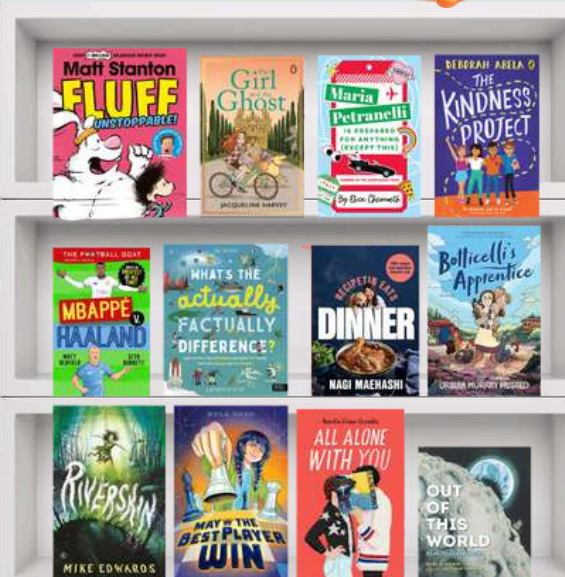
Battle of the Books is turning out to be a hard fought battle.

Our quarter finalists are *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Dragonet Prophecy*, *Hunger Games* and *Refugee*.

Who will be our winner for the title of BBI Best Book for 2025?

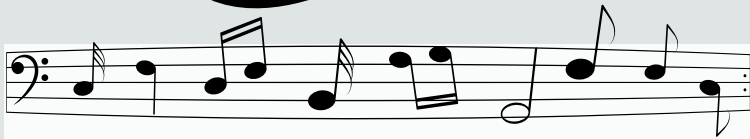


NEW TO THE LIBRARY!



BANDQUEST

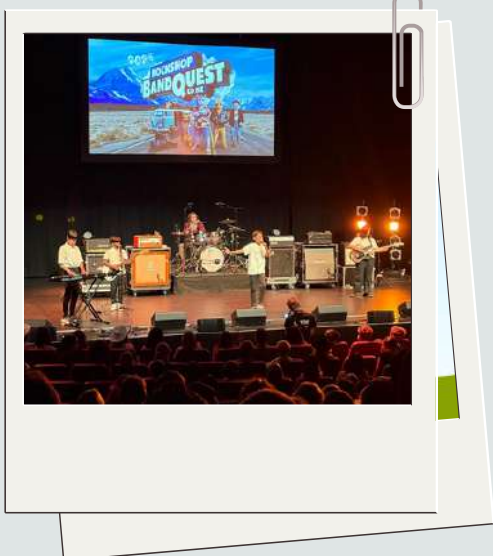
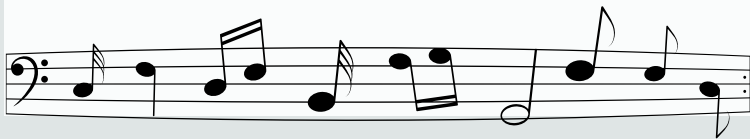
BANDQUEST 2025



On Wednesday, August 20th, our music specialist Mr. Park took three student bands over to the Bruce Mason Centre in Takapuna to compete in the RockShop Bandquest Competition!

The students were there from 1pm doing sound checks, and practising for evening performances. Twelve bands from ten schools rocked the stage and a great time was had by all, with Alisha taking out best keyboardist and Sahil taking out best bassist.

Congratulations to all students involved for your awesome performances and thank you to all of the hard work put in by Mr Park and the students, and also to the families and teachers who attended on the night.



EVENTS



SWIMMING CHAMP



Aidan (room 9) had a great day coming second overall in the Yr7 Intermediate boys category and 2nd in the synchro Intermediate competition.

He was quite tired as it had been a full on day but he enjoyed himself and represented BBI.

He has been invited to attend the National Intermediate and Secondary School competition in September but this will be during the next school holidays.

MATHEX

Last Thursday 26 students across year 7 and 8 attended the Auckland Mathex competition at the Barfoot & Thompson stadium in Kohimarama. Mathex is a challenging and fast-paced mathematics contest where schools from across Auckland compete against each other in teams to answer questions as quickly as possible. Our 4 teams did well representing our school, showing the values throughout the night and giving it their best effort.

Congratulations to all participants who competed!



COMING UP

Festival of the ARTS

**SAVE THE
NIGHT!**

SEPTEMBER 11TH

The BBI Festival of Arts and Culture is happening soon!

Save the night! On the evening of **September 11th**, we are showcasing the extraordinary talent of our students in the BBI Festival of Arts and Culture. Come and see the incredible performances of our Kapa Haka and Bollywood groups; thrill to the sound and skills of Pasifika Beats and our Cook Island drummers. We will also have work by some of our Gifted and Talented artists on display, a dramatic performance in the school library and music from our school band and choir.

There really will be something for everyone, and best of all there is NO admission cost. There will also be a sausage sizzle, so bring some coins. The first performances are on stage at 6:00pm. Be in early, because we have strictly limited seating.



INTRODUCING

BLOCKHOUSE BAY INTERMEDIATE

Honey

Introducing our very own Blockhouse Bay Intermediate Honey!



For just \$10, you can enjoy honey made by our very own BBI bees. Bees fly as far as 3km from their hive so who knows, some of these busy bees might have visited your own garden!

Honey is known for being packed with antioxidants and soothing properties.

Support BBI and our bees by purchasing your own pot of honey from the school office! All of the money goes towards the upkeep of our beehives.



\$10 EACH

AVAILABLE AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE



**BUY NOW TO
SUPPORT US
KEEPING OUR
BEEHIVE!**

OTHER NEWS



Introducing DS Trees
At DS Trees we are reliable, professional, and solution-focused. DS Trees specialises in tree removal, maintenance, and stump grinding. With expert care and a customer-first approach, we ensure hassle-free service, clear communication, and dependable results every time.



Our Service
Using advanced equipment, we deliver efficient, high-quality tree services—from large site clearances to ongoing maintenance. With a fast, professional approach, we work within your timeframe, ensuring clear communication, reliability, and customer satisfaction every step of the way.




- Reliable
- On-time
- Hassle Free
- Adaptive Solutions
- Specialized Expertise
- Auckland Council approved
- Impact Prequal approved
- Site Safe Trained in Health & Safety
- Totika Approved
- Arcotek Registered
- SiteWise Gold Registered

Our Promise
At DS Trees, we keep you informed every step of the way for a smooth, stress-free experience. Choose us for expert tree removal and maintenance—where professionalism, reliability, and excellence come together to deliver outstanding results.



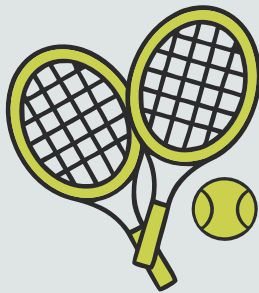

Kia Ora!

With the school holidays fast approaching, now's the ideal time to schedule any tree maintenance! We've set aside dedicated slots for schools during the break, ensuring minimal disruption to students and staff.

🌳 Need to tidy up the schoolyard or sports field before next term? We can help! Contact us today for a free, no-obligation quote.

📞 Get in touch today!
📍 Servicing Auckland & Surrounding Areas
📞 (09) 537 8595 | 021 537 171
✉️ info@dstrees.co.nz
🌐 www.dstrees.co.nz

Do you love tennis?





NEW TO TENNIS OR MAKING A COMEBACK?

EVERYONE IS WELCOME & IT'S FREE! SUN 7 SEPTEMBER 2025 10AM-2PM

LOVE TENNIS day is back – Sunday 7th September 10.00am to 2.00pm

LOVE TENNIS is on at the Glen Eden Tennis Club Inc on Sunday 7th September 10.00am to 2.00pm for a fun, free opportunity for everyone to experience what a great game tennis is – for the whole family!

Come along and enjoy Junior Tennis and play some Junior Hot Shots... prizes to be won and Little Lato Gelato to enjoy!

"Tennis is a sport for everyone and Love Tennis Weekend is the perfect time to find out more about what your local club can offer. It's heaps of fun, no experience is necessary and it's 100% free!" says Tennis NZ CEO Julie Paterson.

There are lots of giveaways at every LOVE TENNIS participating club and all attendees can enter the major prize draw for the ultimate trip to the ASB Classic in Auckland. There is parking in the driveway at **42 Glendale Road**, and next door at Harold Moody Park. The Glen Eden Tennis Club will have: Free tennis – we supply the rackets and balls, nets and courts – bring the whole family.

- \$10 discount for signing up on the day – juniors and seniors.
- Free Little Lato Gelato giveaway.
- Free Tea/Coffee/Chilled water/snacks.

LOVE TENNIS has become one of the biggest mass participation events in NZ with over 150 clubs taking part! See you on court!



Glen Eden Tennis Club, 42 Glendale Road, Glen Eden.
kowmingtonale@gmail.com or spinglen63@gmail.com

ARTZ ON SHOW.

ENROL NOW FOR MOANA!
www.artzonshow.co.nz

**SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
22 - 26 September**

DANCE

DRAMA

VOCALS

ART

RAYE FREEDMAN ARTS CENTRE



OUR VALUES



Relationships

Whanaungatanga

- Lifelong learners
- Maximising potential
- Personal excellence and integrity
- Active participants



Respect

Manaakitanga

- Effective relationships
- Identity & Languages
- Celebration of cultures
- Respect
- Accepting differences
- Equity (resources)
- Knowing who and what we are/aware and accepting of ourselves and others



Wellbeing

Wairuatanga

- Students value: physical, emotional, spiritual well-being
- Social/whanau
- Environmental excellence



Leadership

Rangatiratanga

- Students understand that they are members of a wider, global community
- Service to people and places
- Compassion and care
- Developing potential



TERM DATES 2025

TERM 1: 30TH JAN - 11TH APRIL
TERM 2: 28TH APRIL - 27TH JUNE
TERM 3: 14TH JULY - 19TH SEPT
TERM 4: 6TH OCT - 12TH DEC

HOURS

SCHOOL: 8:45AM - 3.00PM
OFFICE: 8:00AM - 3.30PM