

It's Term 4 and that time of the year where we begin to sing and be merry.

NO School tomorrow
(Teacher Only Day)
No School on Monday
(Labour Day)



Kia ora whānau,

Summer is fast approaching and Term 4 is always a busy one with one of our main focal points being end of year assessing and reports. Please keep an eye out for updates on your children's assessments on the Etap Parent Portal.



During all of Term 1 and Term 4 it is *compulsory* for all children to wear hats when they are outside at school. This includes days when it is raining or over cast. We strongly advise that children wear bucket or brimmed hats as it's important that our necks are covered too. Please also apply sunscreen to your children before school and there will be bottles available in classrooms at all times for reapplication.

Every term we review a few of our policies and this term we are reviewing our **EOTC** and **Sun Protection** policies.

Please have a look at these policies online and let us know if you are happy with the content. It is very important that we review our policies regularly and ensure they are inline with our beliefs and actions at Birchville School.

At our Board meeting last night (23/10/2019) we decided to opt into the school donation scheme. This attachment will give you, as parents, the information you need to know about the [new ministry implemented donation scheme](#). This will come into effect from 2020. One huge benefit to us is that this will allow us to purchase school wide licenses to reading and maths learning websites for all our children at the level they need and access from both school and home.

1. Visit schooldocsthe website
<https://birchville.co.nz/1893.htm>
2. Enter the username (birchville) and password (gems).
3. Follow the link to the relevant policy as listed.
4. Read the policy.
5. Click the Policy Review button at the top right-hand corner of the page.
6. Select the reviewer type "Parent".
7. Enter your name (optional).
8. Submit your ratings and comments.
9. If you don't have internet access, school office staff can provide you with printed copies of the policy and a review form.



Over the next few months we are going to begin looking at possible logo and GEMS updates for our Kura. We have some great ideas and we will display these in the hall for whānau and tamariki to contribute to and share their views on. We want this to be a shared process so that when we do make our final decisions this will be something that we as a community feel a part of and invested in.



The meetings regarding cohort entry for Birchville new entrant children that were due to be held at the end of last term will now happen next Thursday 31 October. I will explain the benefits of cohort entry to children and the reasons why we are hoping to implement this for the 2020 school year.

Meeting time options: 9.00 - 9.45am 2.00 - 2.45pm 6.00 - 6.45pm

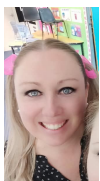
Venue: Staffroom

We would like to extend a **BIG** thank you to the Cossie Club Upper Hutt, SKids and the PTA for funding a new side by side fridge and freezer unit. We have \$3000 for this and would love to know if any families have contacts for an extra, special school deal.



Teachers for 2020:

At the end of this year we are going to be farewelling two of our lovely teachers.



Mrs Katherine Wyllie is moving back to the big smoke (Auckland). Katherine's husband has been transferred and Katherine is very excited about going back home, where she will be living close to her parents and in-laws.



Mrs Julie Barry is moving on to Hutt Central School which is a few minutes from her home and will allow her to be much closer to home for her two young sons.

As we have a large amount of Y6's leaving this year our roll numbers mean we will only need to replace one of these amazing ladies and we are super excited to be welcoming Teresa Salter (no relation of our existing Salter clan) who will be coming to us from Fraser Crescent. Teresa was up against a strong group of applicants and we are very excited to be welcoming her into the Birchville whānau.



Have a wonderful long weekend everyone and see you all next Tuesday.

Ngā mihi nui

Robyn

What's Happening @ Birchville School

Date	What's Happening
Friday 25th October	Teacher Only Day - No School
Monday 28th October	Labour Day - No School
Thursday 31st October	Cohort Entry Meetings PTA Halloween Disco (5:30pm - 7pm)
Friday 1st November	Make a Difference Assembly Wacky Hair Day (Yr 6 Fundraising Activity)
Monday 4th November	Library Bus on Site
Friday 8th November	Shared Lunch (Yr 6 Fundraising Activity)
Friday 15th November	Make a Difference Assembly Lunchtime Disco (Yr 6 Fundraising Activity)
Monday 18th November	Library Bus on Site Yr 5 Road Patrol Training for 2020
Wednesday 20th November	BOT Meeting (6:30pm)
Friday 22nd November	Sponge Throw (Yr 6 Fundraising Activity)
Thursday 28th November	Parent Helpers Morning Tea
Friday 29th November	Make a Difference Assembly Juicies for Lunch (Yr 6 Fundraising Activity)
Monday 2nd December	Grandparents Day
Thursday 5th December	Year 6 Prize Giving Dinner
Wednesday 11th December	BOT Meeting (6:30pm)
Friday 13th December	Year 6 Celebration Assembly Harcourt Park Day
Monday 16th December	End of Year Poroporoaki School Ends @ 1pm

Please note: Our school is a busy place and change is a constant. While we do our very best to keep our community informed sometimes we need to adapt or change events and/or timelines.

2020 Term Dates:

Term	Starts - 9.00am	Ends - 3.00pm	Days closed	Half days
1	Monday 3 February	Thursday 9 April	Cluster T.O.D Friday 31 January Waitangi Day Weds 6 Feb School T.O.D. Friday 27 March	96
2	Tuesday 28 April	Friday 3 July	School T.O.D Friday 29 May Public holiday: Queen's Birthday 1 June	96
3	Monday 20 July	Friday 25 September		100
4	Monday 12 October	Tuesday 15 December	Cluster T.O.D Friday 23 October Public holidays: Labour Day 26 October	92

Schools are required to open for instruction for 384 half days in 2020. Exclusive of Teacher Only Days.