



MURRAYS BAY
— PRIMARY SCHOOL —
Ignite · Innovate · Connect

21 October 2026 | Newsletter #16 Term 4

Message from our Principal....

Tēna koutou katoa, Goeie dag, 안녕하세요, أهلا, 您好, こんにちは, Welcome....

A warm welcome back to all of our students, staff and families. I hope everyone enjoyed a restful and refreshing break, we look forward to an exciting and action packed final term at school. I would also like to welcome all new students and their families who have started here at Murrays Bay. Lately, welcome to Hannah Ross, who has started with us and is coverign for Zoe Stenhouse, who recently went on maternity leave.



It is wonderful to be back at Murrays Bay Primary School following six months of sabbatical leave. While it has been a very special time away, I have thoroughly enjoyed reconnecting with our students, staff and school community. I have certainly missed the daily interactions, conversations and energy that make Murrays Bay such a special place to be.

My sabbatical provided a valuable opportunity to step away from the day-to-day demands of school life, refresh, reflect and recharge. Melinda and I spent much of this time travelling, exploring London, Europe, Turkiye and the Balkans. We visited numerous historical sites, experienced different cultures and ways of life, and were fortunate to explore some absolutely incredible landscapes. We also spent plenty of time hiking and enjoying the outdoors. It was a memorable and enriching experience that provided time to reflect, gain new perspectives and develop an even greater appreciation for the beautiful country we call home.

Alongside our travels, I had the opportunity to visit schools in the United Kingdom, focusing particularly on structured curricula, explicit teaching approaches and behaviour curricula. It was fantastic to meet with senior leaders, learn about their approaches and, most importantly, see these programmes in action in classrooms. These visits provided valuable opportunities to reflect on our own journey at Murrays Bay over the past four to five years and affirmed the direction we have taken as a school. The progress we have made is something we can all be incredibly proud of. We are fortunate to have such talented and committed teachers who have worked exceptionally hard to bring our programmes to life and make a real difference to the learning and experiences of our students.

I would like to sincerely thank the Murrays Bay Primary School Board of Trustees for making my sabbatical possible. I am also extremely grateful to our Senior Leadership Team, particularly Paul Hoffman, for his outstanding efforts in leading the school during my absence. I know the school has been in excellent hands, and I am incredibly appreciative of the collective effort, professionalism and commitment shown by our staff throughout this time.

Returning to school has reinforced just how fortunate we are to have such a wonderful team and school community. I have thoroughly enjoyed being back and reconnecting with everyone, and I am excited about what lies ahead. I return feeling refreshed, recharged and full of enthusiasm for the future. Most importantly, I am looking forward to continuing to work alongside our fantastic staff to build on the great progress we have made and ensure Murrays Bay Primary School continues to provide the very best opportunities and experiences for our students.

It is great to be back.

Ngā mihi nui

Hayden Iles

Tumuaki - Principal

This Weeks Featured Business Partner

IMPACT

interiors &
construction

UPCOMING EVENTS

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
WEEK 2	19 OCTOBER	20 OCTOBER Photolife School Photos PTA Meeting	21 OCTOBER Photolife School Photos	22 OCTOBER Y4 to Howick Historic Village	23 OCTOBER Y4 to Howick Historic Village Gymnastic Zone Training Day Y6 Surf Trip Y1 Beach Trip Y3&4 Assembly Ice Block Sale 3pm \$2each
WEEK 3	26 OCTOBER Labour Day - School Closed	27 OCTOBER Mind Plus Pizza & Games Evening	28 OCTOBER	29 OCTOBER Y2 Production	30 OCTOBER Y5&6 Assembly Gymnastic Zone Training Day Ice Block Sale 3pm \$2each
WEEK 4	02 NOVEMBER	03 NOVEMBER Senior Athletics	04 NOVEMBER Board Meeting	05 NOVEMBER Gymnastics Zone Day	06 NOVEMBER Y1&2 Assembly Ice Block Sale 3pm \$2each

Thank you for supporting our iceblock sales, we are raising money for our school counselor



Congratulations to our year 5 teacher Zoe Steinhouse and her husband Fraser who welcomed a baby girl, Mackenzie on Sunday





Cyrus Wang competed in the South Island Rapid Chess Championship in Nelson, winning 1st place in the U1800 rating prize. He was also the youngest player among those who received awards on the podium. Congratulation Cyrus, what an incredible achievement!

TERM 4 REMINDERS

SUN HATS COMPULSORY IN TERM 4!

Children must wear their school bucket hat everyday.



SHOPPING FOR SANDALS?

If you are shopping for sandals over the holidays, we strongly recommend choosing sandals with a heel strap to keep children safe when running and playing!

ENJOY YOUR HOLIDAYS & SEE YOU IN TERM 4!

Follow these instructions to place your order online:

- 1/. Go to www.kidsartworks.com
- 2/. Use the Entrance Code: KZ937
- 3/. Enter your child's room & name when prompted



Orders close
27 October



Help Emma Wang win the Think Kind People's Choice Award!

Year 5 student Emma Wang has been selected as a finalist in the 2026 Think Kind Competition and is now in the running for the People's Choice Award. Winning this award would mean a \$1,000 prize for our school! Think Kind is an annual student competition that encourages young people to explore how they can care for animals, protect our planet, and support one another.

 **Vote here:**

<https://www.vegetarian.org.nz/think-kind/voting>



A warm welcome to all our new students and staff!



ARE YOU IN ZONE FOR MURRAY'S BAY PRIMARY SCHOOL?

IS YOUR CHILD OR THE CHILD OF SOMEONE YOU KNOW TURNING 5 IN 2026?

IF SO, ITS TIME TO ENROL THEM

AS OF 2026, MURRAY'S BAY SCHOOL HAS MOVED TO COHORT ENTRY. THIS MEANS THAT WE NOW USE THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION'S 8 SET DATES FOR 5 YEAR OLDS STARTING SCHOOL.

	Cohort No.	Start of Term Date	Cohort No.	Mid-Term Date
Term 2	3	Monday 20 April	4	Monday 1 June
Term 3	5	Monday 20 July	6	Monday 24 August
Term 4	7	Monday 12 October	8	Monday 16th November



Enrol Now

www.murraysbay.school.nz/enrol/



Term Dates

TERM 1 2026	03 February – 02 April 06 February – Waitangi Day
TERM 2 2026	20 April – 03 July 27 April – ANZAC Day Observed 01 June – King's Birthday
TERM 3 2026	20 July – 25 September
TERM 4 2026	12 October – 15 December 26 October – Labour Day

Teacher Only Days

02 April
12 June



Time to COLLECT Yummy apple stickers for our schools share of

\$200,000 FREE SPORTS GEAR

The more we collect, the more gear we get!

EAT YUMMY APPLES & BRING YOUR STICKERS TO SCHOOL!



Download your sticker sheet here



READY, SET, GRAB!

Imagine 60 seconds to fill your trolley at New World Browns Bay...

The **PTA's Grocery Grab** Raffle is coming soon, with TWO chances to win your very own 60-second grocery grab!

Tickets are just \$10 each, with the winners drawn on 4 December at Carols on the Court.

Keep an eye out for more details, including how to purchase tickets online and the all-important Grocery Grab rules.

Who's ready to race down those aisles?



Whittakers Fundraiser update

We only received a small number of chocolate boxes this year and unfortunately some students have missed out.

As we get unsold boxes returned we will redistribute them to students as quickly as possible.

Please help us by returning unsold chocolates & money as soon as possible.

Thanks for supporting our fundraiser!



PTA Meeting

24 November

7pm

Staff Room

SECONDHAND UNIFORM SHOP

OPENING HOURS

WEDNESDAY MORNING

8.45 - 9.15am

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

2.45 - 3.15pm

Located behind the school hall

SCHOOL FUNDRAISER STARTING 24 August

MON-FRI | 12 PM-5 PM

Treat Yourself. Support Your School.

15%

OF YOUR PURCHASE WILL BE DONATED TO MURRAYS BAY PTA

HOW TO SUPPORT

1. VISIT Chao's Yogurt, Westfield Albany
2. MENTION "MURRAYS BAY PTA" when ordering

Community Notices

CHESS IS BACK

at MURRAY'S BAY SCHOOL

A fun and engaging way for your child to learn, grow and thrive.

TERM 4 COACHING PROGRAMME

STARTS TUESDAY 13 OCTOBER

Give your child the skills for life with

CHESS!

Chess builds critical thinking, boosts confidence and helps kids make smarter decisions — on and off the chessboard.

JUST
\$224
FOR THE TERM

CLASS TIMES

TUESDAYS

3:05 - 4:05PM

In the Ruru 1

Spaces are limited. Enrol early to secure a spot!

WHY CHESS?

1

SHARPENS MINDS

Improves focus, memory and concentration.

2

BUILDS CHARACTER

Teaches patience, resilience and good sportsmanship.

3

DEVELOPS SKILLS

Enhances problem solving, creativity and strategy.

REGISTER
TODAY!

Spaces are limited

Register at: www.chesspower.co.nz/class-registration



QUESTIONS?

Visit:
chesspower.co.nz
Click Parents Centre

CHESS POWER — BUILDING BRIGHTER FUTURES THROUGH CHESS



*Years 2
and up

LITTLECOOKS TERM 4 2026 KIDS COOKING MURRAY'S BAY

DATES: October 13 - December 8

Cost: \$369 (9 wks)

TUESDAYS: 3.30-4.50pm

Location: School Hall

TO REGISTER: EMAIL TEAM@LITTLECOOKS.CO.NZ

YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN BASIC COOKING/ BAKING SKILLS, DEVELOP CONFIDENCE IN TRYING NEW FOODS, FLAVOURS AND TEXTURES IN A FUN, SAFE ENVIRONMENT.

www.littlecooks.co.nz



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BARFOOT & THOMPSON



AUCKLAND
HANDBALL

PLAY HANDBALL

REGISTER NOW



Saturdays 9:30 - 11:00am

@ Murray's Bay Intermediate School

Come and join us for just \$70
for 7 sessions

Boys and Girls Ages 8 - 14 years

From 17th Oct to 28th Nov

Contact: +64 21 02 868614 - Pepe

Advertise in our Community Section - \$25+gst per edition

Adverts need to be relevant to our School Community - email office@murraysbay.school.nz for more information

Community Notices

MURRAY'S BAY SCHOOL
TERM 4 2026

CREATIVE MINDS CRITICAL THINKERS FUTURE READY

LEGO® ENGINEERING & ROBOTICS AFTER SCHOOL STEAM CLASSES

Fun classes that build **creativity, confidence & problem-solving** skills.

STEAM

PROBLEM SOLVING

TECHNOLOGY & ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

CREATIVITY & INNOVATION

EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE & SOCIAL SKILLS

IMAGINATION & SELF EXPRESSION

JUNIOR ENGINEER (YEAR 0-2)

EXPLORE ENGINEERING & DESIGN THINKING

JUNIOR ROBOTICS (YEAR 1-4)

EXPLORE ROBOTICS & CODING

AI EXPLORER (YEAR 3-4)

EXPLORE ROBOTICS & AI

JUNIOR ENGINEER

Build a new LEGO® model each week while exploring engineering concepts: testing ideas and taking on challenges at different levels. Develop hands-on skills, creativity, concentration, problem-solving and design thinking.

THURSDAYS

Start date: 22nd October

3:15pm - 4:15pm

Location: Pukeko Breakout Space

Term Fees: \$240 (8 classes, \$30/class)

JUNIOR ROBOTICS

Build and code LEGO® robotic models through hands-on challenges. Develop coding skills, logical thinking, problem-solving and confidence.

THURSDAYS

Start date: 22nd October

3:15pm - 4:45pm

Location: Pukeko Breakout Space

Term Fees: \$320 (8 classes, \$40/class)

For Year 0-2 students, Junior Engineer is recommended before joining Junior Robotics.

AI EXPLORER

Explore AI concepts and real-world applications through hands-on building and coding challenges. Develop critical thinking, problem-solving and coding confidence.

THURSDAYS

Start date: 22nd October

3:15pm - 4:45pm

Location: Pukeko Breakout Space

Term Fees: \$336 (8 classes, \$42/class)

Requires at least 1 year (4 terms) of Junior Robotics

Through hands-on building, coding and discovery, children explore real-world problems, test ideas and solve challenges – developing creativity, innovative thinking and future-ready skills.

www.brick4kidz.co.nz | 0800 LEGO 4 K | info@brick4kidz.co.nz

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ROSEDALE · NORTH SHORE

Art Builds Brighter Futures

MAKE ART. MAKE IT YOURS.

ART CLASSES · NORTH SHORE

SELECTED WORKS

Real creativity. Real students.

FIND YOUR CLASS

AGES 5-8

Drawing & Creative Art

AGES 9-13

Drawing · Painting · Mixed Media

TEENS

Drawing · Portfolio Support

WHY S&A?

Small Groups

More individual guidance

Strong Foundations

Build drawing & painting skills

Creative Freedom

Develop your own style

Portfolio Support

For older students

BOOK A TRIAL CLASS

Scan to see current class times & enquire.
Not sure which class? We'll help you find the right one.

18/6 Rosedale Road, Windsor Park | 027 363 9990

Good Art. Happier People

TEN FEET TALL
SPEAK · PERFORM · LEAD

BIG CONFIDENCE STARTS HERE.

We help kids find their voice, speak with confidence and build skills for life.

Helping kids find their voice

SCHOOL TERM PROGRAMMES

Small group classes running weekly throughout the school term — structured, purposeful skill development, and taught by trained coaches who know how to develop confident communicators.

Speech & Drama — build confidence, creativity, performance, and communication skills

Public Speaking — structure ideas, speak with impact, and present with confidence

Debate — think critically, argue persuasively, and respond confidently under pressure Every student speaks every lesson.

Build skills for life. Real progress, every term. For Years 1-13 students.

INTERESTED? SCAN HERE

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMMES

Interactive, high-energy holiday programmes:

- Speech & Drama
- Public Speaking
- Debate
- Leadership
- Writing School Speeches
- Theatresports
- Acting

Holiday coaching that builds important skills for life:

- Speak with confidence
- Build creativity & imagination
- Debate with confidence
- Deliver powerful speeches
- Perform with presence

Ideal for new & current students. Book for real progress -fast. For Years 1-13 students.

INTERESTED? SCAN HERE

TO JOIN OUR WECHAT COMMUNITY GROUP, ADD OUR WECHAT ID: TENFEETTALL_ADMIN

Register for a Free Trial

tenfeettall.co.nz

Soccer X

sports for better minds

Portst

Murray's Bay PS

Come and Try Session:

Program Information

- This program will take place on the school field.
- The program is open to girls & boys of all abilities.
- Year 0 pick up available upon formal request.

DATES

Wednesday's 3-4pm

28th October - 2nd December

6 Weeks

AGES

Years 0-6

PRICE

\$108

Register HERE!

Follow US on Instagram

LIKE US ON facebook

FREE EXTRAS available on YouTube

SUBSCRIBE

Contacts

Amelia | auckland@sports-x.nz

021 225 0058

Advertise in our Community Section - \$25+gst per edition
 Adverts need to be relevant to our School Community - email office@murraysbay.school.nz for more information

Community Notices



FREE
no sign-ups needed

EVERYONE WELCOME!

**COFFIN CANDY
POPCORN
LOLIES**

**GRMES
SAUSAGE
SIZZLE**

**LIGHT
CARNIVAL**

**Thu 4.30
7.30 PM**

**31
OCT**

**Windsor Park
Baptist Church**

scan qr code
to find out more



or visit
windsorpark.org.nz/coming-up



Enrol now at

Rangitoto Kindergarten

100% Qualified teachers setting your child up for school success

Empowering learners to care for people and the planet

Beautiful, safe environment nurturing curious minds

A place for your child to grow, learn and thrive.

2a Hythe Tce, Mairangi Bay 09 478 3355 Rangitoto@kaitiakitikindergartens.org.nz



BROWNS BAY

**Christmas
PARADE
& Market**

The BIGGEST Little Parade in Auckland

Saturday 5 December 2026

Market 3pm - 7pm Phoenix Plaza | Parade 5pm
Parade route at brownsbay.org.nz

BR BNS BAY **Hibiscus and Bays Local Board** **Smokefree** **Love Browns Bay**

FREE EVENT

**LIGHT UP
THE PLAZA 2026**

PHOENIX PLAZA • CLYDE ROAD • BROWNS BAY

Friday 13 November
from 4.30pm

Kids' Entertainment
Spot Prizes
Live Music
Market Stalls
Games

BR BNS BAY **Love Browns Bay** **Smokefree**



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PROUD TO SUPPORT MURRAYS BAY SCHOOL

IMPACT

*interiors &
construction*

NZ NEXT LEVEL
CONSTRUCT

Mention Murrays Bay School for 1% of the value of your renovation to be donated straight back to the PTA

Call Brendon: 021 568 655

BENEFITZ

Future thinkers.



NEW WORLD
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Business
Partnership
Opportunity

Get in touch to find out about becoming a 2026 Murrays Bay Primary School Partner



email your interest to
office@murraysbay.school.nz



thank you