



24 February 2025

Principal's Update

Kia Ora parents, caregivers and students,

Our year is now up and running and it is great to see students into the routines of learning. I would like to thank you all for your support in helping get your sons and daughters into the flow of the school week - we are already seeing a settled, happy and focussed environment.

This update has a couple of important notices so thank you for taking the time to read it.

Thank you

I would like to congratulate students for their excellent punctuality and presentation so far this year. I know that uniforms are expensive and that the start of the year can be a challenging financial time for families. I appreciate the efforts that you have made to help our students be in the correct uniform and to arrive on time for learning each morning.

I would also like to thank all of the parents that have made time to come in for introductory evenings and to meet teachers at the start of the year. Learning is most successful when we are in partnership with you and I have been so impressed by the engagement and grateful for the support of our parents.

I would like to offer a thank you to the wonderful group of parents who are our ARISE parents group. These wonderful people give their time and effort to support the school and all of our students through the running of activities and through fundraising efforts, all while having fun and supporting each other. If you haven't considered it before, I would encourage you to think about joining this group. I am very grateful for their work and am looking forward to some exciting events that they have planned this year.

Golflands Campus picking up and dropping off - a few concerns

We have noticed as we greet students in the morning and farewell them each afternoon that traffic is an ongoing challenge, especially around our Golflands campus for junior and middle years. I have also received a number of emails from concerned parents and neighbours of our school about the safety of our students.

It is essential that we all follow the road rules while dropping off and collecting students. Please do not park illegally on yellow lines or across driveways and remember to look carefully for young people at these important times of the day. I have asked duty staff to take photos of any concerning driving behaviour and we may forward these to Auckland Transport for them to issue infringement notices at their discretion. You can support us by planning with your son or daughter where you will collect them and encouraging them to walk safely away from school to a pre-arranged spot so as to avoid congestion around the school gates.

In particular I am concerned about the congestion on Montecito Place. It may be that we have to close this entrance/exit to students due to some serious safety concerns and poor driving in this street. If you are in the habit of dropping and collecting children from this area, please can you help us by discussing a place where you can collect that is beyond Montecito Place and in an area where there is more space and where parking can happen safely.

Congratulations

Last week we had our annual senior athletics day at Lloyd Elsmore Park. Despite a damp start to the day, I was so pleased to see so many students joining in with the day and being supportive and positive of their peers. It is great to see our seniors showing resilience and perseverance, on a day that asks many to go outside their comfort zone. I would like to thank the teachers and parents who helped make this such a successful day, especially Mrs Borthwick and Mr Webb. I congratulate our athletes and I wish them well for upcoming regional competitions.

The Challenge of living in peace with everyone

In Romans 12, Paul encourages all believers "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live in peace with everyone". This exhortation can seem so hard in our modern world that favours individual rights and putting ourselves first. As followers of Christ, it is good when we can consider what we can do through our words and actions to bring peace in situations and to show love to those around us. I have been greatly heartened to see such a peaceful environment in our school and this fruit of the Spirit so evident in our teachers and students. I pray that God will bless you all and your families with His peace this week.

Ngā mihi nui



Mr Julian Adamson
Principal