



9 February 2024

School Newsletter 1

Website: www.coatesville.school.nz

Phone: 09 415 9218



BOARD OF TRUSTEES SPOTLIGHT

Nau mai, hoki mai students, staff and whānau!

We hope you all enjoyed a fabulous summer and are as excited as we are about the year ahead! The Board met in January for the first of our strategic planning evenings this term, and used your feedback to agree and draft our key priorities for the school for 2024 and beyond.

The **4 key priorities** we've identified are:



- 1: Teaching & Learning:** Clarity and consistency of practices across the school
- 2: Communication of Student Progress and Achievement:** Strengthening communication to ensure clarity and consistency
- 3: Supporting Staff Wellbeing:** Promoting and maintaining a healthy and safe working environment for all staff
- 4: Giving Effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi:** Promoting and providing opportunities for staff, students and whānau to engage in Te Reo and Tikanga Māori

Thank you to all who contributed feedback and ideas last year. It has been hugely valuable and we welcome your on-going dialogue as we fine-tune our strategic plan over the coming weeks.

Next BOT Meeting: 22 Feb, 6.30pm.



Taking our priorities forward in 2024

The 'BOT Spotlight' highlighted our key priorities for the year. The consultation process we undertook last year generated plenty of reflection and has given us great momentum for 2024.

We are **currently still clarifying and confirming a number of initiatives, plans and procedures.**

These will be progressively shared with you over the coming weeks - we will be taking parents/caregivers on the journey with us as we implement some exciting developments!

This is a long term strategy. It will be deliberate and carefully implemented.

So thank you in advance for your patience!

But do expect detailed information in the near future regarding the following:

- **Learning programmes:** What are our key programmes? What is to be learnt?
- **Home learning:** What is expected - from students, staff and parents?
- **Sharing progress and achievement in 2024:** What does this look like across each term?
- **Resolving questions and concerns:** How do we effectively support positive resolutions ?

Watch out for information coming your way soon!



Powhiri - next Friday!

We will have a **powhiri** for new staff, students and their whanau next Friday (16 February) starting at 9.15am.

We are being supported through the powhiri process by Whaea Trish Ripi, who worked so wonderfully well with our **kapa haka group** last year.

Powhiri Attendance:

All those new to the school are being formally welcomed to the school - all new staff, new students and their whanau are to be part of the powhiri.

Please indicate on this [simple form](#) asap if **any whanau would like to be welcomed** during the powhiri - or for light refreshments afterwards. This is to help us with us with organisation of the event.

All other staff and students will be attending the powhiri.

All parents/caregivers are very welcome to attend the powhiri too.



Teacher Release: Regularly each week

Several of our teaching staff will be regularly released from their classroom duties during 2024 - for varying reasons. Some are released to complete schoolwide or team responsibilities, others have a part time contract for the year, while others are given release for professional development during their first 2 years as a teacher. *(Also see 'CRT' on next page)*

Team Leader release

Andy Forsyth (Rm 4) - released on Fridays by Alice Varcoe

Jo Davidson (Rm 7) - released on Tuesdays by Anna Hawkes

Melissa Blignault (Rm 13) - released on Wednesdays by Jesse Chiari

Other regular teacher release

Rm 2 - on Thursdays taught by Alice Varcoe

Rm 3 - on Wednesdays taught by Alice Varcoe

Rm 6 - most Thursdays taught by Anna Hawkes

Rm 9 - on Thursdays taught by Sian Williams

Rm 11 - on Fridays taught by Jesse Chiari



Teachers: Classroom Release Time

In addition to the regular 'Teacher Release' (outlined on the previous page), **all teachers are allocated 'Classroom Release Time' (CRT) to fulfil their professional obligations** - ie. planning, assessment, resource collection, coaching meetings, professional inquiries

This CRT is part of the collective agreement conditions for all teachers in New Zealand.

In 2023 the allocation per term was 2 days per term (or an hour a week).

This allocation has now risen to **3 days per term for Terms 1-2 in 2024** and will rise again to **4 days per term for the second half of the year.**

In 2025, the allocation will be further increased - to 5 days per term.

It will mean more time out of the classroom for all teachers. But the work that will be achieved during the release time will ultimately be beneficial to students and to parents/caregivers.

We have very capable release teachers working in our school who provide teacher release and do a terrific job of continuing the classroom programme on those days.



School Hats

Every child gets a **free Coatesville School hat when they first start.**

New children should've received their hat from the office by now.

All children are expected to wear their school hat when outside during Terms 1 & 4.

Children are not permitted to wear other hats.

If you **need to buy a new hat please pay online (\$20) to the school account - ASB 12 3059**

0307932 00 - then bring your child to the school office for sizing.

We do want children to look after their hats and make sure they are safely placed at the end of every day. It saves them being placed in the lost property and/or parents having to buy a new one!

Safety at Coatesville School

A very important way in which **staff, students, parents AND the community** can help support everyone's safety is through the identification of hazards or 'near miss' incidents.

Please use the form below to ensure direct information is quickly and accurately relayed to staff. This form is also available **on our school website under 'Health & Safety'**.

Hazard Identification & 'Near Miss' incidents form

Key safety message:

All students must be dropped off and picked up inside the school grounds. No student is permitted to leave the school grounds by themselves.

Please park and enter the grounds!

The yellow lines and graphics (right) indicate what is required to keep our students safe before and (especially) after school.

Thank you.



Swimming - Water Skills for Life!



Our school swimming programme begins next week!

All classrooms will have two 45 minute sessions per week in our school pool with student learning focused on the [7 competencies](#) contained in the [Water Skills for Life](#) programme.

We therefore greatly appreciate your support with ensuring your child brings their togs, towel, goggles (if needed) on their scheduled days.

If your child is unable to swim on particular day due being unwell or for other reasons, please contact your child's classroom teacher to let them know.

Swimming Timetable 2024

Room	Swimming Days	Room	Swimming Days	Room	Swimming Days
1	Monday & Wednesday	5	Thursday & Friday	10	Monday & Friday
2	Monday & Wednesday	6	Thursday & Friday	11	Tuesday & Wednesday
3	Monday & Wednesday	7	Thursday & Friday	12	Tuesday & Wednesday
4	Monday & Wednesday	9	Monday & Friday	13	Tuesday & Wednesday



Swimming and Shared Stationery Costs

The cost for class swimming for this year is **\$50 per child**.

The cost for class stationery extras/shared stationery is **\$10 per child**.

These costs can be paid online to the school account ASB 12 3059 0307932 00 using your **child's full name as a reference**.

Prompt payment of these is appreciated - thanks very much to those families who have paid already.

You are welcome to pay any or all of the **school donation (\$376 per child)** at the same time.

These costs will be soon showing on the HERO statement for your child/children.