



# February Newsletter

## A message from Mrs Margison

Dear parents, caregivers and whanau,

We have had a great start to the year and I thank you for all your organisation in support of this.

The starting days were a little bit varied, however, they enabled us to ease back into the routines and expectations of school life.

We really enjoyed our Whānau Korero day, so thank you for making the time to come along to school on this day. This is a day where we as teachers, learn so much about you and your family and anything that may have happened over the Christmas break. It also sets us up for success. As you as parents or caregivers have the opportunity to chat with your child's teacher by yourselves, plus you and your child know exactly where the class is and where to put your bags. This is such a great way to start as it means that the first full day of school starts like clockwork and everybody knows where to go and who to meet.

The Meet the Teacher evening is also a great time to come to the class and meet the other parents in the class while at the same time giving time to listen to the teacher and finding out how this new class will run. Thank you also for attending the session in the hall. I do hope you found this time informative to help with how things run daily in our school as well as the focus for this year.

Unfortunately this night also clashed with some of our local schools. These dates are often set in the holidays or the days leading up to the start of school. We will try in the future to ascertain a different night if we are able to do so.

One of the most important things we talked about at the Meet the Teacher is what we are striving to do. We want your child to be successful to feel they belong at school and to be able to cope with whatever comes their way in the future. In putting our vision, values and learner profile together we have this statement:



This term our teachers are focusing on Learning to Learn and setting our children up to be successful. They will be learning about the routines of the class and how we go about organising our learning items in readiness for Reading, Writing and Maths while also being prepared for Swimming, PE and Fitness. Technology, Science, Social Sciences, and the Arts are also areas to be ready and prepared.

Our goal is for your child to be agentic and able to do things independently, at the right time in the right way

**Our definition of agentic learners is:**

Agentic Learners are confident in their own [needs], strengths and interests, knowing what they are learning and where they are heading to next. Learners are supported and empowered to take ownership, choice, and action to navigate their learning.

We want to work in partnership with you for the success of your child. Your first port of call if you have any questions is your class teacher, you can then ask the Team Leader of your child’s class and then of course onto the Deputy Principal and then myself as Principal.

Many people in the school including other parents are willing to help (especially our new parents) and our lovely office staff are very understanding and helpful, so please do ask them if you are unsure.

We are looking forward to a year of great learning together.

Ngā mihi nui  
Colleen Margison

# Spotlight on one of our students

Chloe Wang, one of our Year 6 students, participated in a significant concert last Saturday. Chloe performed as one of the soloists with the Wairua Sinfonietta Orchestra. Chloe embarked on her piano journey four and a half years ago under the guidance of renowned Italian pianist Matteo Napoli. Chloe has been successful in numerous national piano competitions. The Wairua Sinfonietta Orchestra successfully raised over \$4000 for Starship hospital, and it was a privilege for her to showcase Mellon Bay Primary School in her performance.



# A message from the PTA

A warm welcome back to 2024

We are so appreciative of all your support last year as we focused on bringing our school community back together after years of disconnect.

This year our goal is to continue to build on our community engagement with a focus on making our annual events even bigger and better based on feedback received from families.

We will also be working closely alongside school in their movement towards sustainability.

We look forward to another action packed year with you all.



MELLONS BAY SCHOOL

PTA

## THANK YOU

for supporting our PTA Events last year

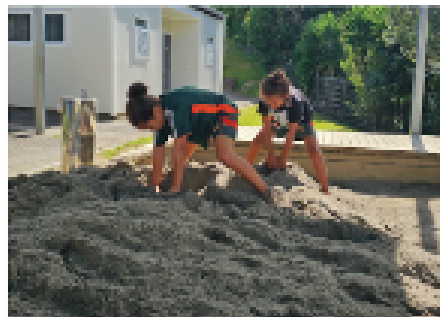
- Family Twilight Picnic + Easter Egg Hunt
- Snow Planet Ski/Snowboard Lessons
- Mum's Night Out Dinner + Movie Night
- Winter Neon Disco / Summer Family Disco
- Frozen Pie Fundraiser
- Parents Night: Beats by Bingo
- Father's Day Breakfast
- Splash of Colour Fun Run
- Bake Sale
- Sausage Sizzle Special Lunches
- Cultural Celebration Day
- Howick Santa Parade



# YOUR SUPPORT

helped the PTA contribute the following:

- Sandpit Refresh for both Junior and Middle School
- 7.5 cubic metres of sand to top up both of the Sandpits
- Sand Toys
- New Storage Shed in Middle School
- Pool Toys
- Funding towards New Kapa Haka Uniforms
- New Speaker System for our discos/events and for school use
- Ensuring some of our events remained FREE to give back to the kids: Easter Egg Hunt, Santa Parade School Float



## Members of the PTA Committee

PTA Co-Chairs: Ana Kireka & Yvonne Goodwin

Communications: Sarah Schiphorst

Treasurer: Michelle Lobb

Secretary: Amna Kafridi

Graphics and fliers: Rebecca Charlton

Chinese Community Wechat coordinator: Jing Liang

Kindo and ticketing: Julie Money

Lunch Coordinator: Dawn Gillard - exiting Term 2

Snow Planet Coordinator: Eliza Zhang - exiting Term 2

Events Team: Stanley Tung, Ivy Tsui, Winnie Wong, Susan Cho

## PTA Positions vacant

### Lunch Coordinator:

Prepare term roster of parent lunch volunteers for lunch days Wednesday to Friday.

Manage group on WhatsApp.

Provide feedback to Dollar for Schools Lunches about any lunch issues.

Coordinate and run the 'Sausage Sizzle Special Lunch', once a term with the greater PTA team.

### Time Commitment:

Setup term lunch roster 2 hours at the start of each term.

Minimal time each week once lunches start rolling - occasionally needing to organise a lunch reliever from the roster if a helper is unavailable.

**Special Lunch:** Order food, organise volunteer helpers, get printed Kindo order lists, run the Special Lunch on the day morning till 1pm.

\*This role can largely be done from home via email and messaging and is a great way to be involved in such an important part of school life. Training and support will be provided.

### Ski/Snowboard Coordinator:

Liaise with Snow Planet to set up a date/time for ski/snowboard lessons for term 2 and term 3 (these are 4 week lesson blocks).

Communicate with families enrolled in the programme to pass on information at the start of each programme.

**Time commitment:** Approx. 1-2hrs at start of each lesson block, 1-2x a term.

\*This role can be done entirely via email. Unfortunately if we cannot fulfill this role, we can no longer continue our Mellons Bay School group lessons at Snow Planet.

- Would you like to meet more parents from our school community or maybe you can help with any of our fundraising events?
- Please come along to our first meeting, it's very relaxed & friendly
- Sponsors - we always need sponsors to help with our event costs
- Thank you to our 2023 Sponsors
- We are looking for 2024 Sponsors for these great events:
  - Family Twilight Easter Picnic
  - Mothers/Father's Day Events
  - Parent Night - a community event
  - School Fun Run
  - and many more...

If you have a business who would like to sponsor an event this year please contact us: [ptaevents@mellonsbay.school.nz](mailto:ptaevents@mellonsbay.school.nz)



**MELLONS BAY SCHOOL**  
PTA

**PTA Meeting**  
Thursday 12th March  
Time: 7pm  
*School Library*  
(Children are welcome to attend)

Everyone Welcome





Help us kick off our fundraising this term...

We will now taking orders for delicious Hot Cross Buns throughout the month of March.

Two Deliveries Available: Friday 8th March and Friday 22nd March

Choose one, or both, dates to have an order ready for you at school. If you wish to make an order for both dates, please fill in a **separate form per delivery date**.



ORDER ONLINE OR FORMS AVAILABLE AT THE OFFICE

Order your **HOT CROSS BUNS** today!

MELLONS BAY SCHOOL  
PTA

**6 for \$12**  
PACK

Four flavours to choose from:

**TRADITIONAL FRUIT**  
**MOCHA**  
**CHOC CHIP**  
**APPLE & CINNAMON**

\$4 from every pack goes to the school



**ORDER ONLINE** <http://tinyurl.com/MBSPTAhotcrossbuns>

*Bakers  
Delight*

1. Orders Close: 9pm Thu 29th Feb  
Pick Up from School: Fri 8th March  
(Collect from School Hall Kitchen 2.30-3.30pm)
2. Orders Close: 9pm Thu 14th March  
Pick Up from School: Fri 22nd March  
(Collect from the Family Picnic from 4-6pm)



How to Contact or stay in touch with the PTA:

- Email: [ptacomms@mellonsbay.school.nz](mailto:ptacomms@mellonsbay.school.nz)
- Message us via our [Mellons Bay School PTA Facebook page](#)
- Chinese Community WeChat Group: If you're a parent who would like to join our active Chinese WeChat group follow the QR code or email Jing our WeChat coordinator on: [lovy\\_l@hotmail.com](mailto:lovy_l@hotmail.com)



Stay up to date with all our notices and events via our Mellons Bay School PTA Facebook page.



# Upcoming Events



## The Developing Brain

Mellons Bay School / Howick - AUCKLAND  
**Mon 4th March 2024 - 7:30pm - 9:00pm**

Tickets at [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)



### THE DEVELOPING BRAIN

In this presentation, Nathan provides an informative narrative on how our day- to-day interactions with children and young people, significantly the early years, plays a critical role in defining later outcomes for our children. In this talk, Nathan will guide you through the stages of brain development from the first 1000 days and into adulthood. He will reveal little tricks that will hopefully make parenting easier, and help you open up communication with your child. You will walk away with a much better understanding of how both your child's brain and your own brain works.

Captivating audiences over 200 times per year to sell out events, Nathan has a profound reputation as a lively and engaging speaker. He uses humour and plain language to make this complex topic burst into life.

Tickets are available at [www.eventfinda.co.nz](http://www.eventfinda.co.nz).

Get in quick as tickets will sell out.

