

Term 1 2022 Calendar

8	21	22	Subway lunch 23	24	25
9	28	29	Subway lunch 30	31	April 1
10	BOT Meeting 6pm 4	5	Subway lunch 6	7	8
11	11	12	Subway lunch 13	Last Day of Term 1 Family Merit Assembly 14	Easter Friday 15

Term Dates 2022

- Term 1** Wednesday 2 February to Thursday April 14
Easter/ANZAC Day is during the holiday break
- Term 2** Monday 2 May to Friday July 8
(Queen's Birthday Monday June 6- Public Holiday)
(Matariki – Public holiday – Friday 24 June)
- Term 3** Monday July 25 to Friday September 30
- Term 4** Monday October 17 to Thursday December 15
(Labour Day – Monday 24 October- Public Holiday)

There is a 'Teacher Only Day' scheduled during Term 2 for Friday 3rd June; however, this may change. All of the Northern Porirua schools, including Aotea College, will be closed on this day.

Cohort Dates 2022:

- Term 1 = 2nd February and 7th March
Term 2 = 2nd May and 7th June
Term 3 = 25th July and 29th August
Term 4 = 17th October and 14th November



Postgate School Newsletter

Term 1: Week 8 2022

Mission Statement

To Create Life-Long Learners

***"The past is where you learned the lesson.
The future is where you apply the lesson"***

Supporting statement:

We will promote life-long learning in our children by developing their social, intellectual, emotional and physical skills in a creative and caring environment.



"Together, We Learn and Achieve"

***"Ma te mahi ngatahi,
ka tu pakari te matauranga"***

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March 21, 2022

Kia ora e te whānau

Hopefully, some positive news this week for the government about how we are going to manage COVID moving forward. Any lifting of restrictions will need to be balanced out with the main concern being for the elderly, people in aged care or the most vulnerable. While it is not the nicest experience to get COVID, for the vast majority of us, we will make a full recovery.

Any changes will require people to change their mindset about this virus. Imagine if we took the same approach to the road toll and driving our cars? The virus is going to be with us for a while, maybe the rest of our days. The key now is getting on with getting on. I'm super excited about what I would announce, hopefully, there is positive news for all about living life and not being fearful.

On the flip side, 500,000 people have had COVID in New Zealand with a population of 5 million people. Not many more to go eh?

Postgate School Thank You: The last month (last two of years for some) has been a bit of a rough ride with isolation, lockdowns, sickness, worries, mandates, passports, loss of jobs, loss of earnings, loss of loved ones, unable to visit family overseas, the worry of it all, the list goes on.

What we are most proud of is how Postgate families continue to show their support of our school community in many different ways; we have many local heroes, ordinary people doing extraordinary things. Truly amazing, kind, considerate folk.

Families have been dropping off various supplies at school, such as face masks, office equipment, new clothing for others and second-hand uniforms. The aroha you are showing towards others is greatly appreciated, never taken for granted and humbles us all.

School Reset: As a school, over 30% of our children have had the virus and over 50% of our families have isolated, we must be near our peak of COVID. As we start to come out the other side, we are looking to do a full school reset, get ourselves right, and refocus our standards before the next wave comes and the flu season. COVID will be with us for a very long time, maybe the rest of our days.

We pride ourselves on having high values, a strong sense of school pride, a community that support each other and being the best possible version of ourselves.

Small things we have been allowed to slide such as uniform, punctuality and attendance; our focus has been COVID, keeping calm and ensuring that the school stays open. We wanted kids at school, whenever possible. Shortly, within the next couple of weeks, we will start to address these key areas. The vast majority of the time it is not the student at fault, so unfortunately for some, it will be the adults in the house we will be talking with. Our children learn every day from the adults around them and one day our children will be in the workforce. Arriving to work late, in the incorrect uniform or just not fronting will see them looking for another job or becoming unemployable in a short period of time. Lessons for future living.

"The past is where you learned the lesson.

The future is where you apply the lesson"

School Uniform: With a change in the temperature, we are starting to see a variation of our uniform from Norths or other styles of blue hoodies, to stripy pants, or no sun hat even though we are still in Term 1. We understand that clothes need to be washed and that sometimes accidents happen at school preventing children from wearing uniform the next day; we have a supply of uniforms in the office for such days.

If your child is not in the correct uniform please let your child's teacher know via Seesaw, email or a note from home; lessons learned from adults.

Also, to help parents...

Summer and Winter Fleece Sale: We understand the stresses of being a parent/caregiver and the extra burden currently facing families. To this end, Theresa and Louise have looked at our stock and worked out a special deal until the end of this term for our school community. All Summer and Winter fleeces will now be \$45 or for three or more a sweeter deal that the ladies will work out for you.

Punctuality: Students should be at school between 8:30am and 8:45am. 10 minutes before the bell gives students the opportunity to play, socialise and develop their friendships. Coming to school just before or after bell time will see children start the day on the back foot and feeling a bit anxious. We don't ask children when they are late why that is as we know, most of the time, they are not at fault. To punish the child to make up lost time during school isn't the answer. The answer is that the adult responsible for getting the child to school fulfils that responsibility.

If getting your child to school is a problem and if we are not your closest school, maybe you may need to think about attending your local school. While it

would be sad to say goodbye to any family, having children who can successfully grow into reliable young people is far more important to us

School Attendance: This COVID has played havoc with our attendance rates. 10 days of isolation, followed by 7 and for some families, this has extended out to over 20 days; and they haven't even had COVID. COVID might be with us for the rest of our days, so hiding from it might see a lifetime of hibernation.

Some of our most at-risk children are having a large number of days off, for no justified reason. These are children in specialist programmes like Reading Recovery, SPRING into Maths or are targeted students; programmes that the school invests a fair bit of money into.

All children who are healthy, COVID-free should be at school.

Our staff have been doing a tremendous job over this term. They have worked hard to sort programmes with children being away, making a difference to those at school (they have been working hard), accommodate children arriving back at various times and keeping themselves safe/healthy/COVID-free. There is a growing sense of frustration with children not being at school who should. Our staff want to see all children succeed. Our staff want to do the best possible job for your child. Our staff want to see all children engaged in learning. We want to see all healthy, COVID-free children back at school.

Technology Classes at Plimmerton School: Our Year 7 and Year 8 technology classes at Plimmerton are back on again this week! Yipee!

Boxing is also on the go again for our selected Year 7 and Year 8 girls

Porirua City Football Club is taking registrations for the 2022 football season for all junior grades, all skill levels, boys and girls, First Kicks (5 & 6s), and upwards. Register your interest with Steve on email poriruacityfootballclub@gmail.com

Porirua City Football will be running its Junior Sunday programme at Postgate School again. When registering, please let them know you are from Postgate School to receive a small discount off your subs.

Thanking you for your support.

Mauruuru kotahi ano koutou mo to koutoa tautoko o Postgate School.

Today's COVID update: Since Friday's update

The vast majority of students have caught COVID while isolating at home. We believe 10 – 12 students have caught the virus at school. The other 75 have caught it while isolating at home. Today's numbers reflect this

·14 students have tested positive for COVID. 13 students were already isolating at home and the class of the other positive case has been notified via Seesaw

·7 families have gone into isolation since Friday. One Postgate family are now in their third week of having someone in isolation- Brother, then mum and dad, then sister and now, the last family member

·88 students have had COVID, that we know of. This is 29% of our students. We believe this number may be as high as 37% with families unaware or not reporting to us.

·Of the 87 students, 49 have now returned to school. We are expecting another 12 children to return tomorrow

·112 families (51%) have been in isolation, which includes 164 children (54% of our children).

·87 families have returned to school from their isolation

·There are 91 students absent from school today for one reason or another, compared with 215 students who are present

· We had three staff with COVID. Two have caught COVID while in isolation.

· We are still to hear from/locate 14 students from 5 families this morning

A reminder that we have boxes of masks, hand sanitiser, and RATs for you out by the front office. These are there for you and if it looks a little low, please tell Theresa through the office window.

Please phone 235 9358 or text 0277466791 or email the school office at absence@postgate.school.nz or notify your child's teacher via Seesaw before 8:55am if your child is going to be away.