



ABERFELDY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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20th February 2024

Greetings to all Parents, Caregivers, and whanau,

Already we are into Week Four!

The children are settling in well and are all keen to engage in their own learning journey.

After community consultation, various conversations and lots of work by our school team, we have nearly completed our new Strategic Plan and Annual Implementation Plan. These documents will be available on our website once adopted by the Board of Trustees. Through the consultation process we identified what was important to you, our stakeholders, what values you wanted to see throughout the school and what changes you would like to see happen. As a result of this we have changed our school values to reflect what is important to us all and we have come up with - WAKA, as we want you all to be part of our journey.

Our Values are -

- Whakaute (Respect)**
- Ako (Learning)**
- Kawenga (Responsibility & Ownership)**
- Ahu (Looking after)**

Our Mission statement is -

Learning is a journey in which all students, staff and whanau ride our WAKA through life and land at success. With Perseverance and positive attitudes we can all take on new challenges and experiences.

Our Vision is -

Journey together on our WAKA.

Our aspirational goals remain as -

- Successful Progress**
- Maximising Potential & Wellbeing**
- Effective Partnerships**

Over the next few newsletters we will explore what each one of these means and how you will see this in action within the school and your child's learning journey.

Our school logo remains the same, depicting the hills and the mist that surround us but lookout for a new picture for our values and possibly even a mascot!

POLICY REVIEWS:

Please feel free to visit the School Doc site which holds all of the schools Policies and Procedures. These documents are updated regularly, and as a parent / caregiver you have the ability to review the policies and make comments on them as they come up for review.



To access the site please visit -

<https://aberfeldy.schooldocs.co.nz> (note that there's no "www."). Our username is "aberfeldy" and the password is "real".

CLASSROOM STRUCTURE:

Our school day has changed with a longer lunch break and school now finishing at 3.00pm.

7.30am	Van run starts
8.30am	Children arrive at school Breakfast is available for those that want it
9.00am	School starts / Learning Block
10.30am	Morning tea break
11.00am	Learning Block
12.30pm	Lunch break (10 minutes eating time)
1.30pm	Learning Block
3.00pm	Home time
4.00pm	All children should be home

Some days the Literacy / Reading and Math programs will be incorporated in Integrated Studies or units, and may be changed around to suit the timetable / day. Te Reo Maori is now also used regularly throughout the school day.

Children should be bringing home their "book bag" most days with reading books, notices or any homework. Please ensure your child returns their book bag the next day as it forms a crucial part of the following days work.

Children need to bring their togs and towel every day as we will be swimming as often as we can; children should also have shoes for doing our fitness in the morning and for playing on the field, as there are prickles and bees about at the moment.

TESTING & REPORTING:

All student's have been tested in all areas of Reading, Writing, Spelling and Math. The analyses of this assessment data will shape our learning program and will be used to inform you as the parent/ caregiver of where your child is at, and what we need to work towards. This will be reported to you via school reports and 3 way parent, student, teacher interviews which will take place during Term One.



PERMISSION SLIPS:

All caregivers should have signed an overreaching permission slip at the time of enrolling their child. To keep our records up to date could you all please sign and return the attached document. There are also permission notices added to the Skool Loop app for most trips that you can sign digitally. If you have any questions please contact the school.

ATTENDANCE:

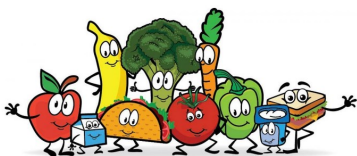
We are aiming for 90% attendance of ALL Children this term; please do your best to ensure that your child attends school regularly, unless they are sick. Also remember to advise the van driver, prior to your child's pick up time, if your child is not coming to school and complete the online absentee form via the Skool Loop app.

PHONES:

A reminder that children should not have their phones at school (this becomes law in Term 2). If your child needs their phone for an after school activity please make sure they hand their phone into the van driver or teacher first thing in the morning and it will be returned at the end of the day.

LUNCHES:

With our change in service providers to Pita Pit the children are now enjoying the lunches much more and most children are eating them every day. Please encourage your child to at least try the lunches - they are delicious. We have started receiving our Fruit in Schools, so there is always fresh fruit at school and our orchard is producing some lovely plums and apples.



WATER ONLY:

We are trying to become a "Water Only" school, so please do not send other drinks to school for your child. There is plenty of fresh, chilled water at school.

THURSDAY PROGRAM:

Everyone should have received the information on our Thursday program; a copy of the notice has been added for you.

COMMUNITY BBQ:

Your child will be bringing home an invitation to our school Community BBQ to be held on Friday, 1st March.

To help with planning please be sure to notify the school if you are coming, and possible numbers by the 25th February by email to - principal@aberfeldy.school.nz.

SCHOOL VAN:

The school van fees remain at \$25 per week for one student but will increase to \$30 for 2 students and \$35 for more than 2 students. **These fees MUST be paid in advance** so please look at getting these set up NOW—bank details are as below.

Attached is the Van Code of Conduct for all students and caregivers to sign and return to school.

We no longer receive MOE funding for the van so we need set up a fundraising committee for the van, with all van users playing an active role in this. Ideas for this can be discussed at our next working bee.

Van account details: Aberfeldy School

BNZ account number: 02 - 0792 - 0329292 - 25

SUNSMART SCHOOL:

Aberfeldy School is a SunSmart School which means your child should be wearing a sunhat whenever they are outside. We have been lucky enough to have sunhats supplied by Wanganui Concrete Contractor's and each child has had their named printed on the back of their hat by Aaron Hartley. Thanks Stu and Aaron for helping keep our children safe.

THANK YOU:

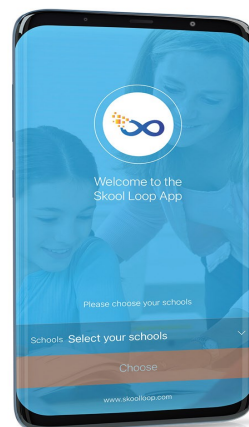
A huge thank you to all our volunteer helpers that have been making such a massive difference around our school at the moment!

We have had volunteers from town, local families, past school family members, staff and staff family members all going the extra mile. They have been busy doing deep cleaning of the school, gardening, removing and dumping of green waste and just general tidying up of the school and it all looks amazing! Thank you.

Downloading the Skool Loop app - a step by step guide

Once you have downloaded the Skool Loop App, via either your Google Play or App store, please follow the below instructions to select your school -

- Open the Skool Loop App - you will land on a welcome page.
- Click the 'Select your schools' this will bring you to a menu you can either search your school or follow the country/region prompts.
- Once you reach your school, select it with the tick on the righthand side.
- Tap the 'select schools' button in the top right corner.
- Tap the big orange choose button. This will load your school and bring you to the settings page.
- Subscribe to the groups that are relevant to you, then click the 'go back' button on your phone, which will bring you to the main screen of your schools app.



Technology & Swimming

13 Feb 2024



Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whanau,

As we prepare for the cluster swimming competition we are going to be building our stamina and practise length swimming in a larger pool at Wanganui East Pools for the next three weeks. We may then move to the Splash Centre once their renovations have been completed, but will notify you when we do.

Technology for the year 7 & 8's begins this Thursday, 15th February, at Cullinane College. Students will need to bring covered shoes, no gumboots or crocs are allowed.

Name	Group	Activity	
Braxton	Red Group 1	FOOD	FOOD
Indee	Blue Group 2	DIGITAL	DIGITAL
Myah-Lee	Yellow Group 3	SCIENCE	PERF
Quinn	Green Group 4	PERF	SCIENCE
Emily	Orange Group 5	MUSIC	ART
Nicholas	Purple Group 6	ART	MUSIC

Please note if your child has **FOOD** they will need to bring a container to put their creations in.

Jaime will be transporting students in from school at 11.15am. She will then pick them up at 1.45pm and take them to Wanganui East Pools where the rest of the school will meet them.

Juniors will be leaving school at 1.30pm. Please note no one will be onsite from 1.30pm onwards.

If you need to contact us please use my cell phone: 027 278 4984.

All students will need to bring their togs and towel.

Town students will be dropped home just after 3pm on these days.

If you have any concerns or queries please don't hesitate to contact me. principal@aberfeldy.school.nz or contact me on the school phone 06 342 5757 (after 3pm would be preferable so teaching isn't interrupted).

Nga mihi,
Shondel Mackie
Principal and classroom teacher

Please Update and Return if any of your contact details have changed -

Childs Name (s): **Family Name:**

Main Parent / Caregiver Name: **Relationship:**

Phone / Cellphone: **E-mail:**

Any medical conditions or other notes:

Emergency Contact: Name: **Phone:**

ABERFELDY SCHOOL

Strategic Plan 2024 - 2025

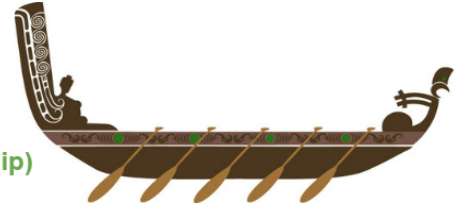
Our Mission

Learning is a journey in which all students, staff and whanau ride our WAKA through life and land at success. With perseverance and positive attitudes we can all take on new challenges and experiences.



Our Values

WAKA
 Whakaute (Respect)
 Ako (Learning)
 Kawenga (Responsibility & Ownership)
 Ahu (Looking after)



Our Strategic Goals

Successful Progress.

Students are challenged with new Ako (learning) to experience success and growth.

- Celebrate success
- Know and understand where students are at academically and what they need to do to make progress.
- Students persevere through challenges by using strategies to overcome barriers.

NELPS - Objective 2: Barrier free access. [here](#)

Maximising Potential & Wellbeing

Students feel safe and confident within their Kura (school) and Ahu (look after) our environment, community and each other.

- Build resilience
- Show Ahu in all areas of our lives - including ourselves.
- Making positive choices.

NELPS - Objective 1: Learning at the centre. [here](#)

Effective Partnerships

For students to be part of an actively engaged community where they can experience the rural Kawenga (responsibilities) and participate in EOTC events.

- Share learning goals.
- Participate in rural adventures with our neighbours.
- Empower whanau.

NELPS - Objective 4: Future of learning and work. [here](#)

Actions - what we intend to do.

- Targeted teaching.
- Revisit/review our values with kaiako/ākonga and whanau and create expectations across the school for ākonga and staff.
- Whole school positive behaviour management system.
- Use assessment to inform teaching practice.
- Introduce the backpack of strategies (James Nottingham).

- Explicitly teach students coping skills.
- Look after our environment, animals and fellow students.
- Having options available while knowing and understanding that everyone has a choice.
- Keep ourselves healthy.



- Community BBQ term 1
- Student/teacher conferences term 1
- Docking in spring
- Shearing, twice a year.
- Participate in farming activities when invited.

Outcomes - what we want it to look like

We want all students to know and understand where they are at and what they need to do in order to make progress within their learning.

Understanding that our environment is an important part of our school journey and that we need to look after everything and everyone within it.

We want our school to be a focal point of the community where whanau feel welcomed and valued.

ABERFELDY SCHOOL VAN – CODE OF CONDUCT



This Code of Conduct is between:

Student _____

Parent/Caregiver _____

Bus Controller _____

The Parent/Caregiver and the student should ensure they have read and understood this document which is to be adhered to for the safety of the Van Driver and all students travelling on the van.

I, _____ (student), agree to abide by the behavioural expectations described below:

- When I am a passenger, I will remain in my seat for the whole journey
- I will wear my seat belt at all times.
- I will not eat or drink in the van or throw anything inside or out of the van.
- I will respect other students and their property at all times (this includes pushing, verbal or physical abuse, or any other behaviour that may distract the Driver.
- I will use socially acceptable language when conversing with the driver and/or other students and I will not speak at a volume that may distract the driver.
- I will respect the property of the Van at all times (e.g. refrain from standing on seats or vandalising the vehicle in anyway).
- I will not engage in any behaviour that could put the driver or any other students at risk.
- I will observe the requirements and instructions of the Van Driver, the Principal and/or Van Committee at all times.
- I understand that any damage I cause to the Van will result in my caregiver being billed for the cost of repairs.

The Safety and comfort of everyone on the van depends on a standard of behaviour and consideration for others that is expected in the classroom. We hope that parents/caregivers will support the school in maintaining these standards of behaviour.

If this Code of Contact is Broken:

- Students will be warned about their behaviour and given a chance to apologise.
- If there is still no improvement, travel on a school van will be withdrawn, and the caregiver will be required to find alternative transport to ensure they are meeting their legal obligation to get their child to school.
- In extreme cases of misbehaviour the privilege of travelling on a school van could be withdrawn immediately.

I agree to abide by the conditions of this "contract" and understand the consequences if I do not.

(Signed) _____ (Student)

(Signed) _____ (Caregiver)

(Signed) _____ (Bus Controller)

Aberfeldy School

General Permission Slip 2024



Child(ren)s Name: **Date:**

Parent / Caregivers Name:

Throughout the year we require your permission for various school activities and to enable us to utilise supporting agencies. For most school trips a letter with more details will still be sent home. This is a “General Permission Slip” which will ensure that all children can attend day trips / visits and that your child’s needs are met whilst attending Aberfeldy School. *Please still return more detailed permission slips for trips if they are sent home or added to the Skool Loop app.*

Day Learning, Cultural or Sporting Trips

I give permission for my child to go on school trips – with transport being in school vans / busses or by other parents. YES / NO

I understand that I can withdraw my permission at any time for any event or trip. YES / NO

If our family / whanau are transporting children on a school trip, we will have licensed drivers and the vehicle will be registered, warranted and have appropriate seatbelts, vehicles will be driven in a safe manner, abiding by all road rules. A copy of your drivers licence will be kept at school. YES / NO

Health & Well Being:

In the case of any medical emergency where the school is unable to contact me or any of my emergency contacts, I give the school permission to act on my behalf in the best interests of the child. I agree to pay any associated costs of this emergency treatment. YES / NO

I give permission for the school to request extra help for my child, or discuss my child with outside agencies such as –

- Group Special Education
- Guidance / Learning and Behaviour
- Ministry of Education (Discretionary Hours etc)
- Public Health Nurse
- Social Worker in Schools
- SENCO Meetings where the above parties and RTLB may be in attendance
- Other Supporting Agencies

YES / NO

I understand that I will be informed if extra help is needed for my child. YES / NO

I agree for my child to be seen by the School Dental Therapists when they are at Aberfeldy School and for my contact information to be given them. YES / NO

I agree for the Public Health Nurse to be given my contact details. YES / NO

I approve having sunblock applied to my child. YES / NO

Students Photos & Work:

I give permission for my child's photo and their first name, or parts of their school work, to be used in school publications. This includes the school newsletter (which is uploaded on to the school website), the school website and / or the school face book page. YES / NO

General School Life:

I agree to follow school procedures on absenteeism – notifying the school by phone or online by email or through the Skool Loop app YES / NO

I give permission for my child to use the internet
(Cybersafety forms to be signed on enrolment) YES / NO

I intend to work together with the school for the benefit of my child YES / NO

I intend to help where possible with school fundraising / working bees etc YES / NO

Information Retention & Changes of Permission:

I understand that any information provided about my child will be used to assist them and will be used according to the provisions of the Privacy Act, 2023.

I understand that the above consents will remain in place for the duration of my child's time at Aberfeldy School unless I notify the school otherwise.

I am aware that I may withdraw any of the above permissions by advising the school in writing and / or completing a new "General Permission Form".

I agree to notify the school of any changes to my contact details or my emergency contact details, changes to my child's health (medication, allergies etc) or other circumstances that may impact on my child's learning and wellbeing at Aberfeldy School.

Parents / Caregivers Signature: Date: