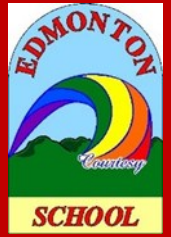


15 OCTOBER 2025

# Edmonton Primary School

## School Newsletter



### Principals Korero

Kia ora, Talofa lava, afio mai, 'nāmāstei , pai ata, Kuja hapa,  
greetings, สวัสดี, 欢迎 and  
malo e lelei, Salaam+

#### Inspiring Global Citizens at Edmonton School 🌐

We were delighted to have Tina Bedggood share a presentation about her mahi with all our tamariki. She visited each class in the middle and senior school across the school and delivered engaging, thoughtful sessions that truly captivated our learners.

Her presentation helped our Tamariki deepen their understanding of the wider world and their place within it as global citizens. The children were fascinated, inspired, and came away with new perspectives about how they can make a positive difference in their communities and beyond.

We are so grateful for her time, energy, and passion — she is an excellent presenter, and her mahi has left a lasting impact on our learners.



#### 🌐 National ShakeOut – Our Earthquake Drill

This Thursday, we'll be taking part in the **National ShakeOut – New Zealand's earthquake drill!**

It's a great chance for everyone at Edmonton School to practise what to do in an earthquake: **Drop, Cover, and Hold.**

You'll find a full page of clear instructions in this newsletter so you can talk about it at home too.

If you'd like to learn more or try a practice at home, check out the ShakeOut website:

👉 [getready.govt.nz/involved/shakeout](https://getready.govt.nz/involved/shakeout)

*Margaret Samson* (Principal)

### Contact Us:

1-29 School Road, Te Atatu  
South

**Phone:**

(09) 838 9318

**Email**

[office@edmonton-primary.school.nz](mailto:office@edmonton-primary.school.nz)

### School Hours

8:55am—3:00pm

### TERM DATES 2025

#### Term 4

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October to  
Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December

### TERM DATES 2026

#### Term 1

Tuesday 3rd February to  
Thursday 2nd April

#### Term 2

Monday 20th April to  
Friday 3rd July

#### Term 3

Monday 20th April to  
Friday 3rd July

### School Docs

Please login to School Docs to have a look  
at our current Policies & Procedures  
Community User: Edmonton  
Password: Respect



## Drop, Cover and Hold is still the right action to take

If you are in an earthquake in New Zealand, Drop, Cover and Hold is still the right action to take. This is the drill that has been taught to school children for many years, and is what we continue to promote around the country. The advice can be summarised as:

- If you are inside a building, move no more than a few steps, then Drop, Cover and Hold to protect yourself from falling objects. Stay indoors till the shaking stops and you are sure it is safe to exit. In most buildings in New Zealand you are safer if you stay where you are until the shaking stops.
- Not all people may be able to easily drop. If you are unable to drop the best action is to stop moving and brace yourself against a wall or furniture.
- If you are outside, move away from buildings, trees, streetlights, and power lines, then Drop, Cover and Hold. Stay there until the shaking stops.
- If you are driving, pull over to a clear location, stop and stay there with your seatbelt fastened until the shaking stops. Once the shaking stops, proceed with caution and avoid bridges or ramps that might have been damaged.

### Respond quickly

In a severe earthquake it is absolutely vital that people respond immediately. Be clear about what actions to take in the environments where you spend most of your time.

Look around you now, before an earthquake. Identify safe places such as under a sturdy piece of furniture or against an interior wall in your home, office or school so that when the shaking starts you can respond quickly.

### Building code

New Zealand experiences more than 20,000 earthquakes every year. Most are too small or too deep to be noticed but over 100 earthquakes a year are big enough to be felt, and a severe one can occur at any time.

In 1931 the 7.8 Hawke's Bay earthquake caused significant damage and loss of life, and resulted in New Zealand's first earthquake-resistant building design code. Several times since 1931 the code has been upgraded and buildings strengthened. The code has been further upgraded with lessons identified from the Canterbury earthquakes of 2010 and 2011.

Fixing problems in older buildings from before modern codes – retrofitting – is in most cases the responsibility of the building owner. Planned well, small improvements can make big differences.

The higher a building's design limits – from when it was built and retrofitting – the safer the building.

### Injuries

Most earthquake-related injuries and deaths are caused by collapsing walls, and falling glass and objects caused by the shaking. Many injuries are caused by people moving during or immediately after the shaking. Even after earthquake shaking stops, move with care as debris can cause further injuries.

In a major earthquake, masonry and glass falls off buildings and into the streets. If you are inside, Drop, Cover and Hold – **do not run outside or you risk getting hit by falling masonry and glass**. If you are outside, move away from buildings, trees, streetlights, and power lines, then Drop, Cover and Hold. Stay there until the shaking stops.

### Discredited earthquake safety information

You will find other information (not Drop, Cover and Hold) on the Internet about what to do in an earthquake. Much of it has been discredited, and should not be followed.

One email (which has been widely discredited), often known as the "triangle of life", goes as far as discouraging people from taking cover under sturdy furniture. Research from the United States, Taiwan, Japan and Christchurch (all places with modern, earthquake resistant building design codes), supports and recommends the core message for New Zealand: Drop, Cover and Hold is the right action to take in an earthquake.

### More Information

- For what to do before, during and after an earthquake, go to [www.getthru.govt.nz](http://www.getthru.govt.nz)
- [www.eqc.govt.nz](http://www.eqc.govt.nz) (provides information about how to make your house quake safe).

You can also contact your regional, city or district council to get local information about earthquake preparedness in your area.

**Sarah Stuart-Black**  
Director of Civil Defence Emergency Management

*Published April 2015 by the Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management, with advice from GNS Science*

# What's Coming Up

**2025**

**TERM 4 \* 6th October—16th December**

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| • Friday 17th October   | Whole School Assembly (Room 4 & 7 Hosting)  |
| • Friday 24th October   | Diwali Mufti Day                            |
| • Monday 27th October   | Labour Day Holiday                          |
| • Friday 31st October   | Whole School Assembly (Room 3 & 11 Hosting) |
| • Friday 31st October   | Pirate Ship Day                             |
| • Friday 14th November  | Whole School Assembly (Room 2 & 8 Hosting)  |
| • Friday 12th December  | Last Day for Children (12:05pm Finish)      |
| • Monday 15th December  | Teacher Only Day                            |
| • Tuesday 16th December | Teacher Only Day                            |

**2026**

**TERM 1 \* 3rd February—2nd April**

- |                        |                      |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| • Tuesday 3rd February | First Day for Term 1 |
| • Friday 6th February  | Waitangi Day         |
| • Thursday 2nd April   | Last Day for Term 1  |

**TERM 2 \* 20th April—3rd July**

- |                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| • Monday 20th April | First Day for Term 2  |
| • Monday 27th April | Waitangi Day Observed |
| • Monday 1st June   | Kings Birthday        |
| • Friday 3rd July   | Last Day for Term 2   |

**TERM 3 \* 20th July—25th September**

- |                         |                      |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| • Monday 20th July      | First Day for Term 3 |
| • Friday 25th September | Last Day for Term 3  |

**TERM 4 \* 12th October—15th December**

- |                         |                                      |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| • Monday 12th October   | First Day for Term 4                 |
| • Monday 26th October   | Labour Day                           |
| • Tuesday 15th December | Last Day for Term 4 (12:05pm Finish) |

# Save the Date



Edmonton Primary School

# Diwali Celebration Certificate

Come Celebrate Diwali with Us!

Friday, 24 October

Mufti Day – Wear bright, colourful clothes!

Join us as we celebrate the Festival of Lights together  
with joy, colour, and community spirit.

Let's make our school shine bright!

# PIRATE SHIP DAY



**EDMONTON PRIMAARY  
SCHOOL**

**OCTOBER 31ST | 10AM**

Edmonton Primary School is holding a Pirate Ship Day, designed to strengthen partnerships between school and whānau while celebrating student learning in a creative and engaging way. The event is to encourage strong participation from families, and we want as many whānau to attend and actively engage in the themed day alongside their tamariki. The day provides authentic learning opportunities across curriculum areas, including literacy, the arts, and social sciences, as students design ships, write pirate stories, and present performances. Our whānau involvement contributes to a positive and inclusive school culture.



# KIDS PAGE

## Student of the Week:

**Anyah Room 9**

**For  
Being Kind**

**You Are Joking....**

## CLASS ATTENDANCE

### Last Week

First Place:	Room 3
Second Place:	Room 7
Third Equal:	Room 8
Fourth Place:	Room 4
Fifth Place:	Room 9
Sixth Place:	Room 2
Seventh Place:	Room 5
Eighth Place:	Room 11
Ninth Place:	Room 10

## Kōwhai Tree Facts

The Kōwhai is a special tree from New Zealand. It's a type of small, woody tree that belongs to the pea family. There are eight different kinds, or species, of Kōwhai trees.

You can find Kōwhai growing naturally near streams and at the edges of forests. They like open areas, whether in low lands or mountains. These trees are very common and are often seen in gardens all over New Zealand.

Many people think the Kōwhai flower is New Zealand's national flower. However, it doesn't officially have that title. The word *kōwhai* also means the colour yellow in the Māori language. This is because of the bright yellow colour of its flowers. It's important to know that all parts of the Kōwhai tree, especially its seeds, are not safe for humans to eat.

## What Kōwhai Trees Look Like

Most Kōwhai trees grow to be about 8 meters (26 feet) tall. They have smooth bark and small leaves. After the flowers bloom, unique seed pods appear. These pods hold six or more smooth, hard seeds. Most Kōwhai species have bright yellow seeds.

You can often spot a Kōwhai tree by looking at the ground. Hundreds of these bright yellow seeds might be scattered around it. Many Kōwhai trees lose most of their leaves right after they flower. This usually happens in October or November. But don't worry, they quickly grow new leaves.

Kōwhai trees flower at different times from July to November. This means birds like tui, wood pigeons, and bellbirds can enjoy their nectar for a long time. Tui birds especially love Kōwhai nectar. They will fly far just to get a taste!

If you plant a Kōwhai from a seed, it can take many years for it to flower. The exact number of years depends on the type of Kōwhai. The wood from Kōwhai trees is very strong and dense. In the past, people used it to make tools and parts for machines.

## Kōwhai and Māori Culture

The Māori have a long history of using the Kōwhai tree. They used its flexible branches to build parts of their houses. They also used the branches to make traps for catching birds. The bright yellow Kōwhai flowers were used to make a yellow dye.

Kōwhai was also an important medicine for Māori. They would heat the bark with hot stones inside a calabash (a type of gourd). This heated bark was then made into a poultice. A poultice is like a soft, moist cloth that is put on the body. It was used to help heal wounds or rubbed on a sore back.

Sometimes, the bark was made into a liquid medicine called an infusion. This infusion was used to treat bruises or muscle pains. There are stories that if someone was bitten by a seal, an infusion from Kōwhai was put on the wounds. It was said that the person would get better in just a few days.

# School Lunches

School lunches are available as follows

**Wednesdays – Sushi**

**Thursdays – Bakery**

**Fridays – Bakery**

Order forms are available in your child's classroom. **One form per child is required**

Payment can be made online to  
Edmonton School Board of Trustees  
12 3038 0453332 00

**Please make sure that payments are made on the day of order**

and that the child's name and 'lunch' are noted on the payment

## Important Information

**Contact Details:** It is very important that we have up to date contact details for parents/ caregivers. To ensure that we are able to contact whanau please contact the school office with any changes or additions.

**After Hours :** Unless your children are in Before or After School Care. Please make sure they are not at school before 8:30am and they are picked up and off of the school grounds by 3:10pm

**Absence:** Please use the Skool Loop App to report an absence or leave a message on the school phone Absence Line. We need to know when you children are going to be away to avoid them being marked as 'truant'.

**Collecting Students during the school day:** If you need to collect your child for an appointment during the school day please contact the office **09 838 9318** or email **office@edmonton-primary.school.nz** to arrange. If possible please arrange to collect your child before or after the morning tea and lunch breaks, as it is difficult to find children during these times. Morning tea is 10.30 am until 11.00 am, lunch from 12.30 pm until 1.20 pm.

**Arriving Late:** Children must report to the office if they arrive after 8:55am

## Before & After School Care & Holiday Program

We have **Before and After school care** available on site. The program runs from 7:00 am until 8:30 am in the mornings and then from 3:00 pm until 5:30 pm in the afternoons.

This service also runs a **Holiday Program** during the holidays.

## **EDMONTON SCHOOL OSCAR PROGRAM**

For information about before school,  
after school care and holiday programme or enrolment forms  
Please contact Office Ph 8389318 or Claire Busby 027 550 5197





# WHAT IS YOUR CHILD MISSING OUT ON?

*JUST A LITTLE BIT LATE FOR SCHOOL or LEAVE A LITTLE EARLY DOESN'T SEEM MUCH BUT .....*

If your child is missing	That equals	Which is	And over 13 years of
10 minutes per day	50 minutes per week	Almost 1.5 weeks of the	Almost half of a school year
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 minutes per	Over 2.5 weeks per	Almost 1 school year
Half an hour per day	Half a day per school	4 weeks per school year	Almost 1.5 school years
1 hour per day	1 day per school week	8 weeks per school year	Over 2.5 school years

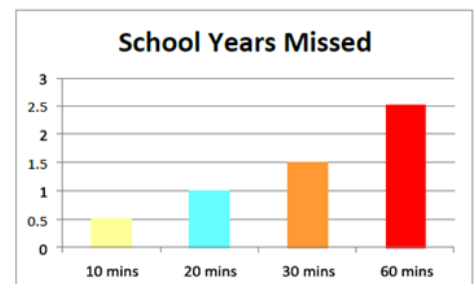


Did you know that your child's best learning time is the start of the school day?

That's when every minute counts the most.

School starts at 8:55am.

## EVERY MINUTE COUNTS



# DOES ATTENDANCE REALLY MATTER?

**1 OR 2 DAYS A WEEK DOESN'T SEEM MUCH BUT...**

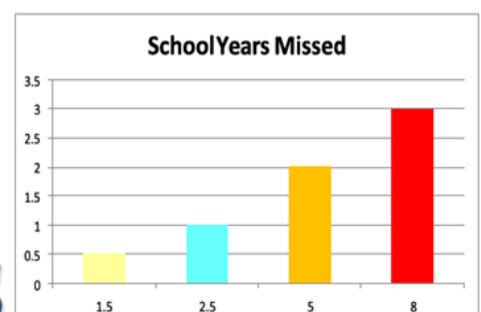
If your child misses	That equals	Which is	And over 13 years of schooling that's
Half a day per week	20 days per year	1 month per school year	Almost 1.5 school years
1 day per week	40 days per year	2 months per school year	Almost 2.5 school years
2 days per week	80 days per year	4 months per school year	Over 5 school years
3 days per week	120 days per year	Over half a school year	Almost 8 school years



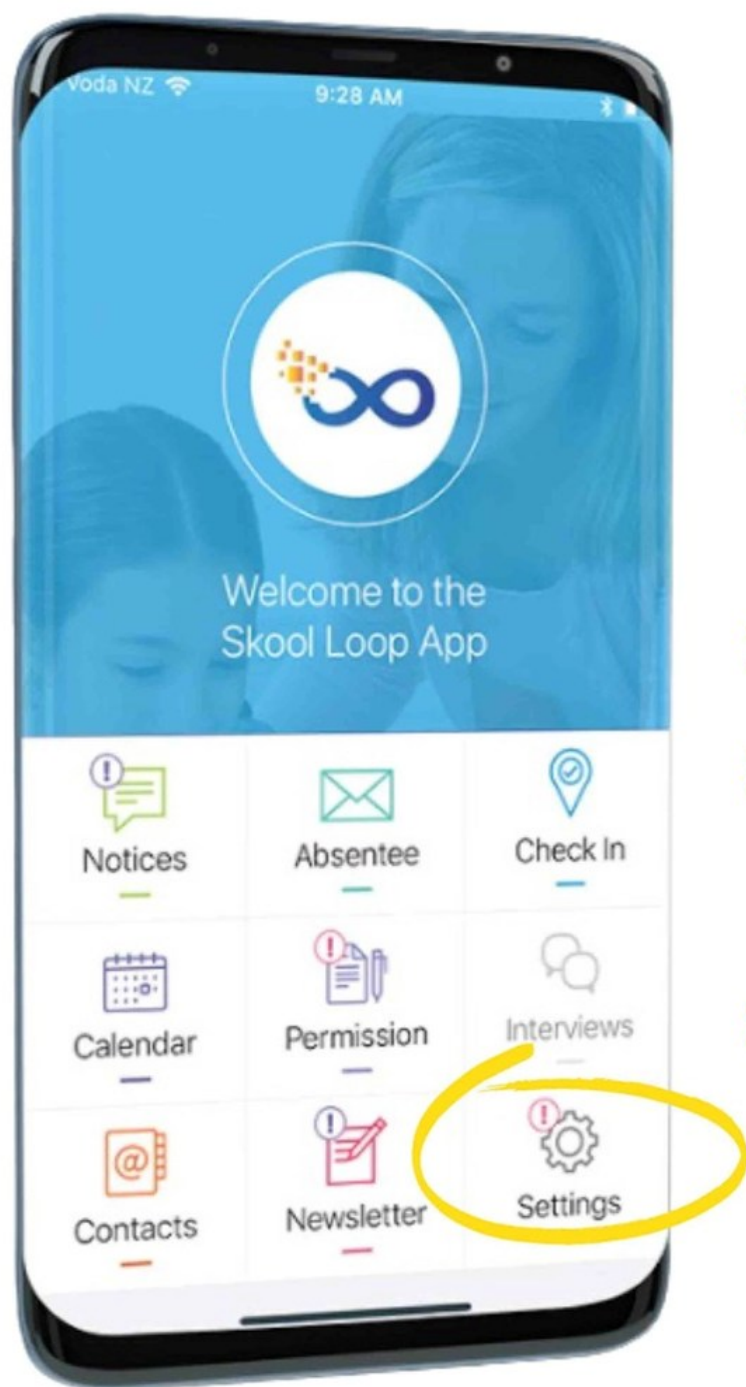
If you want your child to be successful at school then

**YES, ATTENDANCE DOES MATTER!**

## EVERY DAY COUNTS



# HOW TO SUBSCRIBE TO NOTICE GROUPS



**TO JOIN YOUR SKOOL LOOP APP NOTICE GROUPS, SIMPLY FOLLOW THE STEPS BELOW:**

- > Go to the 'Settings' tile in the bottom right hand corner of the Home Screen
- > Go to 'Subscribe to groups'
- > Tap to select the group/s you would like to receive notifications from
- > You're good to go - you will now receive all notices sent to the groups you have subscribed to

## NEED MORE INFO?

Call Skool Loop Aus on 1800 203 493

Call Skool Loop NZ on 0800 238 379







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