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LINCOLN HEIGHTS SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – Term 3 Week 4 – 6th August 2025

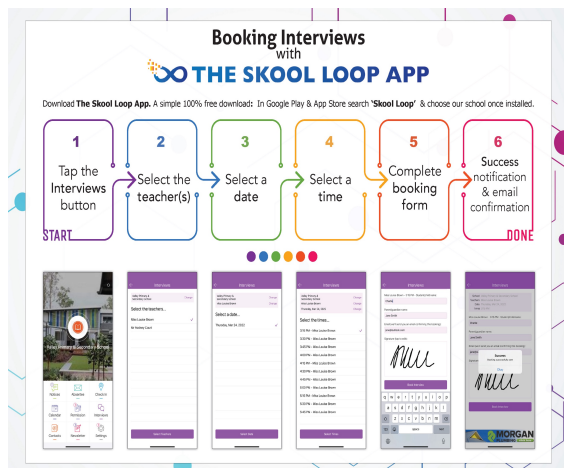
Our **REACH** values stand for **Respect. Engage. Aware. Celebrate. Honest.**

Me mahi tahi tatou mō te oranga o te katoa – We should work together for the wellbeing of everyone

Office cellphone: 021 022 69879

Absences cellphone: 022 0433 026

Kiorana and welcome to Cook Island Language week!



This week is busy with Parent Interviews and our Art Exhibition happening! There is still time to book a meeting for today if you haven't yet! Our goal is to have 90% of our parents attend a parent interview.

Our **Art Exhibition** is being held Tuesday 5 – Thursday 7 August. The Hall will be open late on Wednesday 6th August during Parent Teacher interviews so do pop in to see your child's artwork displayed. This year all our teachers have created a piece of art alongside their class and these will be displayed. There is also the chance to vote for your favourite Art Battle piece!

We are so proud of our amazing artists and our staff who worked with them to produce such outstanding artworks.

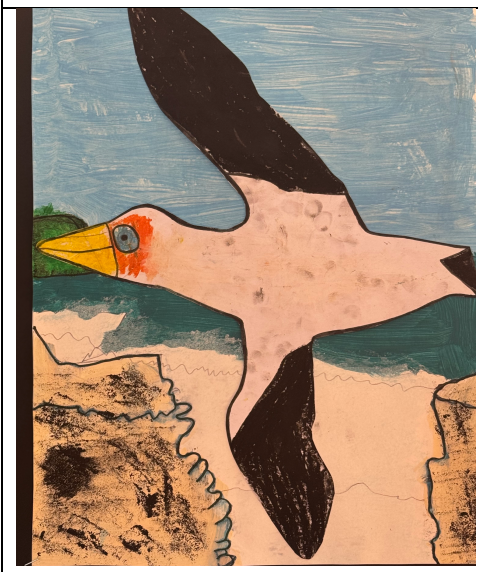
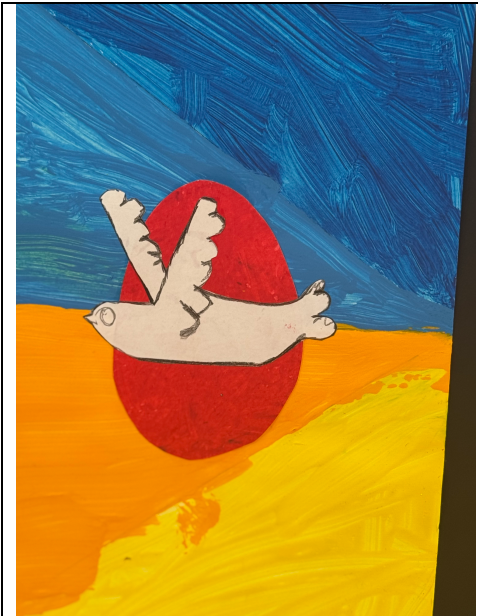
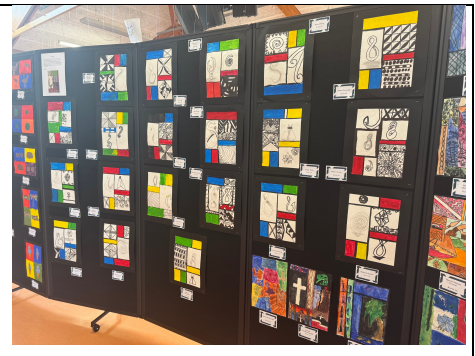


Out of Zone Enrolments – if you have moved or you are now considered 'out of zone' and have younger children enrolling for the second half of the year, please complete an out of zone enrolment. We have very limited 'out of zone' places left in the main stream and priority goes to siblings of current students. We have some places available in Moemoe Fou and no places available in Kahukura – there is a waitlist.

Out of Zone enrolments for the 2026 school year close on Wednesday 8 October 2025 and the ballot will be drawn Wednesday 15 October. If your child turns 5 in 2026, you don't have to wait until 2026. There are limited places available and once they are full, there will be no opportunity to enrol if you are not in zone.

If you have a child turning 5 in 2026, please come in and enrol them – this helps us to plan and staff our new entrant and year 1 classes. Once a child is pre-enrolled, you will get a call closer to their 5th birthday to arrange school visits.

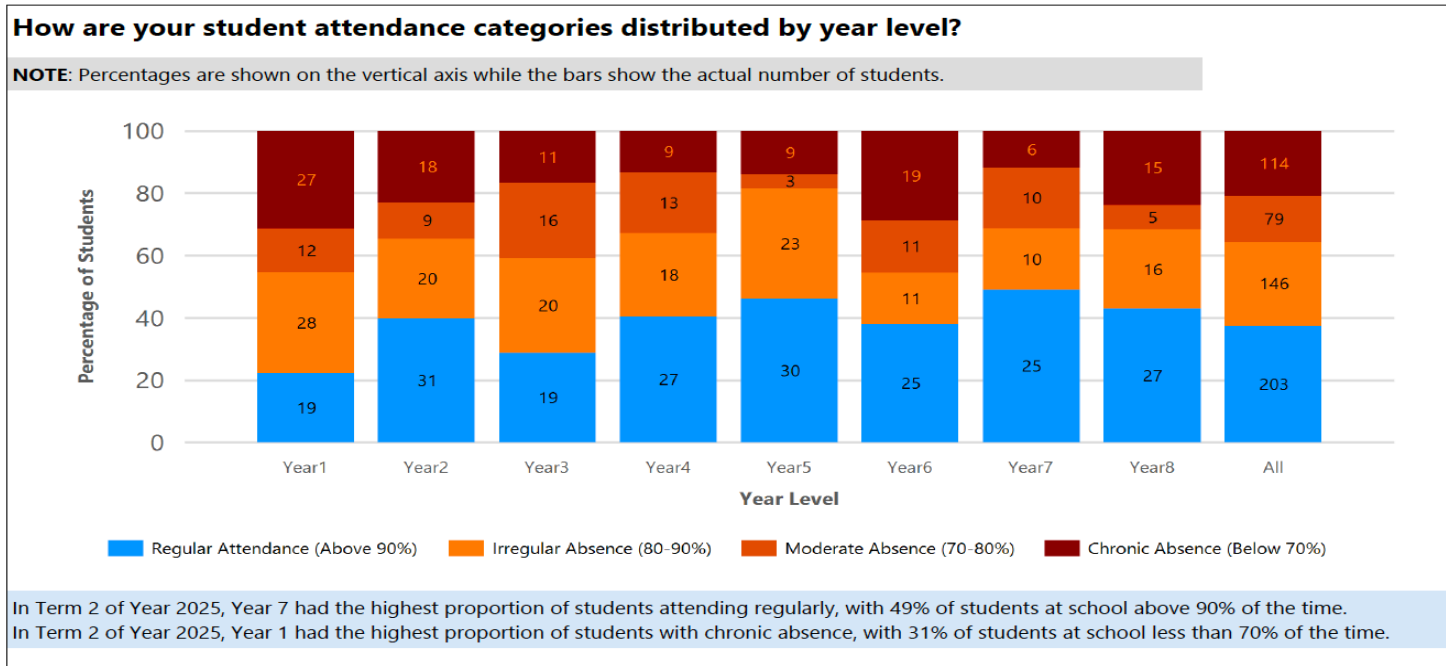
Teacher Only Days – these had to be moved to allow for the Ministry of Education facilitators to come in. They are on Friday 8 August and Monday 11 August.



Attendance continues to be a focus for the Ministry of Education and our Board. Our goal for this year is to have 60% or 312 students attending school for 90% of each term (that means having less than 5 days off). Last term, 39% or 208 students achieved this target.

Another change is how we use the 'unknown absence' or ? code. From now on, it is important to know that if we aren't notified with a reason for a child's absence, the child will be marked as 'Truant'. This is a Ministry of Education change from just leaving them as ? or unexplained which has now become a 'temporary' code.

There are a number of ways you can contact us to advise us of an absence – you can call school and leave a message, you can use the Skool Loop App, text a reply to the absence text or send an old school note when your child returns to school



You can see from the table above that our year 1 and 2 students have the highest proportion of ‘chronic’ absence. This is a real concern for us, as the junior school is where we build routine and expectations around school attendance.

As the education system moves more into a knowledge based curriculum, missing regular days will make learning for our children who have frequent absences more challenging. Each lesson, particularly in Phase 1 (years 0-3) builds on previous lessons and assumes that children are present to have key concepts taught and developed through multiple exposures.

If you are facing challenges with getting your child to school, please let us know. If we have concerns, our first step is to contact families and walk about any barriers. If there is no improvement, we move on to sending formal letters and then contacting the Attendance Service. At each step we will try to engage whanau and work with you to set goals and remove any barriers.

Property: In the October holidays we will begin our classroom refurbishments. This programme of works is quite extensive and will run through term 3 and into the summer break. This work includes the upgrade of most toilet blocks, carpet and wall coverings in 10 class rooms and new joinery in 7 rooms. This may mean that there is some disruption to classes in term 4 with classes working in the hall for 2-3 weeks. If there are any ‘out of bounds’ areas, we will keep you posted.

Work on our fale will begin in October as well, with a planned opening in December. There will be an opportunity for our community to participate in the designs that will be embedded in the roof of the fale. The plan is to have each of our Pasifika communities to be represented.

Student Data: With reports going home last term, the board discussed our mid term student data. There are some clear areas of success for us to celebrate. For example 82% of children in year 1 are At or Above expectation in maths at the mid point, 63% of our year 8 learners are At or Above expectation in reading and there was a 12% improvement for our year 8s in writing compared to 2024!

There may be some unexpected shifts in your child’s data this year compared to last year and this could reflect the change in curriculum expectations. With the new curriculum the expectations have become more explicit and what is expected at each level have become slightly higher. As schools around the country begin to implement these new, raised expectations, we will see more consistency embedded. If you have any concerns, or need help to better understand your child’s report, please talk to your child’s teacher at the parent interviews or make a time to talk to them.

Bilingual Education: In 2026 our plan is to increase our classes in Māori bilingual from 1 to 2. We will be looking for expressions of interest from whanau with students who will be in years 3-6 in 2026. These classes will be capped at 18 students in year 0-3 and 23 students in years 4-6 and will have a focus on learning through a tikanga lens. We will be holding a whanau hui later in term 3 to share more details.

Leisha Byrnes
PRINCIPAL

Our motto – In The Gate by Half Past Eight Guarantees You Won’t be Late!

WHAT'S COMING UP

TERM THREE, 2025		
Week 2 21-25 July	ART WEEK – Mon to Fri Wednesday, 23 rd July Thursday, 24 th July Friday, 25 th July	Newsletter published, even weeks, uploaded to school website, Skool Loop and Facebook Art Battle for students during class time Samoan Parent Network meeting, Potu 19, 3.15pm-4.15pm Rm 20 to Lowtherhurst Reserve, 9am to 10.30am Enviro Group presentation at Unitec, 10am-1pm Swimming lessons begin @ Swimsation
Week 3 28 July- 1 Aug	VANUATU LANGUAGE WEEK Monday, 28 th July Wednesday, 30 th July Friday, 1 st August	Totara team Rms 22 & 24 to Auckland Art Gallery, 9am-1pm Yr 8's to Tech Board meeting, staffroom, 5.30pm Totara team Rms 20 & 21 to Auckland Art Gallery, 9am-1pm Swimming lessons at Sensation, Te Atatu Peninsula
Week 4 4-8 Aug	Te Reo Maori Kuki Airani- COOK ISLAND LANGUAGE WEEK Art Exhibition Week Tuesday, 5 th August Wednesday, 6 th August Thursday, 7 th August Friday, 8 th August	Hall open late night Tuesday to 5.30pm and Weds to 7.30pm Parent Teacher interviews, 3.15pm – 5.30pm Parent Teacher interviews, 3.15pm – 7.30pm <u>Board triennial election nominations close midday</u> Newsletter published, even weeks, uploaded to school website, Skool Loop and Facebook Yr 8's to Tech PB4L Mufti Day – theme Fave sport or hobby, gold coin donation Olympic Ambassador visiting, Hall, 1.45pm TEACHER ONLY DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
Week 5 11-15 Aug	Monday, 11 th August Wednesday, 13 th August Friday, 15 th August	TEACHER ONLY DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED Triennial voting papers issued if more than three nominations received. Yr 8's to Tech Swimming lessons @ Swimsation, Te Atatu Peninsula Fagana National Speech Competition, Christchurch
Week 6 18-22 Aug	Lea Faka Tonga- TONGAN LANGUAGE WEEK Wednesday, 20 th August Friday, 22 nd August	Nikau team Music Making Show 9am to midday Newsletter published, even weeks, uploaded to school website, Skool Loop and Facebook Swimming lessons @ Swimsation, Te Atatu Peninsula

GENERAL NOTICES

After school care is provided from 3pm to 6pm Monday to Friday in the school hall by **SKiDS**. Contact SKiDS directly for more information and to enrol your child, 027 293 8895.

Whanau and Friends – our PTA do an amazing job and are always looking for people to join their group. They meet at school and work with us to plan school fundraisers, help with events and run our much loved junior discos. They have run amazing Quizz Nights in the past as well. If you would like to join them – they do have a lot of laughs at meetings, please get in touch with Gabby Hooper at; PTA@lincolnheights.school.nz or keep a look out on Facebook for a meeting reminder.

Remember to **let the school know if your child is absent** so we can ensure the information is accurately recorded on our Student Management System. The Ministry of Education collects this data daily and creates a report on the number of absences and the recorded reason. When you haven't contacted the school, the reason gets recorded as ? unknown.

If you have recently **changed addresses or your phone number, please let the school know** – our E-Tap messages and teacher contact rely on having your current number.

Swimming lessons – Each Friday starting from 25th July our students will be attending swimming lessons at a heated pool in Te Atatu Peninsula. There is no cost for this curriculum activity.

The school has been split into teams and notices have been sent home about which day your child will be going to swimming lessons.

Participation by all students in lessons is expected and will increase your child's safety and confidence around water. Any questions regarding our aquatic programme please contact Mr Kite.

FROM THE BOARD

Raewyn Clark – Presiding Member – contact bot@lincolnheights.school.nz



Raewyn Clark

Ken Tuioti

Rob Walker

Kiri McCabe

Sarah Pope

Maria Sydney

Gordon Irving

The national parent School Trustees Triennial Board elections are scheduled for 10 September. Our school will have three vacancies for the parent elections. Nomination forms were issued to students to take home last week. Nomination forms are available from the school office if you did not receive yours. **Nominations close on 6th August.**

We invite parents who may be interested in standing for nomination to be on the Board to contact either our Presiding Member, other current Board members, or our Principal Leisha, to learn more.

Elections timeline:

Wednesday 6th August – Nominations close at midday

If more than three nominations are received we will go to a vote.

Wednesday 13th August – voting papers issued (these will be posted) - please check that we have your current postal address if you have moved recently.

Wednesday 10th September – Election day

Wednesday 10th September – poll closes at 4pm

Monday 15th September – last day to accept postal votes

Tuesday 16th September – votes counted

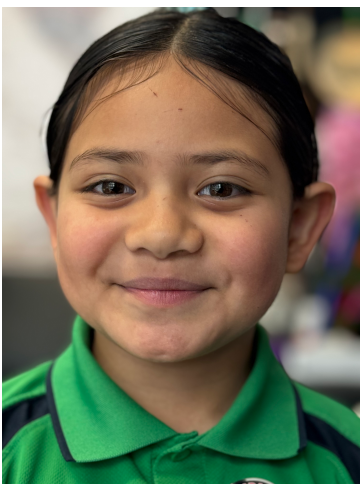
Wednesday 17th September – Board takes office

There is much information regarding what the Board do on the School Board Elections website. We recommend going to <https://www.schoolboardelections.org.nz/become-a-board-member/> for more information.

We remind parents that all of our **policies are managed by SchoolDocs** and be viewed on their website by typing in www.schooldocs.co.nz, search for lincoln heights school. User name is LincolnHeights, password is together.

STUDENT LEARNING

This is a great piece of recount writing from Izila in Room 15 and I just had to share!



Izila room 16

My favourite piece of artwork was Miss Hinch's because her one is so good and she did not go out of the lines. She did bright colours. Miss Hinch is in Room 15. She works hard on it so much. And she is my favourite teacher. I can't look at anyone else's because I love the colours that she used. She is the perfect artist teacher ever.

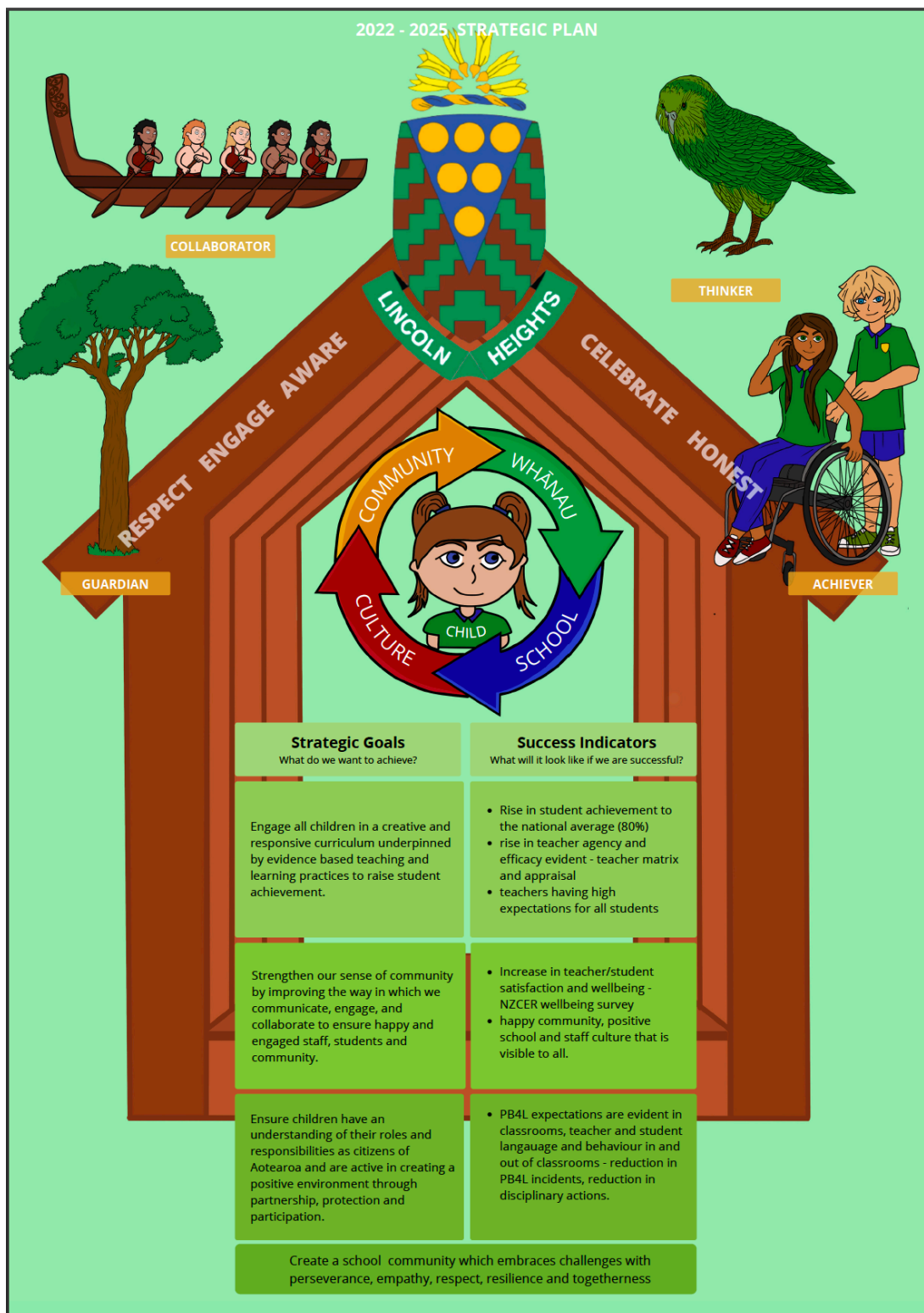


Miss Hinch's art

OUR STRATEGIC AND ANNUAL PLAN

This year we will begin our review of our Strategic Plan and we want you to help us. This plan will guide the direction of the school for the next 3 years. This year we will be holding meetings and focus groups, collecting our student voice and maybe even canvassing our parents at pick up time.

The more voices we have, the better our strategic plan will represent the aspirations of our diverse school community.



LINCOLN HEIGHTS SCHOOL ANNUAL PLAN 2025

Raise student achievement to 75% 'At' or 'Above' in core curriculum areas ~ Increase 'regular' student attendance to 60%

Domain 1 – STEWARDSHIP Through increased engagement and strengthened learning focused relationships	Domain 2 – LEADERSHIP Through transparent leadership (with children at the heart of decision making) and a focus on the development of our Middle Leaders	Domain 3 – RELATIONSHIPS Through authentic relevant and engaging opportunities for ALL learners across ALL contexts – within school, with whanau and within our community	Domain 4 – TEACHING Through differentiated learning programmes based on current student data – including Kahukura and Moemoe Fou	Domain 5 – CAPABILITY Through responsive Professional Learning Programmes and individual accountability	Domain 6 – EVALUATION Through established systems to monitor and review progress towards achievements of schoolwide and individual goals
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LEARNERS AT THE CENTRE Learners with their whānau are at the centre of education	BARRIER FREE ACCESS Great education opportunities and outcomes are within reach for every learner	QUALITY TEACHING AND LEADERSHIP Quality teaching and leadership make the difference for learners and their whānau	FUTURE OF LEARNING AND WORK Learning that is relevant to the lives of New Zealanders today and throughout their lives	WORLD CLASS INCLUSIVE PUBLIC EDUCATION New Zealand education is trusted and sustainable
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Strengthen our sense of community by improving the ways in which we communicate, engage and collaborate to ensure happy and engaged staff, students and the wider community. Goal 1.1 Increase opportunities to build our learning community with whanau and wider – at least 1 event per term Post event Whanau surveys/voice show 85% satisfaction Goal 1.2 Establish a Whānau Network to help our Reo Rūa build whanaungatanga through the development of its tikanga and kawa Goal 1.3 Refresh our communication systems – newsletter, website, skool loop and socials to increase engagement and attendance	Engage all children in a creative and responsive curriculum underpinned by evidence based teaching and learning practises to raise student achievement. Goal 2.1 Increase Maori achievement and engagement by 15% across all core curriculum areas Establish Te Reo class and monitor student progress Goal 2.2 Mainstream IEPs reviewed bi-annually and used to inform Learning Support Staff role in class – students show 85% of goal achievement Goal 2.3 Reading data (both summative and formative) will show a minimum 10% increase in years 4-8 and 15% increase in years 0-3	Ensure children have an understanding of their roles and responsibilities as citizens of Aotearoa and are active in creating a positive environment through partnership, protection and participation Goal 3.1 60% of students are present 90% or more each term Goal 3.2 Students (particularly in year 6-8) have opportunities to demonstrate leadership and have roles of responsibility across the school All LA students expected to participate in service to the school Goal 3.3 Staff and students will have opportunities to share their skills and knowledge in cultural / sporting / environmental groups. All teaching staff to lead/support a cultural group and/or sporting group
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MEASURES – All staff are responsible for ensuring we reach these goals

- 75% of children 'at' or 'above' in Reading, Writing and Mathematics
- 15% increased engagement of all learners – demonstrated through engagement observations
- Average rates of regular attendance increase across the school to 60% average each term

- 60% of students are able to say where they are at in their learning
- 75% of children achieving 'Well/Below' will make accelerated progress
- 80% of **Focus/Target** students will make accelerated progress
- Moderation is consistent and regular across the school – every term

How will we know? / What tools can we use?

- PAT, AsTTle, Teacher OTJ
- Termly school attendance report, classroom, school monitoring fortnightly
- All **BoT** members are confident of their understanding of the school targets
- Team Leader discussions show children know what they are learning
- Sprint** cycles show improvement
- Focus student report to Board show 80% of students making accelerated progress

Lincoln Heights School

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