



# NORTHCROSS 2017

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



# GENERAL

## TERM DATES FOR 2017

Term 1: Wednesday 1 February – Thursday 13 April

Term 2: Monday 1 May – Friday 7 July

Term 3: Monday 24 July – Friday 29 September

Term 4: Monday 16 October – Friday 15 December

## OPENING DAY 2017

We begin each year at Northcross with a 10-minute interview. The interview takes place between you, your child and the classroom teacher. The interview time and further details will be sent to you well before the start of Term One 2017.

## COMMUNICATING WITH THE SCHOOL

The Senior Management Team, consisting of the Principal and Deputy Principals, are available to talk to parents and that is a key part of their job. Parents with concerns or requiring information about the school, should first contact the school receptionist. Initially a telephone call to the Principal may be appropriate. However if parents prefer a personal interview, an appointment time needs to be made.

No parents or visitors may speak to a child or visit a classroom without first calling at the School Office for a visitors pass. This is to maintain school security and to protect our students.

## SCHOOL DONATION

The 2017 school donation has been set at \$175.00. This money is used exclusively towards the further education of students; it is not used on school maintenance.

## ANNUAL CONSUMABLES SUBSIDY

The 2017 annual consumables subsidy has been left unchanged at \$95. This goes towards the cost of test

papers, work books, Mathletics, IT consumables, Internet access, copyright and the student ID card.

## TECHNOLOGY SUBSIDY

The 2017 Technology Subsidy has been left unchanged at \$195. This goes towards the materials used in all technology classes throughout the year.

Payment on enrolment can also be made via EFTPOS, Visa or Mastercard, cheque or cash or afterwards via the same methods at the School Office. Payment can also be made by internet banking to account no. 12-3059-0287951-50 using your child's name and '2017' as the reference.

Please note that to help control costs, invoices are not issued for these items, although reminder notices are posted in school newsletters and on the school website.

## TERM COSTS

Each term further costs may be made for class trips and activities. The payments will be collected by the class teacher prior to the event. We will endeavour to give reasonable notice of an event.

## SCHOOL SHOP HOURS

The Resource Room will be open for uniform sales to 2017 Year 7 students during the week of Tuesday 15 November to Thursday 17 November 2016. Hours: 3.30pm – 7.00pm. There will be additional uniform sales on Tuesday 24 January 2017, from 3.00pm – 7.00pm.

The Resource Room School Shop is open:

**Monday to Thursday:** 8.15am to 12.30 and 1.15 to 4.00pm

**Friday:** 8.15 to 9.00am and 3.00 to 4.00pm. Closed at interval.

The shop will then be open during school days – normal hours from 8.15am to 4.00pm. Closed 12.15pm to 1.00pm. The School Shop accepts Cash, Cheques, Visa, MasterCard and EFTPOS.

## MONEY AND VALUABLES

If these items must be brought to school they should be handed to the class teacher or School Office for safe keeping. The teachers take all possible care, but they cannot accept responsibility for any loss.

## STATIONERY

All stationery required by students after the start of the year can be purchased from the Resource Room shop on school days from 8.15am – 9.00am, 1.15pm – 2.00pm and 3.00pm – 4.00pm.

Currently all Stationery required by students at the start of the year will be available through the OfficeMax My School website. Full information regarding this or changes, will be posted to you in Term 4 2016.

## NORTHCROSS ON-LINE SHOP

The Northcross Intermediate On-line Shop is available through our school website and is our preferred method of payment for larger items including the donation, technology subsidy, consumables subsidy (except for the \$400 special offer discounted package), camp (Yr 8), outdoor education week (EOTC – Yr 7) and some class trips, as well as extra-curricular activities including ICAS exams, music, after-school languages and many sports related activities. It is easy, secure and open 24/7.

Look for the NX On-line Shop on our school website: [www.northcross.school.nz](http://www.northcross.school.nz)

We have also included information on the website about the shop and links to tutorials to help familiarize yourself with this service.

## LEARNING AND INFORMATION CENTRE

Our outstanding facility incorporates the latest technology in an environment that caters for the students' information needs of the 21st Century. From the plasma screen to listening posts, the computer suite to the vast range of books, magazines and fiction literature the library will assist you in your quest for information.

Set on two levels, downstairs features the computer suite for researching and teaching information literacy, fiction books and the daily newspaper. The non fiction books are upstairs.

Upstairs caters for more relaxed reading with all the latest children's fiction books, a fantastic magazine collection catering for all tastes and a large, up-to-date, sophisticated picture book section. Comfortable seating, to encourage silent reading, completes this section of the library.

Adjacent to this a large plasma screen is available to classroom teachers for showing theme-related DVDs and videos. Upstairs also includes listening posts where students can listen to their favourite music or book on CD.

The building can accommodate three classes at one time under the watchful eye of our permanent library manager. She will answer your questions and assist you in using this marvellous environment to assist your learning at Northcross.

## BADGE SYSTEM

The Red NX badge is the Principal's Award for meritorious achievement, the NX White badge is for service to the school, the Orange NX badge is the Associate Principal's Award, the Blue NX badge is for class effort with the NX Lavender badge for hosting students. Black activity badges are awarded for participation in cultural, sporting and academic activities once a student has been involved in an activity. A student who represents the school against other schools is awarded at least a NX Rep badge. Successes at North Harbour or Auckland level as with National, gains NX Bronze, Silver or Gold badge.

## REPORTING TO PARENTS

This is an important part of the school's activities. On the first day we have our Parent/Teacher/Student individual interviews – this is an introduction to the year. There are currently two other interviews with Parents/Guardians/Caregivers/Whanau: an interview towards the end of Term 1 for goal setting and sharing of data and then the Teacher, Parent, Caregiver and Student mid-year interview after reports have been issued. These interviews are part of our student lead conferences and focus on the recent mid-year report and the goals for the next half year. The student is a vital part of this programme with their input being part of the process of students starting to guide and control their own learning.

We hope that parents will contact the school if they have problems at home, which may affect the child.

## YEARLY REPORTING PROGRAMME

February: Student / Parent / Teacher Interviews – a 10-minute interview on Wednesday 1 February 2017 to provide an opportunity to talk with your 2017 teacher.

March/April: Individual interviews with Teacher / Parent / Caregiver / Whanau and Student. This interview is to share how the students have settled into their year and to set mid-year goals.

July/August: First report is issued. Three-way student led conferences will take place.

December: The final report is issued. No interviews are scheduled at this point in our programme.

## SCHOOL NEWSLETTERS

These are published regularly and emailed to you as well as being on our web site. These newsletters are the bridge between the home and the school, so please look out for them regularly. Please note that the newsletter is the official communication between home and school, and parents are considered to have read and responded to any requests in them, e.g. notifying the school if a student is not to participate in an activity.

## STUDENTS' ABSENCES

We operate an electronic roll, which means that absences not covered by a previous day's notification via the website or morning answerphone message, will receive a phone call or txt asking for absence details and for you to confirm they are genuinely away. You will need to telephone the Absence Line (Ph: 477 0167 ext 1) or action the website absences to let us know if your child is going to be absent from school.

Even though you may have telephoned, there is still the need to send a note, to satisfy Ministry requirements. Please send dated notes, written and signed by a parent in all cases where students are required for medical or dental appointments, when exemption from sports or physical education is desired, or when students are unable to wear specific items of school uniform.

## THE SCHOOL DAY

- 8.00am – School buildings open
- 8.45am – Students must be in classrooms
- 8.45am – 8.55am – Administration
- 8.55am – 9.50am Block 1
- 9.55am – 10.50am Block 2
- 10.50am – 11.10am Interval
- 11.10am – 12.05pm Block 3
- 12.05pm – 1.00pm Block 4
- 1.00pm – 2.00pm Lunch
- 2.00pm – 2.55pm Mini Block
- 2.55pm – 3.00pm End of Day Tidy Up
- 3.00pm – School ends

## LATENESS FOR SCHOOL

Please ensure all students are at school by 8.40am each day. If students arrive after 8.45am they must sign in late on the office ipad at the front desk. Students leaving the school grounds during the school day will also need to sign out at the office where their parents will meet them.

## LANGUAGES

In helping prepare our students for the future we believe an important life skill is learning a language other than English. Te Reo is taught to all students during the school day for some part of the year as are some other languages, depending on staffing.

Additionally selected languages are offered after school. These may include Te Reo Maori, French, Japanese, Spanish and German. Our students are offered the opportunity to study their chosen language and culture in a small group and taught by qualified tutors. These classes take place after school and are very popular.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY MEDICINES

All medication, with the exception of asthma inhalers, must be kept in the office and an 'administration of medication' form completed. This includes medicines such as antibiotics, ADHD medication, ear drops or eye drops. Asthma inhalers should be clearly named and kept with the student at all times.

If you do not want your child to have a paracetamol tablet on request, please let us know in the appropriate place on the enrolment card.

## SICKNESS

We are equipped to handle minor injuries that occur at school. Our policy is to contact parents and have a student collected if he/she is too ill to return to the classroom. In the event of an accident or serious illness, the Principal will act 'in loco parentis' if the parents cannot be contacted, and arrange for medical treatment. The school asks parents who work to inform us of any change in work phone numbers or emergency contact numbers and to keep students home if they are ill.

## CANTEEN

At Northcross students are able to buy food over the counter at both interval and lunchtime. This consists of healthy hot foods, rolls and wraps, home baking: muffins, scones, snack bars and water. A menu will be sent home at the beginning of the year.

Students can pre-order some lunch foods before 8.40am to be collected at 1.00pm at the beginning of lunch eating or parents can go on line to order their child's lunch. Refer to [www.northcross.school.nz](http://www.northcross.school.nz)

Northcross is a Sugar Free School.

## BUSES

PBC Travel and the North Shore Star Bus Company provide services from Long Bay, Torbay, Browns Bay, Albany, Coatesville and Paremoremo, for which a charge is made. Bayes Transport provides a comprehensive paying service from the Hibiscus Coast and Orewa.

Those living in the Okura area who live 4.8 kms beyond Northcross Intermediate School or a local school, are eligible to travel free. Details of eligibility are available from the school office from 2017. These may have changed from the previous year.

Bus timetables are also available from the school office. These will not be finalised until February 2017.

# SCHOOL UNIFORM

## GIRLS' UNIFORM

- Light Navy Blue Culottes.
- Official NX short-sleeve Polo Shirt.
- Regulation plain, black leather, lace-up school shoes (no buckle, straps, elastic, platform, slip-ons: pattern: heel can be no higher than 4cm, no wedge heel). No coloured laces, only black: no attachments.
- Plain black Reef style sandal, or Blue but preferably Black Roman sandals (summer only).
- Samples of shoes and sandals will be on display during Uniform Sales.
- Plain White ankle socks – style must cover the ankle or plain white Under Knee Socks (winter) and only with regulation, plain, leather lace-up shoes. No sport socks with formal uniform.
- Ink coloured tights (winter only). Available from the School Shop.
- NX Sweatshirt.
- NX Cap (no other caps permitted)/or plain NX Navy Bucket Hat. Hats are to be worn Terms 1 and 4.
- Plain white or navy blue headbands: no fancy hair accessories.

## BOYS' UNIFORM

- Light Navy Blue Shorts.
- Official NX short-sleeve Polo Shirt.
- Regulation plain, black leather, lace-up school shoes (no buckle, no straps, no elastic, no platforms: no pattern: heel can be no higher than 4cm, no wedge heel). No coloured laces, only black: no attachments.
- Plain black Reef style sandal, or Blue but preferably Black Roman sandals (summer only).



Winter



Summer

- Samples of shoes and sandals will be on display during Uniform Sales.
- Navy Under Knee Socks to be worn with regulation, plain, black leather lace-up shoes.
- NX Sweatshirt.
- NX Cap (no other caps permitted) or plain NX Navy Bucket Hat.

## NX NAVY JACKET

This jacket is optional with orders being taken during March each year. Students can wear any protective jacket to and from school but it must be removed during the day while at school.

## P.E. UNIFORM (UNISEX)

- NX P.E. Shirt
- NX Navy Blue P.E. Shorts
- Suitable sports shoes – lace-up that will support running (not skate shoes, slip on/loose lace shoes, no black soles). Must be non-marking.
- White ankle sports socks.

### Please note:

- All parts of the uniform, except footwear, are available only through the School Shop.
- All uniform and personal items brought to school MUST be named. No responsibility is accepted for loss or damage to items.
- The price for the school sweatshirt includes the cost of embroidering the first name and first letter of the family name of the student above the logo. Sweatshirts can be ordered only through the school and are of good quality.
- Regulation black, lace-up shoes must not be made of suede or patent leather or a sports-type shoe. They must be the standard school regulation type, the heel must not be tapered and must be a maximum height of 4cm measured at the back.



Footwear



P.E. Uniform

- All students must wear black lace-up shoes (winter footwear) from Queen's Birthday Weekend through to the beginning of Term 4.
- The hem of the girls' culottes must be to the middle of the knee.

The BOARD OF TRUSTEES is responsible for detailing the items comprising the school uniform. A great deal of time and thought has gone into it at Board of Trustees level. If an article of clothing can be seen it must be part of the uniform. We require every student to come to and from school in their formal uniform, not in fitness gear or in sports shoes.

## UNIFORM STANDARDS

Whether it is fair or not, a community judges its school on the way the students dress, as well as how they behave.

If your child is not in correct uniform at any time, please give him/her a dated note, written and signed by you, so that we know that home is aware of the change.

Your child then has to have the note countersigned by a Deputy Principal.

### Please note:

- Formal uniform must be worn to and from school, even though fitness could be first thing in the morning. In certain circumstances Sports teams representing the school may be given permission to wear sports clothing to and from school.
- Jewellery. Watches are permitted, but apart from one pair of plain, small gold or silver (no coloured stones) studs or small plain keepers in pierced ears (only one per ear), no other jewellery (including necklaces, cultural items, etc. are to be visible. Rings on fingers or through other body parts is prohibited. On rare occasions students have to wear bracelets for medical reasons: on such occasions the parent/ caregiver is asked to contact the Deputy Principal. Hair ties and headbands are to be the colour of plain navy blue or white only. (No coloured hair clips or other accessories.) Hair can only be of a natural

colour with no multicoloured streaking or colouring. No outrageous or bizarre hair styles will be tolerated.

- Cosmetics are not permitted, except for clear nail varnish.
- Sunscreen: Parents are asked to encourage the wearing of sunscreen.
- Uniform information is accurate at the time of publication.

## PASTORAL CARE

At Northcross we expect our students to conduct themselves in the same manner they wish to be treated and observed by others.

This school expects and maintains a high standard of discipline. When parents enrol a student at Northcross Intermediate they undertake to see that their child abides by all the school rules as set down by the Northcross Board of Trustees.

The school has systems to deal with those who persist in interrupting the learning of others, or who harm others in verbal or physical ways. These include daily reports, detentions, referral to various agencies or stand-downs for specific periods of time. Our students learn that actions have consequences.

Parents will be involved in these programmes and will be notified if there are changes of behaviour or progress.

Where there is misbehaviour on the buses it is important for parents and students to know that the privilege of using the bus could be withdrawn. For those living some distance from the school this could be a drastic move.

Students who damage school property are required to pay, unless the damage was accidental.

From time to time a student whose behaviour is unacceptable or who fails to complete a reasonable amount of work (when the delay is deliberate) will be kept after school for a detention or a Time Management session. When this management situation appears to be arising, the teacher concerned will inform parents of this possibility.

Should a decision be made that a student be kept at school, it will be on a following day and parents will be informed. After-school detentions last until 4.30pm as outlined on the detention notice.

A comprehensive list of school rules is listed in the Student Diary issued to each student in 2017. Please be familiar with these rules.

The school expects and maintains a high standard of discipline. It is important that a new beginning at

Northcross is not at the expense of our zero tolerance policy with regard to inappropriate behaviour. Behaviour whether good or inappropriate must be shared with parents, teacher and student. This awareness, knowledge and working relationship can only strengthen the partnership between home and school.

“Students have a right to learn.  
Teachers have a right to teach.”

# CLASSROOM ORGANISATION

## SINGLE CLASS

At Northcross the majority of classrooms are single-teacher environments, where students work with desks in their class space – some classes have preferred tables.

## TWIN CLASS

The Twin Classroom provides students with a two year interactive learning environment where students are instrumental in setting their personal learning pathways for their time at Northcross. This learning environment encompasses students with positive learning skills, who are able to successfully interact in group situations and can accept the challenges of learning from the Year 7 and 8 blend of skills and attributes in the class.

Students in this environment are eligible to apply for the Sports Class or Performing Arts Class in Year 8.

## INDEPENDENT LEARNING CLASS

We provide at least two composite classes, staffed by carefully chosen teachers, for those who can cope with an independent learning programme. The students selected need to be divergent thinkers capable of self-discipline and initiative.

Students involved in this two-year programme are not eligible to apply for the Year 8 Sports Class or Year 8 Performing Arts Class.

## PERFORMING ARTS CLASS

The Performing Arts Class is similar in make up to a single cell class yet with the curriculum delivered using the many aspects of the performing arts as the learning context.

The class roll is approximately 32 students with one very enthusiastic teacher who is keen to see students take their performing expertise and academic achievements to higher

levels and across a range of disciplines. This has been an outstanding success during the last few years and is now one of the permanent class environments being offered for Year 8 students. Year 7 students make an application to trial for this class.

## NORTHCROSS IS A BYOD SCHOOL – YOU CAN BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE

At Northcross we offer the opportunity for students to bring and use a variety of electronic devices as learning tools in class. These devices will assist the students within their learning activities.

We require that the devices have a 10" plus screen with a keyboard. This would include laptops, notebooks, tablets and ipads. As a personal learning device, our preference is towards the laptop and notebook that is running Windows or the latest Apple IOS.

Phones are not considered to be part of the learning device programme as they do not possess all the capabilities necessary for the range of learning activities and applications required at school.

It is important that if students commit to bringing a learning device to school, this needs to take place every day to be an effective tool in their learning. All students who do commit to bringing a learning device to school will be required to adhere to the BYOD student agreement.

There will be a Northcross Personal Learning Device evening at Noel Leeming in Term 4 so parents and students can see the specific devices available. More information will be available at the time of enrolments.

All students in classroom environments at Northcross will still have shared access to school computers and devices, ie. computer room, library and mobile pods.

## SPORTS CLASS

Northcross offers a Sports Class to a group of Year 8 students who have shown a talent and commitment to physical education and sport during Year 7. At Northcross we pride ourselves on catering for a range of learning styles, so the Sports Class works similarly to the Digital, Twin, Independent and Single Cell Classes, only the curriculum is delivered using sport as the learning context. This learning environment is not necessarily just for the elite sports people. Year 7 students make an application to trial for this class.

## STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

At Northcross we recognise that our students have a wide range of abilities and emotional needs. Those students with special needs (CWSN) are identified at the start of the year from interviews and information from the primary schools – and as occasions arise throughout the year, e.g. after our testing. Learning assistants currently work with small groups and individually as well as in the classroom.

There are a variety of programmes available to cater for personal needs. Outside agencies e.g. RTLB, GSE and Marinoto, etc. are also included in some specially designed individual education plans.

A school counsellor is available to support students with their concerns and emotional needs. Applications for this service can be by student self-referral, parents and teachers.

## ESOL

Northcross has two very experienced ESOL teachers to provide support in learning English and extra English for children who need development in English generally. Students are tested regularly as to their ongoing progress, and graduate to different groups and then eventually to their own classroom as their English reaches a proficient standard.

## GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS

Northcross Intermediate School strives towards identifying our Gifted and Talented Students through using a multi-identification programme. From this Northcross aims to offer extension programmes for students who have a recognised talent. We continue to enter students in all appropriate local and International Academic competitions.

## FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVING

Northcross has had teams in FPS for many years. FPS caters for highly creative thinkers. The students learn a six-step process of problem solving which gives them the ability to think critically and analytically about significant issues. It also fosters their creativity and vision to explore scenarios with originality and flexibility, and to work as a team to achieve their goals. There is a cost in the FPS programme that covers national registration. All teams have the opportunity to be selected to attend National Finals and, if successful, World Finals.



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