

Dear parents,

I am absolutely thrilled to be your son's/daughter's teacher for 2019 and I can't wait to meet you all throughout the term.

Sean Patterson

I completed my Graduate Diploma of Teaching at the end of 2018 from Massey University in Albany. Prior to teaching I was a working musician performing in bands across New Zealand and Australia. I grew up in Orewa and attended Pinehurst College in Albany. I am recently married and my wife is also a primary school teacher.

My teaching style involves forming authentic learning relationships with my students. I firmly believe that once this has been established true learning can ensue. There will be lots of opportunities for fun and laughter in Room 14. In particular, I enjoy playing guitar and piano sporadically in class for the students to sing along with.

Rooms 14 & 15 have been remodelled over the school holidays, with a new coat of paint, wall coverings and a doorway between the rooms, we are looking forward to using this modern learning environment in new and exciting ways. We also have a lovely area outside Room 15 where the children can work, and a seating area outside Room 14 that will be used during drama, plays, and speech practices.

Digital learning (eLearning)

We have enough digital devices (one for every two children) to allow students to complete some of their work without pencil and paper. The Chromebooks will also be used for researching items from the Internet and then analysing, using and presenting information in a variety of ways. Please rest assured that our system is safe and has filters in place which prevent children from visiting inappropriate sites. All children have their own Google accounts and can communicate and share information with others. Children's accounts may be suspended if they use the Internet inappropriately. Digital citizenship is constantly being emphasised.

If you need to communicate with me I can usually find five minutes before school for a quick discussion. I will also respond promptly to any emails you may send to me.

seanp@mairangibay.school.nz

I am more than happy to arrange a time to meet with you after school but please arrange a time. The home-school partnership is really important so please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Our team newsletter, which you will receive next week, will address events that will occur during the year as well as providing you with curriculum information.

At parent–teacher interviews in week 4, I will be able to share with you how your child has settled in Room 14 and give you my initial impressions of them and any areas that I think they may need to work on.

Kind regards,
Sean Patterson