



**Blockhouse Bay**

Primary School

*We Seek - We Strive - We Soar*

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2016

### PRINCIPAL'S SOAPBOX

Welcome back everyone! I hope that you all had a great break and managed to do a few things with your family, despite the quite awful weather.

Highlights for me over the break included seeing our current and ex-pupils who were in the 'Peter Pan' show in our hall and watching our talented chess team take on the rest of the country's best at the NZ champs in Palmerston North.

Unfortunately, we were not able to get the building consent in time to replace the pool fence in the holidays and this job has had to be rescheduled for next month. There will be some inconvenience caused by this but this could not be helped.

One of the major things that happens at school in term four of each year is the School Carnival which is being held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Please watch for information that will be coming home about this event for example, the first mufti day which is being held on the 27<sup>th</sup> October.

This Sunday we have the 'Walk for Kids' fundraiser taking place on the school fields. This promises to be a great community event for a very worthwhile cause, so feel free to come on down and join in the fun.

Please note down the dates of events that are happening this term from our Term Highlights, so that your family are prepared for them.

Have a great week everyone!

Neil Robinson - Principal

### SCHOOL CHESS TEAM

After winning the West Auckland Chess Championships last term, our team of Ailis Su, Mahax Panchal, Harsh Patel and Sean Liu represented our school and the district in the holidays at the New Zealand Champs in Palmerston North. After being beaten 1-3 in the first two games, the team were feeling a little low. However, they showed great perseverance and resilience to bounce back and win every game after that. This meant that the team finished in a very credible 4<sup>th</sup> position, which out of over 2000 NZ primary schools, is quite an achievement! Well done to you all.

Thank you to the parents who accompanied the team and to Mr Bennett for your time commitment, help and guidance along the way.

### BLOCKHOUSE BAY-LYNFIELD LIONS CLUB FUNDRAISER - this Sunday

Our school are proud to be able to support our local Lions club with their latest fundraising effort. The club are collecting money to provide equipment for children with severe mobility impairment.

The event starts at 10am this Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October and involves children and other members of the community walking or running 10 laps of our school grounds. Participants will be encouraged to sign-up sponsors from other members of the community before the day, and then complete the challenge and collect this money so that it can be used to help children who need these walking frames. Spectators are very welcome to come and join in the fun!



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## STAFFING UPDATE

Things are certainly moving in the life of Peter Richmond and his wife Tracey. Hot on the heels of the announcement of their pregnancy, Mr Richmond has just won a promotion to a Deputy Principal's position in Christchurch. This new position begins in 2017 so we will be working Peter extra hard between now and the end of the year!

We are very pleased to confirm the return of Jasmin Hansen-McKay from study leave and Breanne MacKinnon from maternity leave for the 2017 school year. Over the next couple of months, we will be preparing for the new year by making decisions on many things including which teachers will be in which classes.

## 2017 CHILDREN'S TRIP TO CHINA - Meeting next week

Mrs Adlington and Mrs Casse visited China in the holidays and one of the reasons for this was to prepare both sides for our student trip there in October next year. This term we are having a meeting for parents of children who will be in Kauri next year, that are interested in looking into the idea. This meeting will be held in the school staffroom at 7pm on **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October**. Please feel free to discuss this trip with either of these two teachers, or with Mr Richmond who took the children there last year.

A reminder that the selection criteria is that:

- The children need to be in year 5 or 6 in 2017
- They need to have not visited China before (we can discuss this if there are special circumstances)
- The children need to be confident enough to spend 9 or so days away from home (under the close supervision of two teachers)
- Parents need to commit to funding the costs of the trip which is around \$3000, with a deposit of \$500 needing to be paid before 10<sup>th</sup> December 2016.
- Certainly if you are thinking of sending your child on this experience, it would be helpful (but not essential) to host children from Yuyao in February, so that they could reunite in China in October

## BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE

We plan to have another meeting about this initiative at 7.00pm on **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November** and although it is mainly for parents of current Year 4 and 5 children, all parents are welcome to attend.

At the meeting, we aim to provide some information for parents about how we will make best use of the Chromebooks in 2017. Some children will be there again to show how they use the devices to enhance their learning and we will also have some suppliers in the room to answer questions about security and purchasing of Chromebooks. There will be the opportunity for parents to ask questions as well.

*Some children in Years 4-6 already have a Chromebook and have asked if they can bring it to school this year. Currently, we have three Kauri classes (Rooms 3, 5 & 6) who are running a more digital programme this year and so if they are in these rooms, children are welcome to bring these devices (Chromebook only) to school if parents agree. Other classes are not yet set up to run these systems so children in other rooms are asked not to bring their devices to school in 2016.*

## PTA NEWS

Hello from the PTA! We are now in full-blown carnival planning mode so please "like" our Facebook page (Blockhouse Bay Primary School PTA) for regular updates. The carnival is our main fundraiser for the year and we are really hoping we can raise enough to install the all-weather sports pitch this summer. This facility will benefit all of our children and community now and in the future so please support our small PTA team and our school in the following ways;

- Thursday 27th October: Send a jolly jar to school for the next mufti/wacky hair day.
- Sunday 6th November 10-12: Come and drop off your old crockery (ceramic plates, bowls, cups, saucers) and help out at the first carnival working bee.
- Thursday 17th November: Toyworld discount shopping evening 6:30-8:30pm especially for BHB Primary families- 20% off everything. Toyworld donate some profits back to school.
- Friday 18th November: Send an item for tombola (no gold coins) for another mufti day.
- Saturday 19th November 10-12: Join us for the last carnival working bee.
- Saturday 3rd December 10-2: CARNIVAL!

### SCHOOL HATS:

A School sun hat must be worn in Terms 1 & 4.  
These can be purchased from the School Office at a cost of \$15.00 each.

## TERM FOUR HIGHLIGHTS

We have a very full term planned, so please make a note of the term highlights listed in this newsletter. Remember, you can always access these newsletters and the highlights by going to the school website [www.blockhousebay.school.nz](http://www.blockhousebay.school.nz). More information will be provided closer to the time of each event.

Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	- Rimu syndicate assembly 2.00pm start
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	- Kauri syndicate assembly 2.00pm start
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	- Kowhai trip to Arataki (Rms 21&23)
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	- Kowhai trip to Arataki (Rms 20&22)
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	- China trip Meeting for interested parents
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	- Diwali celebrated at school
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	- Pohutukawa/Kowhai assembly 2.15pm start
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	- Labour Day - <b>school closed</b>
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	- Wacky Hair Day and Mufti Day for the school Carnival <i>Children bring either a gold coin or Jolly Jar (more information provided next week)</i>
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October	- 11 a-side Soccer Tournament
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> October	- Rimu syndicate assembly 2.00pm start
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	- Kauri syndicate assembly 2.00pm start
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	- PTA Meeting in the staffroom - 7.30pm start. All welcome
Tues 1 <sup>st</sup> & Wed 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	- Photos for classes, individuals, teams and groups
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	- Year 4 Sleepover
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	- PTA Working Bee 10am - midday. All helpers welcome
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	- BYOD Meeting - 7.00pm
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	- Whole School Assembly - 2.00pm start. All welcome
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	- Inter-school Athletics Day (postponement day Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> )
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	- Toy World Night - PTA fundraiser. Discounts for Xmas shopping!
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	- Mufti Day for Carnival
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	- PTA Working Bee 10am - midday. All helpers welcome
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	- Teacher Only Day - <b>school closed</b>
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	- Rimu syndicate assembly 2.00pm start
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	- Kauri Assembly - Service and Athletics awards
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	- School Carnival
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> December	- Kowhai & Pohutukawa Syndicates Athletics
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	- Year 6 Student Helpers Rainbow's End Trip
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	- Rimu Assembly 2.00pm
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	- End of Year Reports sent home
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	- Show for Year 0-2 children - "The Great Fake Christmas Cake"
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	- Year 2 Trip to Blockhouse Bay Beach Reserve
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	- Year 6 Graduation and Prize Giving Ceremony
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	- Mufti / Sausage Sizzle / Movie Day (no charge)
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	- Last school day of the year. 1.30pm finish.

## 2017 TERM DATES

We always like to let parents know about these dates well in advance, so that holidays can be booked during the holiday breaks. Our dates for next year are:

Term One	Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> January	Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	(11 weeks)
Term Two	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	(10 weeks)
Term Three	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> July	Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	(10 weeks)
Term Four	Monday 16 October	Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	(9 weeks)

## KAPA KOWHAI CONCERT

Photos are now uploaded and the video is underway. Click here to access – [Kapa Kowhai](#)

## SCHOLASTIC LUCKY BOOK CLUB

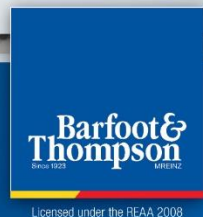
Issue 7 out this week, closes **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October**. Return your order to the office or with Issue 7 of **LUCKY Book Club** we are offering parents a special bonus if they order online with **LOOP**. All they have to do is spend **\$10 more** than their last **LOOP** order, or **spend over \$49**, and they will be given the chance to select a **FREE bonus book** when they checkout. This book will be delivered back to school with their normal order. This is only for **LOOP** parent orders placed either online at [mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz](http://mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz) or via the **LOOP** mobile apps.

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