



Blockhouse Bay

Primary School

We Seek - We Strive - We Soar

Thursday 17th March 2016

PRINCIPAL'S SOAPBOX

In recent weeks, several Auckland schools have received calls that have turned out to be bomb hoaxes. Because of this, I thought that I would let everyone know what we would do if it happened to us. Despite the fact that all notifications have been hoaxes, we would still take any threats seriously and would immediately evacuate the buildings. We would send a group text out to parents letting them know what was happening and depending on the time of the day, we might also ask parents to come and collect their children. We would of course look after the children until parents were able to make these arrangements.

Our PTA is totally up and running and are organising a full and profitable year's fundraising events. Our Food Friday's are proving popular and plans are being made for the disco on Friday 8th April. To assist with the flow of information, they would like to have one parent per class who will coordinate people to help to run each event. These people would not have to attend PTA meetings if they did not want to, just coordinate the parents from their designated class. Please contact the PTA Chairperson Annette Bradley on pta@blockhousebay.school.nz. if you can help in this way.

A reminder to everyone that it is **compulsory for schools to remain closed on Easter Tuesday**. We apologise for the inevitable inconvenience that this will cause.

Have a great week everyone.

Neil Robinson - Principal

SWIMMING

It is great to see the children making the most of the swimming season. A lot of schools do not have a pool so our children have a real advantage in learning this life-long skill. We are also very lucky to have the pool heating as this makes the experience far more enjoyable and valuable for the children.

With the weather starting to get a little colder we only have three more weeks of swimming left. Please make sure that you send your child with their togs and towel on every day that they have swimming no matter how cold it is in the morning. Often, the weather improves as the day goes on and if the teacher feels it is too cold, they will not take the children to the pool.

The last day for key holders to use the pool will be Friday 1st April. Please return your key before the end of the term for your \$50 refund.

WELCOME TO TRAINEE STUDENTS

Through an arrangement with Vermont University, some trainee teachers from this part of the world come to this area each year to extend their experience. Our school helps these people by providing placements in our classes. They will work one or two days per week in these and other rooms from now until June. Welcome to Alexandra Juranich (Rm 17), Meghan Carlyle (Rm 10), Lauren Gerber (Rm 9) and Lucy Rojek (Rm 21).

SOUTH WEST CLUSTER T-BALL TOURNAMENT

Yesterday Blockhouse Bay Primary entered four teams into the South West Zone Cluster T-Ball Tournament. All teams had a wonderful day displaying excellent skills of striking and catching. Mass amounts of cheering could be heard across the fields as our students all contributed to a fair play team environment!



A special mention is needed for the A Team winning their division as well as the B Team winning theirs. Thank you to all parent help and teacher aides whom assisted on the day. As a teacher of sport, Mr Richmond was proud to see our students put the skills learnt during lunchtime trainings into practice.

Well done to all!

NETBALL TRIALS

Trials for our Saturday netball teams will be held at lunchtimes next week. Yesterday, we sent home a letter to all children who expressed an interest in taking part in representing the school in this sport this year. Please contact the office if you wish to be sent a copy of this letter.

We will only be trialling children who send back this letter as there is no point in considering them if parents have not agreed to having them play each week. Please send this form back to the office or contact Richard Bennett for more details. We are of course looking for coaches and managers for these teams and will be asking people to nominate themselves soon.

MR RICHMOND TO REPRESENT NEW ZEALAND

Last year, Mr Richmond qualified to represent New Zealand for his age group at the Triathlon World Championships in Mexico this coming September. He is currently looking for sponsorship. If you are interested in helping him out, or know someone or a company that could, please see or contact him via email at peter@blockhousebay.school.nz.

PARENT/STUDENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Thank you to everyone who joined us for these important meetings. Our next formal conference times will be in early July.

ICAS TESTING 2016 FOR YEAR 4-6 CHILDREN

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) are Australian pen and paper tests which are completed in some schools under normal examination conditions. Parents may choose to have their child sit these tests as they give them experience of external exam conditions, provide some alternative information about their child's strengths and highlight areas that may require more attention.

The ICAS assessments will take place in our school between the 17th of May and the 16th of August.

You may wish for your child to sit some or all of the following exams: Digital Technologies, Science, Writing, Spelling, English or Maths. Order forms may be collected from the school office and these must be returned to the school office by Friday the 8th April **Late entries cannot be accepted.**

TRIP TO CHINA FOR SENIOR CHILDREN

Due to a range of circumstances, we are now down to just three children who are willing and able to go on this experience. Sadly, we are not able to go with this number and need at least one more child for this trip to take place. For further information, please feel free to contact Peter Richmond (Room 8 teacher) or Melody Casse (Room 4 teacher) at school.

So that we can start making arrangements, the final confirmation date for this will be Friday 18th March.

ELECTIONS FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

These elections will be held soon and people who are thinking of being nominated for this role could be thinking about getting more information about what being a Board of Trustees member means. This information can be gained by going on to the NZ School Trustees Association website, picking up a booklet from the school office or by talking to a current Board member. Please feel free to contact our Board Chair on stephen@kids4drama.co.nz to organise a time to get together.

Due to the ERO review, our next Board meeting is being held off site. Parents who wish to come along to a Board meeting, are very welcome to join us on Tuesday 12th April at 7.00pm in the staffroom.

FLIPPA BALL RESULTS

St Dominics Sharks 4 v Blockhouse Bay Tiger Sharks 7 - **Players of the day Kate and Imogen**

BHB Bullsharks 1v GSS Stingrays 5 - **Player of the day - Kian Kumar**

Kadimah Flippin Impressive 2 v BHB Mako Sharks 2 - **Player of the day Alex Wang**

SCHOOL DONATIONS

The 2016 School Donation is \$200 for one child, \$400 for two children and \$500 for three or more children with an additional donation of \$40 per child for the PTA donation. *A reminder too that this is a voluntary donation for which we are very grateful.* Please note that **if you pay the entire school donation by the end of March, you can claim back 30% of this money in the current tax year. (2 weeks to go)**

TERM ONE HIGHLIGHTS *Term Ends Friday 15th April*

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.

Friday 25th March - Good Friday. School Closed

Mon 28th & **Tues 29th March** - Easter Break. School Closed (School closed on Tuesday as well)

Thursday 31st March - T-Ball Field Day Year 3/4 (Postponement Day Thurs 7th April) DATE CHANGE

Saturday 2nd April - Holi celebrated at school (see information in this newsletter)

Tuesday 12th April - Rimu and Kauri Cross Country - 2.00pm start (Postponement day 14th April)

TERM ONE ASSEMBLIES

Parents and families are warmly invited to attend some or all of our syndicate assemblies.

Pre-schoolers are very welcome, but we do ask that parents take them outside if they become noisy as this distracts both the children performing and those in the audience. If you do bring a pre-schooler, please sit near to the doors on the foyer side of the PAC so that this is easy to do

Friday 18 th March	- Rimu Syndicate
Monday 21 st March	- Kauri Syndicate
Thursday 24 th March	- Pohutukawa & Kowhai
Friday 1 st April	- Rimu Syndicate
Monday 4 th April	- Kauri Syndicate
Friday 8 th April	- Pohutukawa & Kowhai
Friday 15 th April	- Rimu Syndicate



Walk to School Wednesday starts next week and goes till the end of term. Daily prize draws and an overall class winner at the end of term.

C'mon Guys - Get TravelWise!

AFTER SCHOOL CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE CLASSES

This classes have now commenced and are being held straight after school in Room 19. If you are sending your child to the class, please make sure that they go to Room 19 when they are dismissed from their own room at 3.00pm.

Monday's - For children who are not Chinese

Wednesday's - For children who are Chinese.

If you have any questions about this class, or would like your child to join in, please contact Ruby on 0276688466 or on nzzhiying@gmail.com

PTA NEWS

Hello from the PTA. **WE NEED YOU!** Can you lend a hand to help the PTA?

1. Friday lunches 12-1pm distributing lunches to classes
 2. Disco on Friday 8th April
 3. Sausage sizzle on Friday 15th April
 4. Become a parent rep for your class to pass on news to fellow parents.
 5. Can you source items for a fundraiser auction to be held on Trade Me in term 2?
 6. Entertainment Books. We are running this fundraiser again this year and more details will be sent out soon.
- for more details on anything to do with the PTA, PLEASE contact Annette at pta@blockhousebay.school.nz
Also "like" our Facebook page for regular, up to date info- search for Blockhouse Bay Primary school PTA

NEXT WEEK: FRUJU FRIDAY ONLY: Please get your order to the office by Thursday morning- 9am. No change will be given. Please ensure your child's order is in a named envelope with the correct money. Thank you.

Next PTA meeting is Wednesday 6th April at 7:30pm in the staffroom – All are very welcome

HOLI – ‘The Festival of Colours’ at Blockhouse Bay Primary School on Saturday 2nd April 11.00-3.00pm

What's on : DJ Music, Veg. Food Stalls, Water/Colour Play, Dancers, Singers, Spot Prizes and more.

After the success of last year's event, the organisers of 'festival of colours' are once again hoping to provide a fun filled event. Any student or groups of students wishing to perform at the event please feel free to contact us. People of all ages and cultures can enjoy this day. Invite your family and friends to spread love and colour. The event will run rain or shine, please come prepared. Colours and kids water pumps will be sold at the event. We look forward to your support in making our 'Festival of Colours' a bigger and more colourful event Anyone wishing to contribute in any way, please contact : Roma Kaur on 0212639947, Glenn D'Souza on 0274 472 454 or Bo Singh on 6272145. Alternatively, you could email us on : bhbevent@mail.com

HELP FOR YOUNG BOYS WHO NEED ADDITIONAL MALE ROLE MODELS

An organisation known as the Big Buddy Foundation has asked us to circulate the following amongst our school community. For more information, please go to bigbuddy.org.nz or by phoning 027 207 8662 or by email, martin@bigbuddy.org.nz Big Buddy mentoring works on the simple philosophy that boys need good male role models in their lives to become good men. For many reasons, lots of boys in New Zealand don't have a father and while mothers do a courageous job raising boys alone, they can't model maleness. And above all else, boys learn through modelling!

CARE 4 KIDZ is running a Holiday Programme from 18 till 29 April 2016. Enrolment forms and programme information are now available from our staff, daily after 2.45pm in the Technology Room. No enrolments possible after 11 April 2016. For more information please contact Els on 027 3628494

Sold



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