



Blockhouse Bay

Primary School

We Seek - We Strive - We Soar

Thursday 20th October 2016

PRINCIPAL'S SOAPBOX

I was standing in the PAC the other day and a thought popped into my head about how indebted we are to the parents, staff and community who worked so hard over such a long time, to fundraise for this wonderful resource. As far as we are aware, we were (and quite possibly still are) the only state owned primary school in the country with a facility such as this and it really does raise the standard of what our children and local community can produce.

We are getting closer to adding another 'jewel in the crown' with the construction of an all-weather playing space which will cover around 1/3 of our school fields. Like the PAC, this will be a real game changer for our community and school children for years to come and we will all be just as proud to have this facility at Blockhouse Bay Primary School. The way things are going, the new surface will be open for use in 2017 and I know that the children will love and benefit from having this additional play space.

Letters have gone out to parents asking for help for the upcoming Carnival and we are hoping to raise a large sum of money that will go towards the new all-weather turf. As we do every year, we definitely need a commitment from over 100 people once again to help us prepare for, run and pack up the Carnival, so please give serious thought to filling in this form and sending it back to school.

We also have a number of other ways for families to contribute to getting the most profit possible from the Carnival and these include working bees before the event and donating items on our mufti days. These items are used as prizes on the day which reduces the need for us to spend money before the event. Although there is some extra work involved for families, it really does help the profitability which in turn, helps the children.

Have a great week everyone

Neil Robinson

Principal

BLOCKHOUSE BAY-LYNFIELD LIONS CLUB FUNDRAISER

It was great to see a number of our children, parents and staff at this community event on Sunday. Although numbers were less than the Lions would have liked, nearly \$1000 was raised to help purchase equipment for children with Cerebral Palsy. The Lions would like to thank everyone who took part or sponsored people for this worthy cause.



2017 CHILDREN'S TRIP TO CHINA

On Monday, the girls who went to China last year delivered a very polished presentation at the Ningbo-Auckland Principals Conference which was held in the city. This was a very prestigious occasion and this group brought credit to themselves and the school, making one attending principal very proud indeed!



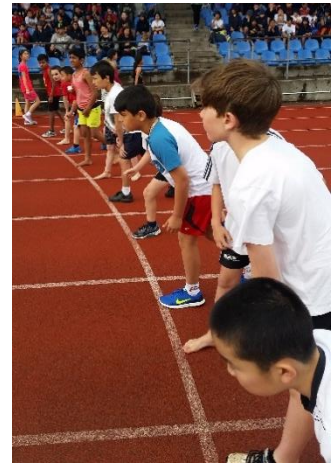
Blockhouse Bay

KAPA KOWHAI CONCERT

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

2016 RIMU AND KAURI ATHLETICS DAY

This year the Rimu and Kauri Athletics Day was held at Mt Smart Athletics Track due to the repairs happening at Trust Stadium. As the armada of buses arrived children were escorted off and greeted by the wonderful natural amphitheater of the Mt Smart Athletics Track. The weather held off, which is rare at this time of year and racing was underway. Starting with the long distance running, Cross Country Zone qualifiers did their best in the new environment. Sprints were next and because of the unique position of the track students were given a nice tail wind assist. During the field events the sun shone on all age groups and they had an energetic time jumping and throwing to the best of their ability. Well done to all students who gave their best. Over the coming weeks we will be finalising our zone students and some extra lunchtime qualifying jumps and throws will be needed. Thank you to all teachers, parents, Mr Richmond and Mr Bennett for making this day possible.



LOCAL ROAD WORKS



People are likely to have noticed the resealing of foot paths that is going on around the Bay recently. The contractors will be moving on to doing the Blockhouse Bay shopping area in a couple of weeks' time. We expect there to be some disruption, but have been assured that they will try and keep this to a minimum.

BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE MEETING

We plan to have another meeting about this initiative at 7.00pm on **Wednesday 9th 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

WACKY HAIR AND MUFTI- Thursday 27th October- see green flyer for more details but please try and send a jolly jar instead of a gold coin for this mufti. We sell the jolly jars at the school carnival and all profits go back to the school. Send your jolly jar (or just items if you don't have a jar) to school with your child on mufti day. Thanks for your support.

CARNIVAL REQUEST- Start putting aside your unwanted (but in good working order) toys, games, books, homewares, kids clothing for the white elephant stall. We will also be collecting plates and bowls for our new smash palace stall. We will let you know when to send these to school.

Do you know anyone who would like to **sponsor** our carnival or **donate** an item for the raffle? Sponsors will be listed on our event sponsor board, website and Facebook page. Please contact Annette on pta@blockhousebay.school.nz.

Next carnival meeting Tuesday 1st November at 7:30pm in staffroom. All welcome.
Carnival working bee Sunday 6th November 10-12.

YEAR 6 PRIZE GIVING AND GRADUATION: Wednesday 14th December 1pm.

To celebrate our current Year 6's time at our school, we are having a prize giving and graduation ceremony for them. Parents of Year 6 students are welcome to attend this event. All children are initially able to have two family members attend, although there is sometimes the opportunity to obtain extra tickets if they are available. Please make a note of this date if you have a child who is in Year 6. More information will be sent home later in the term.

SCHOOL DONATIONS- have you paid yours yet?

Thank you to everyone who has paid or who is paying their school donation for 2016.

A reminder that this 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. Statements will be sent home early next week. Please note that when you have paid the school donation, **you can claim back 30% of this money against your income in the current tax year.**

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. More information will be provided closer to the time of each event.

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

SCHOLASTIC LUCKY BOOK CLUB closes tomorrow

Return your order to the office or with Issue 7 of **LUCKY Book Club**, Scholastic are offering parents a special bonus if you order online with **LOOP**. All you have to do is spend **\$10 more** than your last **LOOP** order, or **spend over \$49**, and you will be given the chance to select a **FREE bonus book** when you checkout. This book will be delivered back to school with your normal order. This is only for **LOOP** parent orders placed either online at mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz or via the **LOOP** mobile apps.

MOBILE PHONE RECYCLING SCHEME

Bring in your old mobile phones to the school office and help raise funds for Sustainable Coastlines. Swapkit will accept mobile phones and accessories to help keep rubbish away from landfills and recover usable material that can be used to create other products. The school will receive rewards by donating your old mobile phone.

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