



Blockhouse Bay

Primary School

We Seek - We Strive - We Soar

**IMPORTANT REMINDER - All teachers are attending a professional development afternoon
WEDNESDAY 8th MARCH - SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 1.00p.m.**

Please make arrangements to have your children looked after, from this time.

重要通知：

三月八日，周三，学校教师下午学习进修，学校将于中午下午一点（1PM）提前放学。

请家长安排按时接孩子，谢谢家长们的配合

Thursday 2nd March 2017

PRINCIPAL'S SOAPBOX

With work continuing on the new artificial grass area, our thoughts now turn to an opening ceremony. We have decided to have two, one during the day for the children and one in the late afternoon for families and companies that have contributed to it. More details will be provided in next week's newsletter.

It might be timely to remind your children about what to do if a stranger approaches them and makes them feel uncomfortable. The police are currently investigating the possibility of a man in a car acting suspiciously around some of our children walking home from school. The children concerned reported their suspicions to their parents who have passed this on to us. The car is described as a 'hotted up' Mazda (lowered with side skirts etc.) with dark metallic paint. If anyone sees a vehicle like this around, please copy down the number plate and inform the school office.

Have a great week everyone.

Neil Robinson - Principal

KEY COMPETENCIES AT BLOCKHOUSE BAY PRIMRY SCHOOL

This term we have been spending a lot of time working on the 5 key competencies that are part of the New Zealand Curriculum. People use these competencies to live, learn, work and contribute as active members of their communities. They are an important part of your child's learning at school and are used every day. Our school has designed icons for the Key Competencies. We have added the Effort and Attitude competency as we believe that children need to have a apply effort and have a positive attitude towards all learning.



Managing Self



Thinking



Relating to others



Participating &
Contributing



Using Language,
Symbols & text



Effort & Attitude

The key competencies are a really useful way to think about and get involved in your child's learning. There are lots of ways to do this. The link below will give you some ideas. (see digital version on school website)

[Helping your child develop Key Competencies](#)

TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC



The Pohutukawa syndicate had a really enjoyable Teddy Bears' Picnic on Wednesday of last week.

The weather was wonderful. After the children had been treated to a fantastic session with Madam Salami from The Aunties group ... the toys, the parents, and the children enjoyed the picnic together.

What an enjoyable community occasion!

The winners on the day were:

Tallest teddy – Soane (Room 18)

Most loved bear – Eric (Room 15)

Best dressed teddy – Audrey (Room 16)

Smallest teddy - Bella (Room 18)

Fluffiest bear – Pin Pin (Room 25)

Most colourful bear – Suhani (Room 15)

Most interesting non-teddy – Malachi (Room 25)

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Blockhouse Bay

COLFERENCE FOR SCHOOLS IN THE LYNFIELD SCHOOLS CLUSTER - next Wednesday

On Wednesday 8th March, all of the 300 teachers from this cluster of eight schools will be taking part in a learning conference (which we have named as a Colference) and will include internationally recognised educator, Helen Timperley. So that this meeting can take place, **school will be closing at 1.00pm on this day.**

Please note the date for this shortened day next week - Wednesday 8th March.

The objectives for the day and beyond include:

- Receive advice and guidance from Helen Timperley with regards how to provide the best possible learning environment for all children
- Discuss and decide on ways that will improve the transitions for children as they move through to intermediate and high school
- Work on ways that will ensure that we are all making the same judgements on assessment data

LYNFIELD CLUSTER OF SCHOOLS HUI

On the evening of **Tuesday 14th March**, our cluster of schools will be running a meeting for parents of children who have Maori descent. The Hui will be held at Lynfield College and will start at **6.30pm**. Today, we sent home a letter to parents of Maori students about this meeting so please contact the office if you have any questions about this meeting.

FUTURE CHANGES TO OUR SCHOOL CAMPS

This week we sent home a letter to parents of Year 4 & 5 children telling them about the decisions that we have made regarding future school camps. There were a number of factors that have led to these decisions but mostly it was about costs to parents. Because parents of year 5 children are now being asked to buy a Chromebook, we will in future take the Year 6 children altogether to camp each year. Previously, the Year 4's have had a sleepover to prepare for them for camp, so now the Year 5's will do a sleepover each year.

Nga mihi o te tau hou! Greetings for the New Year!

For those not yet aware, we have a Whanau support Group that runs in the school made up of parents with Māori children attending BHB Primary. This is a relaxed group of people who support Māori initiatives within the school. We meet several times during the year. Our group provides an opportunity to share ideas and opinions about things Māori within the school and to support the school in their goals to provide Māori based learning experiences. We would love to have your input and presence in our group! Please email Jasmin MacKay to express interest jasminm@blockhousebay.school.nz

NETBALL TRIALS

Trials for our Saturday netball teams will be held during lunchtimes over the next week or so. We have 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. Families have to consider the fact that the players are required for all training sessions and games from April to September.

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.

SCHOOL DONATIONS

The 2017 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. These *voluntary donations help us to provide an enhanced level of achievement and experiences for the children.* 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***

ICAS TESTING 2017

2017 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) are Australian pen and paper tests that are completed in some schools under normal 'examination conditions'. Parents may choose to have their child sit these tests as they give their child the experience of external exam conditions, provide some alternative information about their child's strengths and highlight areas that may require more attention. These tests are for years 4 – 6 children only and are entirely optional.

You may wish for your child to sit some or all of the following ICAS assessment exams: Digital Technologies, Science, Writing, Spelling, English or Maths. The ICAS assessments will take place in our school on the following dates:

Digital Technologies Tuesday 23rd May, Science Tuesday 30th May, Writing & Spelling Tuesday 13th June,
English Tuesday 1st August Maths Tuesday 15th August.

Order forms available at the school office and payment must be made by **Wednesday- 29th March 2017.**

Flippa Ball Results (26/02/17)

Year 5/6 BHB Tiger Sharks (1) vs. Three Kings Jellyfish (1). Player of the Day Lexie

Year 3/4 BHB Mako Sharks (5) vs. MAPS Maroro (2). Player of the Day Charlie

TERM ONE HIGHLIGHTS

Monday 6th March - Kauri Assembly - 2.00pm

Tuesday 7th March - Year 5/6 Interschool Cricket Field Day for selected children
(14th March Postponement Day)

Wednesday 8th March - COLference - School Closes 1.00pm this day

Monday 13th March - Rimu Assembly - 2.00pm

Tuesday 14th March - Lynfield Cluster Hui for parents of Maori students. 6.30pm start.

Thursday 16th March - Pohutukawa Assembly - 2.30pm

Saturday 18th March - Holi Festival celebrated at our school. 11.00am - 3.00pm

Wednesday 22nd March - Year 5/6 Interschool T-Ball Field Day (29th March Postponement Day)

Wednesday 22nd March - Kowhai Assembly 2.30pm

Monday 27th March - Rimu Assembly - 2.00pm

Thursday 30th March - Year 3/4 Interschool T Ball Field Day (6th April Postponement Day)

Monday 3rd April - Kauri Assembly - 2.00pm

Tuesday 4th April - Parent Meeting about the use of computers in Kauri classes. 7.00pm start.

Wednesday 5th April - Kowhai Assembly - 2.30pm

Monday 10th April - Rimu Assembly - 2.00pm

Tuesday 11th April - Kauri and Rimu Cross Country Day (13th April Postponement Day)

PTA NEWS

We are excited to announce that our next fundraising goal will be to replace the oldest playground outside rooms 12, 13 and 14. We hope this new area will be a playground which encourages thinking, learning and play. Please support our fundraising for this exciting new development by paying the \$40 PTA donation if you can and joining in with our events this term. Events this term include the world famous (in Blockhouse Bay) school disco with the awesome DJ Prior, Friday lunch boxes, mufti days and sausage sizzle.

It is almost time to announce the grand opening for our last fundraising project - the new sports pitch. Information will be out soon with the all fun ideas planned for this eagerly awaited day!

Next PTA meeting will be Wednesday 29th March at 7:30pm in the staffroom. All are truly welcome and we enjoy meeting new faces and hearing their ideas for supporting our fundraising activities.

If you would like to help PTA but can't make the meetings, please email pta@blockhousebay.school.nz with the subject heading "friend" and you will be added to our mailing list. Thanks everyone.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

HOLI - 'The Festival of Colours'

When: Saturday 18th March between 11.00am - 3.00pm at Blockhouse Bay Primary (rugby field only)

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

After the success of 2015 and 2016, 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 the 'Festival of Colours' a bigger and more colourful event.

Anyone wishing to contribute in any way or anyone requiring further details, please contact: Roma Kaur on 0212639947, Glenn D'Souza on 0274 472 454 or Bo Singh on 021721545.

Alternatively, you could email us on bhbevent@mail.com

DOES YOUR BOY NEED AN ADDITIONAL POSITIVE ROLE MODEL IN THEIR LIVES?

Big Buddy mentoring programme has been operating for 20 years and works on the simple philosophy that boys need good male role models in their lives. They recruit, check and train men of suitable character and matches them with boys who do not have a natural father or significant positive male in their lives.

These males commits to spend 2-3 hours a week with the boy/young adolescent for at least a year, spending time doing positive activities with them. If you feel that you might be interested in this programme or would like to find out more, please go to www.bigbuddy.org.nz or <https://facebook.com/BigbuddyNZ> or come in to the school office and collect a copy of the information sheet.

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