



Blockhouse Bay

Primary School

We Seek - We Strive - We Soar

Thursday 5th May 2016

PRINCIPAL'S SOAPBOX

Welcome back everyone. I hope you all had a great break and are looking forward to another terms learning at Blockhouse Bay School.

A big welcome to Melinda Narayan who has begun teaching in the Pohutukawa team. Melinda is an experienced junior teacher who will be opening Room 16 with a class of 5 year olds next week.

The staff had a very productive teacher only day on Friday where we looked at ways of building upon our ability to assess and teach the children. Striving for continual improvement in our work never stops of course and as the older learners in the school, we try to model our goal of trying to 'sharpen the pencil' and get better at what we do.

We also have a teacher only day in November each year to continue with this training and to begin our preparations for the next school year. This will take place on Monday 21st November so school will be closed for instruction on this day. A reminder that the school stays open for an extra day in December to make up for this lost learning time.

There certainly is a lot happening already this term with our Board elections, sporting events and of course, the exciting Diversity Day which happens next week. As always, keep reading the newsletter or ask a staff member if you have any questions about these.

Have a great week everyone!

Neil Robinson - Principal

INTERSCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

Good luck to our Year 3-6 athletes who were selected to take part in this event, which is being held hopefully **next Tuesday** (or on the 17th May if wet). The group will be walking down to the Blockhouse Bay Reserve in the morning and parents are very welcome to come and watch the children taking part.

Whilst it is difficult to predict the exact times, here are the estimated start times for the races:

7 Year olds - 10.25am Girls and 10.45am Boys 10 Year olds - 12.25pm Girls and 12.45pm Boys

8 Year olds - 11.05am Girls and 11.25am Boys 11 Year olds - 1.00pm Girls and Boys

9 Year olds - 11.45am Girls and 12.05pm Boys

Once again these are approximate times which may or not be exactly accurate.

A decision will be made at 8.00am on Tuesday whether or not the event will take place.

JUNIOR CROSS COUNTRY FOR YEAR 1 AND 2 CHILDREN

This event takes place at school next **Wednesday 11 May** and starts straight after roll call at 9.00am. If it is too wet for the children to sit and watch, we will postpone it until the 16th May.

You are all invited to come and support your children take part in this year's Junior Cross Country. We have begun practicing and will continue in the days leading up to next Wednesday. You may wish to ensure your child wears suitable shoes, although bare feet are fine. Please ensure jumpers and other clothing are all named.

The children may come to school in their running clothes on Wednesday and stay in these clothes all day if you wish. If you are unsure about the weather in the morning, they may wear their running clothes anyway.

YEAR 3 & 4 INTERSCHOOL NETBALL TEAM (BHB Opals Team)

Due to some players having to drop out of the team, we are very short of netballers at this level and have had to trial Year 3 students this week. There was a great turn out to trials from our Year 3 students, but there were only a few places available in this team. Unfortunately this meant that some of the children missed out, but there will be an opportunity next year, and maybe later on in this year, for these students who missed out. Thank you all for your understanding.

INTERSCHOOL NETBALL - starts this Saturday

A very big thank you to all the parents who have generously offered to help coach or manage a Netball team in 2016. This is a big ask of parents, but having said that, our Netball players will no doubt get enormous benefit and enjoyment from your coaching and guidance. A lot of work has taken place already over the holidays with most teams well into training and getting prepared for their first round of grading games this Saturday (7th May) and next week (Saturday 14th & Sunday 15th May).

We wish all the teams the best for the season. Go BHB!

INTERSCHOOL GYMNASTICS TRIALS - Begin next week

Trials for boys and girls will take place in the PAC and start on Wednesday 11th May at 8.00am for Year 3/4 and Thursday 12th May at 8.00am for Year 5/6 children. (**note: children will need to come to school early**) We are very lucky and very grateful to have the assistance of some of our parents (Mrs Blong and Mrs Bryant), but more assistance is needed and would be much appreciated. Previous Olympic-level experience is not required, just a willingness to help out and guidance will be given.

If you are able to help out then please let Mr Bennett in Room 2 know as soon as possible. Thank you.

CHESS CLUB

This is starting up next week and is open to all students at school. If you would like your child to join the school's Chess Club, whether it be for fun or to get into an Inter-school Chess Tournament team, then all they need to do is come to Room 2 every morning tea time to play.

TERM TWO HIGHLIGHTS - Monday 2nd May- Friday 8th July

We have another exciting term planned and here are some of the highlights that everyone needs to know about. Note that there is no teacher only day as there has been in recent years.

- Monday 9th May - PTA Meeting 7.30pm in the staffroom - all welcome
- Monday 9th May - Knowledge-a-thon questions sent home
- Tuesday 10th May - Inter-school Cross Country for selected students (17th May if wet)
- Wednesday 11th May - Gymnastic trials for Year 3 & 4 children - 8.00am in the PAC
- Wednesday 11th May - Junior school Cross country for Year 0-2 children (16th May if wet)
- Thursday 12th May - Gymnastic trials for Year 5 & 6 children - 8.00am in the PAC
- Thursday 12th May - Diversity Day (see note in this newsletter)**
- Tuesday 17th May - ICAS Digital Technologies
- Tuesday 17th May - 'Pacific Mamas' show performing for Pohutukawa Children
- Wednesday 18th May - Rooms 4, 5 and some Room 2 children to Awataha Marae
- Thursday 19th May - Rooms 6, 7 and some Room 2 children to Awataha Marae
- Thursday 19th May - Kowhai Trip to Corbans Estate
- Friday 20th May - Nominations for the Board of Trustees elections close 12.00pm
- Thursday 26th May - Rooms 1, 3 and some Room 2 children to Awataha Marae
- Tuesday 31st May - Inter-school tennis for selected students
- Tuesday 31st May - ICAS Science
- Wednesday 1st June - Rooms 10, 11 and some Room 12 children to Awataha Marae
- Thursday 2nd June - Rooms 13, 14 and some Room 12 children to Awataha Marae
- Friday 3rd June - BOT Elections voting closes 12.00pm
- Monday 6th June - Queens Birthday weekend. School closed on Monday.
- Wednesday 8th June - Rooms 8, 9 and some Room 12 children to Awataha Marae
- Wednesday 8th June - Inter-school Swimming for selected students
- Wednesday 15th June - ICAS Writing and ICAS Spelling
- Thursday 16th June - Year 3/4 Soccer Tournament (Postponement day 23rd June)
- Friday 1st July - Mid-year reports sent home
- Thursday 7th July - Parent / Child / Teacher conferences

TERM TWO 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 so that this is easy to do.

Friday 6th May - Rimu Syndicate

Friday 13th May - Junior Syndicate

Friday 20th May - Rimu Syndicate

Monday 23rd May - Kauri Syndicate

Friday 27th May - Junior Syndicate

Friday 3rd June - Rimu Syndicate

Tuesday 7th June - Kauri Syndicate

Friday 10th June - Junior Syndicate

Friday 17th June - Rimu Syndicate

Monday 20th June - Kauri Syndicate

Friday 24th June - Junior Syndicates

ELECTIONS FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

These elections will be held soon and people who are considering 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 onto our school's website, 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, Stephen Dallow, on stephen@kids4drama.co.nz to organise a time to get together.

Nominations forms were posted to your homes last week. If you do not receive your forms, this might mean that we do not have up-to-date contact information for you. Please contact the school office or call in to collect your forms if you have not received them.

Nominations for the Blockhouse Bay Primary School Board of Trustees open tomorrow and close at noon on Friday 20th May.

WINTER UNIFORM

Children do not need to wear their school hats until term four but parents might want to be thinking about purchasing other uniform items to help their children through the winter months. The uniform shop is open on Monday mornings from 8.30am and then again on Wednesday afternoons from 3.00-3.30pm.

Please remember that if children wear any other items underneath their school uniform, these need to be in one of the school colours (white, black or dark blue).

Walking School Bus News: We now have 3 fledgling Walking School Buses!

A Walking school bus is an organized group of children walking to and from school under the supervision of adults. Children are collected from stops along a planned route and walk together to the school gate. Along the way they learn road safety, socialize and share stories with friends and neighbours. Families in the community get to know each other. Walking school buses are run by parents/caregivers/grandparents from the school community with the support of the school and Auckland Transport. They can operate from one to five days a week, depending on volunteer commitment.



What a great way to travel to school!

Currently, Hena Farooq is walking Monday and Wednesday mornings from **Windermere Crescent**, William Gu is walking Monday and Tuesday Mornings from **Kinross Street**. We also have Amanda Burrows walking along **Donovan Street** each morning and this will become a walking School Bus as soon as another adult is able to join this bus.

If you would like to join one of these groups or are a walker from another street and would be happy to form a Walking School Bus - please contact Mrs Addison: helena@blockhousebay.school.nz or The Auckland Transport Coordinator Nidhi Suri : Nidhi.Suri@at.govt.nz

DIVERSITY FOCUS

This term the whole school is learning about the concept of 'Diversity'. As part of our introduction to this, we will be celebrating our different cultural backgrounds with a 'Diversity Day' next Thursday 12th May.

We would like the children to come to school wearing clothes that represent their culture. The day will begin with a parade in the morning straight after roll call, starting at around 9.00am. We would love and welcome any parents who would love to join the parade wearing their cultural dress also.

On that day, each class will also have a shared lunch, where children are asked to bring a plate of food that represents their culture. We remind you any food brought to school will need to be nut free.

We are also looking for parents who can lead or assist us in demonstrating a particular dance style. If you think you could help us in this way then please pop in and see Mrs Casse (R4) or Mrs Adlington (R5) as we would love to have your input.

LIBRARY CLOSURE

Blockhouse Bay Library (not the school library) will be closed for refurbishment from the 16th May 2016 - 6 June 2016 and will reopen again on the 07 June 2016 at 9.00 am.

BEFORE SCHOOL CARE

Working parents- Do remember that if you need to get to work early in the morning as so many of us do, we have a great "Breakfast Club" operating in the Technology Room from 7.00am each morning. Breakfast is provided and the children can remain there until 8.20am. This programme is run by Care4Kidz our Out of School Care Programme.

Because teachers are carrying out tasks in preparation for the school day, we can only commit to looking after the children from 8.15am each day, so children should not be arriving at school before this time.

PTA NEWS

Thank you to everyone who supported the disco on the last day of school. The kids seemed to have a great time. This term we are planning to hold a movie night instead of a disco. The date for the **movie night is Friday 24th June** but more details will come out about that closer to the time.

Friday lunches are moving up to every week this term but we will be alternating between sushi/cafe one week and **Pita Pit** the next. Check the date at the top of the order forms to make sure you are on the right week. Tomorrow is sushi/cafe orders so we **begin Pita Pit next week**. Check out the notice from Pita Pit in this newsletter as they have offered some extra goodies to give away. **Please name the order form with your child's full name and room number to avoid confusion.**

This term we start collecting **"Yummy" apple fruit stickers**. Each room will have collection sheets to fill up with stickers or cut out labels from "Yummy" apples or apple bags. We will then exchange these stickers for much needed school sports gear at the end of term 3 so please help if you can. Send stickers to school in lunch boxes for children to transfer in class.

Next PTA meeting is Monday 9th May at 7:30pm in the staffroom. All are welcome.

Like our **Facebook page**- Blockhouse Bay Primary School PTA. You can contact the PTA at pta@blockhousebay.school.nz.



Hi School,

Just a quick word from Pita Pete to let you know that Pita Pit New Lynn will be doing School lunch orders every alternate Friday commencing on **13th May**. This also doubles as a school PTA fundraiser so get in behind this event.

Keep an eye out for the order form coming home with each student. Simply fill it in and you will need to have your order back to your teacher by 8.45am, **Thursday 12th May**.

Pita Pit are tasty thin pita breads stuffed with proteins and fresh seasonal vegetables and salads. All fillings and proteins are of the highest quality to ensure maximum nutritional value for the students and staff. We also have Gluten Free options for those that have a special dietary requirement and if you happen to be Coeliac, please indicate this on the order form and this will be made with very special care and attention to eliminate cross contamination. Regular proteins, Halal and Vegetarian options are all cooked on separate grill surfaces.

Prizes: To help celebrate the first order day, Pete would also like to offer a couple of lucky spot prizes. Be in to win a Touch rugby ball, Silver Ferns embossed netball and sipper bottles. Got to be in to win!

KIDS 4 DRAMA: Celebrating 25 years in Blockhouse Bay

Kids 4 Drama offers classes at the Blockhouse Bay Community Centre and invites you to come and check us out for a free trial. Our classes teach practical performance skills with opportunities to put it into practice through an annual full scale production, touring shows, performance opportunities and more.

Ages 10-14: Wednesday 4.30-5.30pm

Ages 11-19: Thursday 4.30-6.00pm

Ages 5-10: Thursday 3.30-4.30pm

Walking school bus available from Blockhouse Bay Primary outside the Library after school - please register for this via the email below.

Email kids4drama@xtra.co.nz to receive the 2016 flier with all the details or pop along next week and join in for a free trial. Come join the magic of Kids 4 Drama that celebrates 25 years this year.



INFORMED
TRUSTEES

confident
Futures



Make a difference. Become a school trustee.

Nominate yourself or someone you know today.

Being a school trustee is an important role that needs people with a range of skills and experiences, who will make a positive difference to our children's learning. Make a difference and nominate yourself or someone you know by filling out a nomination form available from your school.

Learn more at www.trustee-election.co.nz

2016 SCHOOL
TRUSTEE
ELECTIONS
 Make a difference
Ki te whakapiki

Sold



Get moving, get Michael.

Michael Cassidy Residential Sales
027 270 9478 | m.cassidy@barfoot.co.nz
Blockhouse Bay 09 627 8325 | barfoot.co.nz

Barfoot & Thompson
Since 1923
MREINZ

Licensed under the REAA 2008


**AUCKLAND
ORTHODONTICS**

Specialist orthodontics for all ages



 **Dr Nitin Raniga**

BDS (Otago) DClinDent (Otago) MOrth RCSEd MRACDS (Orth)

ORTHODONTIST

6 Exminster St
Blockhouse Bay
Auckland 0600

Phone 09 627 3555
nitin@aucklandortho.co.nz
www.aucklandortho.co.nz

