



Blockhouse Bay

Primary School

We Seek - We Strive - We Soar

6th April 2017

PRINCIPAL'S SOAPBOX

It is really important that people in education continue to keep up to date with new thinking and ideas and the Blockhouse Bay Primary School staff spend a considerable amount of time on trying to improve the work that we do.

I am lucky enough to work with a Board of Trustees who sees my ongoing learning as important and to this end, they are supportive of my attending one of the most significant educational conferences in the world this year.

On the weekend, I am flying to Singapore for the World Educational Leadership Summit. The organisation running the conference INTASE, *aims to shape today's educational institutes into exceptional and well-equipped schools ready to face the sophisticated demands of the 21st century. INTASE aspires to achieve this by creating a global platform for professionals to network, collaborate and learn from the most brilliant systems and experts in the industry.* (couldn't have put it better myself!)

Although for everyone else, you still have a week at school. I hope that you all have a wonderful Easter and holiday break and look forward to seeing you all in the new term.

See you at the Disco! Neil Robinson Principal

SENIOR CROSS COUNTRY FOR YEAR 3-6 CHILDREN - next week

The big race day for our Kauri and Rimu cross country is planned for Tuesday next week, starting at 1:50pm with the postponement day planned for Thursday. Rimu 6 & 7 year olds will run first and then the 8 year olds etc.

Note that sometimes we have to postpone events not because it is too wet for the event to take part, but because the ground is too wet for the children who are watching and waiting.

However, the weather next week is not looking good, so if it doesn't go ahead, then it will be postponed to the first week back in Term 2 on Tuesday 2nd May (or the Thursday if it is still too wet). Thank you for your understanding, the weather has not been very cooperative this year!

Students will be required to wear a shirt of a certain colour according to their age group, to help the judges on the finish line.

Ages are worked out from what age the child will be on the 1st May.

6/7 yr olds: **Blue Shirts**

8 yr olds: **Green Shirts**

9 yr olds: **Red Shirts**

10 yr olds: **White Shirts**

11 yr olds: **Black Shirts**

BETTER FUNDING FOR BETTER LEARNING

It was great to see so many parents discussing this idea with the representatives from NZEI yesterday morning. This is becoming a real election issue with the freezing of school's operational funding causing widespread disadvantage for New Zealand's children. We appreciate our parents joining us to encourage the government to direct more of their current surplus into our existing state schools.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday 7th April

Disco. Year 1-2 5.00-6.00pm
Year 3-6 6.30-8.00pm

Monday 10th April

Rimu Assembly - 2.00pm

Tuesday 11th April

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

Wednesday 12th April

Whole School Assembly. 2.00pm.
All welcome.

Thursday 13th April

Last day of term one. 3.00pm finish

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SHORT WEEK - Newsletter

Because of the school being closed for Good Friday, next week's newsletter will be sent home on Wednesday. Please note that we still finish at 3.00pm on Thursday 13th April.

BYOD EVENING

Congratulations to the children who presented their learning to the parents on Tuesday evening. It was great to see the buzz and excitement in the room as the Kauri students explained how they are using devices at school to achieve more. We plan to have another of these meetings in term three so watch this space!

SWIMMING SEASON HAS FINISHED

If you purchased a pool key, please return it to the school office. We will then credit your account with the \$50.00 bond.

DO WE NEED TO HAVE CORDS ON OUR HATS?

We have been alerted to a possible risk of strangulation involving the cord on the school hats.

This has prompted the Board of Trustees to discuss whether or not the school hat needed to have one.

In preparation for this, we talked to other schools whose hats did not have a cord and found very few negatives to this. The Board take the children's health and safety very seriously and want to ensure that this kind of thing could never happen here.

The Board have decided to talk to our suppliers to negotiate having these removed for all future purchases. Parents are very welcome to remove them from their children's hats as well.

FLIPPA BALL RESULTS - 2nd April 2017

Year 5 & 6 BHB Tiger Sharks - Bye Round

Year 3 & 4 BHB Mako Sharks (2) vs. MAPS Maroro (0). Player of the Day Raymond Mallin

We would like to wish our two BHB Primary Flippa Ball teams all the best on Sunday as they will be playing their final game of the Term 1 season, Go BHB!

2017 YEAR 3 & 4 INTER-SCHOOL T-BALL FIELD DAY

Last week BHB Primary entered two teams into the Year 3 & 4 T-Ball Field Day held at St Dominic's School. Our teams played exceptionally well, were very well organised, and showed great sportsmanship in each game. The highlight of the day was when our teams had to play each other, which was a very closely contested game with peer rivalry on display! A big thank you to all the parents who came down to support the teams, but a special thank you to Amanda Burrows and Daniel Preliceanu who helped manage each team respectively.

2017 WINTER LEAGUE INTER-SCHOOL NETBALL - TEAM COACH AND MANAGERS NEEDED

We are still seeking a few more coaches and managers for our Winter League Inter-school Netball teams this season. If we have enough coaches, we will have 3 teams who will be playing on Saturday mornings / afternoons between 10:00am and 1:00pm, and 2 teams playing on Thursdays after school around 5:00pm. All games will be played at Netball Waitakere - Te Pai Courts (Te Pai Place, Henderson). If you are able to help please contact Mr Bennett in Room 4 for more details.

PTA NEWS

THIS FRIDAY 7th APRIL- Disco

Years 1-2 from 5-6pm

Years 3-6 from 6:30-8pm

\$5 entry plus treats, drinks, glow for sale. ALSO we will be running a sausage sizzle between the discos from 6-6:30pm. \$2 per sausage. (mixed meat sausages only due to not enough helpers to run 2 BBQ's)

Many thanks to those parents who have offered to help at the discos - you are awesome! See you all there.

THURSDAY 13TH APRIL - Last day of term MUFTI and SAUSAGE SIZZLE

Please bring a gold coin for mufti on this day. Sausage order forms will come home on Monday and MUST be returned to the office by Wednesday 9am. There will be a choice of mixed meat (Hellers) sausages and halal lamb sausages for \$2 each. Sausages will be delivered to classes on Thursday lunchtime.

WE NEED HELPERS TO COOK AND PREPARE THE SAUSAGES ON THIS DAY FROM 11AM-1PM. Please email Annette at pta@blockhousebay.school.nz if you are able to help.

WHITE ELEPHANT DROP OFF - Sunday 21st May Term 2

In case you are planning a clear out over the holidays, hold on to your items and we will store them away for our next Carnival! Any good condition homewares, books, toys, puzzles, games and very good condition children's clothes accepted. Just drop them off to the PAC on Sunday 21st May - times will be confirmed next term. Thank you for your support this term. Next PTA meeting will be on Monday 15th May at 7:30pm in the staffroom. All are welcome.

TERM TWO HIGHLIGHTS - Monday 1st May- Friday 7th July

The following is a summary of the 'extra' highlights that will take place at school next term. More details will be provided before each event, either in the newsletter or in separate letters home.

Mon 8th - Fri 12th May	- Book Week - see schedule of events for details
Tuesday 9 th May	- Inter-school Cross Country for selected Y3-6 students (16 th May if wet)
Thursday 11th May	- Book Character Parade - 9.00am
Monday 15 th May	- PTA Meeting 7.30pm in the staffroom - all welcome
Tuesday 16th May	- Interschool Cross Country savings date
Wednesday 17th May	- Science in a Van visiting Rimu classes
Tuesday 23rd May	- Board of Trustees Meeting (Staffroom)
Tuesday 23rd May	- ICAS Digital Technologies
Tuesday 23rd May	- Rooms 17 & 18 to Stardome
Wednesday 24th May	- Rooms 15,16 & 25 to Stardome
Wednesday 24th May	- Kapa Haka performing at the BHB Library
Monday 29th May	- Rimu assembly 2pm
Tuesday 30th May	- ICAS Science
Monday 5 th June	- Queens Birthday weekend. School closed on Monday.
Thursday 8th June	- Inter-school tennis for selected students
Monday 12th June	- PTA Meeting 7.30pm in the staffroom - all welcome
Monday 12th June	- Rimu assembly 2pm
Tuesday 13 th June	- ICAS Writing and ICAS Spelling
Wednesday 14 th June	- Inter-school Swimming for selected students
Friday 16th June	- West Auckland Chess Championships
Friday 16 th June	- PTA Fundraiser - Movie Night
Thursday 22nd June	- Year 3/4 Soccer Tournament (Postponement day 29th June)
Friday 23rd June	- Science in a Van visiting Kauri classes
Monday 26th June	- Rimu assembly 2pm
Wednesday 28th June	- Matariki Assembly
Thursday 29th June	- savings day for interschool Soccer
Friday 30th June	- Mid-year reports sent home
Wed 5 th & Thurs 6 th July	- Parent / Child / Teacher conferences
Friday 7th July	- Mufti Day / Sausage Sizzle
Friday 7th July	- Last day of term two (3.00pm finish)

CAN YOU HELP? - Room 25

As part of our Inquiry into the Community Pohutukawa have been thinking about how to make the Glade area more interesting. Room 25 have decided they want to make a ball run using guttering. If you have any unwanted open or closed unbroken guttering, or any sockets to join the piping, could you please donate them to Room 25? Thank you for your support.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE - HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

"CARE 4 KIDZ is running a Holiday Programme during the upcoming Easter Holidays.

For information about the activities and enrolment forms, please see our supervisor daily between 2:45 and 6:00PM in the Technology Room. **Enrolments close Friday 7 April 2017.**

HEALTH INFORMATION

There are two health issues in Auckland currently and we would like parents to be informed about these.

Firstly, our sympathies go out to the family and friends of the Mt Roskill lady who passed away from Typhoid in the weekend. Although we have not been contacted directly by the Ministry of Health, we have enclosed some information about Typhoid that we have sourced from the Ministry of Health website. We have no further information available at this stage.

The Ministry of Education has asked Auckland schools to send home information about Mumps.

The Auckland Regional Public Health Service is managing a mumps outbreak in Auckland. More than 35 cases have been confirmed so far and more than half of these are occurring in children and teens aged 10-19 years.

"I urge parents to check with their doctors to ensure their families' measles mumps and rubella vaccinations are up to date. I recommend this is done before the school holidays. Vaccination is free and it will protect your child and the community," says Medical Officer of Health Dr Michael Hale.

Mumps can spread quickly among those who are not immune, particularly in schools. A single child with mumps at secondary school could cause an outbreak, because immunity in that age group is well below the national average.

"If parents do not organise vaccination quickly, their children's learning could be disrupted. We are in the midst of an outbreak and already large numbers of students are scrambling to catch up on school work after falling ill with mumps for several weeks," says Dr Hale. Most people recover from mumps, but it can have serious complications. Although rare, infertility can occur. The disease can also cause inflammation of tissue surrounding the brain (meningitis), inflamed testicles or ovaries and deafness. "The best way to avoid getting an infectious disease like mumps is to ensure you are fully immunised with the MMR vaccine," says Dr Hale. Learn more about mumps and the about mumps vaccination on the ARPHS website.



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