



Blockhouse Bay

Primary School

We Seek - We Strive - We Soar

Thursday 8th December 2016

SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR THE YEAR ON Friday 16th December AT 1.30pm
Please ensure that you have made arrangements
for your children from this time. (no after school care on this day)

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Congratulations and thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of the Blockhouse Bay School Carnival on the weekend. The weather certainly played its part, but the help we received from over 200 people, certainly contributed to make the event such a success. Thank you to everyone who gave up their time to assist with this year's event.

Of course, the PTA did a superb job of organising the day and had met many times regularly throughout the year to organise the day for things like sponsors, signage, rosters and liaison with parent helpers, and activities for people to do and where to put everything. This team was superbly led by Annette Bradley who spent hours and hours making sure that the event ran smoothly. Congratulations and thank you too, to the Carnival sub-committee of Gina Walters, Sheereen Ali, Jasmine Leaning, Claire Holt, Alex Dacey, Travis and Nicki Brown, Antonius Gossen, Catherine Thompson, Fiona Marquardt, Sonia Foster, Bronson Prior and their families for support on the day.

Well done to the children who performed at the Carnival. The size of the crowd for your items really showed how good you were. Lastly, thank you to the school staff, who also gave up their own time to 'do their bit for the cause'. Congratulations and thank you to you all.

We would also like to thank our many parents and sponsors who provided goods and services at either school friendly prices or free. Our profits are greatly increased due to this generosity and we encourage everyone to support these companies who are supporting the school.

I am pleased to announce to everyone that the 2017 Blockhouse Bay Primary School Carnival raised \$17 500! Whilst this was less than last year because of the Santa Parade day being moved, this was still a wonderful effort from all concerned. In addition to this, earlier in the year Annette Bradley and Stephen Dallow applied to the Lotteries Commission and we heard on Friday that they have given us \$50 000 towards the artificial turf. With these two amounts combined, we now have enough money for the turf and hope to have this facility available to the children in February 2017. Very Exciting!

A reminder that school closes for the year **Friday 16th December at 1.30p.m.** There will be **no After School Care at all on that day.** The Blockhouse Bay library have once again asked parents not to leave children unattended at the school library and this of course means when school closes early next week as well.

Please note as well that the **school office will close at 1.45pm** on the last day of term.

Because of the short week, the final newsletter for this year will be sent home on Wednesday of next week.

Have a great week everyone.

Neil Robinson - Principal

Barfoot & Thompson
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Blockhouse Bay

URGENT URGENT URGENT

In the first week of term one next year, we have 10 students coming from our sister school in Yuyao, China and we need to find homestay accommodation for them. They will be here from the 2nd February to the 13th February and host families will receive \$25 per child per night for this time. Preferably, the children will stay in homes in pairs, which means that families will receive over \$500. Families who have done this have reported to us that their children learn a lot from this experience.

Please contact the school office urgently if you are interested in hosting as we need to have this organised before the end of this year.

SCHOOL PAYMENTS ONLINE - coming soon!

Do your working hours make it hard for you to visit the school office?

For some months, we have been searching for an online payment system that we could integrate with our own systems at school and we now believe that we have found one!

We are excited to let you know about our online school shop opening at the end of this term. Families will be able to pay for more of your child's school needs online - School Trips, Donations, Fees, Uniform - whenever it suits you - 24/7. It's never been easier - pay anywhere, anytime! Look out for the flyer in next week's newsletter on how to set up your account.

SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL HELPERS 2017

Every morning between 8.10am and 8.50am we have a parent help supervise the school crossing. We are now looking for volunteers to help with this in 2017. If you can spare a morning a week to come and help please leave a message at the school office and Helen Addison will contact you about this.

WASTE FREE UPDATE

We are delighted with the number of children now bringing waste free lunchboxes. So far 108 children have reached 5 clicks on their tickets and 62 children have 10 clicks after just 2 weeks! So, Why pack a waste-free lunch? • Landfills are reaching capacity • Funds not spent on trash removal can be put to better use • Empower our kids to make positive changes for the planet • Eliminate the need for processed, pre-packaged foods. Handy hints: Use silicone muffin trays (see image). Cut up fruits and vegetables. Children often take 1 or 2 bites out of an uncut apple or banana and throw the rest away. To avoid this, pack cut-up fruits and vegetables in a reusable container. Your child can take a few bites and save the rest for later.



HIRING OF POOL KEYS

Hiring a pool key gives families the opportunity to swim in the school pool after school, on the weekends, right through the summer holidays until the end of March, at no extra cost. To get a copy of the rules for hiring and to pay your money, please contact the school office staff. Pool keys will be on sale at a cost of \$170 each, with \$50 being returned when the key comes back to school at the end of the season.

YEAR 6 GRADUATION Wednesday 14th December in the Performing Arts Centre

Doors open for this popular event at 12.50pm. Those parents or families who indicated they are attending please remember that you must be seated by 1.20pm. *Remember too, that no pre-schoolers or siblings from other syndicates may attend.* Please make sure you bring your ticket.

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU CHECKED THE FOUND PROPERTY? LAST CHANCE THURSDAY

Please check the large group of clothing items that are in the Lost Property room. *All items left after the 15th December that are un-named, will be given away.*

TERM FOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- | | |
|---|--|
| Fri 9 th / Sat 10 th December | - End of Year Reports arrive in mailboxes |
| Monday 12 th 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 |
| Doors open at 12.50pm. Please be seated ready to start at 1.20pm | |
| Thursday 15 th December | - Mufti / Sausage Sizzle / Movie Day (no charge) |
| Friday 16 th December | - Last school day of the year. 1.30pm finish. |

DEPARTING TEACHERS

We have two teachers who are leaving the school at the end of this year.

Peter Richmond

Mr Richmond arrived at Blockhouse Bay Primary the beginning of 2012 after teaching in Dubai for two years and in the South Island before then. Over the last five years, Peter has contributed hugely to the growth in participation and achievement levels of our children in sport, has co-led the Rimu team and has been a very popular classroom teacher. He was a driving force behind the very successful launch of the new school logo and his teaching background has given us an international perspective to curriculum planning and inquiry teaching. Mr Richmond moves to a Deputy Principal's Christchurch in a few weeks' time and he and his wife Tracey are expecting their first child in January.

Lorraine Sauvarin

After teaching at several other local schools in the past, Mrs Sauvarin began working at Blockhouse Bay Primary School in 2014. She was initially employed as a part time teacher but quickly secured a permanent classroom of her own. From Kauri syndicate in 2014 and 2015, Mrs Sauvarin wanted to broaden her teaching experience and took on a role in our Year 2 Kowhai team this year where she has been in charge of PE, has been the staff representative on the PTA and organised the very successful Knowledgathon.

Mrs Sauvarin is very popular amongst the children and parents who know and recognise that she will always go the extra mile to ensure that every child reaches their potential.

Lorraine isn't going far, and has also been promoted, to a Team Leader role at Green Bay Primary School.

CLASSES FOR NEXT YEAR

Tomorrow we will be letting everyone know which class they are in for 2017 if they are returning to Blockhouse Bay Primary School. We do this so that the children are not worried about this during the summer break.

The staff spend a large number of hours deciding which children will be placed in which class. As part of this process, we look for a balance of gender, ability, ethnicity and needs. We also take into account other factors such as personalities that we feel will gel together and keeping certain children apart or together.

For these reasons, moving children from one class to another after they have been decided is quite problematic as it can upset what we feel is this balance. Parents who do wish us to give consideration for a change will need to contact the office to ask for a form that provides details about why they feel this is necessary. We will then give consideration to this request, although once again, it is unlikely that a change will be made unless there are **very** compelling reasons to do so.

END OF YEAR REPORTS

These were posted yesterday and should arrive in mailboxes tomorrow or Saturday. We hope you enjoy getting this feedback on your child's effort, progress and achievement. We think that we have done a good job of checking through these, but if you do find a typo, please contact the school office and we will give you a corrected version.

End of year reports provide information about how your child is doing currently and how they have done across the year. The teachers use a combination of assessment results, class work and their observations of the children at work to make their overall teacher judgment of how well each child is doing in each curriculum area.

You will no doubt notice quite a difference from our previous report form and most of these changes have been put in place following consultation with parents earlier in the year. Enclosed with this newsletter is more information about these reports.

ATTENDANCE

The average attendance for a child at Blockhouse Bay School is 96% which is excellent. To recognise this, if a child is absent for less than 4 days or less this ½ year, we put a dot in the 'Excellent' column.

If your child is absent between 5-7 days, we put a dot in the 'Not of Concern' column.

If a child is away more than 8 days this ½ year but there was a particular (usually one-off) reason, they also receive a 'Not of Concern'.

If a child is away more than 8 days and this is made up of frequent absences that are impacting on their achievement, progress or social interaction with their friends, we tick 'Of Concern'.

8 Days away amounts to an average of 1 day off every 2 weeks which certainly is significant enough to make a difference to a child's education.



JUNIOR ATHLETICS

Congratulations to all of the children that participated in the Junior Athletics Day on Wednesday. It was a great day enjoyed by all. Special congratulations go to the following children for age group achievements.

5 Year Old Girls

1st Place- Kaitlin Burrows
2nd Place- Natalie Chang
3rd Place- Bella JamesionTia

5 Year Old Boys

1st Place- Thomas Kilpatrick
2nd Place- Jayvyn Motupally
3rd Place- Arav Saini

6 Year Old Girls

1st Place- Emmie Butler
2nd Place- Addison Leaning
3rd Place- Isabella Smith

6 Year Old Boys

1st Place- Krish Reddy
2nd Place- Ethan Ning
3rd Place- Logan MacDonald-Bradley

7 Year Old Girls

1st Place- Asia Wrigley
2nd Place- Ayla Nakano
3rd Place- Neha Rana

7 Year Old Boys

1st Place – Nate Meikle
2nd Place- Victor Mesake
3rd Place- Isaac Hydes

TREAT DAY - Thursday 15th December (no charge)

On the second to last day of the year, we like to give the children the opportunity to spend time together in a social situation as a reward for all the hard work they have done. The children can wear mufti (they must still bring a hat) and at some stage, they will spend time with their classmates watching a movie. Given the amount of money that parents have given to the school across the year, there is no charge to families for this.

In breaking news, the PTA have some left over sausages from the Carnival and will be giving these away (no charge) to the children on the day also at no cost. (see PTA note below)

PTA NEWS

Carnival- Wow! What an amazing day. It was so nice to see so many families enjoying the day together. We hope you all had a great time. Thank you so much to everyone who came, helped, organised, sponsored, donated and supported our event. If you would like to make any suggestions or comments about the day then please email Annette at pta@blockhousebay.school.nz.

Smoothies - The truck will be back on Friday for the last "Fruity Friday" of the year as there won't be one on the last day of term. \$4 for a Tropic (mango, pineapple and coconut).

Sausage sizzle - As a thank you to the children and their families for supporting us all year, we will be running a free sausage sizzle on Thursday 15th December at lunch time. Most sausages will be Hellers beef but we will have the option of halal lamb for those who would prefer them. (these will be cooked separately).

Finally, please consider joining the PTA next year and try coming along to one of our meetings. We have a lot of laughs and enjoy working together to help raise money to support the school and our children. It is a great way to give back to our community.

NEEDING HOLIDAY CARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS?

Your Christmas wish come true! Blockhouse Bay Community Centre will be hosting a "POP UP HOLIDAY PROGRAMME" during the busy week leading up to Christmas. As we know most primary and intermediate schools close on or around the 16th of December, however many of you are still working or busy wrapping up last minute Christmas shopping and running errands during this time. Our "POP UP HOLIDAY PROGRAMME" is an exciting, fun-filled week from Monday 19th - Friday 23rd of December. For more information including the daily themes and agenda, cost and enrolment details and forms please email the Blockhouse Bay Community Centre on info@bhbaycommunitycentre.co.nz Don't wait enrol today! Ph 626 4980 for more information.

LOOKING FORWARDS TO 2017

Term Dates - We always like to let parents know about these dates well in advance, so that holidays can be booked during the holiday breaks. Our dates for next year are:

Term One	Tuesday 31 st January	Thursday 13 th April	(11 weeks)
Term Two	Monday 1 st May	Friday 7 th July	(10 weeks)
Term Three	Monday 24 th July	Friday 29 th September	(10 weeks)
Term Four	Monday 16 October	Friday 15 th December	(9 weeks)

CLASS TEACHERS IN 2017

As we reported last week, we have made a number of organisational changes for 2017 and this has meant a number of changes for our teachers. In addition to this, some staff have needed to reduce their working week to less days and this has meant that several classes are in a team-teaching situation. In all of these situations, the teachers will be meeting often to ensure that there is continuity to the learning programmes.

Pohutukawa Team - Year 0 and Year 1

Team Leaders - Faye Reddell and Liz Crisp		
Room	Teacher (s)	
15	Mina Lala	
16	Robyn Joyce and Sally Kilpatrick	Mrs Kilpatrick will be in Rm 16 on Fridays as well as some other days
17	Katy Harris	
18	Faye Reddell and Brenna Innes	Miss Innes will be in Rm 18 on Fridays as well as some other days
19	Brenna Innes and Sally Kilpatrick	Opening in Term Three
25	Tracey Waller	

Kowhai Team - Year 1 and Year 2

Team Leader - Helen Addison		
Room	Teacher (s)	
20	Denise Lawson and Wendy Spence Year 1/2	Miss Spence will be in Rm 20 on Fridays as well as some other days
21	Melinda Narayan Year 2	
22	Breanne Mackinnon and Helen Addison Year 2	Mrs Addison will be in Rm 22 on Wednesdays as well as some other days
23	Atama Cassidy / Annette MacDonald Year 2	Mrs MacDonald will teach in Rm 23 for around one day per week

Rimu Team - Year 3 and Year 4

Team Leaders - Deanne Ellis and Claire Schultz		
Room	Teacher (s)	
7	Monique Hope Year 4	
8	Deanne Ellis / Hayley Davies Year 3/4	Mrs Davies will be in Rm 8 on Fridays as well as some other days
9	Shelly Brown Year 4	
10	Jan Llewellyn/Natasha Dickson Year 4	Both teachers will be in Room 10 for 2-3 days per week
<i>(Note - we are swapping the Room numbers for Rooms 10 & 11)</i>		
12	Betty Duncan Year 3	
13	Claire Schultz Year 3	
14	Vivienne Aherne Year 3	

Kauri Team - Year 5 and Year 6

Team Leaders - Felicity Davis and Richard Bennett		
Room	Teacher (s)	
2	Laura Hillier Year 5	
3	Melissa Murray/Hayley Davies Year 5	Mrs Davies will be in Rm 3 on Wednesdays
4	Richard Bennett Year 5	
5	Mary-Rose Adlington Year 6	Felicity Davis will work in the Year 6 area for several days a week and will also be leading the BYOD initiative across the Kauri team
6	Jasmin Hansen-McKay/Felicity Davis Year 6	
11	Tiffany Ponniah/Felicity Davis Year 6	



Sell well.

Move with ease.

Get moving, get Michael.



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