



Blockhouse Bay

Primary School

We Seek - We Strive - We Soar

Thursday 9th June 2016

PRINCIPAL'S SOAPBOX

Thank you to everyone who took the opportunity to vote in our Board of Trustee elections. Because of the long weekend and the way that the postal service now works, we are unable to announce the results at this stage (items posted last week might not get here until today). We will therefore be publishing the names of the successful candidates in the News section of school's website from lunchtime tomorrow. The full results have to be published in the newspaper and this will take place later in the month.

Last week, I was fortunate enough to attend the New Zealand and Australian Principal's Conference which was held in Auckland. Whilst there were many messages, the key ones for me were:

- New Zealand's educational curriculum is held in very high regard all over the world, as are our teachers
- Whilst there are improvements we can make to parts of the education system in this country, going back to teaching methodology that was used 30, 50 or 100 years ago will not prepare the children for their future
- Promotion of **all** aspects of the curriculum is important including art, drama, dance and physical education as these too will be important skills to have in the future
- Blockhouse Bay Primary School is moving along the same direction as the best schools with regards to trying to encouraging the children to take more responsibility for their own learning. This is achieved by showing them where they are with their learning and what they need to do next to improve as well as developing resilience and a growth mind set.

The teachers are currently working hard to complete their assessments of the children and to write the mid-year reports. These will be sent home on Friday 1st July. Teachers will then meet with parents and children the following week, on Thursday 7th July. Today, we are sending home details about how parents can book their meeting times with their child's teacher. The sooner you log on to the booking sheet and select your time, the more likely you are to getting an appointment that suits you best. The race is on!

Have a great week everyone!

Neil Robinson - Principal

KNOWLEDGE-A-THON

Testing is happening this week and all students will bring home their results either tomorrow or Monday. Thank you for your support of your child and the school in this fundraising venture. Please help your child(ren) to collect the money from their sponsors and bring it in to the school office or to their class teacher, in a named envelope with the child's classroom number. We would like all sponsorship money to be in to us by Friday 24 June so that we can work out which children will receive the prizes. Well done to all the students for their hard work in learning their facts and gathering sponsors.

PARENT/CHILD/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Here is the information you will need about how you can book a time to meet with your child's teacher for the mid-year conferences. These take place on one day only Thursday 7th July. If this date does not suit your family, please organise a different time with your child's teacher.

Please note that **school closes at 12.45pm on Thursday 7th July** so that these meetings can take place.

Bookings will open online 5.00pm - Friday 10th June. Go to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and enter the code **wu6f6.** You will be able to select your child's teacher and a time that will suit you. If you are unable to book your appointment online please fill in your preferred time on the sheet sent home and return it to the school office.

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Blockhouse Bay

CELLPHONES AT SCHOOL

A reminder that the children are not permitted to have cell phones in their bags at school. This is to prevent issues around use or security of these valuable items.

If you have an important reason for your child to bring a cell phone to school, they must leave it at the school office when they arrive and collect it at the end of the day.

TERM TWO HIGHLIGHTS

Wednesday 15th June - ICAS Writing and ICAS Spelling
Thursday 16th June - Tri Star Gymnastics Fun Festival (Selected Y3-6 children)
Thursday 23rd June - Year 3/4 Soccer Tournament
Friday 24th June - Movie Night in the PAC
Wednesday 29th June - West Auckland Primary Schools Inter-school Chess Championship
Thursday 30th June - Matariki Assembly
Friday 1st July - Mid-year reports sent home
Thursday 7th July - Parent / Child / Teacher conferences - **school closes at 12.45pm**

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 10th June - Junior Syndicate
Friday 17th June - Rimu Syndicate
Monday 20th June - Kauri Syndicate
Friday 24th June - Junior Syndicates

WALK TO SCHOOL WEDNESDAY

Every Wednesday until the end of term the Travelwise Ambassadors are encouraging you to walk school (or travel in any way other than a car). If you do this, fill out a slip at one of the desks in the playground. You could win a spot prize or one of the day's prize draws. At the end of the term, the class who had the most walkers will win a special prize. You do not need to walk the whole way to school, only some of the way, but just from Countdown or the public library does not count.



C'mon Guys – Get Travelwise!

INTERSCHOOL NETBALL TEAM RESULTS - 2nd June

- BHB Opals (4) vs Woodlands Park Fantails (4). Player of the Day Ayla
- No Year 5 / 6 Netball due to Queens Birthday Weekend

PTA

Movie night on Friday 24th June for year 0-6 children. The chosen movie is Despicable Me 2.

Tickets will be sold in advance as we have a limited number of spaces. Tickets will be \$5.00 per child and food will be for sale before and during the movie. Parents are welcome to drop off and return later, to allow more seats for children. Parent numbers will be limited to one per family group. More information including how to buy tickets, will be published next week.

Helpers required on Movie Night to assist with selling food/ drink before movie and at intermission & clean up after wards. Please contact the PTA if you want to come join the fun!!

Next week's lunch orders will be for Sushi. Please get your orders to the school office with the correct change by Thursday mornings - 9am. No late orders will be accepted.

Next PTA Meeting is being held on Monday 20th June at 7.30pm in the staffroom. All welcome.

Have any ideas for the PTA? Contact us on pta@blockhousebay.school.nz

Like us on Facebook - search Blockhouse Bay Primary School PTA

SCENT CO FUNDRAISING

Order forms were sent home last week for a Smencils Fundraiser. These are pencils or pens that each have a different scent. Funds raised from this will be used in the school Library. If you would like to take part please have your form and money back to the school office by 15th June 2016. No Eftpos available for this Fundraiser. Cash or Cheque only please.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

If you do not wish to purchase the Entertainment book sent home with your child, could you please return it in the envelope provided to the school office.

CHANGE OF CLOTHES

With the wet weather we have been experiencing children occasionally slip over and require a change of clothes. It is a good idea to keep a spare change of clothing from home in your child's school bag for such an occasion.

CONTACT DETAILS

When your child is ill or has had an accident at school we may need to contact you throughout the day. Recently a number of phone numbers that we hold appear to be inactive. If you have changed any of your details please check at the school office that we have your updated information.

2017 TERM DATES

Parents are asked to note these dates so that they can organise holidays during these breaks.

Term One Tuesday 31st January - Thursday 13th April (11 weeks)

Term Two Monday 1st May - Friday 7th July (10 weeks)

Term Three Monday 24th July - Friday 29th September (10 weeks)

Term Four Monday 16 October - Friday 15th December (9 weeks)

COMMUNITY NOTICES

IONA Scouts enjoy indoor and outdoor activities and challenges, camping, cycling, tramping, life skills and much more.

We meet Wednesday nights term time under Blockhouse Bay Community Centre (Exminister Street).

Those interested please visit us on a Wednesday evening.

Keas - School years 1-3 from 6-7 pm

Cubs - School years 4-6 from 6.30-8.00 pm

Scouts School years 7-10 from 7.00-8.30 pm

Come and join our group. For more information please phone: Colin 820 4009,

visit: www.ionascouts.webs.com or Facebook Iona Scout Group

HAVING DIFFICULTY GETTING THE KIDS TO SLEEP?

I was recently asked for my advice on how much sleep do children need?

As we all know, sleep is a vital need, essential to a child's health and growth. Sleep promotes alertness, memory and school performance. Children who get enough sleep are more likely to function better and are less prone to behavioural problems and moodiness. That is why it is important for parents to start early to help their children develop good sleep habits.

How much sleep should my child get?

Each child is different and has different sleep needs. My internet research suggests that while most adults cope with around 7-10 hours per night, children usually need more than this. Although all children are different, a rule of thumb then could be 12 hours per night for 5-6 year olds and a ½ hour less for every two years after this.

It can be difficult to get some children to sleep, especially if it is still daylight or there is something interesting or exciting happening at the time. As a general rule, children need and thrive on routines and this should be applied to developing sleeping habits as well. For example:

1. Take a bath.
2. Put on pyjamas.
3. Brush teeth.
4. Make sure the room is quiet and at a comfortable temperature.
5. Put your child to bed.
6. Read a calming story
7. Say goodnight and leave.

Other helpful tips include:

- Make bedtime the same time every night.
- Make pre-bedtime a positive and relaxing experience without TV, computer games or movies. Screen viewing prior to bed can lead to difficulty falling and staying asleep. Save your child's favourite relaxing, non-stimulating activities until last and have them occur in the child's bedroom.
- Keep the bedtime environment (e.g. light, temperature) the same all night long.
- Encourage children to fall asleep on their own

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