



Blockhouse Bay

Primary School

We Seek - We Strive - We Soar

Thursday 11th February 2021

Dear Parents and Whānau

Xin Nian Kuai Le (Happy Chinese New Year) everyone and welcome to the year of the Ox!

There is a very settled atmosphere at school and the children are working hard and enjoying being back. Thank you to everyone who has helped to prepare the children for the new school year.

We are really looking forward to our Whānau Aroha Day next Monday. We are very lucky to have such a diverse school population and enjoy the fact that we can learn from each other about a whole range of cultures. I know the teachers have sent home information about this event, but feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

At the end of this newsletter, we have printed our procedure about what to do if parents have any concerns about something that has taken place at school. We do want to hear from people if they have any questions or concerns, so please contact the person who could help you best.

Have a great week everyone.

Neil Robinson

Principal

TERM ONE CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2021

Please check the calendar weekly as dates and times may change.

Fri 12th Feb	<i>Chinese New Year - Children can come to School in cultural clothes.</i>
Mon 15th Feb	<i>Whānau Aroha Day</i>
Wed 17th Feb	<i>9am - Kauri Assembly</i>
Wed 24th Feb	<i>9am - Rimu Assembly</i>
Wed 24th Feb	<i>2.30pm - Pōhutukawa Assembly</i>
Wed 24th Feb	<i>Y5/6 T Ball Tournament</i>
Thurs 25th Feb	<i>2.15pm - Kōwhai Assembly</i>
Tues 2nd Mar	<i>Hui/Fono for Māori/Pasifika whanāu</i>
Wed 3rd March	<i>9am - Kauri Assembly</i>
Wed 3rd March	<i>Savings Day-Y5/6 T-Ball Tournament</i>
Thurs 4th Mar	<i>2.00pm - Whole School Assembly</i>
Wed 10th Mar	<i>2.30pm - Pōhutukawa Assembly</i>
Wed 17th Mar	<i>Y5/6 Cricket Tournament</i>
Wed 17th Mar	<i>9am - Kauri Assembly</i>
Thurs 18th Mar	<i>2.15pm - Kōwhai Assembly</i>
Wed 24th Mar	<i>Savings Day - Y5/6 Cricket Tournament</i>
Wed 31st Mar	<i>2.30pm - Pōhutukawa Assembly</i>
Fri 2nd April	<i>Easter - No School this day</i>
Mon 5th April	<i>Easter - No School this day</i>
Tues 6th April	<i>Easter - No School this day</i>
Thurs 8th April	<i>Interschool Swimming Carnival</i>
Fri 9 th April	<i>Centenary Celebrations including our Dance Festival. (more details to be provided)</i>
Sat 10 th April	<i>Centenary Celebration including Cultural Performances.</i>
Wed 14 th April	<i>9am - Rimu Assembly</i>
Thurs 15 th April	<i>2.15pm Kōwhai Assembly</i>
Fri 16 th April	<i>3.00pm -Term One Ends</i>



Blockhouse Bay

A future National Geographic photographer's very first perfect shot...

Right here...

MULTI-AWARD WINNING




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WHANAU AROHA DAY- Monday 15th February

On this day, we will be celebrating all of our unique whānau and cultures at Blockhouse Bay Primary with our Whānau Aroha Day. All children are invited to come to school in their cultural clothes that reflect their unique identity e.g. Chinese, Indian, Japanese, New Zealander, artist, musician etc.

We invite you to join us for a parade at 10.20am and then take part in a shared lunch with your child's class at 10.45am. We ask that you bring a special plate of food to share that is part of your family culture.

Please remember no nuts! Can you please include a list of the key ingredients in your shared lunch food.



SWIMMING POOL KEY HIRAGE

Some people like to hire a key from now until the pool closes and so we have a reduced price for this. If families wish to hire a key, it will cost \$120, which includes a \$50 bond which will be returned at the end of the season when the key is returned.

CELLPHONES AND PHONE WATCHES AT SCHOOL

These are valuable items which can cause issues if they are brought to school and are available for use in the classroom or playground. For these reasons, all cellphones and phone watches that do come to school, need to be handed in to the school office in the morning and collected from there at the end of the day.

CAN MY CHILD RIDE THEIR BIKE TO SCHOOL?

We have been advised by the Police that children under the age of 10 should not be riding their bikes on the streets around the school as they are unlikely to have the ability to cope with the challenges that this area has. Because of this, our rule is that only Year 6 children can ride their bikes to school. The only exception to this is if an adult is riding alongside their younger children.

To gain permission to ride their bikes, **the Year 6 child needs to write a letter** themselves to Mr Robinson requesting permission. Parents will need to sign the letter to show that they have approved this.

In the letter, the children will need to include:

- That they have permission from their parent(s) - letter needs to be signed by the parent
- They will follow the road rules
- They will wear shoes and a bike helmet
- They will not ride it in the school grounds or let other children ride their bike

CONTACT DETAILS FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

We sometimes need to contact parents urgently, so if you have moved to a new house or changed any of your contact email or phone numbers, please ensure you inform the school office of your new details.

Get a
Market Analysis
of your property in 30 Minutes.

YEAR 6 SCHOOL CAMP

A reminder that Year 6 students will be attending school camp on 9th, 10th and 11th June.

A deposit of \$100.00 should have been paid to the office by the end of 2020.

Final payments are due by 3.00pm -16th April 2021

Please see Karen in the school office if you have any questions or concerns.

PARENT / CHILD / TEACHER COMPLAINTS OR CONCERNS

From time to time, parents may have a concern over their child's education or something that is happening at the school. To ensure that these matters are dealt with effectively, we have a set of procedures for people to follow if they wish to bring these matters to our attention.

In the first instance, it makes sense to discuss the issue with your child's teacher as they are most likely to know and understand the circumstances that contribute to it. Sometimes for example, the child may be telling you about things that have not been brought to the attention of the teacher.

If the matter is more serious or if parents feel they wish to take the matter further, they may wish to bring it to the attention of one of our Deputy Principal's Elmarie Pentz or Mandy Barrett, Associate Principal Liz Crisp, or Principal Neil Robinson.

The Board of Trustees are only likely to deal directly with issues that are particularly serious or if parents have first gone through the steps outlined above. In these cases, the matter will need to be put in writing and delivered to the school office (letter or email) so that it can be passed onto the Board Chairperson. The issue is then likely to be dealt with at the next Board meeting and suitable action taken. A response from the Board will always be provided to the person who raised the issue.

In summary then, the procedure is:

- Discuss the issue with your child's teacher
- Then if you have further questions or concerns, ask for an appointment with one of our Deputy Principal's Elmarie Pentz or Mandy Barrett, Associate Principal Liz Crisp, or Principal Neil Robinson
- Or if the matter is very serious and has already been raised with the Principal, parents can make a written submission to the Board of Trustees

ENROLMENT 2021/2022

Do you have a child starting school in 2021 or 2022?

To help with our planning we ask parents to contact Leanne Hems in the school office on 627-9940 to make sure we have your child on our list of expected students in the school.

If you have any neighbours who are in-zone and who may have a child starting school this year, could you please ask them to contact us also.

Many thanks

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