



# Blockhouse Bay Primary School

*We Seek - We Strive - We Soar*

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whanau,

We think that Term One has been an excellent start to the school year and I am sure that the children have had many highlights. I was lucky enough to see some of the Mangere Mountain trip in action last week and was very impressed with this experience and how engaged the children were in the learning. The trip was organised and overseen for everyone by Room 6 teacher Whaea Jas which was a huge job so thank you from everyone Jasmin.

The weather was against us on Tuesday and so we needed to postpone the Rimu and Kauri Cross Country. Fingers crossed all is well for tomorrow morning, but if it is not, we plan to have the event take place at 1.50pm on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May.

The school itself got off quite lightly from this week's storm although of course, the Council trees have damaged our fence quite badly. Luckily the falling trees missed the turf entirely! Hopefully everything will be cleaned up by the start of the new term.

Lastly, thank you to organisers Bo Singh and Fiona Marquardt, as well as the dedicated team of helpers who assisted with running of the two discos last Friday. It was great to see the children enjoying themselves and I am sure they appreciated the work you all put in to make this such a success.

Have a great holiday break everyone.  
Neil Robinson - Principal

## INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS



Year 6 pupil Miya Chen recently achieved international success, so we asked her to explain to us just exactly what she did to achieve this.

*Pokemon TCG is a strategic trading card game. You must have 60 playable cards in your deck (there are a few thousand different cards to choose from). Every card has a different ability. When you verse someone you must have a good memory and smart strategies to beat your opponent. Recently I went to Perth to attend to the*

*Australian regionals of Pokemon TCG (one of the biggest events in Oceania). The junior division had 5 rounds and a top cut of four people (where the top four people battled). I was in the top four and did an extra two rounds. I was happy when I came first place! My next competition is in Indonesia for the Oceania Regionals in the school holidays. My goal is to earn my invitation to attend the world championship competition in the USA.*

Miya Chen & Pokemon TCG (Pokemon Trading Card Game)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS TERM ONE – 2018

- Fri 13<sup>th</sup> April - Postponement day for Rimu & Kauri Cross Country - 9.30am start
- Sausage Sizzle and Mufti Day - \$2 donation please.
- Term One Ends at 3.00pm

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS TERM TWO – 2018 (Mon 30<sup>th</sup> April – Fri 6<sup>th</sup> July)

- Mon 30<sup>th</sup> April - 8.50am-School Commences Term Two
- Tues 1<sup>st</sup> May - Rimu and Kauri Cross Country (if needed)
- Mon 7<sup>th</sup> May - Kauri Assembly - 2.00pm
- Tues 8<sup>th</sup> May - ICAS Digital Technologies Exam
- Tues 8<sup>th</sup> May - Teddy Bears Picnic
- Tues 8<sup>th</sup> May - Interschool Cross Country
- Tues 8<sup>th</sup> May - Kowhai Assembly -2.30pm
- Fri 11<sup>th</sup> May -Rimu Assembly - 2.00pm
- Mon 14<sup>th</sup> May -Lit Quiz for selected students
- Tues 15<sup>th</sup> May -Pohutukawa Assembly-2.30pm
- Tues 15<sup>th</sup> May -Interschool Cross Country (Save Day)
- Mon 21<sup>st</sup> May -Kauri Assembly - 2.00pm
- Tues 22<sup>nd</sup> May -Kowhai Assembly -2.30pm
- Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> May -BYOD Evening - PAC - 6.30pm
- Fri 25<sup>th</sup> May -West Auckland Interschols Chess
- Fri 25<sup>th</sup> May -Rimu Assembly - 2.00pm
- Tues 29<sup>th</sup> May -ICAS Science - 9am
- Tues 29<sup>th</sup> May -Junior Cross Country (9.15-10.30am)
- Tues 29<sup>th</sup> May -Pohutukawa Assembly
- Tues 29<sup>th</sup> May -Board of Trustees Meeting
- Thurs 31<sup>st</sup> May -Whole School Assembly - 2pm
- Fri 1<sup>st</sup> June -Junior Cross Country - Savings Day
- Mon 4<sup>th</sup> June -Queen's Birthday (no school this day)
- Tues 5<sup>th</sup> June -Kowhai Assembly - 2.30pm
- Fri 8<sup>th</sup> June -Rimu Assembly - 2.00pm
- Tues 12<sup>th</sup> June -Pohutukawa Assembly-2.30pm
- Wed 13<sup>th</sup> June -ICAS Spelling and Writing
- Mon 18<sup>th</sup> June -Kauri Assembly - 2pm
- Tues 19<sup>th</sup> June -Kowhai Assembly -2.30pm
- Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> June -Rimu Assembly - 2.00pm
- Tues 26<sup>th</sup> June -Pohutukawa Assembly -2.30pm
- Tues 26<sup>th</sup> June -Board of Trustees Meeting
- Wed 27<sup>th</sup> June -Interschool Gymnastics Competition
- Fri 29<sup>th</sup> June -School Reports are sent home
- Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> July -Kauri Assembly - 2pm
- Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> July -Kowhai Assembly-2.30pm
- Wed 4<sup>th</sup> July -Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences (School will close at 1.00pm)
- Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> July -Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Fri 6<sup>th</sup> July -Rimu Assembly - 2.00pm
- Fri 6<sup>th</sup> July -Term Two Ends



# Blockhouse Bay

## KAURI AND RIMU CROSS COUNTRY

Due to bad weather this will now be held tomorrow (Friday 13<sup>th</sup> April) at 9.30am. Parents and caregivers are most welcome to come and support the children in this event and chat to them afterwards, although we would like them to stay at school until the end of the day.

Results will be published in our first newsletter next term and the top place holders will go on to represent our school in the Interschool Cross Country on the 8<sup>th</sup> May.

If the weather is too bad tomorrow, we will postpone again until 1.50pm on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> May.

## SWIMMING POOL

On behalf of all of the pool users, we would like to thank our Pool Committee who gave up their time to look after the pool over the last four months. This group made sure that the area was always well presented and also looked after the pool covers in the afternoon and quite a few mornings. Our sincere thanks go to **Renee and Vaughan Perry, Louis Matson, Jo Chisolm, Samantha Faulkner, Fiona Marquardt, Sharon Alexander, Mel van Sambeck and Agnus Raki.**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

We have a range of interesting and exciting events coming up next term and all of the classes will be involved in some of them. For example, parents of year 4-6 children are invited to attend the digital technology information evening that is happening on the evening of Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May.

All parents are encouraged to look through the Term Two Calendar of Events on the front page of this newsletter and make a note of items that will apply to their child or children.

## SCHOOL SURVEY

One of the questions that we asked parents in the 2017 survey was what they thought about the amount of homework their child is asked to do.

Only 4% (3 people) felt that their child receives too much homework. 39% (29 people) felt that the school does not set enough and 57% (43 people) were of the opinion that their child receives exactly the right amount of homework. The comments too were interesting and varied and the teachers have taken this information on board when setting homework this year. As can be seen by the results, we are never going to please everyone no matter what we do, however, our goal is to encourage families to do some home learning that reinforces what is happening in the classroom.

Please contact your child's teacher if you have any questions about Home Learning.

## 2019 TERM DATES

New Zealand schools have to be open for the same number of days each year and some flexibility is allowed for start and finish dates. We are very much aware that we are never going to please all the people all the time, but some parents have told us that they would prefer us starting school later in the year (as they are on holiday or out of the country with their children), or that they prefer us to be open for later in the year so that their children are at school longer in the lead up to Christmas. We are aware too that there are other points of view on this. We usually go for the '*early start/early finish*' option but to be fair to the other group, next year we decided to mix it up and go for the '*later start/later finish*' option.

We like to give parents as much notice as possible for our term dates so that they can arrange their holidays at a time when the school is not open for instruction, so as to maximise learning time.

The Board of Trustees have decided to have the following dates for next year.

Term One	-	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> February	-	Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> April
Term Two	-	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	-	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July
Term Three	-	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	-	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> September
Term Four	-	Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	-	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December

## SCHOOL CROSSING

Let's keep our children safe on the school crossing. **We desperately need a parent helper** for either Thursday or Friday morning before school; from 8.10am to 8.40am.

Please contact Mrs Addison: [helena@blockhousebay.school.nz](mailto:helena@blockhousebay.school.nz) or phone the school 096279940 and leave a message to say you can help.

## FLIPPA BALL RESULTS

BHB won 6-0, which means 3rd overall. A good result. Player of the day was Salik.


## PTA NEWS

# TOMORROW

Friday 13th April - Mufti day (gold coin) and Sausage Sizzle \$2.00 (halal available)

## DISCO NEWS


Wow! How much fun was that?! Such AWESOME Disco atmosphere was in the air last Friday night in & around the PAC!

Lots of glitz n' glam appeared as local ★ □ Bollywood/Hollywood ★ □ Stars (mainly  kids) came out for the 1st Disco Night of the year! And those dance moves - you guys were sensational!!

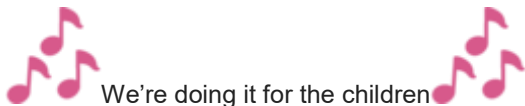


### A big shout out has to go to :

- the Amazing parent / teacher helpers - may you continue to 'glow'!!
- ALVIN the DJ of the night!! - Mr Cool, calm & accommodating, taking requests from both young & once young!

• Bo for his part in organising this fun fundraising event, (especially the pizza  & the awesomeness of fairy lights everywhere! Love it!! We'll keep you on!

Thank you to everyone for supporting this FAB event & helping make the 1st Disco of the year happen!



We're doing it for the children ....(and a NEW middle play area )!!

See you on Friday 13th April □ Mufti Day & Sausage Sizzle

Like our Facebook page for more updates- Blockhouse Bay Primary School PTA

Email [pta@blockhousebay.school.nz](mailto:pta@blockhousebay.school.nz) with subject "friend" to join our mailing list.

**HAVE A GREAT HOLIDAY BREAK EVERYONE - SEE YOU ON 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### ONLINE TUTORING AVAILABLE

A group of innovative students from local school AIC have been tutoring students for some years and have decided to extend this to an on-line platform. They are offering free assistance in English and Maths for Year 4 to 13 children.

The group have around 15 tutors available offering one-to-one tutoring in an Online Classroom that has interactive whiteboard and video calling features. If you are interested in finding out more, please see the contact details on the following website - <https://heronz.org/enrol/> or <https://heronz.org/about/>

# Talk to more buyers, **talk to me.**



**Get moving, get Michael.**

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