



Blockhouse Bay

Primary School

We Seek - We Strive - We Soar

13th December 2017

SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR THE YEAR ON Friday 15th December AT 1.30pm

Please ensure that you have made arrangements
for your children from this time. (no after school care on this day)

家长们请注意·周五·十二月15日, 学校1:30放学。请安排接孩子·当天下午没有After school care课后

班。谢谢。

PRINCIPAL'S SOAPBOX

Dear Parents, Caregivers and family members,
Congratulations once again to everyone who took part in the school's annual Carnival. The event raised just over \$17500 which is very similar to the profit from last year's event.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their contribution to the children's education this year. People often talk to me about the school's great reputation and this is very much a team effort with children, parents, staff members and the community combining to create a fun and fulfilling place of learning.

Well done to all of the children who have done their best to achieve so well during 2017. The adults that support you, love to see you all enjoying your learning and hope that you enjoyed getting feedback about this in your end of year report.

Congratulations to the Year 6 students who were recognised at today's Graduation. You can be proud of the progress you have made at BHB and we look forward to hearing about your future success.

To those of you who are leaving us for the last time on Friday, good luck to you all. We are very much aware that for some parents, this brings the close to their connection with the school. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the work you have done over the years to support us to help your child.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank this year's newsletter sponsors who help us by reducing the cost of keeping families up to date with what is happening at school. Whilst a lot of parents like the digital versions, a number of people tell us that they also like the hard copy so we are happy to continue to provide this.

I hope you all have a wonderful holiday break.

Neil Robinson
Principal

CALENDAR OF EVENTS TERM ONE-2018

Thursday 25th / Friday 26th - 10am-2pm. School office open for uniform and stationery sales.

Tues 30th January - School Commences- 8.50am. Please ensure children are at school by 8.30am each day.

Tues 6th Feb - Waitangi Day (No school this day)

Wed 7th Feb - Meet the Family Conferences
(School closes 12.45pm, After School Care will run from 12.45pm)

Wed 7th Feb - Diversity Day (see note in this newsletter)

Wed 7th Feb - 6.30pm. Meeting for parents on Yr6 Camp

Thurs 8th Feb - Meet the Family Conferences - 3.30-5.00pm

Wed 14th -16th Feb - Year 6 Camp - Lakewood Lodge

Thurs 15th Feb - Chinese New Year recognised at school

Mon 19th Feb - Kauri Assembly - 2pm - PAC

Thurs 1st March - Whole School Assembly - 2pm

Mon 5th March - Kauri Assembly - 2pm - PAC

Mon 19th March - Kauri Assembly - 2pm - PAC

22nd March - 5th April - Visits to Te Pane ote Mataoho
(Mangere Mountain) as part of our study on local history - dates for when rooms will go, to be advised

Fri 30th March - Tues 3rd April - No School - Easter Break
Note that the Education Act states that schools have to be closed on Easter Tuesday

Fri 13th April - Term One Ends 3.00pm

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Blockhouse Bay

EARLY FINISH THIS FRIDAY

A reminder that school closes for the year **Friday 15th 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 Friday.

LIBRARY BOOKS BACK

We are doing a stock take of our library books and would appreciate all of our books being returned to school tomorrow. Thank you.

TREAT DAY - Thursday 14th December (no charge) - TOMORROW

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 non-halal sausages from the Carnival and will be giving these away to the children on the day also at no cost. (see PTA note below)

SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL HELPERS 2018

Adult helpers are wanted for one morning a week - starting at 8.10 finishing at 8.40am to help supervise the school crossing. We need your help to ensure the safety of our children when coming to school in the morning - contact Mrs Addison; helena@blockhousebay.school.nz or phone the school 6279940 and leave a message.

LAST CHANCE TO CHECK THE FOUND PROPERTY

Please check the large group of clothing items that are in the Lost Property room.

All items left after tomorrow (14th December) that are un-named, will be given away as we do not want to be storing these until next year.

PTA NEWS

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone for supporting the PTAs fundraising events this year.

FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE tomorrow (Thursday) to go with the school MUFTI and MOVIE treat day.

We have some non-halal sausages left over from the Carnival and these will be given to children for free on this day.

THINKING ABOUT JOINING THE PTA?

Parents are asked to think seriously about joining our friendly group next year. The time contribution is definitely negotiable and the sense of satisfaction about making a difference for current and future Blockhouse Bay Primary School children is really great.

Annette Bradley has done a superb job of leading the PTA over the last two years but has chosen to step down from this role. We are also looking for someone to take on the position of treasurer. Gina Walters has been our ever-reliable treasurer for years now and is looking to train someone else to pick up these duties. Please feel free to contact us on pta@blockhousebay.school.nz if you are thinking of becoming a PTA member and we can discuss this with you.

MAGIC KINGDOM CHILDCARE VOUCHER- Do you have a pre-schooler at or starting Magic Kingdom child care centre on Boundary Rd or Chrysalis Early Learning centre in Avondale? We have a voucher for 4 weeks fees, stationary fee, enrolment fee worth \$1190. We are offering it for less than half price at \$500 (or nearest offer). Email pta@blockhousebay.school.nz before Wednesday 13th December for more details.

Facebook- Blockhouse Bay Primary School PTA

HIRING OF POOL KEYS - Get yours before the holidays!

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 a very reasonable cost. To get a copy of the hireage rules 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.

2018 TERM DATES

We always like to give parents plenty of notice of our school dates so that holidays are not planned during term times. The term dates for **next year** are:

Term One	Tuesday 30th January - Friday 13th April	(11 weeks)
Term Two	Monday 30th April - Friday 6th July	(10 weeks)
Term Three	Monday 23rd July - Friday 28th September	(10 weeks)
Term Four	Monday 15th October - Friday 14th December	(9 weeks)

STATIONERY / UNIFORM SALES

Details about how to order your child's stationery for 2018 was sent home with the children's reports today. Please contact the school office before the end of this week if you have any questions about this process.

If you are unable to purchase the stationery online or wish to buy school uniform, please come to the school office between **10am-2.00pm from Thursday 25th and Friday 26th January 2018.**

Alternatively you can order online through the school website and your order will be delivered to your child's class in Week 1.

MEET THE FAMILY MEETINGS

This year's 'MEET THE FAMILY' meetings were very popular so we are repeating them again at the start of 2018. This format provides an opportunity for parents, families and teachers to meet face-to-face early in the year to get to know one another so that they can share information and priorities for 2018.

We are holding parent/ child/ teacher meetings on Wednesday 7th February and Thursday 8th February and parents will be able to book a 15 minute block of time that suits them. Bookings will open at the end of January and details will be available in the first newsletter of the year.

So that all families can meet the teacher, we will need to **close early at 12.45pm on Wednesday 7th February.** (Thursday 8th is normal finish time.)

The goal of this meeting is for everyone to get to know one another and for families to share important information so that we can all work together to help your child learn the best they can in 2018.

PURCHASING OF STATIONERY IN 2018

Earlier this year, we had several meeting with parents regarding purchasing of stationery for school. Whilst there was a mix of opinions, some parents wanted the option of going around and buying their own items for their children. Our main issue with this arrangements was that in the past, this has led to some children coming to school with low quality items which were not useful for school. However, we have decided to trial a new system in 2018, where people can either order on-line as they have done previously, or go and collect the items themselves. We do need to emphasise though that the children need to have **exactly** the correct stationery items for the year.

If you do wish to purchase your child's stationery online as we have done previously, the instructions are listed below.

Stationery will not be sold from the office in 2018, this can be purchased online through Officemax.

Go to www.myschool.co.nz/blockhousebayprimary . Enter your child's name (you "do not" need to enter a "Student ID").

Choose 'your child's syndicate **eg Rimu**' stationery pack and this will link you straight through to your child's stationery requirements.

Your order will be delivered to your home. Bring to school on the **first day of Term 1 - Tuesday 30th January 2018.**

DIVERSITY DAY

Our overarching concept for learning for terms 1 and 2 is titled 'Know Me, Know Others, Know How'. To support the children to start thinking about 'Know me and Know Others', we plan to celebrate with a Diversity Day. This event proved really popular when we ran it in 2016 and so we are looking forward to having the children take part in this experience again in February. We want to celebrate our diverse community by asking the children to wear clothing and/or bring a small plate of food to share with their class which is representative of their culture or background.

More details will be provided in our first newsletter next year, but parents will be invited to join us for this celebration from 11-12.45pm on this day.


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