



Blockhouse Bay

Primary School

We Seek - We Strive - We Soar

17th August 2017

PRINCIPAL'S SOAPBOX

The big day is finally here and we will be opening the new turf tomorrow. Parents and family members are very welcome to join us for the celebration of this event tomorrow afternoon from 4.00pm. A reminder too that tomorrow is a mufti day and there is no charge for this.

Congratulations to all of the children who represented the school at yesterday's big winter field day. This event has over 600 children from across the region taking part in netball, rippa rugby, hockey and netball and we were very pleased that the weather allowed the day to take place. The reports I have got back so far have said that the children had a great day and behaved in ways that would make us all proud, so well done to you all. Thank you too to the parents who helped us with supervision and coaching. A more detailed report from the day will be provided in next week's newsletter.

Have a great week everyone!

Neil Robinson

Principal



DAFFODIL DAY - 25th AUGUST 2017

Every year at Blockhouse Bay Primary we support the Cancer Society Daffodil Day by selling Daffodils at the school office. Children can bring a gold coin donation on this day and receive a daffodil and sticker. This year we have 50 Windmills available at \$2.00 each. These will be sold to the first 50 students with their \$2.00 at the school office on the day.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TERM THREE

Due to the Rimu Production please note the change of some assembly times.

Fri 18th August - *Green Mufti Day & Turf Opening*

Tues 22nd August - *Kowhai Assembly - 2.30pm*

Thursday 24th August - *Year Six students visit BBI*

Thurs 24th August - *Whole School Assembly-2pm*

Fri 25th August - *Daffodil Day*

Fri 25th August - *Rimu Assembly - 2pm*

Mon 28th August - *Kauri Assembly - 2.15pm*

Fri 1st September - *Pohutukawa Assembly - 2.30pm*

Fri 1st September - *PTA Disco evening*

Year 0-2 5.00 -6.00pm, Year 3-6 6.30-8.00pm

Tues 5th September - *Kowhai Assembly - 2.30pm*

Mon 11th Sept - *Kauri Assembly - 2.15pm*

Fri 15th Sept - *Pohutukawa Assembly - 2.30pm*

Fri 15th Sept - *Gymnastics Champion of Champions*

Tues 19th Sept - *Rimu Production Matinee 11.30am*

Wed 20th Sept - *Rimu Production Evening Show 7.00pm*

Thurs 21st Sept - *Rimu Production Show - 7.00pm*

Mon 25th & Tuesday 26th Sept - *School Photos*

Tues 26th Sept - *Kowhai Assembly - 2.30pm*

Thurs 28th Sept - *Pohutukawa Assembly - 2.30pm*

Fri 29th Sept - *Mufti Day / Sausage Sizzle*

Last day of Term 3 - 3.00pm finish

OPENING OF NEW TURF – Friday 18th August - TOMORROW

It didn't happen overnight but it is about to happen!

The completion of this project is upon us and we are going to recognise this achievement in a way that recognises how significant the new turf will be to the school and community, both now and in the future.

- 'Green' Mufti Day - children are encouraged to wear mufti on this day and if possible, wear something green - to match the main colour of the new turf. There is no charge as we just want to celebrate the day in a fun way.
- There will be a 'School Opening Ceremony' for the children during the day.
- 4.00pm - 'Official Opening Ceremony' - this is an opportunity for all families to join us for an event that truly celebrates the occasion. The schedule for the afternoon will be:
 - 4.00pm Staff from Sport Waitakere will organise fun events for the children
 - 4.45pm Speeches and ribbon cutting
 - 5.00pm End of opening, but families are welcome to 'play on'

Some food trucks will be there for snacks if people are interested.

Hope to see you there!

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STAFFING UPDATE

This week, we welcomed Sarina Rogerson to the staff who will be working as a learning assistant in classrooms in the weeks and months to come. Mrs Rogerson has a lot of experience in helping children with their learning and we are very lucky to have secured her services.

MATH-A-THON 2017

Students have been tested by their class teacher to set basic fact challenges appropriate for your child. The children are given practice sheets to learn as well as a sponsor sheet to start collecting sponsors and money. Math tests will take place during the week of September 4th. There will be spot prizes, class prizes and prizes for children who collect the most money. All sponsorship forms must be returned by Friday 22nd September to be eligible for prizes.

Thank you for supporting this fundraiser. Funds will be used to upgrade the playground area in front of Rooms 12-15 into a new play and learning area.



CAKES, LOLLIES AND TREATS AT SCHOOL

In 2016, we publicised a decision that we had made not to allow families to bring in things like birthday cakes and other treats, to give out to the children. Often this was because it was a child's birthday and although this is quite generous, it did present us with some issues and these included:

- Some children's parents did not want their children to have these treats
- Some children are allergic to some ingredients or for religious or cultural reasons, are not supposed to eat certain foods. For these reasons some parents asked us not to allow this to happen
- Some children felt bad that other children's parents brought treats to school and theirs did not.

For these and other reasons, we ask parents not to send food or other items to school for children.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

It is in everyone's best interest to make sure that our school is a safe and healthy place and we have lots of policies and procedures to help ensure that this is so. One of the requirements is that apart from people dropping off or collecting their children, **all adults who come to school must sign in at the school office.** We therefore will insist that everyone who is coming to school during school hours, signs in at the office.

CONTACT DETAILS - have you made a change?

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.

UNIFORM SHOP HOURS

The uniform shop is open on the following days and times:

Monday - 8.30am-8.50am Tuesday 10.20 - 10.40am Thursday - 3.00 -3.20pm

If you are unable to purchase uniform items at these times please contact the school office or you can purchase through kindo on the school website www.blockhousebay.school.nz

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 following dates have been approved by our Board of Trustees meeting. The Board took into account that Blockhouse Bay Intermediate School and Lynfield College have similar breaks and we know that parents would like us to line up with these wherever possible. 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)

CHILDREN STARTING SCHOOL - In Zone

Do you or your neighbour have a child turning five next year?

To help us with our planning we would like to have the details of when the child will be commencing school with us.

Please phone the school office on 627-9940 and we will add them on our enrolment schedule and give you the information required to enrol them at school.

PTA NEWS

Friday Milo and cookies available from the PAC kitchen every Friday this term. \$1 for a warm cup of Milo and a cookie after the second lunch bell.

Friday 1st September - School disco - "Step back in time"
Year 0-2 from 5-6pm Years 3-6 from 6:30-8pm

Come dressed as any character from history - pirate, princess, knights, dinosaur, 80's glam or anything you like! \$5 entry at the PAC. Food, drinks and glow products for sale. We do need adult help to run the disco so please email pta@blockhousebay.school.nz if you can help at either disco or if you can donate a plate of baked goodies to sell. Thanks for your support.

Next PTA meeting on Monday 28th August at 7:30pm in the staffroom. We would love to see some new faces so please feel free to come along.

If you can't attend the meetings, become a Friend of the PTA by emailing pta@blockhousebay.school.nz with the subject "Friend". ALSO like our Facebook page - Blockhouse Bay Primary School PTA

Parenting Advice - Resiliency Robbers

Feel free to ignore this advice as it is just one person's opinion

All parents have the best of intentions when raising their children. Sometimes, wanting what is best for kids can cause parents to make decisions that are not always in their (children's) long-term best interests.

If you buy the line that the promotion of resilience is in the best interests of kids then check out the following common parenting mistakes that reduce children's resilience.

Robber # 1: Fight all their battles for them

Nothing wrong with going into bat when children struggle or meet with difficulty inside or outside school but make sure this is the last resort, not the first option.

Resilience notion # 1: Give kids the opportunity to develop their own resourcefulness.

Robber # 2: Make their problem, your problem.

Sometimes parents can take too much responsibility for issues that are really up to children to work out or decide. Here's a clue if you are wondering what I am talking about: a jumper is something a mother puts on her son when she is cold!

Resilience notion # 2: Make their problem, their problem.

Robber # 3: Give kids too much voice.

In this era of giving children a voice it is easy to go overboard and allow them too much of a say in what happens to them. Kids often take the easy option to avoid hard or unpleasant situations.

Resilience notion # 3: Make decisions for kids and expect them to adjust and cope.

Robber # 4: Put unrealistic or relentless pressure on children to perform.

Expectations about success and achievement are important. Too low and kids will meet them. Too high and kids can give up. Too much and kids can experience anxiety.

Resilience notion # 4: Keep expectations in line with children's abilities and don't put excessive pressure on them.

Robber # 5: Let children give in too easily.

Resilient learners link success with effort. They don't give up because they don't like a teacher or when confronted with multi-step or more complex activities. Similarly they don't bail out of a sporting team half way through the season because the team is not winning or they are not enjoying it.

Resilience notion # 5: Encourage kids to complete what they have started even if the results aren't perfect.

Robber # 6: Neglect to develop independence.

Don't wait until they are teenagers to develop the skills of independent living. Start early and promote a broad skill set so that they can look after themselves if you are not around.

Resilience notion # 6: Don't routinely do for kids what they can do for themselves.

Robber # 7: Rescue kids from challenging or stretch situations.

There are many times children are put in situations that are outside their comfort zones for a time. For instance, giving a talk, singing at the school concert or going on school camp may be challenges for some kids. They are all situations that children usually cope with so show your confidence in them and skill them up rather than opt for avoidance.

Resilience notion # 8: Overcoming challenges enables kids to grow and improve.

Sometimes the manageable hardships that children experience such as a friend moving away, not being invited to a party or completing a difficult school project are fabulous learning opportunities.

They help children to stretch and grow. Dealing with them effectively also teaches kids that they are capable of coping when they meet some of life's curve balls. And that is a huge lesson to learn at any age.

Make your move
this winter...

Get moving, get Michael.

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