



Blockhouse Bay

Primary School

We Seek - We Strive - We Soar

Thursday 20th February 2020

Dear Parents and Whanau,

Congratulations to everyone who played a part in last week's year 6 camp. Although the high temperatures proved challenging, the superb organisation and behaviour of the children made sure that it was a real success. Thank you to all of the parents who gave up their work time to come and help with the camp, without whom, we could not have gone. Well done too to camp leader Mrs Crisp, the teachers and Karen in the office who did the planning, preparation and supervision.

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.

The long-awaited opening of the pool will hopefully happen next week and I know that the children will be looking forward to this. We apologise to everyone for this delay and hope that this won't have to happen again for a loooooonng time!

Have a great week everyone

Neil Robinson
PRINCIPAL



TERM ONE CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2020	
Further dates will be published in the First Newsletter next year. Please check the calendar weekly as dates and times may change.	
Mon 17th-28th Feb	Dental Caravan at school
Fri 21st Feb	2.15pm-Rimu-Te Raranga Assembly
Tues 25th Feb	2.30pm - Kowhai Assembly
Wed 26th Feb	Y5/6 T Ball Tournament
Fri 28th Feb	2.15pm-Rimu -Kete Whanau Assembly
Mon 2nd March	2.15pm-Kauri Assembly
Tues 3rd March	2.30pm Pohutukawa Assembly
Wed 4th March	Y5/6 T Ball Savings Day
Fri 6th March	2.15pm -Rimu-Te Raranga Assembly
Tues 10th March	2.30pm - Kowhai Assembly
Fri 13th March	2.15pm -Rimu-Kete Whanau Assembly
Mon 16th March	2.15pm Kauri Assembly
Tues 17th March	2.30pm Pohutukawa Assembly
Wed 18th March	Y5/6 Cricket Field Day
Fri 20th-Sat 21st March	School Centenary
Tues 24th March	2.30pm - Kowhai Assembly
Fri 27th March	2.15pm -Rimu-Kete Whanau Assembly
Mon 30th March	2.15pm Kauri Assembly
Fri 3rd April	2.15pm -Combined Rimu Assembly
Tues 7th April	2.30pm - Kowhai Assembly
Wed 8th April	2.00pm - Whole School Assembly
Thurs 9th April	3.00pm -Term One Ends



Blockhouse Bay

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

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MY EXPERIENCE AT CAMP

On Wednesday the 14th of February, the year sixes went to camp at the Lakewood Lodge. We took a 1 ½ hour bus ride to get there and then we picked out our rooms. After that, we lined up with our groups and got ready for our first activity. The activities were kayaking, horse riding, ziplining, minefield/game room, archery, frisbee golf, rock climbing and low ropes. We also had a few night activities which were wide games and a burma trail. There was also a waterslide and at the end of the waterslide was a small pool of mud.

My favourite activities were kayaking, horse riding and ziplining. With kayaking, first you learned how to paddle and then we played two games. The first one was like paper, scissors, rock but everyone started off as an egg and if you won a match, you would become a dinosaur, then money, then human and finally a superhero but if you lost the match, you would have to restart. The second game was that we had to connect our kayaks and then one person would try to crawl across the kayaks and dunk themselves into the pond. At the end, we got to jump in the water.

With horse riding, we got to have three turns on the horse and on each turn, you would get to do something different with the horse such as picking a cone from one pole and put it on the other. With ziplining, first we had to put on a harness and a helmet. Once that was done, we waited for our turn. We each got four turns on it and you got to jump off the platform and zoom across the lake. At the end, you smashed into a mat and had to grab a rope otherwise you would get stuck in the middle. Overall, the camp was really really fun.

By Meghna Malik Room 6

Revised 2020 Dates

Term One Ends at 3.00pm on Thursday 9th April
Term Two Tuesday 28th April to Friday 3rd July
Term Three Monday 20th July to Friday 25th September
Term Four Monday 12th October to Tuesday 15th December

Teacher Only Days

- * Friday 29th May (Friday of Queen's Birthday weekend)
- * Friday 23rd October (Friday of Labour Weekend)
- * Friday 20th November
- * Wednesday 16th December (day after school closes at the end of the year)

CONTACT DETAILS FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

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

SWIMMING POOL

As we go to print the swimming pool is being filled. All going well we should be able to open this for swimming on the 24th February. Teachers will inform students about when they will be swimming. Pool keys are available from the school office for \$25.00 plus \$50.00 bond that will be refunded when the key is returned to the school.

STATIONERY FOR SCHOOL - Last day to order - Wednesday 26th February.

If you have not already purchased your child's stationery for school you can still purchase it online by going to www.myschool.co.nz/blockhousebayprimary enter your child's name and choose the pack that you require. They will deliver this to your home.

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.

THE SCHOOL DAY

The instructional school day goes from 8.50am - 3.00pm The children should arrive at school **no later than 8.30am** so that they can be ready for the start of the first lesson.

We prefer that no child should arrive in the school grounds before 8.15am as staff members are busy preparing for the day and cannot supervise children before this time. Whilst we realise that this does not suit all parents, we feel that the children's safety is very important. Please contact the school office for details about our Before School Care programme if you wish to have your child at school before 8.15am.

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

FAB NEWS

Hope you have all settled back into the 2020 school year! If you are new to the school, WELCOME! Our school PTA group is known as FAB (Fundraisers at Blockhouse Bay). We are a friendly group that meets once a month to organise fundraising events that go towards benefiting the children at School. We run events like sausages sizzles, discos, movie nights and our annual school Carnival. The fundraising efforts from FAB have gone towards some of the amazing facilities you see around the school, such as the school turf and the playgrounds. We are excited to see our latest fundraising goal come to fruition with the development of the new middle school playground.

If you are interested in finding out more about FAB and be involved in organising events at school, come along to our first meeting on **Monday 2nd March at 7pm** in the Staffroom. All are welcome! Feel free to email Jasmine at fab@blockhousebay.school.nz if you have any questions or queries. We would also love to hear from you if you have any suggestions on what we should fundraise towards next, or if you have any suggestions on fundraising events that we could run this year.

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


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