



Blockhouse Bay

Primary School

We Seek - We Strive - We Soar

Thursday 18th October 2018

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whānau,

Welcome back to another terms learning at Blockhouse Bay Primary School. I hope that you all had a great holiday.

Term Four is an action packed term with everything being squeezed into nine weeks. There are lots of highlights planned so please keep an eye on the Calendar of Events and other information that we send home. Remember you can always have this newsletter emailed directly to you. Simply go to the school's website, scroll to the bottom of the page and register your email address.

One of the major things that happens at school in term four of each year is the School Carnival which is being held on the 24th November (just 5 weeks away!). Please watch for information that will be coming home about this event and try to be available to help us on the day.

Have a week everyone.

Neil Robinson
Principal

CHESS TEAM SUCCESS

Congratulations to our chess team who were selected to represent Blockhouse Bay and West Auckland at the national championships in the holidays. Overall, they won 15 and drew three games out of the 28 that they played.

The team was made up of Akarsh Sharma, Abraham Deng, Xiaoyang Shen and Abraham Li. A huge congratulations to our number 1 player Abraham Deng who was placed first equal out of all the primary school chess players in New Zealand. A wonderful achievement!

KAURI AND RIMU ATHLETICS DAY - THURSDAY 25th OCTOBER (Next Week)

Athletics day for all Rimu and Kauri children will be held at Mt Smart Stadium. Late last term we sent a letter home with the children which provided more details. Please return permission slips and money to the office by Friday 19th October.

(tomorrow)

On the day students will be required to wear a coloured shirt specific to their age group:

7 year olds **BLUE**

8 year olds **GREEN**

9 year olds **RED**

10 year olds **WHITE**

11 year olds **BLACK**

Also hats, sunscreen, shoes, food and drink to last them the whole day will be necessary. Students may bring some money with them to purchase food available at the Mt Smart Stadium.

Any questions, please see Mrs Kilpatrick or Mrs Davies

CALENDAR OF EVENTS TERM FOUR – 2018

- Mon 22nd Oct -Labour Day - Public Holiday
No school this day
- Tues 23rd Oct -Kowhai Assembly - 2.30pm -PAC
-Board of Trustees Meeting - 6pm
- Wed 24th Oct -2019 Camp Meeting 7.00pm
for parents of current Year 5 students
- Thurs 25th Oct - Kauri and Rimu Athletics - Mt Smart
- Tues 30th Oct - Pohutukawa Assembly - 2.30pm
- Wed 31st Oct - BHB Primary Talent Show - 11.30am
- Mon 5th Nov -Kauri Assembly - 2.00pm - PAC
- Tues 6th Nov -Kowhai Assembly - 2.30pm -PAC
- Fri 9th Nov -Rimu Assembly - 2.00pm - PAC
- Tues 13th Nov -Whole School Assembly -2.00pm-PAC
- Wed 14th Nov -Interschool Athletics Day for selected students
- Thurs 15th Nov -Whole School Assembly
- Fri 16th Nov -Teacher Only Day - No school this day
- Tues 20th Nov -Kowhai Assembly -2.30pm - PAC
- Wed 21st Nov - BYOD Evening (DATE CHANGE)
- Sat 24th Nov -School Carnival Family Day
- Tues 27th Nov -Kowhai Challenge Day
- Tues 27th Nov -Pohutukawa Assembly -2.30pm-PAC
- Mon 3rd Dec -Kauri Assembly -2.00pm
- Tues 4th Dec -Kowhai Assembly -2.30pm
- Tues 4th Dec -Pohutukawa Camp Day
- Thurs 6th Dec -Rainbows End Day - Selected Students
- Fri 7th Dec -Rimu Assembly -2.00pm
- Mon 10th Dec -Pohutukawa Assembly - 2.30pm-PAC
- Tues 11th Dec -Year Six Graduation Assembly
- Thurs 14th Dec -Term Four Ends



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Blockhouse Bay

KNOWLEDGATHON 2018

Thank you to everyone who played an active role in improving their children's general knowledge and raising money for the school in this way. Nearly \$9000 was raised which was a great effort. This money will be used to help pay for the redevelopment of the playground area in front of Rooms 12-14 and we will have enough money to complete this task during 2019.

MEETING FOR PARENTS OF YEAR 5 CHILDREN - SCHOOL CAMP 2019 (Next Week)

We would like to meet with all **parents of our current year 5 children** on **Wednesday 24th October at 7.00pm**. The meeting will last for around an hour and will introduce parents to what will happen at camp next year. Parents will be given the opportunity to ask questions during and after the meeting if they prefer. Please make a note of this date if you have a child in Year 5 this year. We look forward to discussing this with you as it is always a real highlight of their primary school years.

SCHOOL TALENT SHOW

The Blockhouse Bay Talent Show auditions have now been completed and finalists will be notified tomorrow. These finalists will perform at a whole school assembly in two weeks' time on Wednesday the 31st of October, starting at 11.30am – all welcome. Many thanks to all who have taken part in this year's event, we certainly have an amazing array of talent at the school. There were just over 80 entrants and we only have places for a small number of acts - so please do not be too disappointed as many will not get to the finals. Please contact Mrs Addison if you have any questions regarding this exciting event.
helena@blockhousebay.school.nz

TEACHER ONLY DAY - Friday 16th November (Week 5)

On a Friday in November each year, we have a teacher only day to help our preparations for the following year's teaching and learning. Teachers come back to school in January anyway, but this helps us to get a head start on these plans. Please note that this year's teacher only day will be held on **Friday 16th November**. The school stays open for an additional day in December to make up for this lost learning time.

BLOCKHOUSE BAY SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY (Week 9)

This important and popular event is scheduled to take place on the afternoon of **Tuesday 11th December**. Parents of year 6 children in particular are asked to make a note of this date.

BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE MEETING - For families of Year 4 children DATE CHANGED TO 21st NOVEMBER

This initiative began at the start of last year and we believe that it has been very beneficial for the children's learning. It is quite likely that parents of current Year 4 children will want to know more about this idea so we are holding an information session on **Wednesday 21st November**, from 7.00-8.15pm. Although the evening is targeted towards parents of Year 4 children, everyone is very welcome to attend.

Please make a note of this date in your diary if you are interested in finding out more about how we use Chromebooks in our senior rooms. At this meeting, some children will show how they use the devices to enhance their learning and we will also have some suppliers in the room to answer questions about security and purchasing of Chromebooks.

We will also be having a guest speaker from 'Family Zone' who offer a Cyber safety ecosystem for parents to help keep their children safe online at home.

There will of course be opportunities for parents to ask questions as well.

PRINCIPAL'S SOAPBOX

In my position of Lead Principal for the Lynfield Kahui Ako (Community of Learning), I will be out of the school or carrying out work related to this responsibility for up to two days each week for the next two years. We receive some additional staffing to ensure that our school does not miss out and as part of this, we have chosen to make some adjustments to the senior leadership team and these are as follows:

- Elizabeth Crisp will be officially designated as the school's Associate Principal
- Mandy Barrett has been given the title of Deputy Principal and has responsibility for literacy across the school and children who have English as their second language
- Elmarie Pentz has been given the title of Deputy Principal and has responsibility for Pastoral Care and children with learning and/or behavioural needs.

I regret to inform everyone that at the time of going to print, the teacher's union has not been able to reach an agreement on issues related to the renegotiation of the Teacher's Collective Agreement and as signaled at the end of last term, further industrial action from the profession is now looking increasingly likely.

Voting is currently taking place on this, but unless an agreement can be reached, **my prediction** is that Auckland primary school **teachers and principals will be ON STRIKE ON MONDAY 12th NOVEMBER**. Given that almost all of our teachers are members of the NZEI, the school will need to be closed for instruction on this day.

I will keep everyone updated on this process, but parents and family members should be giving some thought as to who can be looking after their children on this day.

Regards

Neil Robinson

FUNDRAISERS AT BLOCKHOUSE BAY NEWS

Pizza lunches- these have started this week in association with Hell Pizza New Lynn and will run throughout this term EXCEPT next week due to Labour Day and Year 3-6 Athletics Day. Order forms are in class and at the office.

School Carnival- Saturday 24th November- 6 weeks to go!

White Elephant Drop off - Sunday 28th October - 2-4pm at the school pool. We accept good condition, pre-loved toys, books, games, homeware. No clothes or electrical items thanks. Items will be sold at carnival.

Jolly Jar MUFTI day - Friday 2nd November

Bring in a jolly jar if you would like to wear your own clothes on this day. Jolly jars are filled with mini toys, stickers, stationary, balloons, hair clips and the list goes on! Google "jolly jars" for image ideas. If you don't have a jar, just send the filling items in a bag and we'll make up the jar for you. Jars will be on sale at the school carnival.

Carnival Working Bee. - Sunday 4th November - 10am-12pm

Come and lend a hand with counting, sorting, tidying in preparation for carnival.

Lynmall Toyworld discount night for Blockhouse Bay Primary families. Friday 9th November 6:30-8:30pm
Flyers will be sent home with more details.

School Disco - Friday 2nd November

More details to follow in next week's newsletter

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