



**Blockhouse Bay**

Primary School

*We Seek - We Strive - We Soar*

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2019

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Whānau,  
Thank you for having your children home with you last Friday. The teachers spent the day planning for next year and this work will continue through to the start of February.

Well the big day is nearly here and our annual Carnival is only a matter of hours away. **The event will go ahead no matter what the weather** so dress accordingly and come and share in all the fun of the fair with us. To ensure that the day runs smoothly, please turn up in time to your allocated stall if you are one of the over 100 adults helping us on the day. Thank you in advance if you are one of our helpers.

The Pōhutukawa and Kōwhai Athletics Day is scheduled to take place on Monday morning. Let's hope the weather is fine for that too!

See you at the Carnival!!!

Neil Robinson  
Principal



**TERM FOUR CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

*Please check weekly as dates and times may change.*

<b>Fri 29th Nov</b>	2. 15pm - Rimu Kete Whānau Assembly
<b>Sat 30th Nov</b>	<b>School Carnival</b>
<b>Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec</b>	<b>Junior Athletics Day</b>
<b>Tues 3rd Dec</b>	2. 30pm Kōwhai Assembly
<b>Thurs 5th Dec</b>	Postponement Day Junior Athletics
<b>Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	Rainbows End trip for Y6 helpers
<b>Fri 6th Dec</b>	2. 15pm - Rimu Te Raranga Assembly
<b>Mon 9th Dec</b>	Pōhutukawa Camp Day
<b>Tues 10th Dec</b>	2. 30pm - Pōhutukawa Assembly
<b>Fri 13th Dec</b>	9.00am - Kauri Assembly
<b>Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	2. 15pm - Whole Rimu Assembly
<b>Fri 13<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	School Reports go home
<b>Tues 17<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	1. 30pm - Year 6 Graduation Ceremony (Te Whau)
<b>Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> Dec</b>	End of Term Four - 1.30pm Finish



Te Papakāinga Beach Clean up

On 19th November, the Year Five “Beaches and Oceans” inquiry group went down to Blockhouse Bay Beach for a beach clean up. We spent over an hour picking up rubbish. It was a lot of fun.

It surprised us when we saw how much rubbish there actually was on the beach. We found out that most of the rubbish we collected was single use like food packaging, fireworks and spray bottles. There were also many glass pieces and bottle tops. Next time you go to the beach, don't leave any litter.

**Save our beaches!**

Xin Ru



**Blockhouse Bay**

A future Pulitzer Prize winner will write her name for the first time...



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## LOOKING FORWARD TO 2020

Some changing circumstances have meant that we have made some decisions that will affect children and whānau next year. Please make a note of these details so that you are prepared for these dates.

### Meet the Family Meetings

'Meet the Family Meetings' are an opportunity for each child and family to meet their teacher and share important things together right at the start of the year. Each appointment is for 15 minutes. Some parents have told us that they struggle to get to these meetings that usually take place in the first couple of weeks of the new year. Some also find the fact that we send the children home early difficult to manage.

We have therefore decided to hold the '**Meet the Family Meetings' on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> January**. We are aware that this is still in the holidays, but we think that parents are more likely to be available as they would still be looking after their children at this time. It will also give each child the chance to personally meet their new teacher before school even starts!

Next week, we will publish details about how you can book a time to meet with your child's teacher. You will find out who this is on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

### Additional Teacher Only Days

In the last teacher employment contract negotiations, the Government decided to provide eight additional teacher only days for schools to use to help teachers cope with the additional demands that are on them because of increasing curriculum, assessment and reporting requirements. Our local primary and intermediate schools have decided to use two of these days in 2020 on the same days as each other. Unfortunately, High Schools are not part of this arrangement.

The Lynfield Kahui Ako schools (which include Blockhouse Bay Primary and Intermediate) have selected two days that we feel may impact positively on parents and whānau as well. These are **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May** (Queen's Birthday Weekend) and **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October** (Labour Weekend). This might not be the case for everyone but the thinking is that families might want to use this extra time to have an extended, long weekend.

### School Uniform

A reminder that 'old logo' Blockhouse Bay School uniform is not able to be worn to school from the start of 2020 onwards. Some people have expressed to us that some items are still in wearable condition and that this is a waste. There is an organisation that donates items to schools in the Pacific Islands and we often contribute to this cause. This group have offered to take any unwanted, old logo items to one of the Islands so that they can continue to be worn.

If you would like to donate your *washed* old logo uniform, please drop it off to the school office. They will pick these up in the middle of February, so that children can still wear them on the last day of 2019 if you wish.

## POHUTUKAWA AND KOWHAI JUNIOR ATHLETICS DAY

**When:** Monday 2nd December 2019

(save day Thursday 5th December)

**Time:** 9:15am to 11.30am (approx)

**Where:** On the main field at school.

You are all invited to come and support your children for this event, and then you could stay on and have lunch with your child after the activities 🍽️.



### **BLOCKHOUSE BAY SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY – Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

To celebrate our current Year 6's time at our school, we are having a prize giving and graduation ceremony for them. Parents/whānau of Year 6 students are welcome to attend this event. All children are initially able to have three family members attend, although there is sometimes the opportunity to obtain extra tickets if they are available. Please make a note of this date if you have a child who is in Year 6. Doors will open on the day at 12.50pm and we will start around 1.20pm. Please note that to prevent over-crowding, this is a ticket only event. More information regarding the graduation will be sent home soon.

### **LOST PROPERTY**

A reminder that there is a large amount of Lost Property in the cupboard next to the Manukau Block.

Please come and check if your child has lost any item of clothing etc because any items that are not collected will all be disposed of at the end of the school year. *(a reminder to name all your child's items)*

### **FLIPPA BALL RESULTS**

BHB 3 v St Michaels Dolphins 3

Player of the Day - Abby for her exceptional defence skills!

### **ORDER YOUR 2019 YEARBOOKS NOW!**

These are always a very popular memento of the school year and are in hot demand. Every child is featured in the Yearbook and children love looking back at the highlights from their year at school. Order forms will be sent home next Monday but feel free to contact the office if it does not make it home.

Yearbook purchases are on a first come first served basis and cost \$25 each.

We expect the 2019 Yearbook to arrive at school on or around the 10<sup>th</sup> December and we will send them home with the children as soon as they get here.

### **SWIMMING POOL OPEN LATE!**

As reported previously, the school pool needs to be closed until mid-January as it requires urgent repairs and painting that can only be completed in summer (for the paint drying process) which of course upsets our plans to swim this year. We apologise to everyone for this inconvenience.

Swimming in classes will therefore not take place until Term One 2020.



## **EXCITEMENT IS BREWING AT SCHOOL!!!!**

**The Carnival is on this Saturday from 10am-2pm.**

**The weather forecast is for SUNSHINE!!!!**

Bring your families and come enjoy a day of food, fun, and entertainment. Come along to support our School's fundraising efforts towards a new play space and outdoor learning area.

We still desperately need **helpers after school tomorrow** (Friday) - we need to start getting gazebos up, getting tables and chairs out etc. If you are able to stay around after school pick up, we would really appreciate your help.

**Don't forget** to drop off your delicious home baking to the Te Whau (PAC) tomorrow morning! THANK YOU!

SEE YOU ALL ON SATURDAY!!

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