



**Blockhouse Bay**  
Primary School  
*We Seek - We Strive - We Soar*

**Board of Trustees Elections - Voting closes tomorrow**

**Have your say in who governs the school!!**

**Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

With now just one more day of voting to go, we are very close to knowing who will be serving the school on our Board of Trustees. We have 8 exceptional candidates and I certainly understand how difficult it will be to narrow it down to just 5 choices. Please make sure that you have your say!

Quite a number of families have regular contact with our Deputy Principal Elmarie Pentz so we are just letting everyone know that she will be away from school for the remainder of the term for medical reasons. In her absence, Stacy Mclvor will be carrying out Mrs Pentz's roles in the school. I am sure that you will join me in wishing Elmarie all the best over this time.

Good luck to our swimming team who are representing us at the interschool event next week.

Lastly, good luck as well to all of the children who are taking part in the 40 Hour Famine this weekend. Going without for the benefit of others is a very kind thing to do and I hope that you cope well and raise lots of money for this worthy cause.

Have a great week everyone!  
**NEIL ROBINSON**  
PRINCIPAL

**Board of Trustee Elections**

We invite all of our parents to have their say in who governs the school for the next three years.

Reminder that voting closes noon this Friday 7th June.

- **you can hand deliver your voting papers to the school office before noon Friday 7th June.**

- if posting your vote you will need to post your voting papers no later than Thursday 6th June

- if you have not received voting papers please contact the School Office immediately

To make sure your vote counts, the voting paper needs to be returned in the envelope provided and only one voting form per envelope.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - TERM TWO - 2019	
<i>Please check weekly as dates can often change throughout the term.</i>	
Fri 7 <sup>th</sup> June	2.15pm Rimu- Te Raranga Assembly
Tues 11 <sup>th</sup> June	2.30pm - Pohutukawa Assembly
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Inter School Swimming for selected students
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> June	9.00am - Kauri Assembly
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Interschool Chess Tournament
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> June	2.15pm - Rimu- Kete Whanau Assembly
Tues 18 <sup>th</sup> June	2.30pm Kowhai Assembly
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> June	6.00pm - Board of Trustees Meeting
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> June	2.15pm - Rimu- Te Raranga Assembly
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Wacky Hair Day
Tues 25 <sup>th</sup> June	2.30pm - Pohutukawa Assembly
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Gymnastics Comp for selected students
Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> June	2.00pm Whole School Assembly
Tues 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> July	2.15pm - Rimu Whole Team Assembly
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> July	End of Term 2 - 3.00pm finish

and I hope that you cope well and raise lots of money for this worthy cause.

**PARENT / CHILD / TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Today, we are sending home information about how parents can book a time to meet with their child's teacher for the mid-year conferences. These take place on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. The teachers enjoy meeting with families to have these discussions so if these dates do not suit you, please organise a different time with your child's teacher.

Please note that school closes for the day at **12.45pm on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July** so that we have enough time for these meetings to take place. School finishes at the usual time of 3.00pm on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July.



**Blockhouse Bay**

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

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### **PARENT MEETING FOR *BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE* - Thursday 13th June - 6.30pm NEXT WEEK**

This meeting is open to all interested parents but is particularly targeted at those who have children in **Years 4-6**. At this meeting, students will be sharing what and how they learn on devices and teachers will be available to answer questions. We will also be having a guest speaker from 'Family Zone' who offer online software available for parents that monitors what their children are viewing in real time.

### **40 HOUR FAMINE – This weekend**

On the weekend 7th - 9th of June, students from our school are going to be taking part in the 40 Hour Famine. We will be supporting the children of South Sudan and giving up something we love for 20-40 hours. Children just like us have had to flee for their lives across the border to Uganda, becoming refugees. The things they've seen and experienced are hard to imagine and even harder to forget.

By taking part in the famine, we hope to help by fundraising for life-saving essentials like food and clean water, as well as foster care and education for the children of South Sudan. If your child is in Kauri and is interested in taking part, it isn't too late to get a sponsor book from Miss Ponniah in Room 2.

Let's show the world change is possible!

### **BEING ON TIME, IT'S A HABIT**

It is disruptive to the children's learning when others come to class late in the morning and it can be hard for the children who are late, to pick up what is going on in the lesson. Whilst one-off incidents sometimes occur, we find that there is usually a pattern of lateness with the same children turning up after the bell. It would be helpful to everyone if all children could please be at school by 8.30am. Thank you.

### **WACKY HAIR DAY - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June**

Wacky Hair Day is designed to provide a bit of extra fun in the school day whilst encouraging the children to donate a gold coin to a worthy cause, by dressing their hair up in a funny way. Wigs are fine but some families choose to dress up their children's hair in a whole range of ways. Because there can sometimes be some mess involved, the children are allowed to wear mufti on this day if they are taking part in Wacky Hair Day.

We will have a parade for Wacky Hair Day at 9.00am so we invite all parents to watch or even join in the fun.

Earlier in the year, we had planned to have a fundraiser for the Make A Wish Foundation but due to some challenging circumstances, this needed to be rescheduled. We have now decided to donate all of the proceeds for Wacky Hair Day, to this worthy cause.

The Make a Wish Foundation is an international fundraising agency that collects money to go to children who have serious health issues. They try to grant a wish to children who have had these experiences and these can range from a bedroom make over, to meeting someone famous to a special overseas trip.

We like to do something every year that benefits a group that is outside the school and two Blockhouse Bay School children have been beneficiaries from this charity in the past so we thought that this would be ideal.

### **NETBALL RESULTS - Week Ending 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2019**

BHB rubies (0) vs ACG Sunderland Spitfires (17) **Player of the day was Saawani Deshpande.**

No other games due to Queens Birthday

### **DO YOU HAVE A CHILD STARTING SCHOOL SOON?**

**Have you let us know that your child will be starting school at Blockhouse Bay Primary in 2019-2020?**

To help with our planning we need to know if your child or any of your neighbours children who are within our school enrolment zone will be attending Blockhouse Bay Primary. Please contact the school office on 627-9940 and we will confirm whether we have your child on our list or not. For information regarding out of zone enrolment please talk to an office staff member.

Thank you.

## PRINCIPAL'S SOAPBOX

There is always a lot of interest in the budget and certainly there was a lot of talk about last weeks 'Well Being Budget'. There were a few notable education-based initiatives and so I thought I would comment on them briefly. There are of course quite a few other aspects to the budget that could well impact on children and their education as well but these are the main ones that could effect us.

Today, the government is meeting with the teacher unions (NZEI and PPTA) in an attempt to come to an agreement on their new Collectives. Let's all hope that they can find a way to end this industrial action!

Initiative	Principal's comment
<b>Significant capital spending on buildings</b>	This is great news for the country's children and schools. Currently, we have no idea whether this will mean anything for Blockhouse Bay Primary but we hope that it does. Quite a lot of the spending will go towards building new schools although some will be spent on upgrading existing facilities.
<b>Learning Support Coordinators</b>	New Zealand's spending on supporting children with special needs is woefully inadequate, so any additional assistance in this area is welcomed. The details about how these people will work in schools is yet to be announced.
<b>\$150 per pupil for Decile 1-7 schools who decide not to charge parents School Donations.</b>	This will be a Board of Trustees decision and will depend on what conditions are included as part of this deal. On the surface of it, it would appear to be great for parents as they will not be asked to pay their school donation. If the Board do decide to opt into this scheme, it is unlikely that the school itself will be better off as the money will be about the same as what parents currently pay. We are unclear at this point how it will effect the FAB (PTA) Donation.
<b>1.8% increase in the annual grant to schools effective from 2020.</b>	Any increase in our funding is helpful, although this does not cover increased annual costs to schools.
<b>95 Million dollars to increase the number of people training to be teachers</b>	Many more teachers are needed to replace the ones who are leaving the profession and to teach the increasing numbers of children who will be arriving in our schools in the future, so this is a welcome initiative.

## COMMUNITY NOTICES



**MT ROSKILL INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL**

Parents and Prospective Students are invited to attend  
**Mt Roskill Intermediate  
EXPO and Open Day**  
TUESDAY 30 JULY 2019



Open Morning: 9.00am – 10.30am  
(A short presentation by the Principal at 9.20am)

Open Evening: 7.00pm – 8.30pm  
(A short presentation by the Principal at 7.20pm)

There will be tours of the school with current students, as well as an EXPO in the hall highlighting all that our school is proud to offer.

Come along and see the exciting learning, sporting and cultural opportunities and the caring environment that our students experience.

**Enrolment Packs are now available**  
[www.mri.school.nz](http://www.mri.school.nz)

Dear Families,  
Please can you check if you have any old bricks? We need some bricks to build a nature trail path for our bush. If you have some bricks please bring them to Room 23 because people are stepping on our plants.  
Thank you.  
From Elvin Li and the rest of Room 23



Based on my experience ...  
there are 4 areas sellers want to  
discuss prior to putting their home  
on the market with me...

1. The current local market and timing to get the home sold?
2. How to expose their property to the highest number of qualified buyers and to agents who control the buyers?
3. How much the property will realistically sell for?
4. And, ultimately why they should choose me as the agent to represent them.

If these are some of your  
questions "Ask Avinesh"  
over a cup of coffee...



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