



Blockhouse Bay

Primary School

We Seek - We Strive - We Soar

7th December 2017

SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR THE YEAR ON Friday 15th December AT 1.30pm

**Please ensure that you have made arrangements
for your children from this time. (no after school care on this day)**

家长们请注意 · 周五 · 十二月十五日, 学校1:30放学。请安排接孩子。当天下午没有After school care课后

班。谢谢。

PRINCIPAL'S SOAPBOX

Dear Parents, Caregivers and family members,

Congratulations and thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of the Blockhouse Bay School Carnival last weekend. The weather certainly played its part, but the help we received from over 150 people, certainly contributed to make the event such a success. Thank you to everyone who gave up their time to assist with this year's event. We are still working out the money side of things and hope to be able to announce the total raised, in next week's newsletter.

As always, the PTA did a superb job of organising the day and had met many times regularly throughout the year to organise the day for things like sponsors, signage, rosters and liaison with parent helpers, activities for people to do and where to put everything. This team was superbly led by Annette Bradley who spent hours and hours making sure that the event ran smoothly. Congratulations and thank you too, to the Carnival sub-committee of Gina Walters, Sheereen Ali, Jasmine Leaning, Alex Dacey, Travis and Nicki Brown, Antonius Gossen, Fiona Marquardt, Sonia Foster, Bronwyn Walters, Stephanie Hydes, Jan Llewellyn and their families for supporting the school in this way.

Well done to the children who performed at the Carnival. The size of the crowd for your items really showed how good you were. Thank you too to the school staff, who also gave up their own time to 'do their bit for the cause'. Congratulations and thank you to you all.

We would also like to thank our many parents and sponsors who provided goods and services at either school friendly prices or free. Our profits are greatly increased due to this generosity and we encourage everyone to support these companies who are supporting the school.

A reminder that school closes for the year on **Friday 15th December at 1.30p.m.** There will be **no After School Care** at all on that day. The Blockhouse Bay library have once again asked parents not to leave children unattended at the school library and this of course means when school closes early next week as well.

Please note as well that the **school office will close at 1.45pm** on the last day of term.

Please note that the final newsletter for this year will be sent home on Wednesday of next week.

Have a great week everyone

Neil Robinson

Principal



**MR ROBINSON AND FRIENDS TAKING PART
IN DUNK THE TEACHER ON CARNIVAL DAY**

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Blockhouse Bay

LIBRARY BOOKS BACK

We are about to do a stock take of our library books and would appreciate all of our books being returned to school tomorrow. Thank you.

ROOM 23'S LEMONADE STALL FOR SUSTAINABILITY

This term, as part of their Sustainability study, Room 23 have been researching ways they can produce their own food and drinks rather than buying packaged goods from the supermarket. The children discovered they had many lemons growing in their back gardens and thought as a class they could use them to make lemonade for a "Lemonade Stall". Thank you to all the junior children who came with their drink bottles to pour the lemonade in and the amazing parents from Room 23 who supported our cause.... we raised \$120 and as a class we have decided to donate the proceedings to SPCA and Starship Hospital.

YEAR 6 PRIZE GIVING AND GRADUATION: Wednesday 13th December Doors open at 12.50pm

Letters about this event have been sent out to families of Year 6 children. Please contact the office if you have not received this information. A reminder that this occasion lasts for around 90 minutes so is not suitable for pre-schoolers. Those attending are asked to please be seated ready to start at 1.20pm

TREAT DAY - Thursday 14th December (no charge)

On the second to last day of the year, we like to give the children the opportunity to spend time together in a social situation as a reward for all the hard work they have done. The children can wear mufti (they must still bring a hat) and at some stage, they will spend time with their classmates watching a movie. Given the amount of money that parents have given to the school across the year, there is no charge to families. In breaking news, the PTA have some left over sausages from the Carnival and will be giving these away (no charge) to the children on the day also at no cost. (see PTA note below)

YEARBOOK 2017

We currently have just 20 yearbooks left. Be in quick to get your copy.

SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL HELPERS 2018

Every morning between 8.10am and 8.50am we have a parent help supervise the school crossing. We are now looking for volunteers to help with this in 2018. If you can spare a morning once a week to come and help please leave a message at the school office and Helen Addison will contact you about this.

PTA NEWS

THANK YOU to everyone who was involved with the carnival on Saturday. So many people worked so hard to make the event a success and we hope you all had a great time.

FRIDAY LUNCH- this is the last week for Friday lunch orders and it is sushi only. Order forms are in class or at the office. Mini ice blocks are also available for the last time this term on Friday for \$1 after lunch eating.

FREE MUFTI AND SAUSAGE SIZZLE- Thursday 14th December

As a thank you for your support throughout the year, the PTA will run a FREE sausage sizzle and MUFTI day on Thursday 14th. Sausages will be Hellers only.

THINKING ABOUT JOINING THE PTA?

Thank you for supporting the PTA fundraisers all year. If you would like to help on the PTA, come along to our first meeting of 2018 which will advertised in the first newsletter in 2018.

Parents are asked to think seriously about joining our friendly group next year. The time contribution is definitely negotiable and the sense of satisfaction about making a difference for current and future Blockhouse Bay Primary School children is really great.

Annette Bradley has done a superb job of leading the PTA over the last two years but has chosen to step down from this role. We are also looking for someone to take on the position of treasurer. Gina Walters has been our ever-reliable treasurer for years now and is looking to train someone else to pick up these duties. Please feel free to contact us on pta@blockhousebay.school.nz if you are thinking of becoming a PTA member and we can discuss this with you.

MAGIC KINGDOM CHILDCARE VOUCHER- Do you have a pre-schooler at or starting Magic Kingdom child care centre on Boundary Rd or Chrysalis Early Learning centre in Avondale? We have a voucher for 4 weeks fees, stationary fee, enrolment fee worth \$1190. We are offering it for less than half price at \$500 (or nearest offer). Email pta@blockhousebay.school.nz before Wednesday 13th December for more details.

Facebook- Blockhouse Bay Primary School PTA

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

A few weeks ago, Blockhouse Bay Intermediate School asked us to nominate someone who would be interviewed to represent Auckland as a Peace Ambassador in Fukuoka, Japan in the middle of next year. There were very specific criteria involved in the selection process including children needing to be outstanding thinkers and resilient young leaders that could confidently contribute to discussions with young people from all over the world. We are thrilled to announce that Year 6 student **Rhianne D'Souza** was one of just a few students chosen to represent Auckland at this forum. Congratulations Rhianne!

Our summer netball team who recently won their grade. Big thank you to their dedicated coach Louise Matson who also coached this team during the winter season.

HIRING OF POOL KEYS

The school pool is open for use and we have the heat pumps working to warm up the water. Kowhai and Pohutukawa children will be swimming during school time next week, so please send these children to school with their togs and towel. (all named)

Hiring a pool key gives families the opportunity to swim in the school pool after school, on the weekends, right through the summer holidays until the end of March, at a very reasonable cost.

To get a copy of the hireage rules and to pay your money, please contact the school office staff. Pool keys will be on sale at a cost of \$170 each, with \$50 being returned when the key comes back to school at the end of the season.

JUNIOR ATHLETIC RESULTS

Congratulations to the following athletes who were placed in the top three in their sprint races at the Junior Athletics Day held last week.

7 Year Old Girls			7 Year Old Boys		
1st	Addison	Leaning	1st	George	Pelenato
2nd	Hussay	Khoroti	2nd	Logan	Bradley
3rd =	Baani	Juneja	3rd =	Cristofer	Birdsall
3rd=	Emily	Taylor	3rd =	Elias	Capps
6 Year Old Girls			6 Year Old Boys		
1st	Kaitlin	Burrows	1st	Tom	Kilpatrick
2nd =	Eden	Parry	2nd	Aarav	Saini
2nd =	Ava	Parry	3rd	Oscar	Lu
3rd	Bella	Jamieson-Tia			
5 Year Old Girls			5 Year Old Boys		
1st	Dejanae	Peteru-Ulukita	1st	Ethan	Ng
2nd	Renee	Sun	2nd	Oliver	Reis Williams
3rd	Saanvi	Khanna	3rd	Taylor	Reardon

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 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)

PURCHASING OF STATIONERY IN 2018

Earlier this year, we had several meetings with parents regarding purchasing of stationery for school. Whilst there was a mix of opinions, some parents wanted the option of going around and buying their own items for their children. Our main issue with this arrangement was that in the past, this has led to some children coming to school with low quality items which were not useful for school. However, we have decided to trial a new system in 2018, where parents can either order on-line as they have done previously, or go and collect the items themselves. We do need to emphasise though that the children need to have **exactly** the correct stationery items for the year.

If you do wish to purchase your child's stationery online as we have done previously, the instructions are listed below.

Stationery will not be sold from the office in 2018, this can be purchased online through Officemax.

Go to www.myschool.co.nz/blockhousebayprimary . Enter your child's name (you "do not" need to enter a "Student ID").

Choose 'your child's syndicate eg Rimu' stationery pack and this will link you straight through to your child's stationery requirements.

Your order will be delivered to your home. Bring to school on the **first day of Term 1 - Tuesday 30th January 2018.**

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU CHECKED THE FOUND PROPERTY?

Please check the large group of clothing items that are in the Lost Property room.

All items left after the 14th December that are un-named, will be given away as we do not want to be storing these until next year.

CLASSES FOR NEXT YEAR

Next Tuesday we will be letting the children know which class they are in for 2018 if they are returning to Blockhouse Bay Primary School. We do this so that the children are not worried about this during the summer break.

Deciding which children will go to which class is a very complex organisation and the staff spend a large number of hours working on this. As part of this process, we look for a balance of gender, ability, ethnicity and needs. We also take into account other factors such as personalities that we feel will gel together and keeping certain children apart if necessary.

For these reasons, moving children from one class to another after they have been decided is quite problematic as it can have a domino effect and upset the balance of what we have tried to do. Parents who do wish us to give consideration for a change will need to contact the office to ask for a form that provides details about why they feel this is necessary. We will then give consideration to this request, although once again, it is unlikely that a change will be made unless there are **very** compelling reasons to do so.

END OF YEAR REPORTS

These will be given to children to bring home on Wednesday. We hope you enjoy getting this feedback on your child's effort, progress and achievement. We think that we have done a good job of checking through these, but if you do find a typo, please contact the school office and we will give you a corrected version.

End of year reports provide information about how your child is doing currently and how they have done across the year. The teachers use a combination of assessment results, class work and their observations of the children at work to make their overall teacher judgment of how well each child is doing in each curriculum area.

Enclosed with this newsletter is more information about these reports.

ATTENDANCE IN SCHOOL REPORTS

The average attendance for a child at Blockhouse Bay School is 96% which is excellent. To recognise this, if a child is absent for less than 9 days or less this year, we put a dot in the 'Excellent' column.

If your child is absent between 9-18 days, we put a dot in the 'Not of Concern' column.

If a child is away for 18 or more days this year but there was a particular (usually one-off) reason, they also receive a 'Not of Concern'.

If a child is away for 19 or more days and this is made up of frequent absences that are impacting on their achievement, progress or social interaction with their friends, we tick 'Of Concern'.

19 Days away amounts to an average of 1 day off every 2 weeks which certainly is significant enough to make a difference to a child's education.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TERM FOUR

Monday 11-Friday 15th - Pohutukawa and Kowhai Swimming

Tues 12th Dec - Children visit their 2018 classes

Wed 13th Dec - End of Year Reports go home

Wed 13th Dec - BHB graduation ceremony - 1.20pm

Fri 15th Dec - End of School Year -

Children dismissed at 1.30pm

CLASSROOM TEACHERS IN 2018

The only real change to the school's organisation for next year is in the junior school. Some circumstances have occurred which have meant that we have needed to go with mostly Year 1/2 classes in Kowhai and less children remaining in Pohutukawa than we originally had planned. Children are taught at the ability level that they are operating at, not the Year level, so we do not foresee any issues with this change.

Another factor is the property developments that we hope will take place in 2018. The bottom floor of the Manukau block is being turned into classrooms and Rooms 1-3 are being upgraded and the school library will be relocated. This means that some classes will need to move during the year and these details will be publicised closer to the time.

At this stage, the only new classroom teacher to the school next year is Amanda Whittome who will join the Kauri team. We will welcome Mrs Whittome early in 2018.

2018 Classroom Teachers

Team	Room	Teacher/s	Known as	Year
Kauri 	5	Melissa Murray / Felicity Davis <small>(Kauri Joint Team Leader)</small>	Miss Murray / Mrs Davis	6
	6	Jasmin Hansen-Mckay	Whaea Jasmin	6
	7	Hayley Davies	Mrs Davies	5
	8	Amanda Whittome / Felicity Davis <small>(Kauri Joint Team Leader) (Wed)</small>	Mrs Whittome / Mrs Davis	5
	10	Angie Cannon <small>(Kauri Joint Team Leader)</small>	Mrs Cannon	5
	11	Tiffany Ponniah	Miss Ponniah	6
Rimu 	3	Saadiyah Musa / Jan Llewellyn <small>(Fri)</small>	Ms Musa / Ms Llewellyn	4
	4	Deanne Ellis <small>(Rimu Team Leader)</small>	Miss Ellis	3/4
	9	Shelly Brown	Mrs Brown	4
	12	Wendy Spence	Whaea Wendy	4
	13	Robyn Joyce / Sally Kilpatrick <small>(Fri)</small>	Mrs Joyce / Mrs Kilpatrick	3
	14	Vivienne Aherne	Mrs Aherne	3
	15	Brenna Innes / Jan Llewellyn <small>(Thur)</small>	Miss Innes / Ms Llewellyn	3
Kōwhai 	19	Katy Harris	Mrs Harris	1/2
	20	Denise Lawson / Morag Bleckmann <small>(Fri)</small>	Mrs Lawson / Mrs Bleckmann	1/2
	21	Melinda Narayan	Mrs Narayan	2
	22	Breanne Mackinnon / Helen Addison <small>(Team Leader) (Thur)</small>	Mrs Mackinnon / Mrs Addison	1/2
	23	Atama Cassidy	Mr Cassidy	1/2
Pōhutukawa 	16	Mina Lala	Miss Lala	0/1
	17	Serene Timoteo / Terri Vinsen <small>(Wed)</small>	Miss Timoteo / Miss Vinsen	0/1
	18	Megan Le Gallais	Miss Le Gallais	0/1
	24	Opening Term 3		0
	25	Opening late Term 1/ Early Term 2 Stacy McIvor <small>(Team Leader)</small> / Tracey Waller <small>(Fri)</small>	Ms McIvor / Mrs Waller	0/1

The children will find out on Tuesday, which class and teacher(s) they will have next year and this information will be included in the end of year report envelope that each child will bring home on Wednesday.


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