



**Blockhouse Bay**

Primary School

*We Seek - We Strive - We Soar*

**REMINDER:** School will close **12.45pm - Wednesday 1st July** for Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences

***Please make suitable arrangements for your children on this day***

特此提醒家长们留意,

7月1号(星期三)学校在下午12点45分放学。

由于家长教师会, 下午没有课程。

请按时接孩子们。请勿让孩子单独留在图书馆。

谢谢。

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents and Whānau,

After saying last week that we did not have very many people away, we have had lots of children and staff members staying home this week because they are sick. This is the right thing to do of course when you are unwell and we thank everyone who has taken this action.

**The Ministry of Health has instructed all schools to remind parents to keep their children away if they have any cold or flu symptoms.** We know that this can be difficult for some families but especially this year, we cannot have any children in classrooms with runny noses or displaying other symptoms of sickness.

The teachers are looking forward to reconnecting with you all at the Child/Parent/Teacher conferences next week on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> and Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Please try and arrange a meeting time as bookings are now open and will close at 2.00pm on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> June. Our advice is to get in quickly to secure the time that best suits you.

You can make your booking by going to [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz) and enter the code **gb5vk**

If you are unable to make an appointment time online, please contact the school office on 627-9940 and they will make one for you. Please note **that school will close at 12.45pm on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July so all these meetings can take place.** After school care will begin early on this day.

Every three years, we invite our school community to give us feedback about all aspects of the school and to provide ideas for things we could implement in the future. Last week we sent home an on-line survey form for families to read, discuss and fill in. The survey takes around 15 minutes to do and we would really appreciate all of our whanau spending some time to feedback to us in this way.

Have a great weekend everyone.

Neil Robinson  
Principal

**TERM TWO CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2020**

Tuesday 30th June	Mid-year reports come home
Wednesday 1st July	Parent Conferences - 12.45PM FINISH
Thursday 2nd July	Parent Conferences - 3.00PM FINISH
Friday 3rd July	Term Two Ends - 3.00PM FINISH
Mon 20th July - Fri 25th Sept	Term Three
Friday 7th August	Teacher Only Day



**Blockhouse Bay**

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## **MID-YEAR REPORTS COMING HOME ON TUESDAY**

Mid-year reports provide a summary of children's achievement so far this year. Our ability to collect the information for reporting was affected by Covid 19 and so the report will have less information than in previous years.

### **What will be in the report?**

Since we have returned to school, teachers have assessed the children so they can inform you of the children's current skills in Reading, Writing and Mathematics and the next learning steps for these. Teachers have also written an overall teacher comment to celebrate children's strengths and successes and provide you with information about how children are engaging in learning, participating in school and relating to others.

### **What will not be in the report?**

Teachers have not made an overall teacher judgement against Curriculum Expectations for these reports and this means there will be no insert. This is because teachers use a combination of assessment results, conversations with children and their observations of the children over time to make an overall teacher judgment of how well each child is doing in each curriculum area. The disruption to school due to Covid 19 has meant that it has not been possible to collect all this information over time, to allow accurate judgements to be made.

Children usually share their progress against 'He Manu Rere', our Learner Profile with you as part of the Mid year report. While we have continued to support the children to grow in these attributes, children have not formally reflected on these since returning to school. Instead we have prioritised establishing learning programmes, re-assessing the children and ensuring the children's wellbeing is supported.

There will be no attendance figures this year either as it was impossible to be accurate about this during the lockdown period and we also do not feel it is fair to show reduced attendance as children were being kept at home because of the outbreak.

### **Reports and Learning Conferences**

The children will be bringing their reports home next Tuesday and they are no doubt looking forward to sharing these with you. We think that we have done a good job of checking them for typos, but if you do find any mistakes, please feel free to ask us to give you a corrected copy.

We look forward to seeing you all at Learning Conferences next week where the children will be sharing some learning with you. As well any matters arising from the reports can be discussed. We hope you enjoy getting this feedback on your child's effort, progress and achievement and look forward to discussing this with you further.

## **SOME THINGS TO CONSIDER ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S CONFERENCE NEXT WEEK**

Please make sure that you are at your child's classroom on time, as we do need to stick to the timetable. Late arrivals will have less time for their conference.

- If something unexpected happens and you cannot come, please let us know as soon as possible by phoning the office - 627-9940.
- Please do not leave your child unattended at school when we close at 12.45pm, even if you have one of the earlier meeting times. Because of the conferences, no staff members are available to look after the children in the playground.
- Please encourage other children to play away from the meeting venues if they are waiting for their siblings conferences to be completed
- If children are playing at school, we would expect that they would follow all of the usual school rules.
- If either party feels that more discussion is required, a further meeting time can be organised.

Parents will receive their confirmed meeting times either through the email or in hard copy form. It is very unlikely that "on the day requests" for an appointment can be arranged for that day.

### **CONFERENCES WILL BE HELD IN YOUR CHILD'S CLASSROOM**

## **CARE 4 KIDZ SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME**

In the upcoming term break, Monday 6 July till Friday 17 July, CARE 4 KIDZ is running a Holiday Programme: Kaleidoscope of Activities. For information you can ring Els: 027 3628494.

For a programme and enrolment form, please see our supervisor in the Technology Room, daily between 2:45pm and 6:00pm. Enrolments close Friday 26 June 2020

### **FAB SAUSAGE SIZZLE - CAN YOU HELP NEXT WEEK?**

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July we will be holding a sausage sizzle for the children. We do need volunteers to help cook and pack the sausages. If you can help please contact [fab@blockhousebay.school.nz](mailto:fab@blockhousebay.school.nz) or leave your name at the school office. Thank you.

### **AFTER SCHOOL NETBALL**

Our Year 5/6 teams started their season on Monday and are no doubt enjoying this experience after it looked like this would not happen this year.

We are very pleased to announce that we have enough coaches and managers for two Year 3/4 teams. This competition doesn't start until after the July holidays, but we will need to get everything sorted before the end of this term so that we can enter the teams. We have enough players for 4 teams so it would be great to have enough coaches and managers for this.

Parents of children who are keen to play, are asked to contact Amanda Whittome at [amandaw@blockhousebay.school.nz](mailto:amandaw@blockhousebay.school.nz) if you are able to coach or manage a Year 3/4 netball team this season.

### **ARRIVAL AT AND DEPARTURE FROM SCHOOL**

Thank you everyone for making the effort to get your children to school on time, preferably at 8.30am. This is making our mornings run much smoother and the children are enjoying being part of the class at the beginning of the day.

At the other end of the spectrum is that children should not be at school before 8.15am. We will be opening the gates at this time each day, so please do not have the children at school before then.

- School pick up from gates can be any time from 3.00-3.20pm. A teacher will supervise the children.
- School pick up from the classroom is 3pm.
- After 3.20 children who have not been picked up will be at the school office.

To help speed up the exit from the Countdown carpark, parents are asked to turn left (not right) and go around the roundabout if they need to, so people do not block the two entrances. Please take care when walking your children to your car.

Our new gate procedures now include:

- Our School Ambassadors will greet and assist other children at the gates each morning students.
- Quick Pick up is available at the Library, Countdown and Yellow Gates. Children will be supervised by staff members from 3pm-3.20pm. (Countdown: *we will no longer use the Holding Area behind the fence as very few parents are using this option- children walking over will meet their parents at the gate entry which will be supervised*)
- Classroom Pick up: Please park in surrounding streets or the Countdown carpark and walk to class.

### **ICAS TESTING 2020**

2020 International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) are Australian online tests which are completed in some NZ schools under normal examination conditions. Parents may choose to have their child sit these tests as they give them experience of external exam conditions, provide some alternative information about their child's strengths and highlight areas that may require more attention.

**These tests are for years 4 - 6 children only.**

The ICAS assessments will take place in our school on the following dates:

English - Monday 24th August

Maths - Monday 31st August

***This year we are only offering English and Maths. You may wish for your child to sit one or both of these exams.***

Order forms may be collected from the school office and must be returned to the office by:

Friday 31st July.

Practice questions can be viewed online at: <https://www.eaa.unsw.edu.au/icas/download-practice-questions>

**Late entries cannot be accepted**

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