



Blockhouse Bay

Primary School

We Seek - We Strive - We Soar

9th February 2023

Dear Parents and Whānau,

Happy New Year / Xīn nián kuài lè to you all and welcome to the Year of the Rabbit.

On behalf of the staff and Board of Trustees, I would like to welcome everyone to the 2023 school year, particularly to our new pupils and their families. The staff are very excited about the learning year ahead and look forward to working with you all.

This newsletter will be posted out each Thursday through Hero. Please make sure you look at it each week as it contains useful information about what is happening at the school. Parent letters will be used only when we have something urgent to share with you all.

It was great to see so many families who could meet with their new teachers on Tuesday. If you were not able to make it to meet with your child's teacher, please feel free to contact them to set up a meeting.

Remember that it is compulsory for the children to wear their school hat every school day in terms one and four.

Have a great weekend everyone.

Neil Robinson - Principal



TERM ONE 2023 CALENDAR OF EVENTS	
Fri 10th Feb	Chinese Lunar New Year Celebrations
Tues 14th Feb	Rimu Assembly - 2.15pm
Tues 21st Feb	Kauri Assembly - 9am
Tues 21st Feb	Pōhutukawa Assembly- 2.30pm
Tues 28th Feb	Y5/6 T Ball
Wed 1st March	Tōtara Assembly- 9am
Thurs 2nd March	Y5/6 T Ball Savings Day
Mon 6 th -Fri 10 th March	Mini Expo – Te Manawa Before and After School
Tues 7th March	Rimu Assembly - 2.15pm
Tues 7th March	Y6 Camp Parent Helper Meeting - 6pm
Fri 10th March	Manu Matauranga Trip to Maunga Mangere
Mon 13th March	Kōwhai Assembly - 2.00pm
Tues 14th March	Y5/6 Cricket - 9am
Tues 14th March	Kauri Assembly - 9am
Tues 14th March	Pōhutukawa Assembly - 2.30pm
Wed 15th March	Tōtara Assembly-9am
Thurs 16th March	Y5/6 Cricket Savings Day
Tues 21st March	Rimu Assembly - 2.15pm
Mon 27th Feb	Kōwhai Assembly - 2.00pm
Tues 28th March	Y6 Camp Parent Helper Meeting -6pm
Wed 29th March	Tōtara Assembly - 9am
Tues 4th April	Kauri Assembly - 9am
Tues 4th April	Pōhutukawa Assembly - 2.30pm
Thurs 6th April	End of Term One

LUNAR NEW YEAR 2023

To celebrate the Lunar New Year children can come to school **tomorrow** dressed in their Cultural Clothes or something red. Happy New Year.



Blockhouse Bay

STAFFING UPDATE:

Just one new teacher has joined our staff this year and she will be known to some of you and lots of the children as she has worked in a number of rooms previously. We would like to officially welcome Kelcey Roberts to the staff at Blockhouse Bay School. Whaea Kelcey will be teaching a Year 4/5 class in Room 23 as part of the Tōtara Team.

Covid-19 at school in 2023

A lot has changed with the Covid situation over the last 12 months and the ways that schools deal with it has changed too. There remains an ever-present threat to all communities with Covid and parents should remain vigilant in looking for symptoms and keeping the children at home if they have any symptoms at all. Please let us know as soon as possible if your child has Covid and we will continue to inform the children that a person has tested positive if and when this happens.

At school, we will be continuing to take precautions to prevent the spread of Covid 19, including:

- Ventilation in all rooms as much as is possible.
- Giving the children 'outside breaks' to allow the rooms to get fresh air.
- Having hand sanitiser available at entrance points.
- Sending people home if they display Covid-like symptoms.

Covid looks like it is going to be around for some time and I know that we will all take these precautions as seriously as possible.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Your parent representatives work hard to make sure that our school is the best it can be. They meet twice a term and these meetings are also open to the public. Please ask at the office if you would like to speak to a Board member directly about anything to do with the school.

Chairperson: Nick Dempsey,

Board Members: Rosie Williams, Tarawhati Williams, Annuncia Gallagher, Sally Kilpatrick (Staff Rep)
Neil Robinson (Principal)

Our next monthly Board meeting will take place in the school staffroom on Tuesday 21st February at 6.15p.m. These are always open meetings and we invite parents to contact Nick Dempsey for more information about the Board or if you wish to come along to a meeting.

THE SCHOOL DAY

The instructional school day goes from 8.50am - 3.00pm. The children should arrive at school **no later than 8.30am** so that they can be ready for the start of the first lesson.

We ask that no child should arrive at school before 8.15am. Staff members are busy preparing for the day and cannot supervise children before this time and so any children (and adults) arriving before this time, must assemble by the Pohutukawa's in front of Te Whau until this time. Whilst we realise that this does not suit all parents, we feel that the children's safety and teacher preparation time is very important.

Please contact the school office for details about our Before School Care programme if you wish to have your child at school before 8.15am.

Please find below the Term dates for 2023. Please note that this year Easter is at the start of the Term One holidays.

TERM DATES - 2023

TERM ONE	Wednesday 8th February	Thursday 6th April	9 Weeks
TERM TWO	Wednesday 26th April <i>Teacher Only Day – Mon 24th April</i> <i>Anzac Day – Tues 25th April</i> <i>King's Birthday – Mon 5th June</i>	Friday 30th June	10 Weeks
TERM THREE	Monday 17th July	Friday 22nd September	10 Weeks
TERM FOUR	Monday 9th October <i>Labour Day – Mon 23rd October</i>	Wednesday 20th December	11 Weeks

STATIONERY FOR SCHOOL

If you have not already purchased your child's stationery for school you can still purchase it online by going to www.myschool.co.nz/blockhousebayprimary enter your child's name and choose the pack that you require. They will deliver this to your home.

NUT ALLERGIES

Our school has some students who exhibit serious reactions to anything nut. All require Epi pens to be held in the school. For their sake, we try to be nut free at our school and ask that you please help us in this endeavour.

This includes not sending any nut products, Nutella, or peanut butter to school.

PARENTS OF YEAR 3- 6 CHILDREN

A reminder to these parents that we would like all of the Year 5 and 6's to have their own Chromebook at school. **Please note that this is a Chromebook not just any Laptop computer.**

Year 3 and 4 children are very welcome to bring Chromebooks (only) to school as well.

If you have any questions about this, please contact the office and we will organise someone to give you a call.

Do you have a budding musician in Year 5 or over, looking for an inclusive ensemble to develop their skills throughout the year, or are a University student thinking about picking up your instrument after some time away? We have the group for you!

INTRODUCING... BAYLYNN YOUTH BAND 🎉🎵

We are a unique community 'bandchestra' based in the Blockhouse Bay area and have been running since 2015. Our motto is "learn together, play together, grow together"—developing skills as a musician no matter what stage you are in your musical journey. Some of our most recent performances include the Blockhouse Bay Christmas Festival, Kids4Drama and The Arts for Development Trust productions and the New Lynn Market.

We welcome all students from Year 5 and above who have some music reading skills and can play the following instruments:

- Strings (Violin, Viola and Cello)
- Brass (Trumpet, Cornet, Trombone, Horn, Tuba)
- Woodwind (Flute, Clarinet, Saxophone, Oboe, Bassoon)
- Guitar or Bass Guitar
- Drums

The band rehearses every Wednesday during school terms from 6:45pm to 8:30pm at the Blockhouse Bay Primary Performing Arts Centre! This year, our rehearsals for Term 1 start on **Wednesday 15th February**. We will also be having some events as well as performances throughout the term, so please keep your eyes peeled for that. For more information, please check us out at our website and social media. You can also get in touch via email at baylynn.youthband@gmail.com.



SUNHATS

Great to see almost all of our students wearing their school sunhat. Just a few students who still need one.

Hats are available from www.argyleonline.co.nz and must be worn in Terms One and Four.

Thank you.



MusiqHub lessons

MUSIC LESSONS BLOCKHOUSE BAY PRIMARY

Term 1 spaces available for Guitar,
Ukulele and Keyboard

Experienced music tutors offer small group as
well as one on one lessons. Lessons are 30
minutes long and are held on Wednesdays
during school hours and after school.

MUSIQHUB
PLAY SMART

CALL 02102420972 FOR
ENQUIRIES AND
BOOKINGS



MARIST COLLEGE

Catholic Girls School, Years 7 to 13

Open Day Tours Wednesday, 1st March 2023

Tour 1 - 9:00am, Tour 2 - 11:30am

A centrally located non-zoned Catholic girls
secondary school, Years 7 to 13

www.maristcollege.school.nz



AUCKLAND ORTHODONTICS

Specialist orthodontics for all ages



Dr Nitin Raniga

BDS (Otago) DClinDent (Otago) MOrth RCSEd MRACDS (Orth)

ORTHODONTIST

6 Exminster St
Blockhouse Bay
Auckland 0600

Phone 09 627 3555
nitin@aucklandortho.co.nz
www.aucklandortho.co.nz



NZAO
Association of Orthodontists