



Blockhouse Bay

Primary School

We Seek - We Strive - We Soar

12th October 2023

Tēnā koutou katoa,

I hope that you all had a great break with your family. It was great to see all of the happy smiling faces back this week.

We were very pleased to install the new pool liner over the break and everything is on track to open this for use towards the end of this term. Families could be thinking about whether or not they wish to hire a pool key when they become available. More details about this will be provided in a few weeks time.

Excitement is building about the children visiting Arataki later in the term as part of our Science Inquiry into protecting our environment for future generations. There is no cost to parents for this experience but we do need adult helpers to assist with supervision for each trip. Please fill in the permission letter from your child's teacher and help us with this if you are able.

Deputy Principal and long-time employee Mandy Barrett will be leaving us at the end of term four to take up a new role at Diocesan School. We will be sorry to see Mandy leave but wish her well for this exciting new opportunity.

The school will be a Voting venue over the weekend and I encourage everyone to have their say in who they think should be in charge of the country.

Have a great week everyone!

Neil Robinson
Principal



A very special welcome to all our new students and families.

TERM FOUR CALENDAR OF EVENTS	
Mon 16th October	FAB Meeting at 7.00pm - all welcome
Mon 23rd October	Labour Day (No school this day)
Tues 24th October	Pōhutukawa Assembly- 2.30pm
Tues 24th October	Year 3-6 Athletics Day at Mt Smart
Wed 25th October	Tōtara Assembly – 9.00am
Monday 30th October	Kōwhai Assembly 2.00pm
Tuesday 31st October	Kauri Assembly 9.00am Rimu Assembly 2:15pm
Thursday 2nd November	Arataki Trip - Kauri, Rms 4,5
Tues 7th November	Arataki Trip - Kauri, Rms 6,11
Wed 8th November	Tōtara Assembly – 9.00am
Mon 13th November	Kōwhai Assembly – 2.00pm
Tues 14th November	Arataki Trip - Rimu, Rms 7,8 Pōhutukawa Assembly 2.30pm
Wed 15th November	Years 4-6 Interschool Athletics
Thurs 16th November	Arataki Trip - Rimu, Rms 10,8
Fri 17th November	Teacher Only Day (No school this day)
Mon 20th November	Arataki Trip - Rimu, Rms 2,3
Tues 21st November	Arataki Trip - Tōtara, Rms 21,22 Kauri Assembly 9.00am
Tues 21st November	Rimu Assembly 2:15pm
Wed 22nd November	Interschool Athletics (Savings Day)
Thurs 23rd November	Arataki Trip - Tōtara, Rms 23,24
Mon 27th November	Kōwhai Assembly – 2.00pm
Tues 28th - Thurs 30th Nov	Science Fair
Tues 28th November	Arataki Trip - Kōwhai, Rms 12,13
Wed 29th November	Arataki Trip - Kōwhai, Rms 14,15
Thurs 30th November	Arataki Trip - Pōhutukawa, Rms 16,18,17
Mon 4th December	Arataki Trip - Pōhutukawa, Rms 19,20,17
Tues 5th December	Pōhutukawa Assembly 2.30pm
Wed 6th December	Tōtara Assembly – 9.00am
Tues 12th December	Pōhutukawa Camp Day Rimu Assembly 2.15pm
Fri 15th December	Year Six Graduation
Wednesday 20th December	End of School Year - 1.30pm finish

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PROPERTY WORK AROUND THE SCHOOL

There were more than 10 different property related projects going on in the holidays so it was very busy here, but little by little, we are getting things finished and the school back to normal. This work included:

- Reroofing of what was the staffroom (used by Room 22 this year)
- Completion of the classroom refit of what used to be Rooms 12-15
- Upgrade of the toilet by Room 15
- Continuing with the upgrading of our fire alarm system - this will take another month
- Installation of a sink bench in Room 3
- Extra painting and autex wall panels fitted in Miss Innes and Mrs Stacy's classes
- Installation of the pool liner and filling it with water
- Upgrading some fencing on the turf to protect the new classrooms
- Installation of a new garage door to one of the garages in the staff carpark
- Replacement of the sun shades over the playground by the office
- Shampooing of carpets around the school
- Fixing some of the skylights and ceilings in Room 5-9

The temporary fencing in the junior area will unfortunately remain for a long time as the MOE are yet to decide what to do to hold the bank up from further subsidence. Work on drainage and remediation on the school field will continue this term and we hope to be able to be using this area at the start of next year.

We will also complete a few more property improvement projects over the summer holiday break to make sure that we continue to keep the school well maintained and looking good 😊



Term 4 Inquiry

This term our inquiry learning will delve into Science - Planet Earth and the Living World.

The big ideas underpinning our learning are:

We need to protect Papatūānuku (Earth) for future generations. What we do now as kaitiaki impacts our world. Our planet is changing, how can we adapt? We can make a difference.

To inspire our ākonga, we have organised trips to Arataki Education Centre. This is to connect with nature and to find out more about our ecosystems. Each team has tailored the programme to meet their needs. The whole school will be going on different days - please keep an eye out for a letter home with the information for your child(ren). We will need lots of parent helpers, so if you can help us out, please note on the permission slip.

You are also warmly invited to see our term's learning at the Science Fair on 28th, 29th and 30th November. Look out for more information on Hero.

2024 Term Dates

We like to provide these to parents as early as possible so that families can plan their time away in the school holidays. Here are the dates for Blockhouse Bay School for **next year**:

- Term One - Wednesday 7th February to Friday 12th April
- Term Two - Monday 29th April to Friday 5th July
- Term Three - Monday 22nd July to Friday 27th September
- Term Four - Monday 14th October to Friday 20th December

UNIFORM - SELL, SWAP, BUY - HERO

We were going to put this system live this week, however, we have hit some barriers with the software.

We will work through this and let you all know the outcome very shortly.

Thank you for your understanding.

FAB LUNCHES

Don't forget to order lunches. Orders can be made on the mykindo.co.nz website

The options and dates for October are as follows:

- Bakeaholic by Preeti - 18th October
- Sushi - 25th October

HONEY

We have some jars of honey for sale at the school office for \$10.00 per jar. If you would like to purchase, please see the school office.

This is honey made from the school beehives.



WHAU LOCAL BOARD/AUCKLAND COUNCIL
BLOCKHOUSE BAY LIBRARY



Come join us
for our *Diwali Celebration* on
SATURDAY 28 OCTOBER 2023
10.30 am to 12 noon
Featuring amazing *music and dance*
performances by local artists.
Happy Diwali शुभ दिवाली

For more information, visit our library or phone 093770209 or
email blockhousebaylibrary@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



Sign up for some fabulous Diwali fun!

Diwali card making workshop

Create beautiful diwali greeting cards using
our premade festive motifs.

Saturday 21 October 2.00 - 3.00pm

All materials supplied. Age 5+ Bookings essential.
Young children will need assistance.

Origami and bookmark workshop

Come along and learn how to create an origami lotus
flower and also make a fun peacock bookmark.

Wednesday 1 November 3.15 - 4.15pm

All materials supplied. Age 5+ Bookings essential.

Lippan art workshop

Learn to create a beautiful piece of artwork using
mirrors and clay in our lippan art workshop.

Saturday 4 November 1.00 - 2.30pm

All materials supplied. Age 14+ Bookings essential.

For all events, a parent or guardian must stay with children
aged under 14 years.
For more information, visit our library or phone 093770209 or
email blockhousebaylibrary@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz



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