



## Term Four Calendar of Events

### Week 10

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December - Junior Athletics

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December - Kauri Assembly 2:15pm - 2:45pm

### Week 11

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December - Year 6 Graduation 12:45 pm

**Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December**

**Term 4 ends at 1.30pm**

### 2026 Term Dates

#### Term One

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> Feb: Meet the Family Conferences-  
(Bookings out soon)

**Tues 10th February to Thurs 2nd April**

Good Friday 3rd April

**Term Two - Mon 20th April to Fri 3rd July**

ANZAC Day 27th April

Teacher Only Day - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May

King's Birthday - Monday 1st June

**Term Three- Mon 20th July to Fri 25th Sept**

**Term Four - Mon 12th Oct to Fri 18th December**

Labour Day Monday 26th October

Swimming Consent Forms. Parents  
of Year 2-5 children please fill out  
these form by Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December.  
You can find them on Hero.

## A Word from our Principal



Tēnā koutou e te whānau,

While there are only two weeks to go until the end of the 2025 school year, there are certainly a number of fun and exciting activities taking place. We had a great turn out at the Rimu Whānau celebration and everyone enjoyed taking part in all of the activities together. Whānau are also tuning out in large numbers for our team assemblies and it is great to see the children developing their audience and performance skills at these events.

The teachers are currently working hard to consolidate all of the assessment data and write the end of year comments for the children's term four reports. Under the new Curriculum documents, some children's achievement levels will appear to be lower than previously, so it is important that families are aware of this in advance. For example, things that used to be expected of from Year 5 children are now listed as Year 4 goals so it will seem a child is learning at a lower level. We ask that all families bear this in mind when the end of year reports are published on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December. You can find more details about this on Hero.

This morning Matua Jarrod led us in karakia and waiata to lift the rāhui which was placed on the school pool last year. A rāhui allows a community time to both reflect and recover. This year has certainly been a time for this. Much reflection, preparation and planning has taken place and we are so pleased to be progressing towards using the pool again.

A reminder that school closes for the year at **1.30pm on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December**. Bizzy Bodz will be open from 1.30pm on this day so feel free to contact them if you would like your child(ren) to go there on this day. Note too that Bizzy Bodz is open for a lot of the summer holidays.

Ngā mihi maioha,  
Neil Robinson  
Principal

**BARFOOT & THOMPSON**  
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**Blockhouse Bay**

# Farewell to Staff Members

We would like to say thank you and farewell to two of our Part-time Teachers, Amelia Slade and Lagi Jenkins as well as Annette Bradley, our Deputy Principal and Special Education Needs Coordinator.

## Annette Bradley

Annette leaves us at the end of this term to take up a position at Oaklynn Special School as a classroom teacher, a position she describes as her dream job.

Annette has been a member of the Blockhouse Bay Primary School Community for 13 years firstly as a parent, FAB member and Speld Tutor and then a member of staff. Annette's contribution to the school as a parent has been immense. A key member and chairperson of the school's FAB group, Annette helped raise tens of thousands of dollars for the children. Facilities such as the Fale outdoor space, heating for the pool and shade sails are examples of facilities children still enjoy today as a result of the work that she and her team did on our behalf.



Annette then moved into the role of staff member. Starting full-time in 2019 as a classroom teacher, Annette soon moved into the role of Team Leader and then Deputy Principal, firstly with responsibilities for our Junior Structured Literacy and English Language Learner programmes and then, from Term 4 in 2024, taking over the Special Education Needs Coordinator position.

One example of her dedication to the school is that before being appointed to her new role, Annette was scheduled to come to the Year 6 camp in February of 2026. Annette managed to negotiate with Oaklynn that she could still go to the camp and support the children to participate effectively in this big event.

Annette has been a highly effective classroom teacher and leader. Greatly respected and appreciated by children, the staff and the community, Annette has made a difference to many in the Blockhouse Bay School Community. Her calm presence and expertise will be missed greatly by all of us.

We wish her well in her new role and know that Oaklynn is very lucky to have her!

## Amelia Slade

Amelia joined us in 2024 and has worked as part of the teaching team in Kākariki. Loved and appreciated by both children and teachers, Amelia brings a calm, fun approach to her teaching. In a few weeks Amelia is celebrating her wedding and we wish her all the best in her future endeavours.



## Lagi Jenkins

Lagi has worked as a relief teacher across the school in all year levels throughout 2024 and 2025. For the last six months she has partnered with Denise Lawson to start our latest class of 5 year olds. Lagi brings joy, high expectations and a firm but fair approach to her teaching. While Lagi will not be teaching permanently at our school next year, we are sure we will benefit from her teaching again.



## End of Year Reports Update

The New Zealand Curriculum has been changed and this has meant that we have changed our reports. You can find out more information from the Hero Post we shared earlier in the week. We will be sharing more information in the next 10 days. End of Year Reports will be published on Monday 15th December.



## Food Orders Dates- Term 4

These are organised by the Fundraisers at Blockhouse Bay (FAB) Team and are a great way to keep the income for this group coming in as they receive a small amount of money for each order. Ordering can be completed through Kindo so please ask the office if you are unsure of how to do this. The following dates outline what can be ordered and when:

**Xi'an Food Bar** Ordering Closes 12pm day before:  
**Wednesday December 10th**

**Mai Sushi** Ordering Closes 12pm day before:  
**Wednesday December 17th**



**Payment Information** You can pay through the Kindo app. If you don't have Kindo, it's easy to set up by registering at [mykindo.co.nz/Register](https://mykindo.co.nz/Register) or by downloading the app, available on [Apple](#) and [Android](#). If you need assistance, feel free to ask our friendly office staff!



# Property Work in 2026

We have been advised by the Ministry of Education that work is very likely to begin during the school holidays on retaining the subsidence that has taken place along the Gittos Domain side of the school next to the field and down towards the Te Taiao classrooms. Whilst the classes themselves are safe, the area behind the temporary fencing needs quite a lot of work and we expect this project to take about 6 months to complete.

Te Taiao 1 & 2 classrooms will not be occupied during construction and access for the construction team will be via the staff carpark. Unfortunately The Glade will also be used by the construction team so the children will not be able to use this area until at least term three. We are lucky we have so many other spaces for our children to play.

## Thank you to our Road Patrol parent volunteers 2025!

Each year, we ask for parent volunteers to supervise our morning Road Patrols on Blockhouse Bay Road. These volunteers give their time once a week from 8:10-8:50am to help keep our Year 6 Road Patrollers and everyone crossing the road safe. We are very grateful for this support and would like to thank those parents who have dedicated their time this year. Some have committed to the whole year and been on patrol in all weather! Your commitment is very much appreciated.

If you would like to volunteer to help in 2026, please email Annette Bradley, Deputy Principal [annetteb@blockhousebay.school.nz](mailto:annetteb@blockhousebay.school.nz)

## Success for ex-pupils at Lynfield College in 2025

We love to hear about the on-going success of our students as they move through their educational and life pathways. The following list of our ex-pupils succeeding at Lynfield College provides recognition that our children do continue to soar after they leave Blockhouse Bay School.

Akeelah	Te Rangi	Head Student
Neha	Rana	Year 12 Excellent
Emily	Yang	Academic Captain
Soha	Ekbote	Arts and Culture Deputy Captain
Annaliese	Matson	Sports Captain
Ayla	Raki	Assistant Sports Captain



### Medication held in the school office

If you have any medications held at the school office, could you please come and collect it on or before Friday 18th December. If your child is returning in 2026 we would like to update all medical information for your child with a new form and have new unexpired medication held at school. If an action plan from the doctor is required for Asthma, please have this updated and bring to school with new medication.

Any expired medications still held at school after 2.00pm on the 18th December will be thrown away.



# Measles, Mumps and Rubella Advice for Blockhouse Bay School

**The Ministry of Health has provided our school community with the following information and asked us to share it with you.**

Parents are advised to check to see if their child has been vaccinated and take steps to have this done if they have not already done so.

## **Why do I need to have my child vaccinated?**

Measles cases have recently been identified across New Zealand and have already impacted two schools in our region. Measles spreads easily and can be serious for both children and adults.

**According to Ministry of Health records, 20% of Blockhouse Bay School students have not been immunised for Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR), mostly because they were not in New Zealand when they were younger.**

Individuals who are not considered immune to measles may need to stay home from school each time they are exposed, to prevent further spread.

MMR vaccination is free in New Zealand for:

- anyone aged under 18, and
- adults eligible for publicly funded healthcare.

It is safe to receive additional doses if someone is unsure of their vaccination history.

Immunisation appointments can be booked:

- at participating pharmacies listed on [Healthpoint](#).
- online at: [Book a vaccine](#).
- by calling the Vaccine Helpline on: 0800 28 29 26
- at general practice, hauora and Pacific providers

People vaccinated overseas should provide their records to a New Zealand healthcare provider so these can be verified and recorded. This will speed up contact tracing and reduce the time they may need to stay away from school if exposed.

## **Measles immunisation – key information**

- Measles is currently spreading in Aotearoa New Zealand. This is a serious illness that spreads easily and can affect both children and adults.
- Two doses of the MMR vaccine after 12 months of age protects 99% of people from measles.
- The MMR vaccine is free for anyone under 18, and for adults 18+ eligible for free healthcare in New Zealand.
- If you or your child haven't had two measles immunisations, or are unsure, it's recommended you get immunised. It is safe for most people to receive another dose.
- Children with two recorded doses after 12 months of age will not need to stay home if exposed to a measles case.

**For more information:** [HealthEd.govt.nz/measles](https://www.health.govt.nz/measles)

- [Measles factsheet Measles is here, social tile \(english\)](#).
- [Measles is here, social tile \(Te reo Māori\)](#).
- [Measles health information](#)
- [Measles: Guidance for Education Settings](#)



## Public transport services for 2026

Kia ora,

With the end of the school year approaching, we want to reach out to schools and parents with information about public transport in readiness for 2026.

The beginning of the school year, from the second week of February through until Easter, see a sharp increase in demand on Auckland's roads and public transport as schools and universities commence and people return to work from summer holidays. There will be more people than usual on the roads and using public transport services, especially during peak hours.

Each year, Auckland Transport reviews the performance of the network from February to April of the previous year, including school bus services and other popular services. We have already reached out to schools across Auckland asking for roll changes to plan ahead.

Here are three things parents and students can do to help ease the impact on school journeys during this busy time:

- **Ensure student's HOP cards are topped up.** Children ages 5 to 15 are eligible for a child concession giving them 40% off travel by bus, train or ferry when using their registered AT HOP card. For information on how to set up concessions search 'AT HOP card' online.
- **Encourage students to tag on and off each school bus trip.** It is important that everyone tags onboard so we can get accurate information about how many students are onboard each bus. This information is used to make informed adjustments to school bus timetables and bus sizes.
- **Plan ahead for the busy season.** If school buses are not an option for students, they can use urban bus services. You can use AT Journey Planner to find the service that will work best for them. Please know that public transport services will be busier than usual, so it's important to allow enough time for them to arrive early to get their bus, train or ferry in case there are queues.

If you have any questions about public transport services, you can call **09 366 6400** or email **info@at.govt.nz**.

Have a great end of the year and summer break.

Auckland Transport



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# Little Scientists

## Holiday programmes

5-10 year olds  
Loads of science fun  
to keep your children  
busy this summer!

- Hillcrest
- Hillsborough
- Freeman's Bay
- Glen Innes
- Takapuna
- Massey
- Birkenhead
- Mt Eden



**www.littlescientists.co.nz**

## AUCKLAND COUNCIL LIBRARIES PRESENTS

# Raumati READS

## SUMMER READING CHALLENGE




### Be in to win awesome prizes!

Read for 10 days to **earn a reward!**  
Read for 20+ days to **enter the prize draw**

**Auckland Zoo passes**  
**Auckland Live event vouchers**  
**Auckland FC game vouchers**  
**Auckland Council Pools and Leisure**  
**'Learn to swim' lessons and more!**

\*While stocks last.

Search **Libraries school holidays** 

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# CHRISTMAS

at Blockhouse Bay Library  
for Adults, Children and Preschoolers



**Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 December anytime**  
**Christmas gift tag making** for everyone.  
Create Christmas gift tags at the library craft table.

**Thursday 11 December 10.30am**  
**Christmas Storytime** for 3-4yrs  
Christmas stories, songs and rhymes with a special visit from Santa.

**Sunday 14 December 12.30pm**  
**Christmas card making** for children 5+yrs  
Make a beautiful hand-made Christmas card for someone special.  
Booking required at library or email [blockhousebaylibrary@aklc.govt.nz](mailto:blockhousebaylibrary@aklc.govt.nz) with name & age of each child. Adult must stay to help child if necessary. Please arrive on time, latecomers may be disappointed.

**Sunday 14 December 2.00-3.00pm**  
**Christmas card making** for adults  
Make a special hand-crafted card with all materials provided.  
Booking required at library or email [blockhousebaylibrary@aklc.govt.nz](mailto:blockhousebaylibrary@aklc.govt.nz)

**Wednesday 17 December 9.30am**  
**Christmas Wriggle & Rhyme** for infants and babies  
Christmas themed songs and rhymes and a special morning tea.

**Friday 19 December 9.30am**  
**Christmas Rhymetime** for 18mth-4yrs  
Christmas themed dances, songs and action rhymes.

**Saturday 20 December 2.00pm**  
**Beeswax wraps workshop** for children 5+yrs  
Make a beeswax wrap and gift it to someone you love.  
Booking required at library or email [blockhousebaylibrary@aklc.govt.nz](mailto:blockhousebaylibrary@aklc.govt.nz) with name & age of each child. Adult must stay to help child if necessary. Please arrive on time, latecomers may be disappointed.

**Anytime during 1-24 December**  
**Wishes for our World Tree**  
Colour a tiny tree then write your wish for making our world a more sustainable place. Add it to our display to see how big our tree will grow.



**6 December 2025 - 1 February 2026**

Register from Saturday 6 Dec and start your reading journey anytime.  
Be in to win awesome prizes.

**Read for 10 days to earn a reward (while stocks last).**

**Read for 20+ days to enter the draw for lots of awesome prizes.**



## Robots go Wild!

From crazy cardboard creations to wacky robot obstacle courses - our January holiday events are fun for kids.

Details on other side.

**Blockhouse Bay Library**

**Friday 9 January 10.30am**

### Climbing Robots

Make a cardboard robot, then see how fast you can make your robot climb the library bookshelves.

**Tuesday 13 January 11.00am**

### Recycled T-Shirt Bags

Join the WasteWise Team for a fun-filled litter hunt, then make a reusable bag from an old t-shirt you have brought from home.  
Booking required. For children ages 6+

**Thursday 15 January 2.00-4.00pm**

### Digital Playground

Join CyberNix's Digital Discovery Day of fun for the whole family with motion-controlled, computer & retro digital games.

**Wednesday 21 January 10.30am**

### Robot Obstacle Course

Race the Cody Robots around our challenging obstacle course. We will race in pairs, so come with a partner or make a new friend today.

**7 January - 1 February anytime**

### The Never-Ending Robot Story

Send our robot on an adventure. Add a sentence describing what our robot has been doing to the never-ending book.

### Robot Walk

Can you walk (and talk) like a robot? Test your skills by walking along our line of robot step challenges.

### Robots go Wild!

Help create the amazing & bizarre Westie Robots. Visit a participating library & choose something to add to their robot. Robots are waiting for you at Avondale, Blockhouse Bay, Glen Eden and New Lynn Libraries.

Please arrive on time to avoid disappointment.

Events are intended for children 5-13 yrs.

An adult must remain in the library during the event.

Book for the Recycled T-Shirt Bags at Library  
or email [blockhousebaylibrary@aklc.govt.nz](mailto:blockhousebaylibrary@aklc.govt.nz) with name & age of child.



Operation

**SAFER PLATES**

will take place at  
**Three Kings Plaza Carpark**  
536 Mt Albert Rd, Mt Roskill  
Tuesday - 9<sup>th</sup> December 2025  
10am - 1pm

## Reduce the risk of Number Plate Theft

NZ Police, assisted by Community Patrols are providing a crime prevention initiative called "Operation Safer Plates"

The purpose of this initiative is to make it harder and less likely for offenders to target your vehicle for the purpose of acquiring your registration plates.

Stolen number plates are currently being used for evading detection when offenders are committing offences, such as:

- Petrol drive offs
- Speeding tickets
- Road user charges
- Robberies and thefts
- Or worse, a more serious crime.

This system is designed to replace existing number plates Screws with inexpensive but effective tamper resistant number plate fixing screws.

**A small \$5 Cash Fee for this service.**

