Thursday 5th Nov 2026

Blockhouse Bay Primary School
We Seek We Strive - We Soar





Term Four Highlights

Week 5 - Diwali Recognised at school
Mon 9th Nov - Thurs 12th Nov- 'Bug, Bird, Bush Bonanza! Inquiry community event
Mon 9th Nov and Tues 10th Nov - Bike programme for Year 5 children
Friday 13th November - Culturally themed or Colourful Clothes Dress Up Day
Friday 13th Nov - Diwali Showcase at 2.00pm

Week 6
Mon, Tues and Thurs - Cricket Coaching for Year 3-6 children
Mon 16th Nov -Kōwhai Assembly 2:15pm
Tues 17th Nov -Tōtara Assembly 2.15pm
Thurs 19th Nov - Inter-school Basketball for selected Year 5-6 students
Fri 20th Nov - Junior Athletics 9-11:30
Fri 20th Nov - Kauri Assembly - 2.15pm

Week 7
Thurs 26th Nov - Junior Athletics (postponement day)

Week 8
Thurs 3 Dec - Athletics Day (Year 3-6)
Tues 1st & Fri 4th Dec -Volcano Van (select classes)

Week 9
Tues 8th Dec - Tōtara Assembly - 2.15pm
Fri 11th Dec - Kauri Assembly - 2.15pm

Week 10
Tues 15th Dec- Year 6 Graduation - 12.30pm start

Friday 18th December
Term 4 finishes at 1:30pm

Note there is no Teacher Only Day this term

A Word from our Principal



Tenā koutou e te whānau and Happy Diwali,

The excitement is certainly building for our Bird, Bug and Bush Bonanza showcase next week. The children and staff are looking forward to having family members come to school to look at the great work they have been doing. **Please look at the article in this newsletter for before and after school times when families can come and see what has been going on.**

At the same time, next week, we celebrate Diwali at school. The children and event organiser Melinda Narayan have arranged a number of fun events throughout the week that will culminate in a special show on Friday 13th November at 2.00pm in Te Whau. My advice would be to get in early to get a good seat!

To further recognise Diwali, on Friday 13th November, the children are invited to **wear their Indian cultural clothes or just come in bright clothing** of some kind. We are not asking for money for this dress up day.

I know too the that Year 5 children are looking forward to their Bike Skills day on either Monday or Tuesday next week.

What a busy week!

In the following week, the Year 3-6 children will all have two cricket sessions with coaches from Auckland Cricket and selected senior children will be invited to go to the Basketball inter-school event.

Ngā mihi maioha, (thank you with appreciation)
Neil Robinson
Principal

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FAB Lunch Fundraisers

Available to order for the term and pay via Kindo app/website.

Mai Sushi - **every Wednesday**
- ordering closes 12pm Tuesday

Tuckr **Pita Pit** - **every Thursday - odd weeks**
- ordering closes 7.30pm Wednesday






Subway - every Thursday - even weeks
- ordering closes 9.30am on the day

Xi'an Food Bar - **every Friday**
- ordering closes 12pm Thursday

look out for the new dumpling flavours - ***Pork & Chives and Egg & Chives***

How do you pay?
You pay through an app called Kindo.
If you don't have Kindo it is very easy to set up by registering on the Kindo website, go to mykindo.co.nz/Register or download the app available on **Apple** and Android.
If you need any help you can ask our friendly office staff.



Being Kaitiaki in Gittos Domain!

Last week, a group of tamariki were kaitiaki (guardians of the environment) at Gittos Domain, with the help of Anna from Auckland Council.
We learnt about pest plants and the harmful effects they can have on our native trees and plants. The children then put their learning into action, carefully weeding and removing pest plants to help protect our local environment.
A big thank you to Anna and our awesome parent helpers who came along to help us!
Ka rawe, tamariki! What a fantastic way to be a change maker and care for our local ngahere (bush).







Diwali Celebration

Festival of Light and Togetherness

Diwali is also known as the Festival of Lights. Diwali commemorates Lord Ram's return to his kingdom, Ayodhya, after 14 years of exile. The people of Ayodhya lit the city brightly and welcomed Ram, Lakshman, and Sita by lighting diyas and decorating their homes.
The Diwali festival is also believed to symbolise Goddess Lakshmi coming home. People celebrate by lighting many clay lamps called 'diyas' around their homes. They also worship Goddess Lakshmi and Lord Ganesha on this day as they are believed to bring good luck, prosperity, and wealth.

Diwali in school will be celebrated next week, Nov 9th to Nov 13th. The children will have the opportunity to participate in a range of activities throughout this week.

Wishing our whānau who celebrate Diwali all the best in your preparations.
Happy Diwali!

Lockdown Practice- Wednesday 18th November - 11.40am



We regularly have lockdown (stay inside) and evacuation practices at school. This is important so that our systems and procedures are well known and keep everyone safe if there ever is a real emergency. The procedures developed allow us to respond safely and quickly to a range of circumstances.

So we are all prepared students, staff, parents and emergency services are included in the Lockdown practice.
On Wednesday 18th November, at about 11.40 am parents will receive a text message from the school saying that we are having a lockdown practice. The information passed on will emphasise that this is an exercise/practice and will explain that all updated information will then be posted on the school website.

Please note that you do not need to take any action at all, it is just to check our systems to see that they are all working.

In a genuine incident, should you hear of a lockdown or evacuation at the school, can I please ask that you DO NOT come to school or phone, as we will not be able to respond. Your presence at, or contact with, the school may make it more difficult for us to manage the situation and could potentially place your children and, in fact, yourselves at risk.
We thank you for your support.

Junior School Year 0-2 Athletics Day!

This year, children will take part in **9 fun athletics activities** on the turf and field. Each class will move around the activities together.
Families are welcome to come and watch and we invite you to walk around with your child's class and cheer them on. **The gate by Golden Apple (black gate) will be unlocked, as well as the gate on Gill Cres by the office. Please ensure you close the gate behind you.**

Important information

- **Date:** Friday 20 November
- **Time:** 9.00 am – 11.30 am
- **Clothing:** Please have your child wear their class team colour T-shirt.
  - Kea: white
  - Pukeko: red
  - Kākāriki: green
  - Kererū: blue
  - Weka: black



- Please ensure your child has their named **sunhat**, some **sunblock** and a full bottle of **water, and their running shoes**
- We would like the children to wear shorts or leggings
- Children come to school in their sports gear (not uniform) - they will stay in these clothes all day
- **Lunch:** You are welcome to stay and have lunch with your child when the events finish (approx 11:30am).

ATTENDANCE UPDATE

TERM 4

This is the percentage of students attending regularly (90% or more)

Week 2: 75%

Week 3: 83%

Blockhouse Bay School Christmas Tree Fundraiser

We have decided to take part in the promotion to see if any parents would like make use of this service

To take part, families pick their tree size, choose pick-up or home delivery, and every tree ordered through this page raises money for Blockhouse Bay School.

Tree prices (pick-up):
Small (3.5 to 4.5ft): $72
Medium (5 to 6ft): $90
Large (6 to 7ft): $117

Home delivery is an extra $30 and tree removal after Christmas is an extra $30 ($50 for both).

Feel free to click on this link to find out more or to make an order:

https://www.zachsxmastrees.co.nz/products/blockhouse-bay-school-fundraiser



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Quirky Christmas in New Lynn! 🎄

Suburbs Rugby Club is hosting a uniquely festive weekend on Saturday 12 & Sunday 13 December 2026!

- 🎅 Meet Santa & The Grinch
- 🍭 Quirky Christmas Grotto Walk-Through
- 🎁 Market Stalls (from 10am)
- 🎶 Community Fun, Food & Open Bar/Kitchen

📍 Suburbs Rugby Club, 130 Portage Road, New Lynn
🎟️ Book Grotto Timeslots on TryBooking

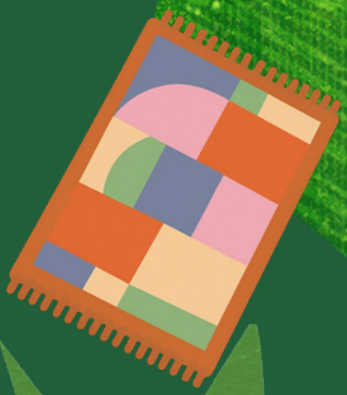


Blockhouse Bay Library is collecting empty, cleaned Chip and Biscuit packets for the Chip Packet Project

The bags will be fused together to make survival blankets for people in need.

PACKETS/BAGS MUST BE:

- **FAMILY SIZED chip or biscuit packets**
- **Washed in warm soapy water**
- **Cut down one edge, landscape *(see packet prep instructions on the flyer)***





Please bring packets to the library for collection

Any queries please contact:
blockhousebaylibrary@aklc.govt.nz

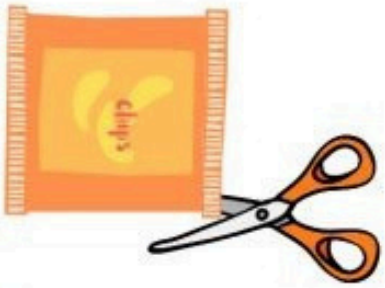
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PACKET PREP

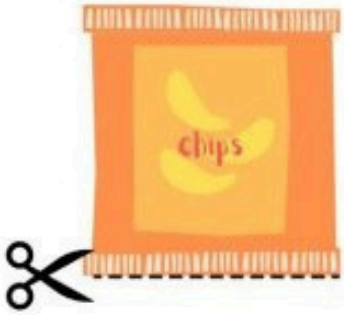
1 enjoy your chips



2 take your chip packet and cut down one edge



3



gently pull the bottom edge open, or cut if it is difficult

4



now you have a landscape open and flat packet to work with

5



wash your packets in warm soapy water or pop a few in a pillowcase and wash in the machine on cool

6



hang up, or towel dry

FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP BY SCANNING THIS QR CODE OR FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA @CHIPPACKETPROJECTNZ