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BELL BLOCK SCHOOL

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Our Best Always

NEWSLETTER



WHATS INSIDE THIS WEEK

- Muru Raupatu Marae Visit
- Senior Team News
- School Survey
- Sports Team Photos
- Intermediate Team News
- Dates For Your Calendar



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OUR VISION

To provide in partnership with home and community the educational opportunities for all pupils to develop into life long learners who actively contribute to society in a positive way.



24TH MAY 2017

Tena ra koutou ki nga e wha; Greetings to everybody; kia ora; talofa lava; guten tag; konnichi wa; xin chào neih hou; choum reap sor; aweh.

This week we introduce and welcome to our school Mia-May Davis, Ada Ryan and Kiarna-Jay Verstraten-Richardson who are being taught by Ms Siān Evans in Room 2.

Ms Evans has been teaching for twelve years in Auckland and London. She recently moved to New Plymouth and loves it here! As well as teaching, she loves to make films and worked in TV for a little while. She is excited to work at Bell Block School!

"HOW TO GROW CHILDREN WHO HAVE GRIT AND RESILIENCE "

Bell Block whānau are very fortunate to have a number of high quality Early Learner Centres to enrol their children at. We enjoy very positive relationships with the staff at the centres. Rising Stars Pre School has organised an excellent workshop by Kimberley Crisp entitled "How to grow children who have grit and resilience " in our school library on Tuesday 30th May from 6:30-8:30pm. It is open to all whānau and teachers and support staff. All our school whānau and staff are very welcome to attend.

MURU RAUPATU MARAE VISIT.

It was so exciting to see how much the students and staff enjoyed their time at Muru Raupatu marae and how much learning happened. I was thrilled to spend Thursday morning with Rooms 7 & 8 who all took turns in sharing what they had learnt. I was impressed! There was evidence of our school Value for Term 2, Helping Others, being modeled, including in the kitchen. Ka rawe tamariki.

Room 9 invited me to see the marae they had constructed as a home learning task where lots of new learning was displayed. We have some engineers, builders and architects in our school. One of the benefits of home learning is parents and their children talking and learning together and there had been lots of that with the constructed marae. Do call into Room 9 and the office and see the models.

FROM THE SENIOR TEAM

A big thank you to all of the whanau who helped make our Muru Raupatu Marae trip the success that it was. To all who baked, who popped out when they could we thank you for your support. To the hard-core kitchen crew, ably led by 'head-chef Bob' we cannot thank you enough for all of your hard work over the three days as you ensured our children were well-fed, watered and happy!

As teachers we are very proud of how our senior team children continued to show our Bell Block School Values, despite being in a different environment. The respect they all showed toward Māori customs and traditions, their willingness to join in and their genuine desire to ask questions and learn more warmed our hearts and leaves us with the knowledge that providing experiences like this enables our tamariki to develop deep understanding of what it truly means to be a New Zealander.

NO CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY this week due to the Intermediate team being at camp.

NUGENT STREET CROSSING NEXT TO SHIFTY'S

If your children use this crossing please talk to them about using the crossing carefully and not expecting traffic to stop. It is NOT a pedestrian crossing. There have been some occasions when children have dashed across and nearly been hit. I spoke to the children last week but a frequent reminder from home will help keep our children safe.

KAPA HAKA RŌPŪ PERFORMING AT PIHMS.

We are always honoured when our Kapa Haka rōpū is invited to take part in the welcome and graduation ceremonies at PIHMS. This Friday at 8.30am the rōpū will welcome guests to a conference being held there. Kia kaha tamariki. Today Year 3&4 students are bringing home an invitation from PIHMS to join them at a dance on Saturday 3 June. The first 50 permission slips returned will get to join this fun event.

SCHOOL SURVEY

The final question on the survey asked for ideas, comments not already covered as outlined here.

- Are only G rated movies shown for celebration days etc and who chooses the content? Yes only G rated movies are shown. Any movie choice is made by the teachers with input from students in many cases. If a movie is shown for termly celebration time there is often two movies shown from which children can choose.
- More interaction between senior and junior Kapa Haka rōpū.
- Without text books it is hard knowing what they are being taught and to give help at home. It would be nice to get information easily.
- Some boys are peeing on the toilet floors.
- Can we re visit the school uniform question. I'd support it.
- More feedback throughout the year about how our children are progressing other than mid year report and interview. A note in the home learning book isn't enough.
- More information about new entrant enrolment processes.
- We are new to the school this year and cannot be happier. Our children are thriving.
- Teachers are awesome and the productions / activities that my kids participate in are amazing. Really appreciate the effort made. Thank you.

The so what?

Asking for feedback in a survey is of no value at all unless the participants feel their responses have been taken seriously and their ideas for change considered. Next week I will outline the changes we have made as a result of your suggestions.

SPORTS TEAM PHOTOS WILL BE TAKEN ON 2ND OF JUNE

If you would like to order these this is an added cost on top of the sports fee. Envelopes for ordering can be picked up from the office. If students can please bring their sports uniforms and wear black/dark shorts or pants next Friday. Coaches will be contacted individually regarding photo times. If you have any questions please contact the office or Miss Bower.

FROM THE INTERMEDIATE TEAM

The Marae was lots of fun. Everyone enjoyed learning about Maori culture. The seniors had a great time staying over night. All the Intermediates learnt a lot, well I did. The juniors, half the senior team, and the intermediates went on Tuesday the 16th of May. We were welcomed with a powhiri. The juniors did a few different activities to the seniors and intermediates. Tomoerangi Marsh told us some amazing stories about a few of her special musical instruments (Tango Puoro). She hooked in Rooms 9,10,15,16,17 and we listened intently about every instrument. She also played the instruments which had an awesome sound. We said a karakia before we ate our packed morning teas and lunches. Rooms 15,16,17,9,10 made some fantastic spinning musical instruments. It took me a while to learn how to use them. Then the Intermediates said their goodbyes to the seniors who were staying overnight and we left to return back to school at 2:30pm. Altogether this was a great day! By Jade Hassall

Poetry from the Intermediate Team:

We are all the same
Black or white we all bleed red
We are all unique

By Logan Kerriss

By Amber Jordan



DELIVERY OF NEWSLETTERS

Our apologies that the newsletter has been unable to be delivered via email this term. Due to technical difficulties, the office is currently unable to send large group emails. Please download your newsletters from the website until the issue is able to be resolved.

SPARE CLOTHING REQUIRED

We would appreciate any donations of pants, shorts and leggings which can be used to clothe children who become muddy or wet at school. Please bring to the office. Thank you.

TUCKSHOP

THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL.... Fish Fingers & Chips \$5 and Lolly cake \$2

Check out the Term 2 menu on Facebook: The Tuckshop Bell Block School

TE REO PHRASE OF THE WEEK

Parts of the Wharehui: Amo (noun) bargeboard support - upright supports of the lower ends of the maihi of the front of a meeting house.

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Tuesday 23 – Friday 26 May.....Y7/8 Camp at Te Wera
Friday 26 May.....Kapa haka performance at PIHMS 8:30am
Tuesday 30 May.....ICAS Science exam
Friday 2 June.....Sports Team Photos
Monday 5 June.....Queens Birthday – school will be closed
Thursday 8 June.....Y7 Debate at SHGC 10am
Friday 9 June.....Celebration Assembly – 2pm in the hall
Monday 12 June.....ICAS Writing exam
Wednesday 14 June.....ICAS Spelling exam
Friday 23 June.....Celebration Assembly – 2pm in the hall
Thursday 29 June.....Inglewood High School Open Day – 1 - 3:10pm – meet in the hall



On behalf of the staff
Roz Miller, Principal