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# BELL BLOCK SCHOOL

“Kia kaha i ngā wā katoa”  
Our Best Always

## NEWSLETTER



## WHATS INSIDE THIS WEEK

- Classes for 2018
- Sexuality Education
- Meet the Leaders
- News from JuniorTeam
- Parihaka Storyteller
- Dates for your Calendar



## CONTACT US :

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Phone (06) 755 0838  
Mobile: 027 310 9038  
Email: office@bellblock.school.nz  
www.bellblock.school.nz



## 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.



25TH OCTOBER 2017

Dear Parents/Caregivers

What a great week we enjoyed at school last week. The children clicked right back into learning in all classes from day one. We also had the chance to welcome another new student – Melia Dwyer. Happy Bell Block School days Meila.  
As I write we are all looking forward to Pet Day today. A high point on the school calendar for many of us.

CLASSES FOR 2018.

Each year when I write this message I find it hard to believe that the year is so far through that we need to begin thinking about class placements for the following year. However, this is a big task to which teachers devote a great deal of time and thought, to ensure that the children are placed in the class where they can achieve their “Best Always”.  
Unless there is a particular reason for moving, each child spends two years in the same room. So if your child is in Year 3, 5 or 7 they would normally remain in the same class. If the teachers see a reason for moving them they will contact you.  
When making up class lists there are many things that are taken into account so we end up with, as near as possible, the right mix of children in each class.  
In each team (Year 1/2: Year 3/4: Year 5/6: Year 7/8) our classes are as equally balanced as we can get them – there are no “A” and “B” streams. We take into account childrens’ and teachers’ interests, the needs of the children - both social and academic, friendships and relationships.  
If there is something about your child which you would like considered in placing them for next year please make a time to see me, or give me a ring, before Friday of next week - November 3rd.  
Once children are placed in a class we do not change them unless we have made a mistake.

SCHOOL ARRIVAL

When children arrive at school before 8.25am they wait in the bay outside Room 1 until the bell goes at 8.25am. While teachers may be at school early they may not be in their classroom or in the playground, so children arriving before the 8.25am bell can become a safety issue.

LATE ARRIVALS.

Please ensure that if your child arrives at school after the bell has gone at 8.55am they check in at the office so we can mark them as present.

ABSENCES.

Please remember to notify school if your child is not going to be at school or is going to be late. You can text 027 310 9038 or ring 755 0838.

SIGNING OUT

So that we know where all our students are at all times, if you need to take your child to an appointment during school time please sign the child out in the book in the office.

SEXUALITY EDUCATION

Last term we invited you to a meeting with regards to the incorporation of sexuality education into Bell Block School’s Health Education learning programmes (beginning Term 4, 2017). This is part of the NZ Curriculum.  
This is not the same as sex education. Sexuality education covers such things as friendships, keeping ourselves safe and healthy eating for the Junior school and moves to more specific things such as demonstrating an assertive response to pressures and developing a positive body image for Intermediate students.  
If you were not able to make it to this meeting and still have questions with regards to what your child will be learning in their classroom, please feel free to make a time to meet with your child’s teacher. They will be able to explain the learning involved for your child’s age group and discuss with you any concerns or questions that you have.

NEW PRINCIPAL’S APPOINTMENT.

Applications for the new Bell Block School Principal have now closed and the Appointments Committee are working through the process of appointing our new Principal. A sincere thanks to all of those who have made a contribution to the process.

Greg Watt BOT

MEET THE LEADERS.

Hi, my name is Kaylin Partridge and I am one of your fabulous Kereru Whanau Leaders for the second half of 2017. I love art, drama and hanging out with my friends. I am approachable so come and say “Hey” whenever you get a chance.



IT’S COMING!!

The Scholastic Book Fair kicks off in the Bell Block School Library on the afternoon of the 1st November until the 7th November – 8.40am – 3.30pm. Grandparents Day/Dress as your Favourite Character Day is Friday 3rd November.

Any parents willing to help sell books on the 3rd between the hours of 11.30 – 2.30 please leave your contact details at the office. Thanks.



GREETINGS FROM THE JUNIOR TEAM.

This term is going to be a busy one. The Junior classes are beginning by studying ‘The Seasons’. Last week we went for a walk to look for signs of spring. We will also be doing the ‘Keeping Ourselves Safe’ programme which is a programme developed by the NZ Police.

SPORTING SUCCESS.

Congratulations to Milla Ellis who was placed 4th in the 8 Year old Girls competition at the North Island BMX Championships over the weekend.

SPORTS UNIFORMS.

All sports uniforms from winter sports should have now been returned to the office. Should you still have outstanding uniforms at home, please return to school as soon as possible.



PARIHAKA STORYTELLER.

Tracey Wheeler will be here on Monday October 30th to inform and educate the Senior and Intermediate students about the significant historical events and people of Parihaka.  
This story belongs to all New Zealanders and especially to those of Taranaki. "When we know our history it helps us to know ourselves and to know our place in the world today."  
Children listen and watch the presentation, then use their creativity to create a peace flag to join together.  
Cost: \$2. Please send your money to your classroom teacher as soon as possible to enable us to gauge final numbers.  
Parents or extended whānau who would like to listen are welcome to join us.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB.

Book orders close this Friday 27th of October. Please return orders and money to the office by this date.

TUCKSHOP.

THIS WEEK’S CHALKBOARD SPECIAL.....Mac n Cheese \$5

This term the Tuckshop will be open after school.

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Thursday 26 October.....	Puanga Festival 9:15am at Waitara War Memorial Hall
Friday 27 October.....	Scholastic Book Orders close
	Testing for Inglewood High School 11:30am in the Kelly Club
	Celebration Assembly 2pm in the hall
Monday 30 October.....	Parihaka Storyteller Y5-8
Wednesday 1 – Tuesday 7 November.....	Scholastic Book Fair
Thursday 2 November.....	Hearing and Vision Testing
Friday 3 November.....	Dress as your Favourite Character Day and Grandparents Lunch
Monday 6 – 14 November.....	Mobile Dental Clinic in school
	Testing for NPGHS 9am
Friday 10 November.....	Celebration Assembly 2pm in the hall
Wednesday 15 November.....	New Entrant Orientation Day 9am in the staffroom
Monday 18 December.....	Leavers Assembly
Tuesday 19 December.....	End of school year 12noon

COMMUNITY NOTICES.

**Light Party** (a positive alternative to Halloween)...Tuesday 31st October from 5:30-7:30pm at Northpoint Church, 116 Mangati Road  
Lots of fun activities, bouncy castles, face painting, balloon animals and food. \$2 donation per family.  
Food tickets available to buy at the gate, or food ticket pre-sales (\$1 per ticket) from Tues 24th October-Friday 27th October from 8:30-9:30am and 2:30-4:00pm at Northpoint office. Dress-up in your favourite costume (no scary costumes please).  
For more information contact Jo Daken 0273852936.  
**Bell Block Athletics Club** is changing to Tuesday nights at Hickford Park starting at 6pm. Opening night 7 November, \$20 per child. For more information contact Christine 027 747 0109 or email cfeek@slingshot.co.nz or www.sportsground.co.nz/bellblockathletics.  
**Fitzroy Surf Lifesaving Club 2017/18 Season** - Our family friendly club would like to welcome new and returning members to our registration evening and first club day of the upcoming season. If you are interested in finding out what our club has to offer, come along and check us out. Our Junior Surf programme aims to provide children with the opportunity to have fun and gain confidence and skills in beach and water safety.  
Opening Day and Registration: Saturday 4th November 2017 at Fitzroy SLSC. Please email junior@fitzroyslsc.co.nz for further information.  
**Early Bird Learn to Skate Group** - classes recommence Saturday 28th October 2017. These run 9.30 – 10.30am at the East End Reserve Skating Arena. \$3 per skater (\$2 extra for Hire skates). No bookings required. Doors open by 9.15am.  
For further information Contact Sheryll or Val Ph 7586233

On behalf of the staff  
Roz Miller, Principal