

30 January 2023

Welcome to Bell Block School for 2023

Happy new year. We hope you have all had a relaxing holiday and enjoyed the summer weather. Hopefully the students are refreshed and ready to start the year. Our staff have been working hard during the holidays preparing for the students' arrival. We are fully staffed and really looking forward to having the students back to start the year.

It was great to see our students this morning genuinely excited about the new year and their new class, as well as seeing so many of our families as the students arrived and left on their first day. It is normal for students to feel excited and a bit nervous on the first day but this usually passes quickly. If your child is still feeling this way next week, please let the classroom teacher know as additional plans may need to be put in place. Just a quick reminder that if you need to pick up your child during the day please go to the office first to sign your child out.

Once again, we will be looking to provide as many of our traditional opportunities for the students as we cross our fingers that the impact of COVID in the community remains low. More information will follow as planning for these events continues. This term we are hoping to get back to our traditional swimming and triathlon events in some form as well as the beginning of the cricket and touch seasons.

You can check the school website at www.bellblock.school.nz to see what is coming up as the year progresses. News, forms and timetables are also displayed on the website as well as blogs from the classroom teams, sport registration information and online home learning links plus much more. Please take the time to familiarise yourself with the website as most school information can be easily located via your device.

As well as this, our school newsletter is available on the eTAP app on a Friday and looks at what is coming up in the coming weeks. The newsletter is also published on our website and Facebook. It is a great way to find out what is going on and keep up to date with school events and happenings. If you need any help to log on to the eTAP app please call the office team on 755 0838. They will be only too happy to assist you. The first newsletter will be sent out on Friday.

If you have any concerns about your child here at Bell Block School, please contact the classroom teacher in the first instance. For additional support, you can also contact our Deputy Principal Danielle Hill and Assistant Principal Emily Doelman. Danielle Hill will be overseeing the Senior and Intermediate teams (Years 5-8) and Emily Doelman will be overseeing the Junior and Middle teams (Years 0-4). I am also available to assist with enquiries as are our fantastic office team who will point you in the right direction if you are unsure. All appointments with the Principal and the Deputy or Assistant Principal can be made by contacting Kim Hill (Executive Officer) in the office.

This will be another busy and exciting year here at Bell Block School and we look forward to working alongside you to get the best possible outcomes for your child/ren.

Conrad Hailes
Principal