

BELL BLOCK SCHOOL NEWSLETTER #32
Friday 3 November 2023

Focus Value:
 Responsibility -
 Takohanga



School Goal:
 To challenge ourselves in
 our learning

Book Fair and the traditional Grandparents' Day have added some extra excitement to the school this week. It has been great to see so many of our community coming in to be a part of the day and visiting the Book Fair. The students got into the costume aspect and some of the outfits were absolutely amazing. Well done to all the students and staff who dressed up as their favourite book character. Thank you to all the community who were able to come and be part of the day as well. We love having our grandparents and whānau come to see the students in action. Thanks also to our Acting Assistant Principal, Renee Pearce, who organised the day and Librarian, Cindy Manukonga, and her team who ran the Book Fair. We also appreciated our PTA who provided tea, coffee and baking for our guests.



As part of our school planning for 2024, we have a questionnaire for our community to share their feedback on Bell Block School. This will help us to set the direction of where we are going, understand what is going well and what we need to develop moving forward. Please take some time to share your thoughts as we very much appreciate your insights and want our school to continue to develop and improve. The questionnaire will remain open until **Monday 13 November**. Please click [here](#) to complete the questionnaire or check your email inbox.

Work on the end of year reports is well underway. These reports sum up the progress students have made across the year and show where their achievement levels are. The reports will be available on the school app and emailed to parents on Wednesday 6 December. Reports also contain each student's 2024 class placement.

Looking Ahead

	Monday 6 November	Tuesday 7 November	Wednesday 8 November	Thursday 9 November	Friday 10 November
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Book Fair in Library 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senior Trip to Govett Brewster Art Gallery – Rms 13/14 7:00 PTA Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senior Trip to Govett Brewster Art Gallery – Rms 11/12 2:00 Kapa Haka Group practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subway lunch available Intermediate Technology Year 6 Intermediate Taster Session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 New Entrants' Transition Visit 2:00 Celebration Assembly
	Monday 13 November	Tuesday 14 November	Wednesday 15 November	Thursday 16 November	Friday 17 November
Week 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Entrant Cohort 8 starts Year 8 Immunisations (catch up) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:15 Senior Athletics 11:30 Intermediate Athletics 1:4 Sprints (Year 3-8) 2:20 Relays 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:00 Middle Athletics 1:40 Junior Athletics 2:00 Kapa Haka Group practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subway lunch available Intermediate Technology Year 6 Intermediate Taster Session 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 New Entrants' Transition Visit 2:00 Singing Assembly Juicie order forms due

Athletics Days

Our Athletics Days are upcoming and there is information about times and events shared below. We always have a great turnout of parents and families coming along to see the students in action so feel free to come and support your student if you are able.

The highly anticipated 100m and 200m sprint finals for Years 3-8 will be held on Tuesday 14 November from 1.45pm. Heats are held during class time in the weeks prior so that finalists can be determined. If your student is Year 3-8, please check with them whether they have qualified for the 100m or 200m sprint final.

Tuesday 14 November

9.15am-11.00am Seniors (Years 5-6)
 11.30am-1.15pm Intermediates (Years 7-8)
 From 1.45pm Sprints 100m & 200m Finals (Years 3-8 finalists)
 Approx. 2.20pm Class and Whānau Relays (Years 3-8)



Wednesday 15 November

11.00am-1.00pm Middles (Year 3-4)
 1.40pm-2.45pm Juniors (Years 1-2)

Pack The Bus



On **Tuesday 21 November** we are having a dress-up day to help Taranaki families in need. Students are encouraged to dress up as 'future you' (what you would like to be when you grow up) and bring a donation of either non-perishable food items, a new unwrapped children's gift or cat/kitten food.

Ryan Hailes Memorial Scholarship

The Ryan Hailes Memorial Scholarship recognises emerging young sports people who demonstrate excellence in their chosen sport. The purpose of the scholarship is to offer financial contribution in recognition of the costs involved in competing at a regional and/or national representative level. If you know a deserving recipient, please apply in writing by email to sport@bellblock.school.nz. Applications must be received no later than Friday 17 November.

Attendance

	# of Students Attending Last Week	% of Students Attending Last Week	Potential Lost Learning Days per Year
Regular Attendance 90-100%	295	66.89%	Up to 19 days
Irregular Absence 80-89%	73	16.55%	Up to 38 days
Moderate Absence 70-79%	14	3.17%	Up to 58 days
Chronic Absence 0-69%	59	13.38%	Up to 193 days

Reminder – Bikes and Scooters

A reminder that bikes and scooters are not to be ridden within school grounds during school hours while there are students onsite. Please walk your bike or scooter if you need to move through the school.

PTA News

Our PTA fundraiser this term is Juicies. Juicies are made from freshly pressed apples with fruits and berries, have no added sugar, artificial colours or preservatives. Pop them in the freezer for those hot summer days. There is also a handy reusable Juicies holder in each pack. An order form has been given to students to bring home and is also available to download from the @school app under 'Documents'. We ask for all order forms to be returned to the school office Dropbox by **Friday 17 November**. Please collect all payments together and make one bank transfer or cash payment which is for the TOTAL amount on your order form. Pick up of orders will be on Friday 1 December between 2.30pm-3.30pm from the school Tuck Shop building (near the Library).

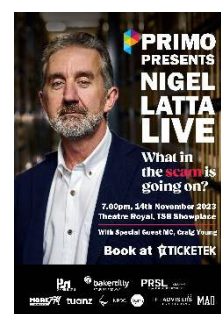


Student Leader Applications

Year 7 students who are wanting to apply for Student Leader roles for next year have until 3:00pm on 8 November to submit their applications. We had a large turnout of students at the information meeting last week and are looking forward to seeing who wants to take on one of these exciting roles in our school.

Conrad Hailes
Principal

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Measles

Recently an alert went out across New Zealand when a Northland student was diagnosed with measles after attending a National Shakespeare Schools event in Wellington during the school holidays.

Te Whatu Ora Taranaki is reminding everyone to be vigilant following this case and keep an eye out for the signs and symptoms of measles which is a serious viral disease that can make people very sick. It spreads very easily among people who have not had measles before or have not been immunised against measles. It can be passed on by breathing, sneezing, or coughing near others. You can catch measles just by being in a room someone with measles was in up to an hour before.

Where measles is suspected, please stay at home, and call your healthcare provider or Healthline on 0800 611 116 for more advice.

The best way to ensure you and your family/whānau are protected from measles is to be up to date with the measles immunisation (MMR).

If you aren't sure whether you have had one or two doses of MMR, for most people it's safe to get vaccinated again – just reach out to your health provider or visit your local pharmacy.

Measles signs and symptoms

- It usually takes 10-12 days from exposure to the first symptom.
- The illness begins with fever, cough, runny nose, and conjunctivitis (inflammation in the eyes), which lasts for 2-4 days.
- It may be possible to see small white spots (Koplik spots) inside the mouth.
- A rash appears 2-4 days after the first symptoms, beginning at the hairline and gradually spreading down the body to the arms and legs. The rash can last for up to one week.

More information about measles and the MMR vaccine can be found at [Measles, mumps and rubella \(MMR\) vaccine | Immunise | Te Whatu Ora](#)

