

BELL BLOCK SCHOOL NEWSLETTER #34
Friday 17 November 2023

Focus Value:
 Respect -Whakaute



School Goal:
 To treat others the way
 you would like to be
 treated

This week, the Athletics Days took centre stage as the students showed their best running, jumping and throwing skills. It was fantastic to see so many families come along to support the students and watch them in action. The class and whānau relays were once again hotly contested and the competitive nature of both the staff and students came to the surface. I was really impressed to see some students stepping in to take roles in the finals and relays just so their team could compete. Giving things a go and doing your best even when it is not your favourite activity or a personal strength is such an important quality both in life and learning and one of our students have showed this week. Our Student Leaders also did a great job supporting the younger students and assisting with each of the rotations. I would like to thank Mrs Abby Piercy and the staff for organising the two days and all the parents who were able to attend.



Next week we have our compulsory Teacher Only Day on Monday. This was put in place by the Ministry of Education to help support schools to deliver the refreshed curriculum. We understand the inconvenience this causes for our families and thank you for your support. Kelly Club are offering a Teacher Only Day programme. If you are interested, please phone Krystal on 021 158 3632.



On Tuesday 21 November, we are supporting the *Pack the Bus* fundraising venture. Students can dress up as what they would like to be in the future. It can be anything from an astronaut to the Prime Minister to Spiderman....anything they would like to be! Students can bring a donation for one of the three charities we are supporting that help Taranaki people and animals in need:

- non-perishable food item for *On The House*
 - new unwrapped children's gifts for *Taranaki Retreat*
 - cat/kitten food (preferably kitten food, wet or dry) for *Taranaki Animal Protection Trust*
- Donations can be taken to the Piwaiwaka Room, next to Room 13, before school and we will be having a FREE sausage sizzle lunch to celebrate. Let's support these worthy charities and have a little bit of fun next Tuesday.

Looking Ahead

| | Monday 20 November | Tuesday 21 November | Wednesday 22 November | Thursday 23 November | Friday 24 November |
|---------------|---|--|---|---|--|
| Week 7 | TEACHER ONLY DAY SCHOOL CLOSED | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pack The Bus Day • 11:00 Community Helpers' Morning Tea | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2:00 Kapa Haka Group practice | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subway lunch available • Intermediate Technology | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:00 New Entrants' Transition Visit • 2:00 Celebration Assembly |
| | Monday 27 November | Tuesday 28 November | Wednesday 29 November | Thursday 30 November | Friday 1 December |
| Week 8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming starts • Student Leader Speeches and Voting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road Patrollers' Celebration Day | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2:00 Kapa Haka Community Trip | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subway lunch available • Intermediate Technology • 5:00 Board Meeting • 6:00 Technology Showcase | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:00 New Entrants' Transition Visit • 2:00 Singing Assembly • 2:30 Juicie Collection |

High School Orientation Days

A reminder to caregivers of Year 8 students attending New Plymouth Girls' High School and New Plymouth Boys' High School next year that there is an Orientation Day at the respective schools on **Monday 20 November at 11:00am – 12:00pm**. Please note that Monday 20 November is a Teacher Only Day for Bell Block School.

Attendance

| | # of Students Attending Last Week | % of Students Attending Last Week | Potential Lost Learning Days per Year |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Regular Attendance 90-100% | 311 | 70.05% | Up to 19 days |
| Irregular Absence 80-89% | 68 | 15.32% | Up to 38 days |
| Moderate Absence 70-79% | 11 | 2.48% | Up to 58 days |
| Chronic Absence 0-69% | 54 | 12.16% | Up to 193 days |

Attendance

Student attendance has one of the greatest impacts on student engagement and achievement. In New Zealand, it is a legal requirement that children attend school regularly. Regular attendance at school means missing fewer than five days of school in a standard 10 week term. Over a whole school year regular attendance means missing up to 19 potential lost learning days. This increases to 58 lost learning days for students only attending 70% of the time. The more a child is away from school, the more difficult it is for them to re-engage in their learning when they come back.

We believe that our community is stronger together, with all of our students in school, on time, every day. We are building life skills, friendships and preparing your child for future success.

It can be difficult to know whether your child is too ill to attend school. Te Whatu Ora advice is that healthy young children can have up to 8-12 colds or upper respiratory tract infections each year and these are a normal part of childhood. If in doubt, your child should attend school – often they will feel better after arrival.

What you need to do:

- Notify the office the reason for your child's absence if they cannot attend school. There are various ways to do this:
 - Parent app (@school)
 - Email to absence@bellblock.school.nz
 - Voicemail message to 06 755 0838
- If you cannot make medical appointments outside of school time, please notify the office in advance and sign your child out on the tablet.
- Plan trips for during the school holidays – holidays during the school term are considered unjustified absences. If your child must be absent from school for five days or more please contact the Principal via email principal@bellblock.school.nz
- Ensure your child is at school on time (before 8:55am).
- Have a backup plan in case of transport issues – perhaps call on a neighbour, friend or family member.
- If there are any barriers preventing your child from attending school, please contact our Deputy Principal, Emily Doelman or Attendance Officer, Kim Thomas, to see whether we can help. We appreciate that every family's situation is unique and are able to support your whānau in a number of ways, if needed.

PTA News

Just a reminder that Juicie orders can be collected on *Friday 1 December between 2.30pm-3.30pm* from the school Tuck Shop building (near the library).



Conrad Hailes
Principal

COMMUNITY NOTICES

ReCharge
No charge, but koha is welcome

Year 6's welcome to join us for Term 4
If you're new please get your parent to fill out a registration form when they drop you off. Thanks heaps

HANGOUTS

FRIDAY 17th November
6:00-8:00pm
@Northpoint Baptist Church
116 Mangati Road, Bell Block

Girls bring something savoury and Boys bring some fruit for shared kai.

ReCharge is a Youth Group for kids in Year 7 & 8 of school.
For more information contact us at recharge@northpoint.org.nz

FREE ENTRY ALL WELCOME

10:00AM-3PM SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER

2023 TARANAKI Pasifika Day

CULTURAL PERFORMANCES
VOLLEYBALL & TAG COMP
FOOD STALLS
LOTS OF PRIZES & MORE!

SANDERS PARK TUKAPA RUGBY FIELDS 2ND DECEMBER

INFO: 09 414 0000 OR VISIT WWW.SANDERSPARK.COM

Christmas

FOODBANK DRIVE

Listen for the sirens

Mon 4 Dec from 5.30pm

PUBLIC SIGNING SESSION
SUN 19 NOV SPARK ARENA

MASCOT PARTY
SAT 20 JAN SPARK ARENA

DC MULTIVERSE ROUND
SAT 9 DEC SPARK ARENA

BACK TO THE FUTURE
FRI 26 JAN EVENTINDA STADIUM

CHRISTMAS GAME
FRI 22 DEC SPARK ARENA

CHINESE NEW YEAR
FRI 9 FEB SPARK ARENA

CARNIVAL DAY
SUN 7 JAN SPARK ARENA

FAN APPRECIATION DAY
FRI 16 FEB SPARK ARENA

8 REMAINING AUCKLAND GAMES

bnz breakers

Tickets at ticketmaster.co.nz

KELLY CLUB

A FUN PROGRAMME THAT KIDS LOVE!

Monday 20 November TEACHER ONLY DAY PROGRAMME

BELL BLOCK SCHOOL

We've got an amazing programme planned including baking, crafts, games and more!
Book online now for our fun-filled one day holiday programme. See you there!

| Full Day: 8:30am-5:30pm | School Day: 9am-3pm | Half Day: 8:30am-1pm or 1pm-5:30pm |
|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| \$54 | \$39 | \$34 |

OSCAR PROGRAMME SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE!

Contact: Krystal Reid-Gray
Phone: 021 158 3632

Email: bellblock@kellyclub.co.nz
Facebook: @KellyClubBellBlock

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT www.kellyclub.co.nz