

## BELL BLOCK SCHOOL NEWSLETTER #1

Friday 2 February 2024

**Focus Value:**  
Respect - Whakaute



**School Goal:**  
Greeting new people in  
the school

### A big welcome to Bell Block School for 2024

It is great to have our students back and full of excitement and enthusiasm for the year ahead. Some students were feeling a bit nervous for the first couple of days but this tends to pass quite quickly. If your child is still feeling this way next week, please let the classroom teacher know.

We have several new staff joining our team this year. We welcome our new Deputy Principal, Mrs Courtney Goldsworthy, our new teachers, Miss Sharon Jones to Room 3, Miss Bridget Payne to Room 8, Miss Chloe Gardner-Harrison to Room 9 and Miss Hannah Purser to Room 17. Miss Heather McCallum-Day and Miss Kaia Williams join our Teacher Aide team to provide additional support for students.

### 2024 Bell Block School Staff

Principal Mr Conrad Hailes  
Deputy Principal Mrs Courtney Goldsworthy  
Assistant Principal Mrs Emily Doelman

Rm 2	Ms Sian Evans & Mrs Aleisha Parkinson	Rm 10	Mrs Alex Thompson (Team Leader)
Rm 3	Miss Sharon Jones	Rm 11	Ms Rachael Ingram
Rm 4	Mrs Raewyn Clarkson	Rm 12	Mrs Abby Piercy
Rm 5	Miss Tracey Jacobsen (Team Leader)	Rm 13	Ms Wendy Foster (Team Leader)
Rm 6	Miss Charlotte White	Rm 14	Miss Ruhina Leong
Rm 7	Ms Monique Johnson	Rm 17	Miss Hannah Purser
Rm 8	Miss Bridget Payne	Rm 18	Mr Kade Forsyth & Mrs Renee Pearce
Rm 9	Miss Chloe Gardner-Harrison	Rm 19	Mrs Lynda Lamb
		Rm 20	Mrs Janine Van den Berg (Team Leader)

Science Teacher	Mrs Renee Pearce
Health & PE Teacher	Mrs Lisette Charlton
Reading Recovery	Mrs Robyn Jourdain
Specialist Teacher	Mrs Amy Peters
ELL Teacher	Mrs Lisa O'Leary
Release Teachers	Mrs Aleisha Parkinson, Mrs Jodie Leach
Teacher Aides	Mrs Michelle Hight, Mrs Rhonda Sarten, Mrs Jo Hutchinson, Miss Nina Gibson, Miss Kaia Williams, Miss Heather McCallum-Day
Executive Officer	Mrs Kim Hill
Office Manager	Mrs Kim Thomas
Admin/Sports	Mrs Gayle Davis
Caretaker	Mr Colin Rutherford
Cleaners	Mrs Helen Langlands and Crest Clean
Librarian	Ms Cindy Manukonga
Resource Teacher of Learning and Behaviour (RTLb)	Miss Tennille Yandle
Social Worker in Schools (SWiS)	Ms Kayla Harris
Kapa Haka Tutor	Whaea Raewyn Ashby

We have a large staff working hard to support the students and their families and keep our school looking great. All teachers' email addresses are available from the school website [www.bellblock.school.nz](http://www.bellblock.school.nz).



## Changes for 2024

With classroom teachers getting additional release time this year, we have put together a new plan to give our students great teaching and learning programmes in Health and P.E and Science. Students right across the school will attend Health and P.E. lessons with Mrs Lisette Charlton and Science lessons in our newly established Science room with Mrs Renee Pearce.

The Intermediate Technology programme has been moved to Fridays to help build in consistent teaching and learning times for our Intermediate classes. To accommodate this change, we have moved our school assembly to Friday mornings at 10:00am. Parents and families are welcome to attend these assemblies to help us celebrate our amazing students.

## Our School Vision, Values and Principles

At this time of year, we spend time setting our standards and routines and developing both class and school culture. These are all based around the school vision. This has been developed with community input and underpins the culture we strive for in the school and what we want to see from our students. It is a perfect time to discuss the vision with your child and set some goals to achieve this year.

The grey part of our logo represents a korowai or cloak. A school and community supporting students to live the motto Our Best Always – Kaha i ngā wā katoa. This is the representation of Triple A - **Ability, Attitude and Action**.

The black side of the logo represents the mountain. The strong, unchanging foundation of what we do. This represents our School Values.

**Respect – Whakaute**  
**Manaakitanga – Caring**  
**Responsibility – Takohanga**  
**Tū Māia – Standing Brave**

The blue side of the logo represents the rivers and sea. It is an adaptable, unstoppable force that impacts the landscape over time. This represents our School Principles.

**Community – Hapori**  
**Ahurea – Culture**  
**Innovation – Auahatanga**  
**Hurikiko – Aspiration**

## Parent App – '@school'



The parent app '@school' is our main form of school communication. Please ensure you are logged in to the app and receiving notifications. If you prefer to receive an email rather than a notification on your phone, you can change the settings in the app to email you with advice of any new newsletters or messages. To do this, once logged in to the parent app, go to the three dots in the top right, select Settings and tick 'Enable Email Notifications'. You need to do this for each child. You will now receive an email notification in your inbox for any communications from school.

Did you know that the school app can also be accessed via a website? If you do not have the app, use the '@school' website to access school communications and stay informed. [www.atschool.co.nz](http://www.atschool.co.nz). You will need your UserID and password to log in. If you do not have these, please email the office who will be happy to provide it to you.

If you need any other assistance to get set up with the school app, please email the office who are only too happy to assist – Email [office@bellblock.school.nz](mailto:office@bellblock.school.nz)



## Student Arrival Times

Before school is a very busy time. For students to be organised and prepared to have a successful day they need to have time to put their bags away and get out the items they will need. School starts at 8:55am and most students will need at least 15 minutes to get themselves organised before that time. If your child arrives after 8:55am please ensure they sign in on the tablet in the office so we know they have arrived. If your child arrives at school before 8:25am they must wait in the covered area outside Room 1. All classroom teachers are in their classroom from 8:25am each day to greet the students as they arrive.



## Attendance

Student attendance (along with effective teaching) has the greatest impact 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. As we enter 2024, every day of school matters. To maximise the progress of each student we need them to be at school as many days as possible. Every day they are away is a missed opportunity to learn they can never get back. Please ensure your child attends as many days as possible this year to give them the best chance of 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](mailto: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 – Family holidays or taking time off for extracurricular activities (not organised by school) are not acceptable reasons for being absent.
- 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 your child's classroom teacher or our Assistant Principal, Emily Doelman or Attendance Officer, Kim Thomas to see whether we can help. We appreciate that every family's situation is unique.

Our school is committed to supporting your child to attend school and building a culture that fosters excellent attendance. We appreciate your help and support ensuring that your child comes to school every day so that they can achieve the best possible outcomes.

## School Swimming

One of the major focusses for Term 1 is swimming. Please help your child to be organised for these sessions by talking about what gear they need to bring. It is a perfect opportunity to develop self-management skills especially in the upper levels of the school.

Bell Block School Swimming Timetable - Term 1 2024					
Inside Pool	Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
	12:15 - 1:00	Room 18 (2 lanes only)	Room 18 (2 lanes only)	Room 14 (2 lanes only)	Room 14 (2 lanes only)
	1:40 - 2:20	Rooms 17/19/20	Rooms 17/19/20	Rooms 9/10	Rooms 9/10
	2:20 - 3:00	Rooms 11/12/13	Rooms 11/12/13	Rooms 7/8	Rooms 7/8
Outside Pool (Juniors)	1:40 - 3:00	Rooms 5/6	Rooms 2/3/4	Rooms 5/6	Rooms 2/3/4
	11:00 - 1:00	ORS	ORS		



## School Photo Day

PhotoLife will be in school next **Friday 9 February** to take class photos, individual portraits and sibling portraits. Check your child's bag for a PhotoLife flyer detailing the process for viewing and ordering student photos online. All students will have their individual portrait taken and caregivers can choose to order packs containing a combination of class photos and individual portraits on the PhotoLife website using their child's individual photo key code. Key codes are emailed to caregivers two weeks after photo day.

Should you wish your children to sit for a sibling portrait, please complete the sibling photo request form and return to the office drop box **BEFORE next Friday 9 February**.

Looking Ahead					
Week 2	Monday 5 February	Tuesday 6 February	Wednesday 7 February	Thursday 8 February	Friday 9 February
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intermediate Bike Trip permissions close</li> </ul>	<b>WAITANGI DAY</b>  <b>SCHOOL CLOSED</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 Breakfast Club</li> <li>9:00 New Entrant Transition Visit</li> <li>2:00 Kapa Haka Group practice</li> <li>Cricket registrations close</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 Breakfast Club</li> <li>School Photo Day</li> <li>Intermediate Technology</li> <li>Touch registrations close</li> </ul>
Week 3	Monday 12 February	Tuesday 13 February	Wednesday 14 February	Thursday 15 February	Friday 16 February
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 Breakfast Club</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:00 PTA Meeting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 Breakfast Club</li> <li>9:00 New Entrant Transition Visit</li> <li>Intermediate Bike Trip</li> <li>2:00 Kapa Haka Group practice</li> <li>Cricket payment due</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5:00 Board Meeting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 Breakfast Club</li> <li>10:00 Celebration Assembly</li> <li>Touch payment due</li> </ul>

## Student Council

Today we had a special induction assembly where our new Student Leaders were sworn in to their roles. They always do an amazing job and represent our school with pride and diligence. Congratulations go to all our Student Leaders for the first half of 2024:

**Head Girl** – Abigail Beach

**ICT Student Leader** – Olin Mackey

**Head Boy** – Archie Bunting

Kōtuku	Pīwaiwaka	Kererū	Takahē
Harriet Stretton	Lani Johnstone	Milla Walden	Ayla White
Hunta McGovern	Hunter Gordon	Rimu Austin	Ty Hardgrave

## Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is available in the hospitality room (near Room 13) every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:00 – 8:30am. All students are welcome to enjoy some free Weetbix and great conversation. Volunteers would be appreciated to help set up from 7:45am. If you're able to assist, please email Lynda Lamb

[Lynda.lamb@bellblock.school.nz](mailto:Lynda.lamb@bellblock.school.nz)

## Lunch Orders

We are pleased to offer lunch orders delivered to school for students and staff twice a week. On Thursdays, Subway is available and on Fridays, sushi from St Pierres is available. Orders may be placed online via the website [www.lunchonline.co.nz](http://www.lunchonline.co.nz) and will be delivered to school at lunchtime. The cut-off time for orders is 8.00am the same day. Advance orders are possible and, if necessary, may be cancelled up to 8.00am on the day if your child is absent that day.





## Being Sun Smart



Our school sun hats are compulsory during outside play in Term 1. Any students without a hat will be encouraged to be in the shade during break time. Hats are available for purchase from the school office for \$14. Payment can be made by internet banking to 15 3956 0057371 02. Please include your child's name and 'sunhat' in the reference. Hats will then be delivered to the student's classroom. Otherwise, cash or EFTPOS is available at the office. Please ensure all items are named, especially hats, as it makes it much easier to return if they get lost.

Thanks to our PTA group, sunscreen is available in every classroom for students to use.

## Sports Registrations 2024

Registrations for school sports teams are now open.

### Term 1 – Summer

Cricket (Years 1-8) - **Registrations close Wednesday 7 February**

Touch Rugby (Years 1-8) - **Registrations close Friday 9 February**

Please register online via the school website – [www.bellblock.school.nz](http://www.bellblock.school.nz)

Registrations must be received by the cut-off date.

There is a very tight timeline for team entry so NO extensions will be given.

### Term 2 – Winter

Netball (Years 3-8) - **Registrations close Friday 8 March**

Hockey (Years 3-8) - **Registrations close Friday 8 March**

Basketball (Years 1-8) - **Registrations close Friday 8 March**

Volleyball (Years 7-8) - **Registrations close Friday 29 March**

If you are having any difficulty making payment of sports fees, please contact the office in strict confidence before the deadline to discuss alternative arrangements.

If you have any queries about any teams, please get in touch with our Sports Co-Ordinator by email to [sport@bellblock.school.nz](mailto:sport@bellblock.school.nz)

### Cricket – all ages



Cricket is played on a Friday night at various grounds around North Taranaki. The season runs for 6 weeks from 16 February until 22 March. Fees are \$25.

Registrations close on **Wednesday 7 February at 11.59pm**. The deadline for payment of fees is Wednesday 14 February at 3pm.

### Touch – all ages

Touch is played on Wednesdays at Hickford Park, Bell Block and runs for 6 weeks from Wednesday 21 February until Wednesday 27 March. Fees are: Year 1-6 - \$40, Year 7/8 - \$45

Registrations close on **Friday 9 February at 11.59pm**. The deadline for payment of fees is Friday 16 February at 3pm.



### Coaching



Our sports teams rely on adult volunteers from the community to coach, manage and assist school sports teams. Please consider putting your hand up to assist in whatever capacity you are able to so that we can continue to offer as many opportunities as possible to our students.

### Overdue Sports Uniforms and Player of the Day Trophies

If you have any sports uniform or Player of the Day trophy at home, please return this to the office as soon as possible so that it is available for the summer sport teams.





2024 will be another exciting year of opportunity and learning. We are looking forward to working with you to maximise the learning and personal growth of every student here at Bell Block School.

**Conrad Hailes**  
**Principal**

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### BELL BLOCK UNITED JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB


Registrations for the 2024 season are now active.

First Kicks (4 to 6yrs)  
Fun Football (7 & 8yrs)  
Girls First Kicks & Fun Football  
Mini Football (9-13 yrs)




For more information or to enrol for the 2024 season please refer to our Facebook page 'Bell Block United Junior Football' or [email bellblockunited@gmail.com](mailto:bellblockunited@gmail.com)

**LESS OF THIS**



**MORE OF THIS**



**TAEKWONDO**

**N.P.T.H.C.**  
New Plymouth Taekwondo & Hapkido Club

Classes are Mon and Wed:

Family martial arts (5yrs +):  
5:15pm - 5:50pm

Taekwondo (9yrs +):  
6:00 - 7:30pm

Hapkido (Korean Ju Jitsu):  
7:35pm to 8:30pm

Bell Block Life skills Centre  
155 Mangati Rd, Bell Block  
(old scout hall on the walkway)

[www.npthc.co.nz](http://www.npthc.co.nz)  
[npthclub@gmail.com](mailto:npthclub@gmail.com)



## Grief and Loss Peer Support Education Programme

Seasons for Growth is an education programme of small peer support groups for children and young people (6-18 yrs old) who are experiencing significant change, loss and grief in their families. This may be due to the death of someone close to them, the separation or divorce of their parents, migration, incarceration of a family member, fostering, or life-threatening illness. Groups are facilitated by screened, police vetted, vaccinated and trained adult volunteer facilitators, known as Companions and aim to provide a safe time and place for participants, in which they can explore their issues and feelings about loss and change and learn some strategies for managing. The programme runs throughout Taranaki, New Zealand and overseas, and is generously supported by The Bishop's Action Foundation, in Taranaki. There are also groups for parents wanting to learn some effective ways of supporting their children with their loss and grief, and adult groups to offer grief education to adults. These are not primarily therapy groups.

For queries or to refer someone, please contact the NP Programme Coordinator, Judy Wood

Ph: 0277 033 769

E: [newplymouth@seasonsforgrowth.org.nz](mailto:newplymouth@seasonsforgrowth.org.nz)

Good Grief website: [www.goodgrief.org.au](http://www.goodgrief.org.au)

With support from On The House & TerraCycle New Zealand, NPDC is offering a Zero-Waste new & used school supply collection! 🗑️♻️ The aim is to help kids in need get Back-to-School ready for 2024 with 'Circular Stationery' ♡♻️

📌 Donations may be made in the bins located at:

- the Envirohub next to Brooklands Zoo
- The Junction - Zero Waste Hub (Colson Rd)
- Highlands Intermediate
- Oakura Primary
- Bell Block Library
- TGM Designs (Vivian St)
- NPDC Civic Centre (Liardet St)







*Mrs Courtney Goldsworthy*

Kia ora whānau!

My name is Courtney Goldsworthy. I am excited to be the new Deputy Principal of Bell Block School. I was born in Melbourne, Australia and moved here when I was just a baby. I have grown up in our beautiful city my entire life. I moved away to Hamilton for 4 years to study to become a teacher, but always knew I would come back home where my family all are.

My husband, Geof, and I were married eight years ago and we have a wonderful six year old son called Greyson. He started at Bell Block School this week too! We have a beautiful Leonberger dog named Zephyr and a cat named Rubble. We also have two very big cows!

I really enjoy spending my spare time with my family and creating memories by getting out and about. I am also a marriage celebrant so spend some of my weekends leading wedding ceremonies for couples around our region.

I am so excited for the year ahead and look forward to meeting and building relationships with you all. Please don't hesitate to come and introduce yourself and say "Hi!" I would love to meet you.

I am here to help - so please reach out.

