# BELL BLOCK SCHOOL NEWSLETTER #8 Friday 22 March 2024

Focus Value: Respect - Whakaute



School Goal:
Respect yourself and others by responding, not reacting

We have had a full and settled week this week and it has been great to visit our classes, seeing how engaged the students are and how much progress has been made, even from the start of the year. When we tour prospective parents around the school, they always comment on how settled the classes are and how well the students are engaged in their learning.

Next week sees our Senior students take on the challenge of their camp. We are grateful to all those parents who contributed to funding this event and the generous donation from the PTA that got us across the line and allowed this event to go ahead.

We have seen a big increase in the number of students involved in playing sports this year which is great to see. I must again thank our PTA who have donated money to help us get more sports uniforms so all our students look great out on their respective fields and courts and also feel proud to be representing our school.

Thank you to all the families who attended interviews a couple of weeks ago. In the final wrap up, we have spoken to almost 95% of our students' families. This is the best rate over the last six years that we have been monitoring this area. It really makes a difference for your child's learning when the communication lines between home and school are open so please talk to your child's teacher if you have any concerns or changes in situation that could impact learning.

Looking Ahead					
	Monday 25 March	Tuesday 26 March	Wednesday 27 March	Thursday 28 March	Friday 29 March
Week 9	8:00 Breakfast Club     Outdoor Academy	Senior Camp to     Vertical Horizon	Senior Camp to     Vertical Horizon	Senior Camp to     Vertical Horizon	
	(Year 7-8)		• 8:00 Breakfast Club • 9:00 New Entrants'		GOOD FRIDAY
			Transition Visit  • 2:00 Kapa Haka Group practice		SCHOOL CLOSED
Week 10	Monday 1 April	Tuesday 2 April	Wednesday 3 April	Thursday 4 April	Friday 5 April
	EASTER MONDAY	EASTER TUESDAY	8:00 Breakfast Club     9:00 New Entrants'     Transition Visit     3:00 Kepp Hake Croup	• 12:00 Interschool Swimming Sports (Years 6-8)	8:00 Breakfast Club     10:00 Singing     Assembly
	SCHOOL CLOSED	SCHOOL CLOSED	• 2:00 Kapa Haka Group practice	• 9:00 Open Morning	

## Teacher Only Day - Friday 31 May

The Ministry of Education has directed schools to take a Teacher Only Day next term for staff to develop their work on the revised curriculum areas. The Board has decided this will happen on **Friday 31 May** which links to King's Birthday on Monday 3 June. We understand this impacts on our community and certainly don't take these decisions lightly. We thank you for your support and hope the advanced warning will lessen the impact.

#### **Easter Tuesday**

A reminder that school is closed for Easter on Friday 29 March, Monday 1 April and Tuesday 2 April. School resumes as normal on Wednesday 3 April.

#### Pizza Day

Pizza Day is on **Wednesday 10 April** to raise funds for the Student Council Legacy Project. Please return the order form and correct money to the Office 'Dropbox' by 12pm on Friday 5 April.



## **Winter Sports**



We are looking for coaches for our Year 5/6 basketball teams. If you, or anyone you know, would be interested in helping out with a basketball team, please email <a href="mailto:sport@bellblock.school.nz">sport@bellblock.school.nz</a> as soon as possible.

## Weetbix TRYathlon – Wednesday 27 March

If your child is participating in the Weetbix TRYathlon next week, please remember to notify the school of their absence either through the school app or by email to absence@bellblock.school.nz.

### **Senior Camp**

Thank you to everyone who donated funds towards the Senior Team camp to Vertical Horizon. We were unable to meet our fundraising target, however, we are grateful to the PTA who have donated sufficient funds to meet the shortfall. Therefore, we are pleased to advise that camp will be going ahead next week **from Tuesday 26 - Thursday 28 March.** 

## **Intermediate Camp**

The Intermediate Camp will be held from **Monday 23 September – Friday 27 September 2024**. If you have a Year 7 or 8 student, you will receive more information soon. At this stage, we anticipate the voluntary donation to be approximately \$470 per student. There is an option to pay smaller weekly or fortnightly voluntary contributions prior to camp. If this would suit you, you are able to start straight away. Please contact the Bell Block School Office to make the necessary arrangements. (Email office@bellblock.school.nz).

#### Yummy Apple Stickers for New Sports Gear

You can support the school to receive FREE sports gear by collecting stickers from individual Yummy apples or bags of Yummy apples.

Collect your Yummy Stickers during Term 2 and Term 3 and place the Yummy stickers on Sticker Collection Sheets and the cut-out labels on Cut-Out Label Collection Sheets (available to download from the school app under 'Documents', school website or collect from the school office).

Yummy apples can be purchased from your local New World, Pak'n Save and participating Four Square stores. You can collect either individual apples with Yummy stickers or bags with cut-out labels. One cut-out label is worth 10 apple stickers. Sticker sheets should be handed in to the school office before the end of Term 3.

Your Yummy stickers will then be converted into FREE sports gear for the school! The more support we have, the more sports gear we can receive for all to enjoy!



#### **Meet the Leaders**



Kia ora, my name is **Olin Mackey** and I am the ICT Leader for the first half of 2024. I am a dedicated student who will strive to assist with your IT problems. I enjoy gaming, Dungeons and Dragons, chess and other technology activities. I am very approachable and can give advice to others when in need. I hope to inspire others.



#### **PTA News**

With our AGM held on Tuesday this week, we wrapped up the 2023 year for the PTA. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported our fundraising throughout the year. From the Gala to Juicies and all the other fundraisers in between, with your support it has meant that we have been able to provide sunscreen for all students, photocopy paper, help with sports uniforms and assist financially in getting the Senior students to camp next week. We look forward to what 2024 has in store and how we can help our school and students. If you are interested in helping the PTA, please get in touch by email to <a href="mailto:pta@bellblock.school.nz">pta@bellblock.school.nz</a>.

## Conrad Hailes Principal

#### **COMMUNITY NOTICES**





