

BELL BLOCK SCHOOL NEWSLETTER #39

Friday 6 December 2024

Focus Value:
Responsibility -
Takohanga



School Goal:
Role model our school
values in all that we do.
Do the right thing when
no one is watching

As our term draws to a close, we find ourselves at the last newsletter of the year. It is a time of reflection on all that the students and staff have achieved over the year. It is a time where we reflect on what made the biggest differences to our students and their learning as well as what didn't work as well as we had hoped. It is a time where we look forward to 2025 and the new year with its fresh start and the opportunity to keep improving what we do.

Sadly, it is also the time of year where we farewell not only our Year 8 students but also some staff members who are moving on to new challenges. Kade Forsyth is taking on the challenges of high school teaching having accepted a position at Inglewood High School. We know he will relish this opportunity after eight years in our Intermediate Team. After many years of providing support to our students with additional needs, Amy Peters is taking on a new challenge next year with her family. Her skill, knowledge and dedication will be missed as we move forward. Also, one of our dedicated Teacher Aides, Nina Gibson, will be moving on. Nina has provided support for a number of students in our school and always worked hard to get the very best for each of the students she has worked with. I would like to thank these staff for their dedication and hard work on behalf of our staff and students and wish them all the best for their future endeavours.

Meet The Teacher - Te Rā Whanaungatanga – Tuesday 28 January

On Wednesday next week, students visit their 2025 classroom for 90 minutes and meet their new teacher and classmates. At this time, students will also be given a handout to take home for families to complete over the holiday break sharing information about their children. Families can add as much or as little information as they would like to share to help staff get to know the students, their interests and how they learn best. It will also be an opportunity to share any goals you and your child have set for the coming year.

With a view to building and strengthening community connection, we will also be offering an informal opportunity for whānau to come in and talk to their child's teacher before school starts next year. Our students begin their learning with the first day of term on Wednesday 29 January and we will hold our first Te Rā Whanaungatanga Day on **Tuesday 28 January**, the day before school starts. Whanaungatanga is about creating family connection. It is built through shared experiences, getting to know each other and working together throughout the year.



Our Te Rā Whanaungatanga will provide families with the opportunity to come in with their child and meet the teacher, share information about the child and begin to develop a strong relationship between school and home. It will also provide students with an opportunity to see their new spaces, bring in stationery and get their desks set up. We hope this will assist students to feel more comfortable at a time that some students find stressful.

Classrooms will be open on **Tuesday 28 January between 9:30 - 10:30** then again between **11:00 - 12:30**. Families may come in at a time that suits them and go to the classrooms where staff will be waiting to welcome you. Please note that students must be accompanied by an adult. We hope that our whānau will make the most of this opportunity and help us get 2025 off to a great start.

Outdoor Environment

The playground fort has now been removed and we are eagerly making arrangements for a replacement or addition for the Junior playground area.

Our next big outdoor project will be the replacement of the perimeter fence. This will be carried out over the holiday break and should be in place to start the 2025 school year. Unfortunately, since we are rebuilding the fence, it must now meet the requirements set out by the Ministry of Education meaning it is required to be 1.8m high. Through our design choices, we are hoping to keep the feeling of openness we currently have.

Looking Ahead

	Monday 9 December	Tuesday 10 December	Wednesday 11 December	Thursday 12 December	Friday 13 December
Week 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lost Property on display Year 8 Graduation Dinner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Final Breakfast Club 9:45 New Entrants' Transition Visit 9:30 Meet the Teacher Kapa Haka Group Practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:30 Middle Team Celebration 1:40 Intermediate Team Celebration 6:00 Final Prizegiving at NPGHS 	12:00PM SCHOOL CLOSED

Staff vs Students Challenge

On Wednesday we held the final Staff vs Students match with the traditional end-of-year egg throw competition. The students took a narrow victory over the staff with the Year 6 pairing of Jamie Turama and Heath Logie taking the win with Mrs Charlton and Mrs Thompson coming in second out of the 16 team finalists. Well done to everyone who tried out and had a go.



Back to School Stationery 2025

We've teamed up with OfficeMax to make your back to school stationery shop super easy. And if you order in December, you'll go in the draw to WIN one of five \$1000 cash prizes*.

Your child's class list is already loaded. Just go to myschool.co.nz. Simply add your details, check that you want everything on the list, then click and confirm - and OfficeMax will get your delivery underway with free delivery on orders over \$70*.

You can pay by internet banking, credit card or debit card. Zip# is also available, so you can pay in 4 interest free payments over 6 weeks and still get your order right away. Plus, you'll be helping our school earn school rewards* that we use to purchase much needed extra resources for our school. Quotes for WINZ are available by contacting 0800 724 440 or via email enquiry@myschool.co.nz.

We encourage you to order early to ensure your child has all their stationery requirements ready to go in plenty of time for the start of Term 1 on Wednesday 29 January. So go ahead and beat the back to school rush, order today and give them the best start possible.

#Zip Pay in 4 is available to approved applicants only and subject to completion of satisfactory credit checks. For more information visit myschool.co.nz/zip. T&Cs and late fees apply. Zip Co NZ Finance Limited FSP 598969.

*T&Cs apply, see myschool.co.nz for details.



Order their Back to School stationery now and **beat the rush!**

Find your class list on myschool.co.nz

Shop now



End of Year School Reports

The end of year school reports are now available via the @school app and have been emailed to each caregiver. We encourage caregivers to share the contents of the school report with your child/ren.

Lost Property



We are at that time of term when we make an extra push to reunite lost property with its owners. Lost property will be out on display in the Room 1 bay on **Tuesday 10 December**. Classes will be taken to view it but parents are welcome to have a look as well to reclaim any lost items. Any items left at the end of term will be donated to charity.

Library News

Thank you to all students who have returned their books back this week. Next week is the last week of term and our librarian is hoping to have all books back by Monday. This will allow enough time for her to sort and shelve those items ready for next year. Please have your child/ren return their books to the Bookie Monster (shown here) at the library doors as soon as possible. Thank you.



Thank you

We are very grateful to Puke Ariki and the Bell Block Library for their kind donation of book ends and display stands to our library. With our ever-increasing collection of books of all sizes, these book ends are extremely useful in helping our students browse our library shelves.



We would also like to thank the Bell Block & Districts Lions for their donation to our library this year. Their generosity has allowed us to purchase more games, books and book cover products for our library. We are very grateful for their ongoing support.

Sports

A big thank you to all the players, parents, coaches, managers and supporters for your involvement in our school sports teams throughout 2024. It is wonderful to see so many students having positive sport experiences and enjoying healthy, active lifestyles.

Sports – Term 1 2025

Early bird registrations for Term 1 sports are now open via the Kindo app [here](#). If your child would like to play touch, cricket or rippa rugby in Term 1, you are able to complete the registration process anytime from now until registrations close in early February. Payment is required at the time of registration.

Sports Uniforms

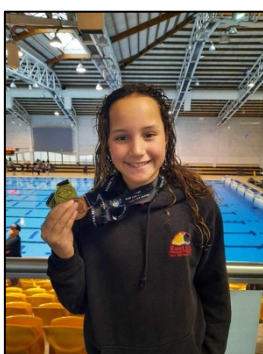
A reminder to return all sports uniforms and Player of the Day trophies to the office as soon as possible please.



Bell Block Blast touch team

Ryan Hailes Memorial Scholarship

Congratulations to **Lani Johnstone** from Room 18 who is the deserving recipient of the Ryan Hailes Memorial Scholarship for Term 4. Lani competes at regional and national levels for swimming and surf lifesaving and recently gained a bronze medal at the National Pool Rescue Champs. Lani is also a competent hockey player and dancer which keeps her busy with multiple trainings during the week. We wish Lani all the best in the future and are pleased to support her in her sporting endeavours.



PTA News - Gala

Are you having a de-clutter these Summer holidays? If so, we would be grateful for any new or pre-loved good condition clothing, books, toys, sports gear, furniture and/or household items to be sold at our White Elephant stall in our 2025 Gala. Please kindly hold onto any unwanted items until a drop off location at school is announced in the new year.

We would also happily take any clean, reusable bags or paper bags that you no longer need.

End of Year

Just a reminder that school closes at 12:00 midday on Friday 13 December. We would appreciate your timeliness in collecting your children from their classrooms.

As the holidays are approaching, I would like to thank all of our staff, students and families for another successful year here at Bell Block School and wish everyone a happy and safe summer break. We look forward to a restful break and time with whānau and friends before we come back ready for an exciting new year.

**Conrad Hailes
Principal**

COMMUNITY NOTICES

goodseeds Dec/Jan Holiday Programme 2024/25

Mon 16th Dec Christmas Eve Christmas Eve	Tues 17th Christmas Eve Christmas Eve	Wed 18th Christmas Eve Christmas Eve	Thurs 19th Christmas Eve Christmas Eve	Fri 20th Christmas Eve Christmas Eve
Christmas/New Years Break - Enjoy whānau time and we will see you again in January!				
Mon 6th New Year New Year	Tues 7th New Year New Year	Wed 8th New Year New Year	Thurs 9th New Year New Year	Fri 10th New Year New Year
Mon 13th New Year New Year	Tues 14th New Year New Year	Wed 15th New Year New Year	Thurs 16th New Year New Year	Fri 17th New Year New Year
Mon 20th New Year New Year	Tues 21st New Year New Year	Wed 22nd New Year New Year	Thurs 23rd New Year New Year	Fri 24th New Year New Year
Mon 27th New Year New Year	Tues 28th New Year New Year	Wed 29th New Year New Year	Thurs 30th New Year New Year	Fri 31st New Year New Year
Mon 3 Feb New Year New Year	Tues 4 Feb New Year New Year	Wed 5 Feb New Year New Year	Thurs 6 Feb New Year New Year	Fri 7 Feb New Year New Year

GIVE MUSIC A GO!
January 21st-23rd 2025
3 mornings of tuition
9am-12pm \$60

for any children keen to play an instrument, receive guitar, piano, flute - allowing them to explore their musicianship through fun and interactive group activities

Holiday Music Programme for 7-12yrs
CityLife Church, Egmont St
Contact Jocelyn Beath 021 144 1681
Joc.beath@xtra.co.nz

RUN FOR YOUR LIFE PRESENTS
BOWL OF BROOKLANDS WHĀNAU RUN
6 PM WEDNESDAY 11 DEC 2024

Fun run for families! Join us for a cruisy lap (or five!) around the trails of the Bowl of Brooklands! Run, jog or walk with your kids. Parking at Brooklands Zoo. Spot prizes. Free entry! No need to register. runforyourlife/whanau-run

Basketball Skills Week
Jan 13th-17th 2025

ON3 BASKETBALL

Ages 5 - 7 years: 9.30am - 10.30 am	\$50 per child
Ages 8 - 10 years: 11am - 12.30pm	\$75 per child
Ages 11 - 13 years: 1pm - 2.30pm	\$75 per child

Location: Inglewood Primary School
This is an outdoor activity and will be held regardless of the weather

To register
Phone/text: Coach (Matua) Kingi 022 737 8379
Email: kck756and1@gmail.com

ARANAKI Christmas HOW

7-8th December
TSB Stadium
10am-4pm

SANTA LIVE MUSIC FOOD TRUCKS ENTERTAINMENT FESTIVE WORKSHOPS CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

TICKETS ON SALE NOW AT EVENTFINDA.CO.NZ

BELL BLOCK SCHOOL
TE KURA O MANGATI

White Elephant Stall

Is it time to de-clutter?
Do you have unwanted gifts?

Please start keeping any items we can sell at our White Elephant Stall

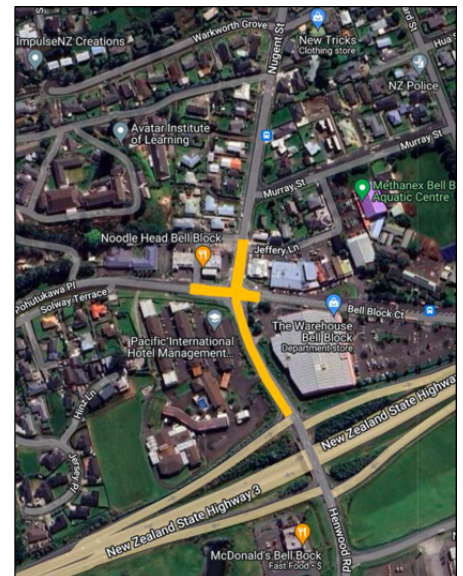
Drop off dates and locations tbc

Homewares . Toys . Sports Equipment . Artwork . Furniture . Books . Clothing . Kitchenware
Items must be clean, not broken and with no missing pieces. Please no electrical items.

Road Closure

The New Plymouth Infrastructure Partnership (NPDC and Downer) will complete asphalt repairs on the roundabout at the intersection of Henwood Road, Bell Block Court, Nugent Street and Pohutukawa Place, from Tuesday 10 December for approximately 7-8 nights, weather permitting. The work will take place at night from 7pm-6am to minimise disruption to road users and the community.

- The roundabout at the intersection of Henwood Road, Bell Block Court, Nugent Street and Pohutukawa Place will be closed from 7pm-6am each night on Tuesday 10-Wednesday 18 December, weather permitting.
- Work will not take place on Saturday nights.
- In the case of unsuitable weather, work will be postponed to the next suitable date.
- Alternative routes will be available and clearly signposted while the closure is in place.
- Access to businesses in the area will be maintained at all times. Pedestrian access and parking will not be impacted during the works.
- If residential access to your property is limited during the closure and there are no alternative routes available, please speak with one of our onsite crew and they will assist you.
- The road will not be closed during the day. The roundabout will be open from 6am-7pm under a temporary speed limit.



Recycling Sports Gear

Replay collects and redistributes new and used sports gear back out into the community to help keep our community active. From sports balls to rugby boots, hockey sticks and tennis racquets – over 45,000 items have been reconnected to individuals, families, schools, organisations and the wider community. Your donation enables another child to be active and involved in sport.

If you have new or used sports gear in good condition, please consider passing it on via the Donation Station wheelie bin currently located inside the Bell Block Aquatic Centre. For more information, please check out the Replay website [here](#).

