

BELL BLOCK SCHOOL NEWSLETTER #5
Friday 28 February 2025



Focus Value:
 Respect - Whakaute

School Goal:
 Acknowledge the hard work and positivity of others by giving affirmations

This week we have had several of the kapa haka rōpu using the hall to practice for their performances at Te Matatini. We have been treated to hearing their performances which have been absolutely outstanding and also showed another practical example of what can be achieved by teams working together with dedication and hard work.

The highlight of Week 5 was the first of our Open Afternoons. This was another opportunity for families to connect with staff and see what their children have been learning about during the first few weeks of the year. It was great to see many of our families attending to see the students' learning and observe their participation in class programmes, including golf, swimming and science.

It was also the first time families joined their children for lunch which was well received by the students. The students were proud to be sharing their learning and taking their families around the school explaining the significant locations and activities they are a part of. We will have another opportunity for families to attend an Open Afternoon next term so keep an eye out for further information.

The Celebration Assembly ended our week with another group of students receiving awards for their great start to the year.

Cruz Northcott, Hendrik Jordaan, Alaska Ingram, Kyson Rowe, Zoey van Wyk, Lola Shaw, Ava Page-Bowers, Shaun Pratt-Nevard, Konrad Turama, Elizabeth Fidow, Mandy Yang, Olive Stephens, Tyler Gu, Blake Whiting, Amrit Singh, Jaxon Hardgrave, Willa Clark, Keinnah Jury, Evie Priest, Xanthe Turama, Poppy Gibson, Sophia Fisher, Rykah Northcott, Rory Gardiner, Indi Deuart, Miané Laubscher, Sienna Trundle, William Stretton, Jake Sanderson, Harper Daniels, Stella Wellstood, Kingsley Yang, Hema Lopinti, Alisha Wong, Octavia Bennett, Connie Upton-Fleming

Congratulations to all the students who received awards.

Next week brings our initial testing period to a close and staff are already working on analysing the data to help set future learning programmes. We will be sharing this assessment information with parents in the upcoming Parent Teacher Interviews on 2 and 3 April. Information and booking times for interviews will be available later in the term.

We are also building up to our school Gala so keep the donations rolling in if you are able and make contact with your child's teacher if you are able to help out on the Gala Day.

Looking Ahead

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	Monday 3 March	Tuesday 4 March	Wednesday 5 March	Thursday 6 March	Friday 7 March
Week 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club Cohort 2 New Entrants Start 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club Kapa Haka Group Practice 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club Year 7-8 Technology
	Monday 10 March	Tuesday 11 March	Wednesday 12 March	Thursday 13 March	Friday 14 March
Week 7	<p align="center">TARANAKI ANNIVERSARY</p> <p align="center">SCHOOL CLOSED</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Immunisations Yr 7-8 11:30 Swimming Sports Year 0-3 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 1:40 Kapa Haka Group Practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:15 Swimming Sports Year 4-8 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 9:30 Celebration Assembly Year 4-8 10:00 Celebration Assembly Year 0-3 Year 7-8 Technology

Swimming Sports



During Week 7, we have our first major school sports event for the year - Swimming Sports. We hope all students are able to take part either in the participation events or the finals as they earn points for their whānau with every event they participate in. Students and staff will be dressed up in their whānau colours showing their whānau spirit. It is always a great day of students giving things a go and ends with the hotly contested class, whānau and Staff vs Students relay. All our families are invited to come

along to support the students in action at the Junior event on Tuesday and the rest of the school on Thursday. Please know it can get very loud, particularly in the Thursday afternoon session!



Tuesday 11 March – Year 0-3 Swimming Sports (Outdoor Pool)

11:30-1:00 Rooms 6, 7, 8 Participation Events

1:00-2:30 Rooms 2, 3, 4, 5 Participation Events

Thursday 13 March – Year 4-8 Swimming Sports (Indoor Pool)

11:15am Year 4 Width Participation Events and Swimming Demonstration

Year 4 25m Freestyle, 25m Backstroke

Years 5-6 25m Freestyle, 25m Backstroke, 25m Breaststroke, 75m 3 Stroke Medley

12:50pm Years 7-8 25m Freestyle, 25m Backstroke, 25m Breaststroke, 50m Freestyle, 75m 3 Stroke Medley

1:50pm Relays

Preliminary heats to determine the finalists have been recorded during class time. The heats swum on Swimming Sports Day are participation events only. All length races will be heats followed by the final.

School Triathlon – Monday 17 March

On Monday 17 March we will hold our school triathlon for Year 4-8 students. Please talk to your child about whether they wish to enter as an individual or as part of a team (or both). Any students who choose to participate in this event must ensure they can competently swim and cycle and have the correct gear to compete safely. It is a good idea to check bikes thoroughly before the day to ensure they are safe. Please note that cyclists must have a helmet, shirt and shoes.



Triathlon Team Events

10:00am Years 4-6

11:20am Years 7-8

Triathlon Individual Events

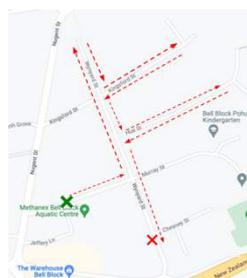
1:00pm Year 4 boys and girls

1:10pm Year 5 boys and girls

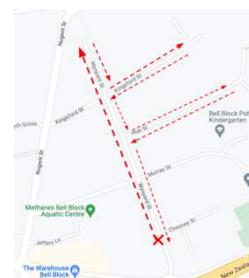
1:20pm Year 6 boys and girls

1:30pm Year 7 boys and girls

1:40pm Year 8 boys and girls



Cycle leg – First lap



Subsequent lap

Distances

Year 4 25m (1 length) swim 2km (1 lap) bike ride 1.5km run

Years 5-6 75m (3 lengths) swim 4km (2 laps) bike ride 3.0km run

Years 7-8 125m (5 lengths) swim 6km (3 laps) bike ride 4.5km run

Sports News

Registrations for winter netball and hockey close today, **Friday 28 February**. If your child is interested in joining a team, please register via the *myKindo* app [here](#). All relevant season information is available on the school website [sports page](#).

Netball (Years 3-8)	Registrations close Friday 28 February
Hockey (Years 3-8)	Registrations close Friday 28 February
Basketball (Years 0-6)	Expressions of interest close Friday 7 March
Volleyball (Years 7-8)	Registrations close Friday 28 March

On completion of the registration form via *myKindo*, please check your email for an 'Order Confirmation' to ensure the registration has been received by the office. Registrations must be received by the closing date.

Basketball

We are now taking **expressions of interest** for basketball teams for the 2025 season.

Due to capacity limits, there will only be one Bell Block School basketball team in each grade. This means that a ballot will be required to randomly select players for the team from the expressions of interest received.

If your child is keen to play basketball this year, please register your interest via *myKindo* [here](#).

Expressions of interest will close next Friday 7 March.



After the ballot is held, a request for payment will be sent to successful players. The fees for the season will be confirmed at a later stage but are likely to be \$60 for Years 1-4 and \$70 for Years 5-6.

At this stage, we are unable to accept registrations for a Year 7-8 team as we do not have a coach for the team.

If you have any questions about basketball teams or the ballot process, please contact the Sport Co-Ordinator by email to sport@bellblock.school.nz or phone the office on 755 0838.

Yummy Stickers

Thank you to everyone who saved their Yummy apple stickers for us last year. With your help, we received a big delivery of wonderful new sports equipment for our students to use at break times.



We will again collect the stickers from Yummy apples this year during Terms 2 and 3. Keep an eye out for more information to follow.

Ryan Hailes Memorial Scholarship 2025

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 for Term 1 must be received no later than *Friday 14 March*.



Parent App – '@school'



The parent app '@school' is our main form of school communication. All school updates, permission slips, school reports and sports notices come out via the app.



Please ensure you have downloaded the free app to your phone to ensure you don't miss anything. 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 contact the office who are only too happy to assist – Email office@bellblock.school.nz



Gala News

With only 3 weeks to go, the hard-working PTA members are deep into Gala preparation and it's gearing up to be a wonderful community event. We have lots of amazing food, entertainment, prizes and games for the whole family planned.



Donations – Monday 3 March to Friday 7 March

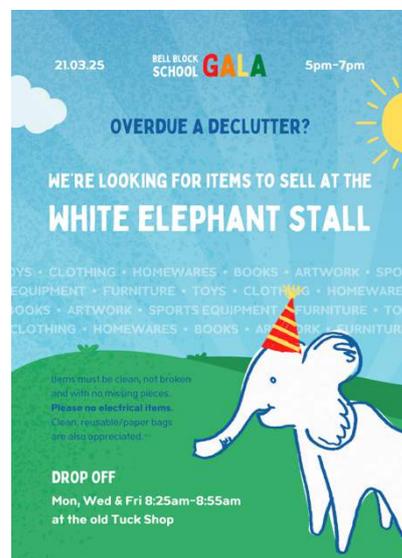
Next week we are collecting donations in each classroom. These help to make the Gala a huge success. *Please see the donation schedule attached to this newsletter.* If you can support by donating any of these items, it would be much appreciated.

White Elephant Stall

Reminder, our White Elephant donations are also now open. If you have any items to clear out from home, we will happily welcome them. We will have someone at **the old Tuck Shop on Monday, Wednesday and Friday before school** leading up to the Gala. With a fantastic collection of items starting to fill the room already, there will be some great bargains to be had come Gala Day - get ready to shop!

Entertainment

Always a highly anticipated game, Dunk the Teacher, is back in 2025! Stay tuned for the timetable to find out who you could attempt to get in the water. You will also be able to test your aim at the Laughing Clowns, Balloon Darts or the Ladder Toss. Maybe you'd prefer a ride in a tractor, truck or classic car? Or perhaps a pony ride is more for you. A lot of the crowd favourites will be returning too; think horizontal bungee, face painting, bouncy castles, Spin the Wheel and more!



It is all on. Come along with your whānau and friends on **Friday 21 March 2025 from 5pm-7pm.**

This is our biggest fundraising activity which is held every two years. A big thank you goes out to the amazing businesses and people in our community that have donated items and offered to help at our Gala!

Facebook Event



Keep updated in the lead up to Gala through the [Facebook event](#) and stay tuned for an exciting giveaway there coming soon!

Conrad Hailes
Principal

COMMUNITY NOTICES

CLIFTON JUNIOR RUGBY CLUB **2025 Junior Rugby Registrations are now OPEN!**

To register your child for the upcoming season please go to:
www.bit.ly/RX-CreateYourProfile

Subs for the season are \$50 for first child, with a family discount of \$10 per child for another family member registered at the same time.

Please follow us on Facebook (Clifton Junior Rugby) for further updates.

Any questions please contact
Kris Buckley
Clifton Junior Rugby Administrator
Email: cliftonjuniorrugby@gmail.com



Guitar & Ukulele lessons

Beginners and Intermediate
Adults and Children

Jenny's Guitar School – Bell Block

Half hour private lesson per week @ \$25

One hour group lesson (2 students) per week @\$20.00

Learning chords, strumming, playing songs, picking

We learn about artists and their genres

End of Year Concert Ph: 027 971 5970

NEW PLYMOUTH BMX HAVE A GO DAY



SUNDAY 2ND MARCH

TWO SESSIONS - 9.30 AM - 10.30 AM
11.00 AM - 12.00 PM

JOIN US FOR A SESSION OF FUN AND LEARN SOME NEW SKILLS
AS WE INTRODUCE YOU TO BMX AT THE SHARK TANK

- OPEN TO ALL AGES AND SKILL LEVELS
- FREE, FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT
- LOAN BIKES, HELMETS AND GLOVES AVAILABLE

**SAUSAGE SIZZLE
AND SHOP OPEN**

PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE
WWW.SPORTS.CO.NZ/VERFORM/244144



Bell Block School Gala 2025

Friday 21 March 2025 - 5pm – 7pm

Our school Gala is a fantastic community event with lots of food, prizes, entertainment and fun. We need your help to make it an amazing evening again. Lots of local businesses have generously donated a range of fantastic items. We appreciate all the support from our community - all donations, no matter how big or small, help our Gala to be a spectacular evening. If you can help out by donating any of the items below, it would be very much appreciated.

Please bring all donations to your child's classroom and place in the box provided between Monday 3 March - Friday 7 March

Families with more than two children at school are asked to bring a maximum of TWO items.

We will gratefully accept any donations of goods or support over the coming weeks so please support us however you are able. There is still time to become a GOLD SPONSOR when you donate \$300 or more in either monetary or items.

Whole school	Items for the White Elephant/Garage Sale – good quality new or used items including books, games, toys, small appliances, kitchen equipment. It's a great opportunity to have a sort through things at home and reduce your clutter.
Rooms 2 & 3	Canned goods – eg: baked beans, spaghetti, fruit salad, sweetcorn, soup
Room 4	Spreads – eg: jam, peanut butter, vegemite
Rooms 5 & 6	Bottles – Anything that comes in a plastic or glass bottle eg: fizzy drink, sauce, soy sauce, oil, orange juice, maple syrup, mustard, tomato sauce
Rooms 7 & 8	Grocery items – Anything non-perishable for our grocery raffles – eg: dried pasta, rice, soup mix, readymade meals, chips, crackers, nuts, popcorn, biscuits
Rooms 9 & 10	Grocery items – Anything non-perishable for our grocery raffles – eg: muesli, Weetbix, cornflakes, rolled oats, tea, coffee, milo, hot chocolate
Rooms 11 & 12	Pamper items – eg: foot soak, moisturiser, mud mask, body lotion, body shimmer, anything that helps to relax and pamper the body and soul
Rooms 13, 14 & 16	Sweet treats – eg: family lolly pack, chocolate bars, wrapped lollies/chocolates, Easter goodies, lollipops
Rooms 17 & 18	Prizes for girls and boys – Anything that our students might like to win – eg: toys, puzzles, books, colouring equipment, treats, board games, fun local activities
Rooms 19 & 20	Prizes for girls and boys – Anything that our students might like to win – eg: toys, puzzles, books, colouring equipment, treats, board games, fun local activities
Friday 21 March	Home Baking – Each family will bring a disposable plate home and we ask if you could please make us some delicious home baking for the Bake Sale. It can be anything from biscuits or slices to muffins or cakes. Please deliver all home baking to Room 12 on Friday 21 March before school from 8.25am.

All items should be in their original packaging and non-perishable. Please ensure that they are not past, or near to, their expiry date/use by date.

We need lots of helpers on the night. If you are able to donate your time to help out on the night, please contact the PTA directly by email to PTA@bellblock.school.nz or message the Facebook page 'Bell Block School PTA'. Like and follow our event page to see what awesome things will be happening at our 2025 Gala.

Thank you for all your support and we look forward to seeing you on Friday 21 March from 5pm for the Gala.