

BELL BLOCK SCHOOL NEWSLETTER #7
Friday 14 March 2025

Focus Value:
Respect - Whakaute



School Goal:
Respect ourselves - use positive self-talk, take care of our bodies, try our best in learning and stand up for ourselves

Our short week has been a busy one with students taking part in their Swimming Sports events. Well done to all the students who got involved and got into the spirit of the day with many dressing up in their whānau colours. The class relays were hotly contested again and although the staff team put in a big effort, the students retain the title for another year. A big thank you must go to Mrs Piercy for organising the event and to the staff who helped make both events so successful. It was also great to see so many of our families coming along to be a part of these events. The results from the Year 4-8 Swimming Sports are included at the end of this newsletter.



We ended the week with our Celebration Assemblies where Triple A and Values awards were given out to students who have been doing some amazing work over the first half of the term. Well done to all the students who received awards.

Ayesh Haider, Shekinah Raj, Bella Zhou, Kelsey Kingsnorth, Neiko Peattie, Adam Maulana, Lucy Upton-Fleming, Brylee Macken, Novak Kendall, Kayson Gordon, Harshad Gunnam, Michaela Wright, Giana Gowler, Lily-Belle Te Whata, Aston Gesterkamp, Peyton Metcalfe, Pippa Welton, Esme Coster, Paige Harris, Neo Kendall, Maali Soffe, Soyou Han, Lilly-Anne Bartle, Alex Price, Emily Judd, Destiney Yang, Finn Gardiner, Edi Coster, Deegan Sole, Jasmin Setti, Chloe Gu, Jack Gordon, Jay Jay Langdon-Williams, On You Han



We have two more Celebration Assemblies this term on Friday 28 March so please come along and join us if you are able to help celebrate some of our fantastic students.

The work on our outdoor classroom space is progressing well and each day new aspects are being added or finished. Pop over and have a look next time you are visiting the school.

Parent/Teacher Interviews – 2 & 3 April



Interviews will be held on **Wednesday 2 April** from 3:00 to 7:30pm and **Thursday 3 April** from 3:00 to 4:30pm.

The online booking system is now open. Please book your Parent/Teacher Interview by tapping on the 'Interview' button on the @school parent app. Interviews for Room 10 will be held on the alternative dates of 27 March and 9 April. If you have any issues booking your interviews, please call the office team who will only too happy to help out.

Next week will be a busy one with the school Triathlon and Splash and Dash events to start the week, school photos on Wednesday and then the traditional school Gala on Friday to bring Week 8 to a close. Thank you for all the generous donations and support that have been given already. We have some great prizes for our community to win and are crossing our fingers for the beautiful weather to continue for another week. Thank you also to our PTA group who have been working away behind the scenes for the last few months to help put on this great community evening.

| Looking Ahead | | | | | |
|---------------|---|---|--|---|--|
| Week 8 | Monday 17 March | Tuesday 18 March | Wednesday 19 March | Thursday 20 March | Friday 21 March |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club Triathlon Year 4-8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Splash & Dash Biathlon Year 0-3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club School Photo Day 1:40 Kapa Haka Group Practice | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:00 Board Meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 9:00 New Entrants' Transition Visit Year 7-8 Technology 5:00 Gala Day |
| Week 9 | Monday 24 March | Tuesday 25 March | Wednesday 26 March | Thursday 27 March | Friday 28 March |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00 PTA AGM & Meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 9:30 Sports Assembly 1:40 Kapa Haka Group Practice | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3:30-5:30 Room 10 Parent/Teacher Interviews | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 9:00 New Entrants' Transition Visit 9:30 Celebration Assembly Year 4-8 10:00 Celebration Assembly Year 0-3 Year 7-8 Technology |

School Triathlon – Monday 17 March

On Monday 17 March we will hold our school Triathlon for Year 4-8 students. We encourage all students from Year 4 upwards to give this event a go, whether they are elite level or trying it for the first time. Please talk to your child about whether they have entered 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.

Supporters are welcome to attend the event and cheer on the students. Each event will start with the swim leg at the Bell Block Aquatic Centre, followed by the cycle leg along Wynyard, Kingsford and Hua Streets and ending with the run inside the school grounds. Please avoid parking on these roads wherever possible to ensure a clear path for our cyclists.

If you are driving around the school on Monday, please look out for our students on the roads around the school.

Triathlon Team Events – Year 4-8

10:00am Years 4-6

11:20am Years 7-8

Triathlon Individual Events – Year 4-8

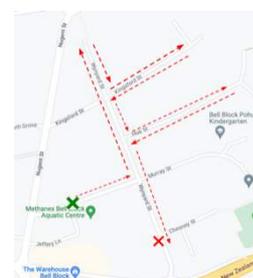
1:00pm Year 4 boys and girls

1:10pm Year 5 boys and girls

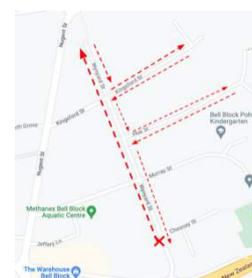
1:20pm Year 6 boys and girls

1:30pm Year 7 boys and girls

1:40pm Year 8 boys and girls



Cycle leg – First lap



Subsequent laps

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

Splash & Dash Biathlon – Tuesday 18 March

Students in Years 0-3 will participate in a swim and run Biathlon on Tuesday 18 March. We encourage all students to give this event a go. Students will be swimming at the pool first, followed by a run on the school field.

Biathlon Individual Events – Year 0-3

1:00pm Year 3
1:30pm Year 2
2:00pm Year 1

Distances

| | | |
|--------|----------------|------------|
| Year 1 | 2 lengths swim | 3 laps run |
| Year 2 | 2 lengths swim | 3 laps run |
| Year 3 | 3 lengths swim | 4 laps run |

There will be two girls and two boys races for each year group. Certificates will be awarded for the placegetters of each race at the Year 0-3 Celebration Assembly. Parents are invited to join us and cheer on your child. Please meet at the pool before moving to the school field for the run leg. Please be aware of our speedy runners when choosing your viewing spot.

PhotoLife Photo Day

PhotoLife will be in school on **Wednesday 19 March** to take class photos, individual portraits and sibling portraits. PhotoLife flyers were sent home with students today 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 approximately two weeks after photo day.*



Should you wish your children to sit for a sibling portrait, please complete the sibling photo request form sent home last week and return to the office drop box **BEFORE 19 March**. *Only one form is required per family.*

End of Term 1 – Thursday 10 April

Just a reminder that the last day of school for this term is **Thursday 10 April** with Friday 11 April being one of our two Ministry-directed Curriculum Development Days for the year (previously known as Teacher Only Days).

Sports News

Volleyball registrations for Year 7-8 students are open. Expressions of interest are now sought for Year 7-8 basketball. If there are enough players, we may be able to enter a team.

All relevant season information is available on the school website [sports page](#).

Basketball (Years 7-8) **Registrations close Tuesday 18 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.

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

GALA NEWS



The school Gala is NEXT WEEK and is shaping up to be an amazing evening. We couldn't do it without the support of local businesses and our school community. A huge thank you goes out to all who have contributed in many ways!

Lucky Buckets & Quick Fire Raffles

Come along ready to try your luck in winning some of the epic hampers, vouchers and items that will be up for grabs. Think overnight stays, meals out, a term of swimming, dancing or gymnastics, pamper products, games, grocery hauls and much, much more.

Here's a sneak peek at two incredible prizes to be won.

FIREWOOD

Stay warm this winter with a mighty 7 cubic metres of firewood, delivered. That's enough to share with the neighbours too!

Worth approx. \$560.

Kindly donated by Taranaki Pine in conjunction with Woodward's Firewood.

THE ULTIMATE CLEANING PACK

A Beko PowerClean Pro 2-in-1 Stick Vacuum and a collection of Norwex products valued at \$315.

Worth over \$1,000.

Kindly donated by 100% Mason Appliances New Plymouth and Waitara, Beko New Zealand, and Beeyond Clean with Bree.



Bake Sale



The success of our Gala is a team effort. Today your child will bring home a plate and some details on supplying home baking for our tasty bake sale. Any form of baking is appreciated from biscuits or slices to muffins or cakes - all are welcomed. Drop offs for baking will be on **Friday 21 March before school to Room 12.**

Cake Competition

Every Gala we host the famous Cake Competition where staff, PTA/parents and students go head-to-head to see who can collectively raise the most money from the proceeds of their cake sales. There will be three cakes from each group up for silent auction on the night. Be sure to check outside Room 12 to admire the talents of those entered and place your bids.

Ticket Purchasing Options

A reminder that tickets are available for pre-order now via your [myKindo](#) account. These will be ready to be collected by an adult on **Friday 21 March from 8:30am-5pm** from the school office. Proof of purchase is required. Tickets are also able to be pre-purchased from the office on Gala day until 4:30pm when sales transfer to the at-event ticket booth until close of Gala. EFTPOS and cash are both available.

Can you help at our Gala?

To ensure everything runs smoothly at the Gala we are grateful for any support offered from our school community. Can you spare some time to help? Whether it is for half an hour or for the full two hours, all help is appreciated! Extra hands throughout the day of the Gala is also incredibly useful. Please email pta@bellblock.school.nz if you can help in any way.

We are excited to bring you the 2025 Twilight Gala. The crowd favourites are returning as well as new games and activities, like badge making, a treat trailer and Adopt-A-Pet adding extra excitement.

Join us for this unforgettable event, Friday 21 March at 5-7pm!

Follow the [Bell Block School PTA on Facebook](#) and keep updated in the lead up through the [Facebook event page](#) where we will be sharing more information about our Gala.

PTA News

It is that time of year again where the Bell Block School PTA warmly invites you to our AGM. All are welcome to attend. This will be held **Tuesday 25 March at 7pm** in the school staffroom. Nibbles will be provided. We look forward to reviewing the year that was 2024.



Conrad Hailes
Principal

COMMUNITY NOTICES



SOME OF THE FUN WE'VE HAD



SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

With the recent closure of Bell Block School holiday programme, we would like to invite you to join **Edventure New Plymouth** these coming holidays.

FREE day available for Bell Block School students booking in these April holidays.

For more information and to book, please visit www.edventure.co.nz or PM Mark Bridger on Facebook.



CHARITY SLAM
COACH MCKEAN
TEAM SMITH vs TEAM SOLDIER
BELL BLOCK SCHOOL

2025 OPEN DAY

Wednesday 19 March
Join us anytime between 10am and 2pm

Experience Excellence in Education

Discover what makes our school unique. We offer:

- Personalised learning and small class sizes
- Strong academic focus and student success
- Vibrant sports and cultural opportunities
- Flexible boarding options: weekly, part boarding (2/3 nights) or day student
- Daily transport available from and to New Plymouth and Hawera
- An integrated Anglican Year 9 to Year 13 boarding and day school in the heart of Taranaki.

Meet our teachers, staff and students, explore our facilities, and learn about the exceptional education we offer.

Contact us for a prospectus or take a virtual tour through our website.

Visit us at **Taranaki Diocesan** and see why our students thrive

TE KURA PŌPŌRANGA O WAKAŪTĀNĀKI
TARANAKI DIOCESAN
SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Brooklea North, District
Telephone: 06 822 2222
Email: info@taranakidiocesan.school.nz
Website: www.taranakidiocesan.school.nz
Follow us on Facebook: Taranaki Diocesan School for Girls



2025 Swimming Sports Results

| YEAR 4 GIRLS | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd |
|----------------|------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| 25m Freestyle | Aimee-Lee Tijssen-Pine | Piper Marshall | Michaela Wright |
| 25m Backstroke | Lily Sweetingham | Mikella Hardgrave | Aimee-Lee Tijssen-Pine |

| YEAR 4 BOYS | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|
| 25m Freestyle | Arlo Rook | James Proffitt | William Stretton |
| 25m Backstroke | Arlo Rook | William Stretton | Tyler Gu |

| YEAR 5 GIRLS | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 25m Freestyle | Emme Pringle | Ella Walsh | Jessa Pollock |
| 25m Backstroke | Emme Pringle | Jessa Pollock | Taylor Reardon |
| 25m Breaststroke | Emme Pringle | Jessa Pollock | Taylor Reardon |
| 75m Medley | Emme Pringle | Jessa Pollock | Taylor Reardon |

| YEAR 5 BOYS | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 25m Freestyle | Jake Sanderson | Fatih Muhammad Faris | Brodie McKenna |
| 25m Backstroke | Jake Sanderson | Kayson Gordon | Brodie McKenna |
| 25m Breaststroke | Jake Sanderson | Deegan Sole | Fatih Muhammad Faris |
| 75m Medley | Jake Sanderson | Brodie McKenna | - |

| YEAR 6 GIRLS | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 25m Freestyle | Edi Coster | Armani Wipiiti-Boylan | Lucy Upton-Fleming |
| 25m Backstroke | Edi Coster | Lucy Upton-Fleming | Nya Soffe |
| 25m Breaststroke | Edi Coster | Lucy Upton-Fleming | Armani Wipiiti-Boylan |
| 75m Medley | Edi Coster | Armani Wipiiti-Boylan | Nya Soffe |

| YEAR 6 BOYS | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 25m Freestyle | Charlie Parkinson | Taniora Cassidy | Maeson Ruwhiu |
| 25m Backstroke | Taniora Cassidy | Maeson Ruwhiu | Charlie Parkinson |
| 25m Breaststroke | Taniora Cassidy | Charlie Parkinson | Jamie Turama |
| 75m Medley | Taniora Cassidy | Charlie Parkinson | Jamie Turama |

| YEAR 7 GIRLS | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd |
|------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 25m Freestyle | = Emma Davis = Olivia Davis | | Sophie Stretton Sophie Stretton |
| 25m Backstroke | Emma Davis | Olivia Davis | Sophie Stretton |
| 25m Breaststroke | = Emma Davis = Olivia Davis | | = Pippa Welton = Sophie Stretton |
| 50m Freestyle | Emma Davis | Olivia Davis | Sophie Stretton |
| 75m Medley | Emma Davis | Olivia Davis | Sophie Stretton |

| YEAR 7 BOYS | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 25m Freestyle | Jack Goldfinch | Archer Pringle | Jaxon Hardgrave |
| 25m Backstroke | Jack Goldfinch | Archer Pringle | Felix Evans |
| 25m Breaststroke | Jack Goldfinch | Archer Pringle | Jaxon Hardgrave |
| 50m Freestyle | Jack Goldfinch | Archer Pringle | Jaxon Hardgrave |
| 75m Medley | Jack Goldfinch | Archer Pringle | Jaxon Hardgrave |



| YEAR 8 GIRLS | 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 25m Freestyle | Indie Mattock | Charlotte Russell | Willa Clark |
| 25m Backstroke | Indie Mattock | Charlotte Russell | Evelyn Haw |
| 25m Breaststroke | Indie Mattock | Peyton Metcalfe = Willa Clark | Willa Clark |
| 50m Freestyle | Indie Mattock | = Peyton Metcalfe | Lily-Belle Te Whata |
| 75m Medley | Peyton Metcalfe | Chloe Bishop | Lily-Belle Te Whata |

| YEAR 8 BOYS | 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 25m Freestyle | Regan Martin | Maatai Taogaga | Odyn Adlam |
| 25m Backstroke | Odyn Adlam | Regan Martin | Maatai Taogaga |
| 25m Breaststroke | Zack Green | Regan Martin | Maatai Taogaga |
| 50m Freestyle | Regan Martin | Maatai Taogaga | Odyn Adlam |
| 75m Medley | Regan Martin | Odyn Adlam | Zack Green |

| RELAYS | 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Seniors | Room 13 | Room 11 | Room 9 |
| Intermediates | Room 20 | Room 18 | Room 19 |
| Whānau | Kererū | Kōtuku | Pīwaiwaka |
| Staff v Students | Students | Staff | |