

BELL BLOCK SCHOOL NEWSLETTER #13
Friday 16 May 2025



Focus Value:
 Manaakitanga - Caring

School Goal:
 Look after our people
 and our place

The Technology Showcase was a highlight this week with students and whānau sharing the work and learning that has happened in the first of the Year 7-8 Technology rotations. It was great to see so many of our families coming along to see the presentations and give the students a real audience to share their work with. The Technology programme is an important part of our Year 7-8 learning and allows the students to get involved and be creative in a range of areas. Thank you to Mrs Oxenham and the Technology Team for putting the Showcase together and to all the families who were able to attend.

Staff have been reviewing the students' results in the new Structured Literacy programme to analyse progress from the beginning of the year. The data shows some very positive trends across the school over the first term of learning and delivering this style of literacy teaching. This information is then used to focus teaching programmes to continue to build knowledge and skills in this area for our students.

Next week our Student Leaders are attending the National Young Leaders Day Conference in Palmerston North and the week will finish with our Celebration Assemblies on Friday. As always, we invite our whānau to attend and celebrate student achievement with us.

Our congratulations go to Miss Monique van Beers who was engaged over the weekend. We wish you and your fiancé all the best at this exciting time.

Looking Ahead

	Monday 19 May	Tuesday 20 May	Wednesday 21 May	Thursday 22 May	Friday 23 May
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NYLD – Palmerston North 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 1:40 Kapa Haka Group Practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1:00 Open Afternoon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 9:00 New Entrants' Transition Visit 9:30 Year 4-8 Celebration Assembly 10:00 Year 0-3 Celebration Assembly Deadline for Year 5/6 Camp Attendance
	Monday 26 May	Tuesday 27 May	Wednesday 28 May	Thursday 29 May	Friday 30 May
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hearing and Vision Testing – Year 1 & Year 7 students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 1:40 Kapa Haka Group Practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outdoor Academy - TOPEC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 11:30 Year 5-6 Interschool Game vs Oakura (Away)

Community Open Afternoon – Thursday 22 May



We would like to invite our community to our Open Afternoon on **Thursday 22 May from 1.00pm – 2.45pm**. This is an opportunity for whānau to come in to school, enjoy lunch with your child/ren from 1.00pm and see what your child has been learning. Whānau are welcome to meet at their child's class and find a spot to enjoy lunch together. After lunch, students will showcase their learning and lead whānau on a tour to share some of the places at school that are significant to them, hopefully including the new outdoor classroom space. Whānau are encouraged to explore all areas of our students' life at Bell Block School. **Please note there is an expectation that students remain at school until 3pm.**

Sausage Sizzle – Thursday 22 May

The Year 7-8 Team are fundraising for their 2026 school camp by holding a Sausage Sizzle at the Open Afternoon on Thursday 22 May. Chicken or beef sausages in bread are available for students, staff or whānau to pre-order and will be delivered to classrooms at lunchtime. Orders may be placed [via Kindo](#) before midnight on Tuesday 20 May.



Vision and Hearing Screening – Tuesday 27 May

Vision and hearing screening is completed by Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand Vision and Hearing Technicians at our school. The technicians will be visiting our school on **Tuesday 27 May** to test eligible students' vision and/or hearing. Eligible students include:

New Entrants

Routine screening is completed for students who are new to school, and/or have not completed their B4 School Check and/or require further testing post B4 School Check.

Year 7

Routine vision screening is completed for all Year 7 students and Year 8 students who have not completed the Year 7 screening and/or students that require further testing.

Visit dates are available in our online calendar which can be accessed via the website and @school app.

If you have any queries or concerns, or do not wish for your child to have this screening done, please contact the school office.

High School Enrolments 2026

Families interested in enrolling their daughters at *Taranaki Diocesan School for Girls* in Stratford for Year 9 in 2026 are encouraged to make contact with their office as soon as possible. Offers of places will be made at the end of this term. Please contact Sandra Collins: sandrac@taranakidio.school.nz



Plant Cuttings Wanted

Room 17 are currently collecting plant cuttings to propagate and sell at the upcoming Matariki Mahi Toi Market as a fundraiser for our 2026 Year 7-8 Camp. Ideal plants for propagating could include (but not limited to) succulents, various house plants, vegetables and flaxes. If you have any cuttings that you would be willing to donate, please drop them into the office or Room 17.

We are also collecting unwanted potting mix and clean plastic pots if you have any you wish to donate.

Broken Crayons Wanted

Room 17 are collecting broken and unwanted crayons to repurpose into new crayon sets as a fundraising venture at the upcoming Mahi Toi Market. If you have any to spare, please drop them off at the office or Room 17.



Slippers and Beanies



Look at Room 4 wearing their lovely, snug slippers and beanies!

Thank you very much to 'Knitting for Cool Kids Taranaki' (a local subgroup of Creative Fibre Aotearoa NZ Inc.) for gifting our new entrants with beautifully knitted beanies and slippers. The students are looking forward to wearing these at school over the winter months.

Arriving Late/Leaving Early

A reminder that students arriving after 8:55am must sign in at the office and take the late slip to their teacher. We appreciate students being on time every day so they have time to get settled before the school day begins and are not missing out on important information relevant to the day ahead.

If students must leave school early they must be signed out by a caregiver at the office. Students will not be permitted to leave school during the day without a caregiver. If someone other than a caregiver (or emergency contact) is collecting your child early, please notify the office in advance or your child will not be released from school.

School Gates

A reminder that during the school day gates are locked to ensure the safety of our students. If entering the grounds during the school day please use the main gate next to the shops which is always unlocked.

Attendance

With the government's continued focus on attendance, as a school we too, continue to monitor attendance and expect that all students attend school regularly. **During Term 1 76% of Bell Block School students attended school regularly** (regularly = at least 90% of the time).

This term we are pleased to acknowledge the efforts of 87 students who attended school every day during Term 1. 100% attendance is determined by following the Ministry of Education guidelines for being present at school. Attendance codes included in the calculation are Late to Class, Approved External Appointment and Board Approved Offsite Learning.

It is expected that appointments and trips are scheduled for outside school hours and during school holidays. ***Any planned absence from school of more than five days must be notified to the Principal via email in advance.*** Parents can expect to be contacted by their child's teacher or our Attendance Officer if their child has been absent from school on multiple occasions.

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.

Student attendance (along with effective teaching) has the greatest impact on student engagement and achievement. 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.

Every day of school matters.

Fundraising for School Camps: Bake at Home Goodies

Fill your freezers and bellies and support our school camps by purchasing delicious goodies from Yarrows & Loaf! **No cash and paper forms required, [order now via the Kindo app.](#)**



Key Dates:

Order by noon on **Friday 6 June**

Collection on **Wednesday 25 June**

The tasty treats on offer include:

Cookies \$12

Contains 20 frozen cookies, ready to pop in the oven when desired.
Flavour options: Chocolate Chip, M&M, ANZAC, White Chocolate & Macadamia

Croissants \$13

Contains 15 frozen unbaked croissants, ready to be baked.

Mini Bites \$4.50

Each pouch contains 6 small bites, ready to eat.

Flavour options: Chocolate Brownie, Goopy Caramel, Rocky Road, Lolly, Apricot Blueberry



We encourage you to ask around and gather orders for your friends/families/workplaces and then place all orders [via Kindo](#). Don't miss out on this tasty opportunity to support our school camps. Your contribution makes a big difference! Happy selling and thank you for your support.

Conrad Hailes
Principal

COMMUNITY NOTICES

New Plymouth Girls' High School presents



Book by Thomas Meehan Music by Charles Strause Lyrics by Martin Chamin

Original Broadway Production Directed by Martin Chamin
Based on "Little Orphan Annie" By Permission of Tribune Content Agency, LLC

Fri 16 May
7:30pm
Sat 17 May
2:00pm & 7:30pm
Sun 18 May
2:00pm & 5:00pm

Tickets from **ITICKET**



CAPE EGMONT HALF MARATHON

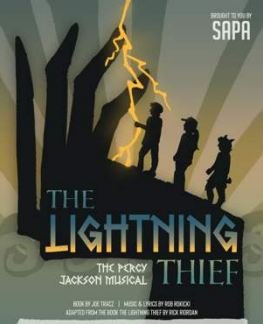
13 JULY 2025
Run - Walk
Team Events
Oxford Rd, Okato, Taranaki



ENTRIES NOW OPEN

Supporting **AMERICAN CYM**
and **Maori Cancer Society**
www.capeegmonthalf.com

PRESENTED TO YOU BY **SAPA**



THE LIGHTNING THIEF
THE PERCY JACKSON MUSICAL

BOOK BY JILL TRACZ MUSIC & LYRICS BY ROB ROSSON
ADAPTED FROM THE BOOK THE LIGHTNING THIEF BY RICK RIORDAN

AUGUST 20TH-30TH
\$10 STUDENTS \$27 ADULTS

trybooking

No charge, but a koha is appreciated



ReCharge
Intermediate Youth

If its your first time please get your parent to fill out a registration form when they drop you off.
Thanks, Recharge

"What could happen if we are bold in our faith?"

Friday 16th May
6:00-8:00pm
@ Northpoint Baptist
116 Mangati Road, Bell Block
Kai this week is: Burgers

ReCharge is a Youth Group for kids in Year 7 to 9 at school.
For more information contact us at recharge@northpoint.org.nz