

BELL BLOCK SCHOOL NEWSLETTER #21

Friday 25 July 2025



Focus Value:

Responsibility - Takohanga

School Goal:

Be prepared for learning every day

Week 2 has flown by, and it has been wonderful to enjoy some sunshine after the wet weather. The big highlight has been the official opening of our brand new playground, and the excitement has been contagious. All classes have had an opportunity to explore the playground and discover their favourite new features. It has already become a much-loved part of our school, and we'd like to say a huge thank-you to all those involved in supporting this project - our students are absolutely thrilled!

Earlier this week, our mid-year reports were published on the @school app and emailed to parents/caregivers, along with information about our new format for showing progress and achievement. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher directly.

A big thank you to everyone who came along to our Parent/Teacher Interviews. Despite some of the coldest nights this winter, it was great to see such strong whānau turnout. These meetings are an important part of helping us work together to support every learner's success.

This week, our Year 7-8 students welcomed Community Constable Brent Parker for an engaging and informative session covering online safety, the impact of social media, and career pathways. These conversations are incredibly important as our students navigate the digital world and begin thinking about their future. We're grateful to Constable Parker for supporting our students to become responsible, respectful digital citizens.

In the Community Notices section of this newsletter, there is information about an upcoming parent information session [*'Keeping our whānau safe in a digital world'*](#) related to online safety and supporting your child in the digital space. We encourage parents and caregivers to attend; it's a valuable opportunity to stay informed and connected.

We ended the week with our first Celebration Assemblies of the term, hosted by our newly formed Student Council, who did a brilliant job. Our Year 4–6 students were on the edge of their seats as Class Councillors were officially announced. These students are voted in by their peers to represent their class on the Junior Council and work to build leadership skills while providing opportunities for students. Congratulations to the following students:

Room 9	Tanson Zhou	Vanessa Cheav
Room 10	Karter Bailey	Mikella Hardgrave
Room 11	William Stretton	Isla Turner
Room 12	Kenneth Moratuwage	Mary Stephens
Room 13	Jaxon Bartle	Armani Wipiiti-Boylan
Room 14	Tyler Gu	Martine Henry-Smith

A special well done also to our Triple A and Values Award recipients.

India Skedgwell, Cooper Birkett, Irenreet Kaur, Ruby Early, Fletcher Coster, Mahendra Reddipalli, Edie Green, Campbell Lewis, Sandamini Karunarathna, Aimee-Lee Tijsen-Pine, Arlo Rook, Lachlan Sandford, Nya Soffe, Apikale Ligavatu, Lara Muggeridge, Diljot Sidhu, Max Singh, Payton Rook, Aurora Fieldes, Anthony Hobbs, Yewan Bangamuwa Gamage, SivaTau Mauga, Sunema Simi, Ayra Faris, Amelia Chapman, Franky Logie, Marshall Ross, Aimee-Lee Forbes-Knott, Cade Skedgwell, Roman Payne, Zaiden Bishop, Maeson Ruwhiu, Lance Clarin, Mindy Lin, Beau Henderson, Sachi Quiboloy, Willa Clark, Pippa Welton

Looking Ahead					
Week 3	Monday 28 July	Tuesday 29 July	Wednesday 30 July	Thursday 31 July	Friday 1 August
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 1:40 Kapa Haka Group Practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sports Photo Day 5:00 Board Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 9:00 New Entrants' Transition Visit
Week 4	Monday 4 August	Tuesday 5 August	Wednesday 6 August	Thursday 7 August	Friday 8 August
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club ICAS Writing Exam 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ICAS Digital Technologies Exam 5:30 Parent Literacy Information Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 1:40 Kapa Haka Group Practice 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club LEAD Conference 9:00 New Entrants' Transition Visit 9:30 Year 4-8 Celebration Assembly 10:00 Year 0-3 Celebration Assembly

Contact Details

With the school Board elections coming up, it is important that we hold up to date contact information for all eligible voters. Please check your contact details in the *@school* app and let the office know if any of your details have changed.

ICAS International Exam Opportunities

Each year, we offer the opportunity for our Year 3-8 students to take part in the ICAS exam programme run by the University of New South Wales in Australia. This consists of separate online exams in Digital Technologies, Science, Writing, Spelling, English and Mathematics held onsite at school in August and September. These tests are quite challenging and suitable for children achieving above the expected level. They are not compulsory and are often chosen by parents and children as a learning extension challenge. There is a cost to parents for each exam. For more information about ICAS please click [here](#). To enter one or more exams, simply visit the Parent Payment Portal [here](#) and enter the access code **EFJ836 by Friday 25 July**.

Reminder: 2026 School Camps – Donations Now Open

We're excited to be offering enriching camp experiences for our Year 5-8 students in 2026.

Year 5-6 Students

4-6 March 2026 – 3-day camp
Vertical Horizon, Inglewood
Camp Donation: \$220

Year 7-8 Students

23-27 March 2026 – 5-day camp
El Rancho, Wellington
Camp Donation: \$595

As a reminder, the Ministry of Education does not fund school camps or permit us to charge for them. However, we are able to accept voluntary donations to help cover the costs of providing these valuable learning opportunities.

Camp donations can be made gradually over time from now onwards. Please feel free to make part or full payment through your [Kindo](#) account at any time. Your support is greatly appreciated and helps us to continue offering memorable and meaningful experiences for our students.

Parent App – '@school'



The parent app '@school' is our main form of school communication. All school updates, permission slips, school reports and sports notices are published 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

Term 4 Sports

Registrations are now open for Term 4 school sports teams.



Touch	Years 1-8
Cricket	Years 1-8
Hockey	Years 3-6
Netball	Years 1-2

Registrations close on FRIDAY 29 AUGUST at 11.59pm. Payment must be made at the time of registration via the [myKindo](#) app. If you are having difficulty making payment, please contact the office before the deadline to discuss alternative arrangements.

Full information including season dates is available on the school website www.bellblock.school.nz
If you have any queries, please email sport@bellblock.school.nz or telephone the office on 755 0838.

Touch Rugby

Touch rugby is open to all ages, boys and girls. Games are played on a Wednesday afternoon at Hickford Park. Fees \$50-60.

Cricket

Cricket is open to all ages, boys and girls. Games are played on a Friday evening at 5.30pm or a Saturday morning at 9am (depending on grade) at various grounds around New Plymouth. Fees \$30.

Hockey

Summer hockey is available for players in Years 3-6 only. Games are played on a Saturday morning at the New Plymouth turf on Hobson Street. Fees \$50-\$60.

Netball

Term 4 netball is for players in Year 1 and 2 only. This is a great introduction to netball for our youngest players and the focus for this age group is on exploring netball. Games are played on Wednesdays, 4 aside on 1/3 court size. With a small team and small space to play, your child will have many opportunities to have their hands on the ball, increasing their involvement and fun. It allows players to catch, pass and shoot from day one – a programme designed just for them. There is no charge to participate.

Volunteer Coaches/Managers



We are always on the lookout for willing volunteers to coach or manage our sports teams. Please consider putting your hand up if you're able to as we rely heavily on adult volunteers in order for the teams to go ahead. Email your expression of interest to sport@bellblock.school.nz

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 3 must be received no later than **Friday 22 August**.

Yummy Apple Stickers for New Sports Gear

We are continuing to collect stickers from individual Yummy apples or cut-out labels from bags of Yummy apples to earn FREE sports gear for the school.

Collect your Yummy Stickers right through 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 school app by clicking on the 'Documents' icon, from the school website or collect from the school office). 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 receive for all to enjoy!

Lunchonline Subway Promotion



www.lunchonline.co.nz

BELL BLOCK SCHOOL

SUBWAY PROMOTION

EVERY SUB ORDERED BETWEEN 28th JULY- 5TH SEPTEMBER GOES IN THE DRAW TO WIN SOME AMAZING PRIZES

COKE T-SHIRTS, SUBWAY SCRUNCHIES, SUBWAY KEY RINGS, SUBWAY LANYARDS, PUMP OODIES, SUBWAY TOG BAGS, SUBWAY SOCKS AND SUBWAY \$\$ LOADED CARDS

PRIZES WILL BE DELIVERED TO SCHOOL DURING THE LAST WEEK OF TERM.

ORDERS TO BE PLACED BY 9AM ON DAY OF DELIVERY



Emily Doelman
Assistant Principal

COMMUNITY NOTICES

25 JULY

“EQUIPPED FOR THE POSITION”

ESTHER 2:1-18





All Yr 7-9's Welcome @ Northpoint Baptist Church

Friday 25th July 6:00 Pm - 8:00 Pm
Food this week: Hotdogs

Keeping our whanau safe in a digital world

Tickets \$40 Thurs 7 Aug 7-10pm New Plymouth Boys High School Rotor Hill Auditorium

An essential guide to get your children and whānau to support them on their journey into the digital world

  

serenel **Praxis**

Learn how to keep your children safe in a digital world

Book your place today

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

BELL BLOCK LIBRARY

6 weeks from 31 July – 4 Sept

Thursdays 3.30pm to 4.30pm

A mix of craft, STEM and digital activities suitable for 8 – 12 year olds

See a staff member to enrol or

Phone us on 06-7550939

Puke Ariki NPDC