

BELL BLOCK SCHOOL NEWSLETTER #3
Friday 20 February 2026



Focus Value:
 Respect - Whakaute

School Goal:
 I treat my classmates
 and friends the way I
 want to be treated

With three weeks now completed, our regular classroom programmes are up and running with a focus on maximising learning time. There is also some testing being undertaken this week and next week as we aim to find out where the students are now and what their next learning steps are.

We started this week with our first Celebration Assembly of the year. It was great to see so many of our families come along to celebrate our Class Councillors and award winners and also see students sharing their learning. Our Student Leaders host the assemblies and, although very nervous for their first couple of times hosting, they do an amazing job leading this event in front of a hall full of students and families.

Congratulations to our Class Councillors selected from the Waihowaka Team (Year 4-6) who will work together as the Junior Council.

Room 9	Emily Collins	Coby Kingsnorth
Room 10	Peyton Ferries	Jake Sanderson
Room 11	Lilly-Anne Bartle	Max Smith
Room 12	Tess Sanderson	Bryson Tamaiparea
Room 13	Kristel Jordaan	Tame White
Room 14	Allex Lockley-Marsh	Nikau Russell
Room 16	Matilda Lee	Fatih Muhammad Faris

Well done also to our first award winners for 2026. These students have made a great start to the year and have been noticed for their hard work and positive attitude since returning to school.

Kingston Anderson, Finn Simpson, Meredith Anderson, Oliver Potroz, Gabriel Ferries, Leedancy Fidow, Edie Green, Isla Turner, Kayson Gordon, Mary-Jane Inwood-Edwards, Hunter Potroz, Konrad Turama, James Proffitt, Isaac Smith, Danica Geraghty, Chloe Green, Lewis Joseph, Achyuth Vavilala, Athena Barlow, Lilah Wise, Demi Stosic, Percy Raikes, Rosa Turama, Jahraz Adamson, Henry Lee, Mela McGovern, Jessa Pollock, Rory Gardiner, Soyou Han, Fynn Chaloner, Stephanie Smith, Amelia Williams, Beau Henderson, Camaro Swan, Carraeah Stevens-Kara, Emmie Walsh

Looking Ahead

	Monday 23 February	Tuesday 24 February	Wednesday 25 February	Thursday 26 February	Friday 27 February
Week 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 8:55 Open Morning – Structured Literacy 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 9:00 New Entrants Transition Visit Deadline for Year 5-6 camp donations
Week 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club 2:15 Celebration Assembly 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club Year 5-6 Camp 5:30 Year 7-8 Camp Meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 5-6 Camp 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 Breakfast Club Year 5-6 Camp 9:00 New Entrants Transition Visit Mangati Swimming Sports (Years 0-3)

Open Morning – Wednesday 25 February at 8.55am - Structured Literacy

We invite our whānau to join us for an Open Morning on **Wednesday 25 February** focused on Structured Literacy. Parents and caregivers are asked to meet in the school hall at **8.55am** for a short presentation. The presentation will provide an overview of what Structured Literacy programmes look like in our classrooms and the reasons behind this approach. From approximately 9.30am, families will have the opportunity to visit their child's classroom to observe a Structured Literacy lesson in action. The lessons generally last for 30-40 minutes at this time of year so should be wrapped up just after 10:00am. Please note that on this occasion, the classroom visits are for observation of learning and not a general classroom tour as we have done in the past. All our families are warmly welcome to attend to see how the new programme works and what it looks like in practice.

Upcoming Dates

Some upcoming dates to pencil in your calendar:

- 6 March Years 0-3 Mangati Swimming Sports
- 9 March Taranaki Anniversary – school closed
- 11 March Years 4-8 Swimming Sports
- 12 March Postponement Day Mangati Swimming Sports
- 17 March Years 4-8 Triathlon
- 19 March School Photo Day
- 31 March Parent Teacher Interviews
- 1 April Parent Teacher Interviews
- 2 April Last day of Term 1

Teacher Only Day – Monday 20 April

This year we have again been asked by the Ministry of Education to take two Teacher Only Days for the development of mathematics programmes. We apologise for this disruption as we know it impacts all of our families. The Board has approved the first of these days for **Monday 20 April**, which would have been the first day of Term 2. School will be closed for instruction on this day and Term 2 will now start on Tuesday 21 April. The second Teacher Only Day will likely be in Term 4 and we will let our community know as soon as this date has been set.



School Camps – The Excitement is Building!

There is a real buzz of excitement around our upcoming school camps! Our Year 5–6 students are heading off in early March to Vertical Horizon in Inglewood. This fantastic outdoor education experience is always a highlight of the year. We know this camp will be filled with teamwork, confidence-building, and plenty of fun.

Later in March, our Year 7–8 students will be travelling to Wellington for their camp experience. This is a wonderful opportunity for our Intermediate students to extend themselves, build independence, and create lasting memories together. A digital permission slip for the Year 7–8 camp has been emailed to all families this week. If you have not received it, please contact the school office as soon as possible. We ask that all digital permission forms are completed **by next Friday 27 February**.



Donations Wanted – Can you help?

We are seeking donations of board games or indoor activities for our *Whakawātea*, a calming space students can access during break times. If you're able to help, donations can be delivered to the school office. Thank you for your support.



Year 7/8 Technology

Next Thursday and Friday, Year 7-8 students must bring clothes that get messy or possibly stained. All students will be painting with Mr Monty, using **gloss** paint, which will not come out of clothes. Please be prepared! The school takes no responsibility for damaged or stained clothing.

Welcome Yûjiā

We are lucky to have a Mandarin Language Assistant at our school for three days a week. Yûjiā will be supporting our second language learners in class and will also provide second language lessons for our Year 7/8 Team. We may also incorporate some basic exposure Mandarin lessons for Year 0-6 classes.



LI YUJIA
李雨佳

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Any city, New Zealand
Actually staff room

EDUCATION
Bachelor of Science
Hanshan Normal University, China
2015 – 2019
Master of Education
Xiamen University, China
2026 – now

Who am I
Mandarin Language Assistant
A cat keeper
Oreo's mum

Hobbies
Chinese calligraphy

大家好! 我叫李雨佳, “李”是李子树, 这是我的姓, “雨”是下雨, “佳”是好看, “雨佳”是我的名字, 我是广州人, 你们好!
Hello everyone! My name is Li Yujia. Li is my family name, and it means plum tree. Yu means rain, and Jia means beautiful or excellent. Yujia is my given name. You can call me Yujia. I'm from Guangzhou. Hihi! (Cantonese)

Sports Registrations 2026

Touch teams have now been finalised and all players have been notified via the @school app. Rippa team notifications will be sent out shortly. Registrations for winter sports remain open via [myKindo](https://mykindo.com).

Term 1

Season start dates:	Cricket	Saturday 14 February
	Touch	Wednesday 25 February
	Rippa Rugby	Thursday 5 March

Term 2

Basketball (Years 0-8)	Expressions of interest close TODAY
Hockey (Years 3-8)	Registrations close Friday 27 February
Netball (Years 7-8)	Registrations close Friday 13 March
Volleyball (Years 7-8)	Registrations close Friday 13 March

Term 3

Netball (Years 3-6)	Registrations close Friday 13 March
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For further information about each sport, including season dates and game details, please check our school website www.bellblock.school.nz.

Registration Confirmation

Once you have completed the registration via myKindo, please check that you receive an automatic Order Confirmation email. This ensures that the school has received your child's registration.

If you are having any difficulty making payment of sports fees, please contact the office in strict confidence before the deadline to discuss alternative arrangements.

If you have any queries about any sports teams, please get in touch with our Sports Co-Ordinator by email to sport@bellblock.school.nz or phone 755 0838.

Coaches Needed – Ripa Rugby and Basketball



We are currently seeking more coaches for our ripa rugby teams and basketball teams. Without a coach, the teams are not able to go ahead. Please contact the Sports Co-Ordinator as soon as possible if you, or someone you know, is able to assist. Email sport@bellblock.school.nz



Conrad Hailes
Principal

COMMUNITY NOTICES

2026 REGISTRATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!

Bell Block
RUGBY SPORTS & COMMUNITY CLUB INC.

JOIN OUR CLUB!

IF YOUR CHILD IS TURNING 5 THIS YEAR & LOVES RUGBY, SIGN THEM UP TO RIPPA RUGBY TODAY!

- YEAR 1 & 2 GRADE- RIPPA
- YEAR 3 & 4 GRADE- TACKLE
- YEAR 5 & 6 GRADE- TACKLE
- YEAR 7 & 8 GRADE- TACKLE
- SENIOR TEAM- PLAYERS & MANAGEMENT

DEBBIE SENIOR ENQUIRES- 0274575933
JAMIE JUNIOR ENQUIRES- 204115 8957
Email: bellblockclub@gmail.com

Scan the QR code to register

SuperKidz TRYathlon 2026

The SuperKidz Tryathlon series is an event for the whole family to enjoy, focusing on participation, fun and family entertainment.

We want all our SuperKidz athletes to have fun and feel safe so we cater for three age groups: weeks: Years 1-3, Years 4-6, Years 7-9.

WEEK ONE:	WEEK TWO:	WEEK THREE:	WEEK FOUR:
Thursday, February	Thursday, February	Thursday, March	Thursday, March
19	26	5	12

FRANCIS DOUGLAS MEMORIAL COLLEGE

Registration from 4:30pm. **First wave starts 5:30pm**

enter @ www.tritaranaki.nz

SCAN TO ENTER