

**BELL BLOCK SCHOOL NEWSLETTER #6**  
**Friday 13 March 2026**

**Focus Value:**  
 Respect - Whakaute



**School Goal:**  
 I value my class time and listen to my teachers

The Year 4-8 Swimming Sports was the major event this week, with students giving it their best and earning points for their whānau groups. Whether students were finalists going for the win or simply challenging themselves to give it a go, it was great to hear we had so many students showing tū māia and living our motto 'kaha i ngā wā katoa – Our Best Always'. It was also great to hear about the enthusiasm in the whānau relays, and the students' team once again coming out victorious in the Staff vs Students relay.

Well done to all the students who took part in their Swimming Sports. Results will be published in next week's newsletter. A big thank you also to Mrs Piercy and Mrs Clarkson for organising the events, and to all the whānau who were able to come along and support on the day.



Next week will begin with the Celebration Assembly on Monday at 2:15pm. Our families are warmly welcomed to come and join us. On Tuesday, our Year 4-8 students will have a go at our annual Triathlon, either as an individual or as part of a team. Some adventurous students may even choose to take on both! Tuesday is also the AGM for our PTA group, which will be held in the staffroom starting at 7:00pm.

**Waitaha (Year 7-8) Camp**

It is pleasing to announce that the Year 7-8 camp will be going ahead in Week 8. We are committed to providing camping experiences for our students, while recognising that this comes at a significant cost for families. Next term, the Board will be consulting with the community to gather information from our whānau about what they would like school camps to look like moving forward at Bell Block School. Please keep an eye out for further information next term.

**Looking Ahead**

	<b>Monday 16 March</b>	<b>Tuesday 17 March</b>	<b>Wednesday 18 March</b>	<b>Thursday 19 March</b>	<b>Friday 20 March</b>
<b>Week 7</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 Breakfast Club</li> <li>Year 7-8 Immunisations</li> <li>2:15 Celebration Assembly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 4-8 Triathlon</li> <li>7:00 PTA AGM</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 Breakfast Club</li> <li>9:00 New Entrants' Transition Visit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School Photo Day</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 Breakfast Club</li> </ul>
	<b>Monday 23 March</b>	<b>Tuesday 24 March</b>	<b>Wednesday 25 March</b>	<b>Thursday 26 March</b>	<b>Friday 27 March</b>
<b>Week 8</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 Breakfast Club</li> <li>Year 7-8 Camp to El Rancho</li> <li>9:30 Mangati (Rm 2/6) Trip to Puke Ariki</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 7-8 Camp to El Rancho</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 Breakfast Club</li> <li>9:00 New Entrants' Transition Visit</li> <li>Year 7-8 Camp to El Rancho</li> <li>9:30 Mangati (Rm 3/7) Trip to Puke Ariki</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 7-8 Camp to El Rancho</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:00 Breakfast Club</li> <li>Year 7-8 Camp to El Rancho</li> <li>9:30 Mangati (Rm 4/5/8) Trip to Puke Ariki</li> <li>Last day of swimming</li> </ul>

## Upcoming Dates

Some future dates to pencil in to your calendar:

- 31 March Parent Teacher Interviews
- 1 April Parent Teacher Interviews
- 2 April Last day of Term 1

## School Photos - PhotoLife

Our school photo day is on Thursday when students will have both a class photo and individual portraits taken. They always look the part for this. If you would like a sibling photo to be taken as well, please ensure the form is returned to the office email before Wednesday. 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 directly to caregivers approximately two weeks after photo day.*



## Class Swimming

A reminder that class swimming for Years 0-6 will continue until the end of next week, Friday 27 March. Please ensure your child brings their togs and towel for each of their swimming days.

## School Triathlon – Tuesday 17 March

On Tuesday 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 wish to enter as an individual or as part of a team (or both).



Any student who chooses 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 leg 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 Tuesday, 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

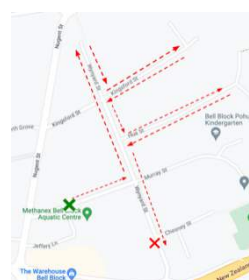
1:00pm Year 4 boys and girls

1:10pm Year 5 boys and girls

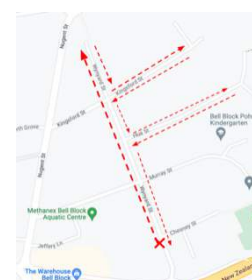
1:20pm Year 6 boys and girls

1:30pm Year 7 boys and girls

1:40pm Year 8 boys and girls



Cycle leg – First lap



Subsequent 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



## Pizza Day – Thursday 2 April

Our first Pizza Day for the year will be held on Thursday 2 April to raise funds for the Student Council Legacy Project. The cost is \$3.00 per slice, \$3.50 per slice for gluten free. Orders may be placed via the [myKindo](#) app and will close on **Sunday 29 March 2026**. Pizza is delivered to the child's classroom at lunchtime.



## Sports Registrations 2026

Netball and volleyball registrations close today. Please register on [myKindo](#) if you would like to join a school team. Hockey teams are now being finalised and players will be notified of team details via the school app in due course.

For further information about each sport, including season dates and game details, please check our school website [www.bellblock.school.nz](http://www.bellblock.school.nz).



## Nominate your school for a chance to WIN a share of \$100K in sports grants!

The Big Little Sponsorship is back, so spread the word and nominate your school for the chance to win one of ten \$10,000 sports grants. School can spend it on whatever they need, like new equipment, sports uniforms or coaching sessions. Anything to help your little champions play a little freer.

### Entering is easy!

Winning takes teamwork, so get the whole community involved by nominating your school. Teachers, students, parents, friends and whānau can all share the love and show their support for your school by nominating [here](#).

Entries are now open so get your nominations in today!

## Ryan Hailes Memorial Scholarship 2026



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](mailto:sport@bellblock.school.nz). Applications for Term 1 must be received no later than *Friday 20 March*.

## LEGO Club

WOW! There is an increasing number of students attending our LEGO Club - what an amazing turn out last week (over 40 students)! With the number of students wanting to build during the lunch break, our Librarian is finding we are in need of more LEGO. If you have any building bricks or mini-figures to donate to our fabulous LEGO Club, could you please drop them into the office so we can add them to our collection. Thank you - from our very busy builders!



## Library Books




Classroom visits to our library are well underway this term. Our school library provides a wide range of books for students to enjoy each week. To make sure we can keep our library collection up-to-date and that all students continue to have access to a variety of books, we ask for your support in helping children return their library books on time. Please also encourage your child to take care of their library books so others can enjoy them.

Email reminders will be sent to all parents/caregivers for overdue books but if a library book is not returned within **4 weeks** of the issue date, it will be considered **lost**, and the cost of replacing the book will be charged (payable via MyKindo). If you are unsure of your child's library time, please contact their classroom teacher.

## Lunch Orders

A reminder that lunch orders are available for students on Thursdays and Fridays – Subway on Thursdays and sushi on Fridays. Order online using *myKindo* app or visit <https://shop.kindo.co.nz/app/login>



**Fresh, Easy Lunches**  
Delivered to School!

## PTA News – AGM this Tuesday

Join us on Tuesday 17 March 2026 at 7pm in the Bell Block School staffroom for our annual AGM. In this meeting, new office bearers will be appointed. Please email us at [pta@bellblock.school.nz](mailto:pta@bellblock.school.nz) if you'd like further information about any of the available roles. We will also be discussing allocation of future fundraising funds and general planning ahead for the year.

All parents, caregivers, guardians and whānau are invited to come along, join the discussions and put their hands up for the PTA should they wish - we always welcome new people and ideas to help us support the school. We hope to see you there!

## PTA News – Pepper & Me Fundraiser

Reminder: Have you got your Pepper & Me orders in? Up until 25 March be sure to enter the code: **FUNDBBS3/26** at checkout to have 20% of your sale support the school. Click [our custom link](#) to make your order.



**pepperme**  
**Fundraising Programme**

Simply use the code **FUNDBBS3/26** *This is your code*

**and 20% of all sales** using the code will be donated to support

**Bell Block School**

At checkout please use the code above. Valid from 01/03/26 to 25/03/26. Excludes Pepper Post.

**Fundraising made delicious!** Check out at [pepperandme.co.nz](http://pepperandme.co.nz)

**Conrad Hailes**  
**Principal**

## COMMUNITY NOTICES



NEW PLYMOUTH BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL  
TE KURA TAKAMAHAU O NGARARU

# FESTIVAL OF CRICKET – FAMILY FUN DAY

2:00 pm, 1<sup>st</sup> XI Game – 3:00 pm  
Sunday, 15 March  
New Plymouth Boys' High School  
Top Field

All skill levels are welcome. The event starts at 2pm, so bring the whole family along for an afternoon of cricket and community fun. Stay to support our 1st XI cricket team as they take on St Paul's Collegiate in a T20-style game at 3pm.

Enjoy a BBQ fundraiser supporting our students attending the Australasian Cricket Tour.



## SCHOOL CAMP COMING UP?

Bedwetting doesn't have to stop your child from going. Here's how to prepare:

- 1. Get help early**  
The sooner you learn how to help your child stop bedwetting, the more confident they'll feel about staying dry at camp.
- 2. Reassure them**  
Many kids still wet the bed at this age. Your child is far from the only one thinking about this.
- 3. Smart evening habits**  
Skip fizzy drinks and juice after dinner. Make a final toilet stop after your evening chat.
- 4. Tell a teacher**  
Let a trusted teacher know ahead of time so they can support your child quietly and confidently.
- 5. Pack discreet essentials**  
Extra PJs, wipes, and a quiet waterproof disposal bag keep things simple. Skip onesies, they're tricky for night toileting.
- 6. Consider temporary medication**  
There is short-term medication that can help with sleepovers and school camp. Just make sure to trial it before they go.

**Want more tips?**  
I can't tell it all here, so checkout my blog about Bedwetting and School Camp

**Don't wait for the next camp to roll around.**  
Give your child the best chance to enjoy sleepovers and school camps without stress.

**At Stay Dry at Night, we can help your child (aged 5 to 12 y) learn how to stop bedwetting.**

**Stay Dry at Night**  
We Help Kids Stop Bedwetting

Scan the QR code to read our full blog



[www.staydryatnight.com](http://www.staydryatnight.com)



# HAVE A GO DAY

FUN. FREE. ALL AGES. STICKS PROVIDED  
New Plymouth Turf - Hobson Street  
15th March 9am-12pm  
POP IN ANYTIME

