

BELL BLOCK SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Week 5, Term 2: Friday 22 May
#12



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

As discussed at our Celebration Assembly this fortnight, success is not about being the best – it is about being *your* best. I challenged our students to think about something they are successful in, something where they are showing their personal best while also understanding that everyone's personal best can look different.

Over the past two weeks, I have been lucky enough to witness success in so many different forms across our kura. Valerie from Room 3 proudly showed me her incredible success with doing the splits in the playground! In Room 6, I enjoyed reading Nikau's writing about a cute and cuddly cat, which demonstrated wonderful success and growth for him as a writer. I also saw a beautiful display of empathy and care from Musahib, Greyson, and Preston, who took the time to help out a friend in the playground – a fantastic example of success beyond the classroom.

On Monday afternoon, I watched two of our basketball teams play and again saw success shining through in their teamwork, encouragement, and sportsmanship. This week, I have also had the privilege of working with a small group of our Year 1 and 2 students during spelling sessions. The success they have achieved in such a short time has been outstanding and serves as a reminder that we should never underestimate what our tamariki are capable of achieving. Success is truly all around us when we take the time to notice it and celebrate our learners at their personal best. We are such a lucky kura, filled with amazing talent, skill, kindness, and determination.

Last week, I was fortunate to attend a Principals' hui at Stratford Mountain House. Alongside discussions around Ministry updates and education matters, we were privileged to hear from a Ngāti Ruanui representative who shared the story behind the design and construction of the new bridge on the mountain. We then took a walk up to see it for ourselves – breathtaking... and slightly scary at times! If you haven't yet had the opportunity to visit with your whānau, I highly encourage you to make the trip.

Thank you to all those who were able to attend our Open Morning with Esmee last week. Opportunities like these help strengthen our shared understanding of our Structured Approach to Literacy as we continue on this important journey together. Esmee was extremely complimentary of the lessons our teachers are delivering, which is a wonderful reflection of the dedication and expertise of our staff. We will continue to strengthen and grow our practice in this area. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak with your child's classroom teacher or members of our Literacy Team, including myself, Wendy Foster, Madi Mitchell, and Raewyn Clarkson.

Finally – WE NEED YOU!

We would love to give our kura a little makeover and are planning a school working bee on Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 June. There are plenty of jobs for everyone, including clearing gardens, water blasting, staining outdoor furniture, and some painting.

Please save the date and come along to support us in helping make our school a beautiful space for our tamariki and wider community to enjoy. Many hands make light work, and we would truly appreciate any time you are able to give. To help keep everyone fuelled and motivated, we will also be putting on a sausage sizzle for all our wonderful helpers! We look forward to seeing as many of our whānau there as possible. Together, we can make a big difference for our kura.

Courtney Goldsworthy
Acting Principal



WEEK 4 & 5 IN PICTURES



LEARNING SPOTLIGHT

Folk Dancing

Room 3 has been having a fantastic time learning Folk Dancing over the past fortnight. It has been wonderful to watch the students learn the routines step by step and then practice them so sensibly and respectfully together. Their coordination, timing, and ability to keep to the beat of the music has been incredibly impressive!

Most importantly, there have been plenty of smiles, laughter, and enjoyment along the way. Folk Dancing has been a fun and engaging way for students to build confidence, teamwork, and rhythm while enjoying movement and music together. Ka pai, Room 3!



Waitaha Arts Rotation

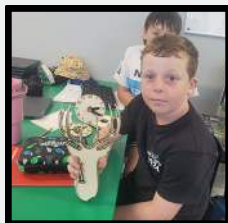
Our Year 7/8 Waitaha Team have been thoroughly enjoying their Arts Rotation this term, with students having the opportunity to explore a range of creative experiences and develop new skills. Mrs Pearce has been leading the Drama rotation, and it has been fantastic to see students stepping outside of their comfort zones, showing confidence, creativity, and plenty of enthusiasm along the way.

Through a variety of drama activities and performances, students have been learning how to express themselves, work collaboratively, and bring characters and ideas to life. The photos shared capture the energy, fun, and engagement that has been happening during these sessions, and it is wonderful to see so many students embracing the performing arts with such positivity.



Manufacturing

Last term in Manufacturing, we focused on designing and creating a range of functional and decorative products including clocks, lights, and wall decorations. Students used industry-style technology such as the laser cutter and the LightBurn design software to bring their ideas to life. Throughout the term, students followed the full manufacturing process of plan - design - refine - print - workshop - evaluate, developing their creativity, problem-solving, and practical skills along the way. Students learned how to turn initial concepts into finished products by testing ideas, making improvements, and reflecting on the effectiveness of their final designs.





CELEBRATIONS!



Triple A & Values Award Winners

Ayla Bliss, Piper Shrubsall, Rowan Rutherford, Nathan Collins, Paige Harris, Aryan Sodhi, Ayra Faris, Vinayak Chand, Lachie Early, Aria Dwyer, Rincy Lin, Novak Kendall, Roy Lin, Thomas Suter, Alisha Wong, Charlotte Poole, Shyla Drummond, Nya McLeod, Gitaaj Singh, Valerie Mwaengeni, Oscar Young, SivaTau Mauga, Sophia Fisher, Amayra Kumar, Felix Rook, Ava Mischeski, Keaton Feather-Smith, Xanthe Poi, Thea Parkinson, Jacob Chapman, Gavy Kaur, Fatih Muhammad Faris, Ezra Stewart-Jacks, Harper Daniels, Emily Cooper, Dallas Peters



Attendance Award

Awarded to the class with the highest regular attendance in the last fortnight

Congratulations to
ROOM 19



Percy & Alfie Winners

Awarded to two classes who show our school motto during assembly
Kaha i ngā wā katoa – Our Best Always

Congratulations to
ROOM 18 & ROOM 9



Whanau points WINNER



KŌTUKU



KERERŪ



TAKAHĒ



PĪWAIWAKA



Mark Your Calendar

- **May 29** 9:00am New Entrants' Transition Visit
- **June 01** King's Birthday - SCHOOL CLOSED
- **June 02** Cohort 4 New Entrants Start
- **June 03** National Young Leaders' Day
- **June 04** 1:45pm Inter school Sports Practice Year 5/6
- **June 05** 12:00pm Inter school Sports vs Inglewood Primary Year 5/6 (Home)

THANK YOU!



A huge thank you to Pizza Hut Bell Block for their generous donation of pizzas for the inter school shared kai today!



JOIN THE FUN! NAU MAI HAERE MAI



1 WORKING BEE! WE NEED YOU!

We are planning a school Working Bee to help give our kura a little makeover and would absolutely love the support of our school community. The initial dates we have planned are:

[Saturday 6 June and Sunday 7 June](#)

If the weather doesn't cooperate, we will move the working bee to the following weekend on: [Saturday 13 June and Sunday 14 June](#)

There are plenty of jobs for everyone, including clearing gardens, water blasting, staining outdoor furniture, and some painting. Many hands make light work, and every little bit of help will make a huge difference in helping us keep our kura looking beautiful for our tamariki. Please, please come along if you are able to help and support us. We would love to see as many whānau members there as possible! To keep everyone fuelled and motivated, we will also have a sausage sizzle running throughout the day.

If you are able to lend a hand, please let Courtney know via email at: courtney.goldsworthy@bellblock.school.nz
Thank you in advance for supporting our kura community – we truly appreciate it!

2 Inter school Sports Exchange Friday 5 June: 12:00pm

We are excited to host the second of the Year 5-6 inter school sports exchanges at Bell Block School. Inglewood Primary School will visit us to play rugby, netball and football against our Year 5-6 students. Games start at 12:00pm.

Spectators welcome. Please join us to cheer for our teams.



INTER SCHOOL SPORTS RECAP



What an awesome day of sport between Bell Block School and Stratford Primary School! With amazing weather setting the scene, it was fantastic to see such great sportsmanship, teamwork, and fair play displayed across all games. Our teams competed in football, rugby, and two netball matches, with Bell Block School securing a strong win in football, while Stratford Primary took home three wins across rugby and netball. Congratulations to all players for their effort, determination, and positive attitude throughout the day.

We would especially like to commend Stratford Primary School for their outstanding sportsmanship both on and off the field – it was a pleasure to host such respectful and encouraging teams.

A huge thank you also goes to all of our coaches, referees, and parent supporters for your time, energy, and encouragement. Days like these would not be possible without your support!



PARENT COMMUNICATION



We would like to clarify the communication portals for parents to use to contact teachers:

- If you are needing information with regards to school events you will find this on your “@school” app.
- If you are needing to view information with regards to classroom reminders please view the Dojo newsfeed.
- If you need to contact a teacher with a concern or query specific to your child, your classroom teacher will shortly be in touch to let you know how they wish for this to happen.

BELL BLOCK SCHOOL BEHAVIOUR PLAN

SUPPORTING CHILDREN TO LEARN, GROW AND MAKE POSITIVE CHOICES

At Bell Block School, we believe behaviour is something children learn over time – just like reading, writing, or maths. As adults, we all make mistakes and sometimes need reminders, support, or help to make better choices. When we remember that our tamariki have only been on this earth for between 5 and 13 years, it reminds us that they are still learning how to manage emotions, solve problems, build relationships, and make good decisions. Because of this, we see behaviour incidents as opportunities for teaching, guidance, and growth – not simply punishment. Our approach is built around relationships, restorative practices, and helping children learn the skills they need to succeed both at school and in life.

OUR SCHOOL VALUES

At Bell Block School, our behaviour approach is guided by our school values.

For our Year 0-6 students, our established values remain:

- Respect
- Caring
- Responsibility
- Standing Brave

These values continue to be explicitly taught, modelled, and celebrated across the Mangati and Waihowaka areas of the school.

A.R.O.H.A

For our Year 7-8 students, we are currently trialling a refreshed framework called A.R.O.H.A. This trial has been designed to bring together all of our existing values into an easy-to-remember acronym that supports older students to connect more deeply with the expectations and language around behaviour and wellbeing.

A.R.O.H.A stands for:

- Achieve – striving to do our best
- Respect – valuing others and ourselves
- Ownership – taking responsibility for our actions
- Heart – showing kindness and care
- Adapt – learning from challenges and moving forward



Although the language has been reframed for Year 7-8, the values themselves still reflect the heart of what Bell Block School has always stood for.

CELEBRATING POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR

A big part of our behaviour plan is recognising and celebrating positive choices.

Students are acknowledged through:

- AROHA tokens
- Dojo points
- Class rewards
- Triple A certificates
- Blockbusters
- Celebration Days
- ROARSOME certificates

Our goal is to notice and reinforce the behaviours we want to see – kindness, responsibility, resilience, effort, and respectful interactions.

UNDERSTANDING BEHAVIOUR AT SCHOOL



Our behaviour system is designed to respond fairly and consistently depending on the seriousness and frequency of behaviour.

MINOR BEHAVIOURS

These are small behaviour choices that briefly interrupt learning.

Examples might include:

- calling out
- being off task
- forgetting expectations
- low-level disruption

PERSISTENT MINOR BEHAVIOURS

Sometimes behaviours continue even after reminders and support.

When this happens, we:

- increase support
- use reflection opportunities
- communicate with whānau
- work alongside students to identify triggers and next steps

The aim is to understand the behaviour and help students build better strategies moving forward.

MAJOR BEHAVIOURS

Major behaviours are more serious incidents that impact safety, learning, or relationships.

Examples may include:

- bullying
- intentional damage
- theft
- aggressive behaviour

Even in serious situations, our approach remains restorative and focused on learning, accountability, and repairing relationships.

CRISIS BEHAVIOURS

Crisis behaviours involve immediate safety concerns.

In these situations:

- safety is the first priority
- Senior Leadership step in immediately
- students are supported to regulate and calm
- whānau are contacted promptly
- individual support and safety plans may be developed

Our priority is always keeping everyone safe while still supporting the child with dignity and care.

WHEN THIS HAPPENS, STAFF WILL:

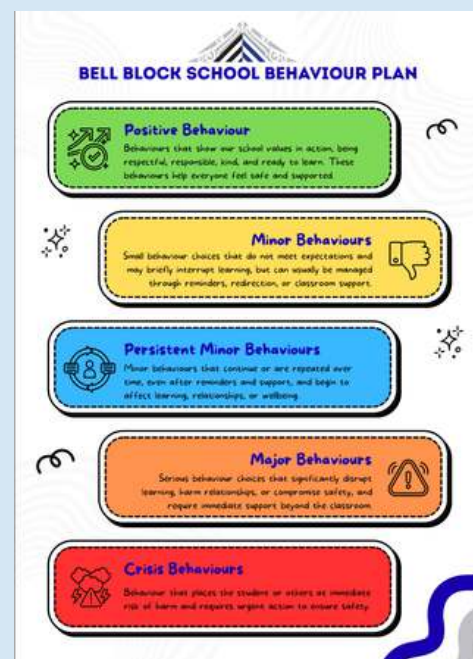
- remind students of expectations
- redirect and reteach behaviour
- help students reflect on better choices
- support students to reset and rejoin learning successfully

The focus is always on teaching and support first.

IN THESE SITUATIONS:

- students are supported by senior staff
- restorative conversations take place
- whānau are contacted
- plans are put in place to help repair harm and support future success

Even in serious situations, our approach remains restorative and focused on learning, accountability, and repairing relationships.



BELL BLOCK SCHOOL BEHAVIOUR PLAN



THINKBOX 1, 2, 3

A new addition to our behaviour approach is the use of ThinkBox 1, 2, and 3 posters displayed in classrooms.

These ThinkBoxes act as a gentle visual reminder for students to stop and think about their behaviour choices before problems escalate.

The ThinkBoxes help students:

- recognise when behaviour is becoming a problem
- pause and reflect
- consider better choices
- reset and return to learning successfully

This strategy was introduced following staff feedback and has been designed to support consistency across classrooms while helping students develop self-awareness and self-management skills.

Rather than being punitive, ThinkBoxes are intended to guide students toward positive decision-making in a calm and supportive way.



RESTORATIVE REFLECTION

When behaviour incidents occur, students may complete restorative reflection activities.

These reflections encourage students to think about:

- what happened
- how others may have felt
- what they could do differently next time
- how they can repair harm or make things right

This helps children learn empathy, responsibility, and problem-solving skills.

WHAKAWĀTEA – RESET AND REGULATION

Sometimes children become overwhelmed, upset, or dysregulated. When this happens, students may spend time in Whakawātea, our supportive reset space.

Whakawātea is:

- not a punishment
- a calm and safe space
- designed to help students regulate emotions and feel ready to learn again

Students are supported to:

- calm their body and mind
- reflect once regulated
- reconnect positively with learning and others

We know children learn best when they feel safe, supported, and connected.

WORKING TOGETHER WITH WHĀNAU

Strong partnerships between home and school are incredibly important.

When behaviour concerns arise, we aim to:

- communicate openly and respectfully
- work alongside whānau
- focus on solutions and support
- help children learn from mistakes and move forward positively

At Bell Block School, we believe every child can learn, grow, and succeed when surrounded by support, consistency, and care.

COMMUNITY NOTICES



TechWeek 2026

Expand Your Child's Horizons!

FREE

Beginner to advanced coding lessons available at 4pm, 5pm and 6pm every day during TechWeek.

Students learn a lot in one hour!
Ages: 9&10, 11&12, 13&14, 15 to adult

Book now at codingnz.com/freeactivity



TARANAKI SAFEZONE

ka tango i tetahi kainga ki te whakatipu tamaiti

Magazine



Dear Parents, whanau & caregivers

We're excited to share our FREE online SAFETY magazine with you.

The publication is aimed at primary aged tamariki and their parents.

We thank Safekids Aotearoa (Starship Digital and Community Engagement) for the editorial.

Our shared vision is that every very child in Taranaki and Aotearoa New Zealand enjoys a childhood free from traumatic, unintentional injury.

For FREE ACCESS just scan the below QR CODE (This is for mobile devices)



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<https://communitysafety.co.nz/magazine.php?m=287>