

BELL BLOCK SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Week 3, Term 2: Friday 8 May
#11



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Over the past two weeks, I have absolutely loved spending time in our classroom spaces and staying connected with the incredible learning happening across our kura.

In Room 12, I had the opportunity to join students during their authentic text reading sessions. The conversations and discussions around how to locate answers for comprehension questions were thoughtful and engaging. Bryson read confidently to me, and together we had a fantastic discussion about the evolving nature of motor vehicles and how they have changed over time. Sophie worked carefully alongside me to find specific information within the text to answer her questions, showing great perseverance and understanding.

Rooms 14 and 16 proudly shared their learning around Greek Mythology with me. Students were eager to explain the research they were undertaking to deepen their knowledge and understanding of these fascinating stories. I was lucky enough to have Musahib read a paragraph from his text Orpheus and Eurydice, while Alex shared part of her text about The Loch Ness Monster. The rich vocabulary our learners are being exposed to – and then transferring into their own writing – is phenomenal. Experiences like these are such a powerful way to grow confident readers and writers.

In Room 7, students have been working hard on their Art Inquiry learning. They enthusiastically shared their understanding of the different components of art and are now unpacking what each element requires of them as artists and learners. There has been a lot of amazing mahi happening in this classroom, supported by a hardworking and dedicated team.

I am so proud of each and every one of our learners who arrive at school each day ready to give their best and show *Kaha i ngā wā katoa* – *Our Best Always*.

Learning experiences like these do not happen by chance. Our teachers commit an enormous amount of time and care into planning engaging, meaningful and purposeful learning opportunities for our tamariki. Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou, kaiako – thank you for the incredible work you do every single day.

Courtney Goldsworthy
Acting Principal



WEEK 2 & 3 IN PICTURES



LEARNING SPOTLIGHT

Health & Physical Education

The Mangati (Year 0-3) Team has been busy exploring movement in fun and engaging ways this term. As part of our learning, students have been enjoying a range of folk dances from around the world, developing rhythm, coordination, and confidence while experiencing different cultures through movement. Alongside this, we have been revisiting key perceptual motor skills, including jumping, skipping, hopping, and small ball skills such as throwing and catching. It has been fantastic to see students building their confidence, working together, and showing enthusiasm as they develop these important movement foundations.

The Waihowaka (Year 4-6) Team has kicked off an exciting term of learning through football, building skills and teamwork in the lead-up to the FIFA World Cup. Students have been developing their passing, dribbling, and game-play strategies while also focusing on the important values of teamwork, sportsmanship, and kindness. We look forward to continuing to build these skills and values as the term progresses, supporting students to grow not only as players, but as supportive teammates.



Science



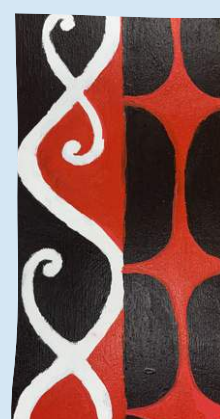
This term in Science, our learning is centred around the theme of Seasons. Students in Rooms 7 and 8 have been exploring how the seasons change and the impact these changes have on our environment.

As young scientists, they have been using magnifiers to closely observe leaves, noticing details such as colour, texture, and patterns. They have also been recording their observations through pencil sketches, developing both their scientific thinking and their ability to represent what they see.

It has been wonderful to see their curiosity and enthusiasm as they investigate the world around them.

Visual Art Technology

In our Year 7 Visual Art Technology class, students explored the design process through a practical project. They were tasked with creating artwork panels for the Waharoa, surrounding fences, and adjacent areas within the Outdoor Classroom, to enhance and beautify the environment. The themes provided included Anzac Day, Matariki, local wildlife, and cultural patterns.





CELEBRATIONS!



Triple A & Values Award Winners



Macie Crossan, Lukas Gibson, Jayse Estomo, Osmanbek Nabizada, Brylee Solis, Ardie Wood, Amraj Singh, Jaxon Norman, Daya Sidhu, Keane Bramley, Te Taumata Singh, Kristel Jordaan, Ada Aspden, Keira Julian, Sophie Stretton, Kenneth Moratuwage, Japtaj Singh, Taniora Cassidy, Fahri Muhammad Faris, Harper Elliott, Grace Hartley, Annabelle Russell, Aubree Heal, Francie Charlton, Lola Shaw, Emily Collins, Taylor Reardon, Alliyah Parayno, Bryson Tamaiparea, Sienna Trundle, Heidi Marx, Savannah Blair, Vanessa Cheav, Bentley Vile, Charlotte Green, Olive Stephens



Attendance Award

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

Congratulations to
ROOM 3!



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 7 & ROOM 19!



Whanau points WINNER



KŌTUKU



KERERŪ



TAKAHĒ



PĪWAIWAKA



Mark Your Calendar

- May 13** 9:00am Open Morning - Structured Literacy
- May 14** 1:45pm Interschool Sports Practice Year 5/6
- May 15** 9:00am New Entrants' Transition Visit
- May 18** 2:15pm Celebration Assembly
- May 21** 1:45pm Inter school Sports Practice Year 5/6
- May 22** 9:00am New Entrants' Transition Visit
12:00pm Inter school Sports vs Stratford Primary Year 5/6 (Home)



ezlunch.

Ordering Ezlunch through Kindo is quick, easy, and one less thing to think about in the morning. You can order from home (or on the go), and your child's lunch is delivered to school, ready to eat.

- 1 Log in to the Kindo app (or set up an account [here](#))
- 2 Pick from the menu on Thursdays or Fridays
- 3 Your child collects their lunch at school

WIN

Every Ezlunch order placed between 27 April - 22 May goes in the draw to win 1 of 5 x \$50 Kindo credits each week. Terms & Conditions apply.



JOIN THE FUN! NAU MAI HAERE MAI

1 Open Morning Wednesday 13 May: 9.00am - 9:30am

We warmly invite you to join us for a special opportunity to hear from our literacy consultant from Learning Matters, Esmee Elias-Tito. Esmee will share insights into structured literacy and the journey we are on in our kura. If you're curious about the changes happening in literacy and education, this is the perfect chance to come along and learn more.

Following the session, you are welcome to visit your child's classroom until 10:15am to see their literacy block in action. We look forward to seeing you there!

2 Inter school Sports Exchange Friday 22 May: 12:00pm

We are excited to host the first of the Year 5-6 Inter school sports exchanges at Bell Block School! Stratford 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.



Ryan Hailes Memorial Scholarship

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.

DEADLINE
Friday 29 May



ATTENDANCE



With the government's continued focus on attendance, our school also closely monitors attendance and expects that all students attend school regularly. **During Term 1, 85% 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 135 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 personal 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.

We understand that it can be difficult to know whether your child is too unwell to attend school. Te Whatu Ora advice is that healthy young children can experience up to 8-12 colds or upper respiratory tract infections each year, which is a normal part of childhood. If in doubt, your child should attend school - often they will feel better once they arrive and settle into the day.

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.

Arriving Late

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 settle into their classroom before learning begins and do not miss important information for the day ahead.

If your child arrives at school before 8:25am they must wait in the covered area outside Room 1. All classroom teachers are in their classroom from 8:25am each morning to greet the students as they arrive.

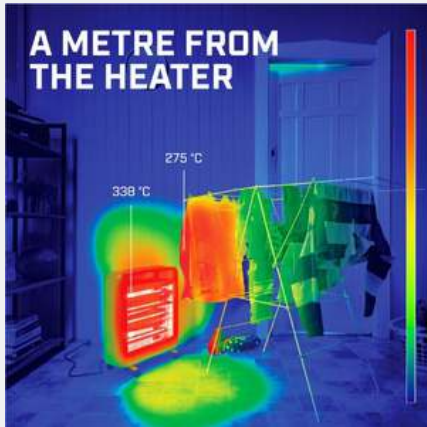
Leaving Early

If students need to 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.

COMMUNITY NOTICES





STEM CLUB

Weekly Classes For Young Makers Aged 8-13


Now @ Martell Community School, New Plymouth

Small Group Sizes With An Ongoing Programme That Builds Knowledge And Skills

Electronics, Coding, Woodwork, CAD, Robotics, Arduino, And More...

Now Booking Term 1 2026:
 email: nick@makeroom.co.nz
 ph: 02902390758
 Web: <https://makeroomwellington.nz>
 FB: facebook.com/MakeroomTaranaki





PEAK MOMENT

APRIL 2026

NEWSLETTER CONTENT

EVERYDAY HABITS FOR CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH FITNESS START AT HOME
 Anxiety and depression are on the rise in tamariki, with an estimated one in seven experiencing mental health problems. For parents and carers, that number can be concerning.

So what can you do to strengthen your child's mental health to help them feel good, build emotional resilience and cope with life's challenges?

Building good mental health habits doesn't need to be complicated. Creating positive family interactions, modelling how you handle stress well and looking after yourself can all go a long way in helping your child build their mental health muscles.

In the age of helicopter parenting, supporting tamariki to take healthy risks and discover their capabilities is also important. While finding the right balance between encouraging safety and adventure in our children can be difficult, when we get it right, the benefits are huge.

When it comes to children's mental health, perfectionistic tendencies can be overlooked. Spotting the early signs, normalising mistake making in your home, and praising your child for effort instead of results all make a big difference in supporting their mental health and wellbeing.

Read Triple P's latest articles on children's mental health to learn more about [perfectionism](#), [healthy risk taking](#) and [everyday habits to build kids' emotional resilience](#) to help you parent with confidence.

And don't forget to check out Triple P's [online courses for parents and carers!](#)

CREATIVE STAGEWORKS PROUDLY PRESENTS

THE YOUNG STARS

WINTER TOUR

JULY 2026 • NEW PLYMOUTH



HIGHLANDS INTERMEDIATE

18TH & 19TH JULY


TWO DAY MUSICAL THEATRE WORKSHOP!
 9AM - 3PM EACH DAY • EARLY BIRD SPECIAL • FEE COVERS BOTH DAYS

SHOWCASE CONCERT: 19TH JULY AT 3.30PM

Limited Spaces! Over 200 Children Across NZ! Ages 6 - 18

SHOWCASE CONCERT: 19TH JULY AT 3.30PM

REGISTER NOW: <https://forms.gle/UDxAz5Sgu6aNKVj6>



Health 2000

Peter Cattley Memorial Cross-country

Sunday 10 May 2026
 Fitzroy Golf Course, Record Street, New Plymouth

- > Estimated time races – closest to their estimate wins the race trophy
- > **NO** watches to be worn
- > **SPOT PRIZES**
- > **TROPHIES** for winners (Peter Cattley Memorial trophies)
- > **Prizes** for first across the line

Please note: there are changes to this year's event.

1. Everyone starts together
2. Races have been combined but trophies allocation remain the same

PROGRAMME

12:00pm	Men, Women & Walkers	4km	\$5.00
12:45pm	Boys and Girls 12 & under	2km	\$2.00
1:30pm	Prize-giving and afternoon tea at Fitzroy Golf Clubrooms Spectators \$2 – competitors free Raffle – \$2.00 per ticket or 3 for \$5.00		

Please have estimated times to Karen Gillum-Green ([hardieswalks@gmail.com](mailto:karengillum@hardieswalks@gmail.com)) by **Thursday 7 May 2026**

Entries are open to: club members – please wear your club uniform
 ; school students / staff – please wear your school singlet/tee-shirt
 ; general public