

BELL BLOCK SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
Tuesday 16 March 2021

The first half of the term has flown by already and with a busy few weeks ahead the second half is likely to be the same. Next week we have the school Triathlon. Unfortunately, we had to change the date but we are excited to have this traditional school event running again. We also have the School Gala next week. Our PTA have been hard at work and have secured some amazing sponsorship from a range of generous local sponsors. This traditional event is always a night with lots of food, fun and fabulous prizes so grab the whole family and come along for the evening.

Triathlon

Our school Triathlon is on Monday 22 March. Any students who choose to participate in this event must ensure they 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.

On Monday students can bring their bikes to a space near their classroom until the start of the event. The team events are in the morning and the individual events occur after lunch.

Approximate Schedule of Events:

10:30am	Teams briefing
11:00am	Team competition starts
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Years 3/4 • Years 5/6 • Years 7/8
12:40pm	Individual competitors briefing
1:00pm	Individual competition starts
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 3 • Year 4 • Year 5 • Year 6 • Year 7 • Year 8

Distances:

Years 3/4	50m (2 lengths) swim	3km (1 lap) bike ride	1.5km run
Years 5/6	75m (3 lengths) swim	5.5km (2 laps) bike ride	1.5km run
Years 7/8	125m (5 lengths) swim	8km (3 laps) bike ride	1.5km run

Supporters are welcome to attend the event and cheer on the students. Each event will start with the swim leg, at the community pool, followed by the bike ride and ending with the run in the school grounds. If you are driving around the school on Monday please look out for our students on the roads around the school.

Swimming Sports

Both of the Swimming Sports events last week were again fantastic. It was a relief to be able to have our community attend to support the students in their swimming activities. The Middle Team students showed their water survival skills in a display for the first time before moving on to the traditional swimming events. Once again it was ear piercingly loud for the relay events and we saw some outstanding performances by the students involved. It was also great to see students getting involved and showing the school motto *Kaha i ngā wā katou – Our Best Always* when swimming wasn't their biggest strength.

The students who placed in the top three for the finals will be acknowledged in a special sports assembly. Once the final points have been tallied, we will also announce the winners of the whānau competition.

Twilight Gala - Friday 26 March, 5-7pm

We warmly invite our school parents, caregivers, whanau and community to join us at the Bell Block School Twilight Gala! The PTA, students and staff are working hard behind the scenes to create a fun family event that the whole community can enjoy. On the evening any children attending will be under the direct supervision of their parents. There will be lots of fun stalls like balloon darts, guess the gumballs, lucky dip and ladder toss. Have a ride in a cool car or truck....or on a pony! Dinner is sorted - Sausages, American Hotdogs, Pizza, Hot Chips, Ice creams and more! And of course all of the usual favourites like the bake sale, cake competition, white elephant stall, quick fire raffles, candy floss and dunk the teacher! We are excited to have two of our amazing parents from "Timeless Therapy" providing the entertainment for the evening!

A huge thank you to all of our wonderful families and local businesses who have donated items for the Gala already. We couldn't put together such an exciting and successful event without the support of our community and we are truly grateful. There is still plenty of time to support the school by bringing in donations of grocery items, Easter treats, good quality new and used items for the white elephant stall and anything else which could be sold or used as a raffle. Please consider helping with a donation to the bake sale. Our community are always talented bakers and create some mouth-watering treats. We know that this is a challenging time for our community but the Gala is a great community night of food, fun and festivities so please support us however you are able.

Thank you also to everyone who has offered to help out on the night. We are in the process of putting together a roster and we will be in touch soon to let you know how you can help. We still need more helpers, so if you are able to spare half an hour or more to help run a stall or sell food we would love to hear from you. Please email the PTA at pta@bellblock.school.nz, phone or come into the office and we will happily add you to the roster.

AGM

The AGM for the Parents and Teachers Association will be held on **Tuesday 30 March at 7pm** in the school staffroom. All parents and caregivers are welcome.

If you're interested in joining the committee or simply hearing about our plans for the year, please come along!

As always, there's a place to share your thoughts with us - email pta@bellblock.school.nz.



School Photos

School photos will be taken by PhotoLife on Tuesday 23 March. Information regarding photo day was sent home with students in Week 5. All students will have a class photo and individual photo taken. Approximately two weeks after photo day, PhotoLife will deliver individual shoot key codes to the school and these will be sent home with students. Please use your child's shoot key to view and order your child's photos on the PhotoLife website: <https://www.photolife.co.nz/>.

Sport Update

Miniball/Basketball registrations for years 0-8 are open. If your child would like to play basketball, please complete the online registration form using this link: <https://forms.gle/3AMtUX2Ncy2mDAF8A>

Hockey registrations are also open. If your child would like to play hockey, please complete the relevant online registration form below:

Year 1-2 - Fun Sticks with Taranaki Hockey <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1tYK9UI9utKFywR3bYFeh-18qnKwGW-D0Bd7q-mwTHw/>

Year 3-8 - Bell Block School team <https://forms.gle/biFNEJAQ3vXUz8KX8>

Registrations and subs for both sports close this Friday 19 March at 11.59pm. Late registrations and payments will not be accepted. The registration forms contain useful information about game days, venue and subs.

If you have any queries or difficulty completing the form, please email sport@bellblock.school.nz for assistance.

Tuckshop Specials...This week:

Chicken Burger Combo	\$7
Chicken Burger & Chips	\$6
Chicken Burger	\$4.50

Salad of the week: Chicken Couscous Salad \$5

EFTPOS and text orders welcome to 021 0242 0269.

Introducing our Student Leaders

Kia ora, my name is **Ruby Evans** and I am one of the Kotuku Whānau Leaders for Bell Block School. I am really excited to work alongside Miss Hill, Mr Hailes and other students of the school. I will demonstrate manaakitanga and respect towards our students and staff and have a positive attitude. Outside of school I enjoy touch, swimming and spending time at the beach with my family and friends. I enjoy sports events and hope that I can use my enthusiasm to help encourage other students to do their absolute best.



Kia ora, I'm **Cian Flannagan** and I am one of your Kotuku Whānau Leaders for the first half of the year! I am looking forward to being a leader and representing Bell Block School. I really enjoy being involved in lots of sports including netball, touch and swimming. I also really enjoy working as a team and I am excited to work alongside the other councillors. I am a friendly and helpful person and I will try my hardest to be the best that I can be and if you see me around come and say hello!



Conrad Hailes
Principal

COMMUNITY NOTICES:

BELL BLOCK JUNIOR RUGBY

Musters on the 14 & 21 March 1-2pm at Hickford Park Clubrooms. Please go to sporty.co.nz to register your interest.

This year we are offering FREE SUBS for all Junior players. All enquires to Brad 021 065 6530.

BELL BLOCK LIONS 2021 BOOK FAIR

Friday 19 March 10am-6pm and Saturday 20 March 9am-3pm at the Fred Tucker Hall, Bell Block. EFTPOS available, please bring your own bags.

CODING NZ LESSONS (Ages 9-18)

Learn coding languages to create technology – an expert tutor is online to help during lessons.

1 hour per week at 4pm, 5pm or 6pm weekdays, \$15 per lesson. Try a free trial at codingnz.com.

Toi Mā Te Whānau / Family Art is back at the Govett Brewster Art Gallery every Sunday morning.

These are free drop-in, interactive art-making sessions for the whole family.

Family Art <https://govettbrewster.com/events/art-making/toi-ma-te-whanau?date=2021-02-21>

- Sundays 10:30am – 12:30pm
- Govett-Brewster Art Gallery Learning Centre
- Kore utu ngā mahi toi ā whānau katoa, whakamaioha te koha
- All family art activities are **free**, donations appreciated

CALENDAR OF EVENTS TERM 1 2021

MARCH

- Wed 17** Whānau Hui 5:30pm
- Thu 18** New Entrant Visits 11:45am
- Fri 19** Outdoor Academy Sailing
- Mon 22** Outdoor Academy Sailing
School Triathlon from 11am
- Tue 23** School Photos
- Wed 24** Celebration Assembly
11:30am
- Thu 25** New Entrant Visits 11:45am
BOT Meeting 5pm
- Fri 26** Gala Day 5-7pm
- Tue 30** New Entrant Visits 2pm
PTA AGM 7pm
- Wed 31** Weet-bix Tryathlon

APRIL

- Thu 1** Open Morning 9am
- Fri 2** Good Friday – SCHOOL
CLOSED
- Mon 5** Easter Monday – SCHOOL
CLOSED
- Tue 6** Easter Tuesday – SCHOOL
CLOSED
- Wed 7** Interschool Swimming
Sports
- Thu 8** New Entrant Visits 11:45am
- Fri 9** Celebration Assembly 2pm
- Tue 13** Y7/8 Immunisations
- Wed 14** Pizza Day
- Thu 15** New Entrant Visits 11:45am
- Fri 16** ANZAC Assembly 10am
Last Day of Term

2021 Term dates:

- Term 1** 1 February – 16 April
- Term 2** 3 May – 9 July
- Term 3** 26 July – 1 October
- Term 4** 18 October – 14 December

Dates for school events are also located on the School Calendar on our website.

