

A big welcome to Bell Block School for 2021.

The weather has been fantastic for the first couple of school days and a perfect time to start swimming. It is great to have our students back and full of excitement and enthusiasm for the year ahead. Some students will be feeling a bit nervous at first but this tends to pass quickly. If your child is still feeling this way next week please let the classroom teacher know.



Some exciting news, Mrs Cunningham has had her baby. Her new son arrived on 24 December last year weighing 9lb. Congratulations to the Cunningham family and we look forward to a visit to school later this term.

At the end of last year, we challenged our students to use their learning to create an action that would help others. We saw all kinds of creative ideas to help others and I would like to acknowledge Saffron Caldwell who took this another step during the holidays. Saffron shaved her head and raised over \$2000 for the Taranaki Cancer Society. Her hair will be sent to

Freedom Hair in Dunedin to make a wig. It goes to show that even though they are young our students can make a big positive difference to our community.



2021 Bell Block School Staff

It is with great pleasure that I can introduce our staff and officially welcome the new staff members to the team. Miss Amy Foreman (Room 16) and Mr Adam Groen (Room 11) join our teaching team and will be bringing their strengths and skills to our school. Mrs Gayle Davis has joined the office team as Sports Coordinator and Administration Assistant.

Principal	Conrad Hailes		
Deputy Principal	Danielle Hill		
Rm 1	Rachel Keegan		
Rm 3	Tracey Jacobsen		
Rm 4	Monique van Beers		
Rm 5	Wendy Foster – <i>Junior Team Leader</i>		
Rm 6	Charlotte White		
Rm 7	Katie White		
Rm 8	Caitlin Amos		
Rm 9	Emily Doelman and Ashley Carradus		
Rm 10	Alex Thompson – <i>Middle Team Leader</i>		
Rm 11	Adam Groen		
Rm 12	Lynda Lamb		
Rm 13	Sheree Cresswell – <i>Senior Team Leader</i>		
Rm 14	Rachael Stanton		
Rm 15	Renee Peace – <i>Intermediate Team Leader</i>		
Rm 16	Amy Foreman		
Rm 17	Rick Mackay		
Rm 18	Kade Forsyth		
Specialist Teacher	Amy Peters		
Reading Recovery	Raewyn Clarkson		
Release Teachers	Aleisha Parkinson, Lisette Charlton, Jodie Leach, Jan Dempsey and Tracy Paitai		
Teacher Aides	Michelle Hight, Rhonda Sarten, Jan Whitmore, Carol Lopusiewicz, Jo Hutchinson, Angela Mephram		
Executive Officer	Kim Hill	Administrator	Kim Thomas
Sports Coordinator/Administration Assistant	Gayle Davis		
Caretaker	Colin Rutherford	Cleaners	Helen Langlands and Crest Clean
Library and Resource Manager	Cindy Manukonga		
Resource Teacher of Learning and Behaviour (RTL B)	Tennille Yandle		
Social Worker in Schools (SWiS)	Ria Julian		
Kapa Haka Tutor	Whaea Raewyn Ashby		

We have over forty staff working hard to support the students and their families and keep our school looking great.

Our School Vision, Values and Principles

At this time of year, we spend time setting our standards and routines and developing both class and school culture. These are based around the school vision. This has been developed with community input and underpins the culture we strive for in the school and what we want to see from our students. It is a perfect time to discuss the vision with your child and set some goals to achieve this year.

The grey part of our logo represents a korowai or cloak - a school and community supporting students to live the motto *Our Best Always – Kaha i ngā wā katoa*. This is the representation of the Triple A of **Ability, Attitude and Action**.



The black side of the logo represents the mountain - the strong, unchanging foundation of what we do. This represents our school Values.

Respect - Whakaute
Manaakitanga – Caring
Responsibility – Takohanga
Tū Māia - Standing Brave

The blue side of the logo represents the rivers and sea - it is an adaptable, unstoppable force that impacts the landscape over time. This represents our school Principles.

Community – Hapori
Ahurea – Culture
Innovation – Auahatanga
Hurikiko - Aspiration

EOTC - Education Outside of the Classroom

At Bell Block School we believe that education outside the classroom is really important and we try hard to include these opportunities for students as much as possible. As part of this, your children might be visiting museums, beaches, rock pools, maraes, farms and many more places in our community.

Last year, several staff members attended a course about Health and Safety practices and EOTC regulations. From this, we learnt that we needed to make changes and last year brought about a new system which we implemented at school.

There is one major change that affects our community:

All permission slips and money need to go through the office and are due **before** the deadline stated on the letter.

We will no longer be able to accept late payments or permission slips. If the payment or permission slip is not returned by the due date your child will not be able to attend the trip.

Why?

Almost all of our trips are now funded and so cost does not apply. It is really important for us that we have the correct documentation before we head out in plenty of time. This system has been put in place to ensure it is fair for all students and so teachers can plan safe and purposeful trips. We also believe that it teaches students responsibility and organisational skills (especially older students).

How are we going to help?

As part of this change, we realise that some families need more support than others. If you are concerned about any payment, please contact your child's teacher or the office **before** the trip deadline so we can assist you in any way we can. Automatic payments can be set up and there may be financial assistance available for you.

Teachers will be following up with those students who have not returned permission slips before the deadline to ensure that everyone can go, including if your child is away sick when the letter was handed out. This might be an email or a phone call home to you. Most of the time all that is needed is for you to read the notice and sign the slip at the bottom.

Thank you for your understanding and support as we implement these changes within our school and we look forward to sharing lots of experiences with you as the year goes on. We believe that these changes are essential for the safety of our students.

If you have any questions please contact our Deputy Principal, Danielle Hill at danielle.hill@bellblock.school.nz.

Teacher Only Day

We are required to provide three Teacher Only Days this year as part of the most recent teacher collective contract. As such, the Board of Trustees has approved a Teacher Only Day for Friday 5 March. Our staff will be undertaking professional development and developing programmes for students. We appreciate this can be disruptive for families and appreciate your support.

Covid Tracing

If you visit the school please use the Covid tracing app. Our School QR code is displayed on the office door and will be up on the two main gates shortly.

School Swimming

One of the major focuses for Term 1 is swimming. Please help your child to be organised for these sessions by talking about what gear they need to bring. It is a perfect opportunity to develop self-management skills especially in the upper levels of the school.

Bell Block School Swimming Timetable - Term 1 2021					
	Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Inside Pool	12:15-1:00	Room 17 (2 lanes only)	Room 17 (2 lanes only)	Room 14 (2 lanes only)	Room 13 (2 lanes only)
	1:40-2:20	Room 15/16/18	Room 15/16/18	Room 7/8	Room 11/12/14
	2:20-3:00	Room 11/12/13	Rooms 9/10	Rooms 9/10	Room 7/8
Outside Pool (Juniors)	1:40-2:20	Rooms 5/6	Rooms 3/4	Room 1	Room 1
	2:20-3:00			Rooms 5/6	Room 3/4

School Council

On Friday we will be having a special Induction Assembly where our new Student Leaders will be sworn in to their roles. All whānau and friends are welcome to attend at 2pm in the hall. They always do an amazing job and represent our school with pride and diligence. Congratulations go to all our Student Leaders for the first half of 2021:

Head Girl – Jean-Marie Terblanche

Head Boy – Chris Evans

Whānau Leaders

Kōtuku	Piwaiwaka	Kererū	Takahē
Ruby Evans	Dhantay Friedrich	Erin Lim	Charlize Duncan
Cian Flannagan	Riley Daiken	Ollie McCallum	Kyle Beard

ICT Student Leader – Herzius du Preez

Community Picnic and Meet the Teacher Evening

Next Wednesday 10 February we invite all families to join us for a picnic dinner on the school field. Weather permitting, we will picnic from 5:00-6:00pm. During that time, you are welcome to visit the classrooms and have a look around the school. At 6:00pm we will move off to the meeting room allocated for each team. This will give parents a chance to put a face to the name of the teachers and hear a little about the 2021 classes. For the parents of Intermediate students, we will also be unveiling the exciting changes to our Year 7/8 Technology programme for the year.

Junior team (Rm 1-6) will meet in the staffroom.

Middle team (Rm 11-14) will meet in Rm 13.

Senior team (Rm 7-10) will meet in the library.

Intermediate team (Rm 15-18) will meet in Rm 15.

If the weather is not suitable, we will cancel the picnic and meet directly in the designated rooms at 6:00pm for about 20 minutes. The Meet the Teacher section will go ahead rain or shine. We hope you will be able to join us.

Sport

Touch and cricket will be offered to students again in Term 1. Registrations will now be completed online and will be made available later this week. Please keep an eye on your emails and Facebook for the link to the registration forms.

Student Arrival Times

Before school is a very busy time. For students to be set up to have a successful day they need to have time to put their bags away and get out the items they will need for the day. School starts at 8:55am and most students will need at least 15 minutes to get themselves organised before that time. If your child arrives after 8:55am please ensure they come to the school office and sign in on the tablet so we know they have arrived. 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 day to greet the students as they arrive.

To maximise the progress of each student we need them to be at school for as many days as possible. Every day they are away is a missed opportunity to learn that they can never get back. Please ensure your child attends as many days as possible this year to give them the best chance of success.

If you know that your child is going to be absent from school, please notify the office via voicemail to 755 0838, text to 027 310 9038 or email office@bellblock.school.nz.

Conrad Hailes
Principal

CALENDAR OF EVENTS TERM 1 2021

FEBRUARY

- Tue 2** Swimming starts
- Fri 5** Student Leader Induction
Assembly 2pm
- Mon 8** Waitangi Day Holiday
SCHOOL CLOSED
- Wed 10** Kapa Haka starts
Community Picnic & Meet
the Teacher 5pm
- Thu 11** Technology starts
School visits 11:45am-
12:45pm
- Fri 12** Celebration Assembly 2pm
- Tue 16** School visits 2-3pm
- Fri 19** Intermediate Bike Trip to
Ngamotu Beach

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.*