



Whanaungatanga

Rangatiratanga

Wairuatanga

Manaakitanga

WELCOME TO TERM 3 WEEK 5

Tēnā koutou e te whānau o Blockhouse Bay Intermediate,

Welcome to our Term Three, Week Five Newsletter.

Kia ora e te whānau,

As we reach the midway point of Term 3, our 2026 student transition process is now well underway.

Much like our feeder high schools, we are rapidly approaching capacity, despite this being our second year with an additional class, and with plans to continue in 2026. To ensure we can place every child in the class that best meets their needs, it is vital that all in-zone students are enrolled as soon as possible, preferably by **Wednesday 27 August 2025**. This allows our Deputy Principals time to visit our contributing primary schools and gather the important background data we use for 2026 class placements.

Enrolling by this date means we can gather all the right information to place your child in the class that will best support their learning and growth.

In-Zone BHBI Applications for 2026

To assist with our planning, please submit your in-zone application as soon as possible, ideally by **Wednesday 27 August 2025**.

Out-of-Zone BHBI Applications for 2026

We expect to take a limited number of out-of-zone students for 2026. Out-of-zone applications must be received by **Wednesday 27 August 2026**. The ballot will be held on Wednesday **3 September 2026**.

Similarly for our Year 8 students, it's also important to be enrolled in both the school you are zoned for and any schools you wish to attend but are not zoned for by **27 August**.

CALENDAR:

- Auckland Champs Cross Country - 26th August
- Waitakare Zone Basketball - 27th August
- Aims Games - 30th August - 5th September
- School Board Election - 10th September
- Culture and Arts Festival from 5:00 - 6:30 - 11th September
- Term Ends (2pm Finish) - 19th September

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Refreshed New Zealand Curriculum (Te Mātaiaho) Update

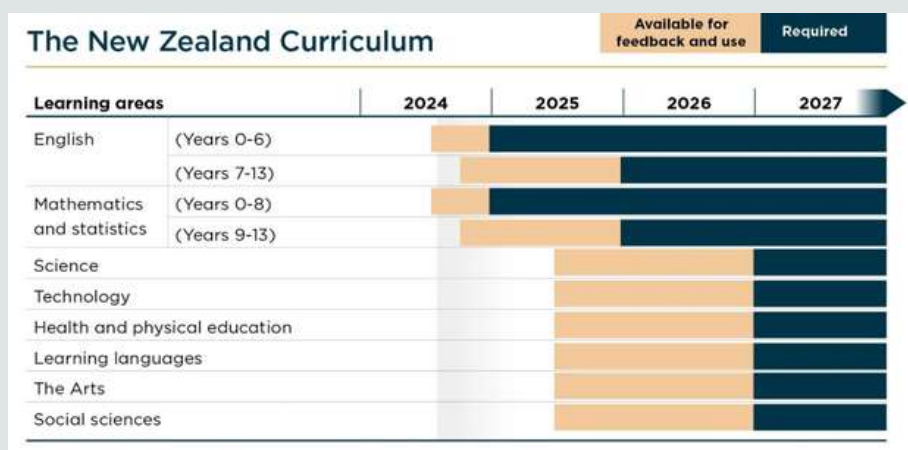
You may have heard that a national shake-up of the NCEA qualification system was recently announced. The proposal includes replacing NCEA Level 1 with a standalone Foundational Skills Award in literacy and numeracy (from 2028), and introducing two new qualifications for Years 12 and 13: the New Zealand Certificate of Education (NZCE) and the New Zealand Advanced Certificate of Education (NZACE), which would roll out in 2029 and 2030 respectively.

The changes will be supported by a new national curriculum for Years 9–13. This means that the way we are already updating our teaching in literacy and numeracy is setting our students up for success in the long term. For our Year 8 students, who will move into this new system when they start high school in 2026, these curriculum changes are helping to create a smoother, more connected learning journey as they progress through their education.

Te Mātaiaho, meaning “the strands of learning” in Te Reo Māori, weaves together knowledge, skills, values, and key competencies to create a holistic, learner-centred education system. Grounded in Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Te Mātaiaho fosters inclusive, equitable, and culturally responsive learning for all ākonga (learners).

Each phase contains detailed curriculum learning outcomes, specifying what learners should be taught at each year level. This provides a clear roadmap for teachers to deliver consistent and focused learning experiences, while recognising that learners develop at different rates.

The timeline for the refresh of the curriculum areas is as follows:



We're currently navigating the new Phase 3 English curriculum, designed for Years 7–13. This draft curriculum will be further refined and finalised by Term 4, 2025, in preparation for full implementation beginning in 2026. It aims to provide teachers with clearer teaching sequences and guidance about what to teach and when.

Te Mātaiaho moves away from broad levels and towards more precise learning phases. Although the content is not yet final, our school is working with it actively, having had two full Teacher Only Days, preparing our teaching programmes to ensure we can confidently transition to the more structured Phase 3 curriculum in 2026.

We're committed to embedding these changes thoughtfully and will keep sharing our journey with you as national resources continue to roll out.

For further information, please visit the following Ministry of Education websites:

- Parent Portal: <https://www.education.govt.nz/parents-and-caregivers/schools-year-0-13/parent-portal>
- Tāhūrangi: <https://tahurangi.education.govt.nz>

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Additional reminders:

Tuckshop Reminder – \$20 Limit

Just a quick reminder that students should bring no more than \$20 to spend at the tuckshop each day. There are a few important reasons for this:

- The tuckshop can't process large notes – smaller amounts help things run smoothly.
- We want to protect students from any pressure to buy things for others.
- A lower limit supports healthy eating choices (and fewer sugar highs!).
- Smaller amounts reduce the chance of money being lost or misplaced.

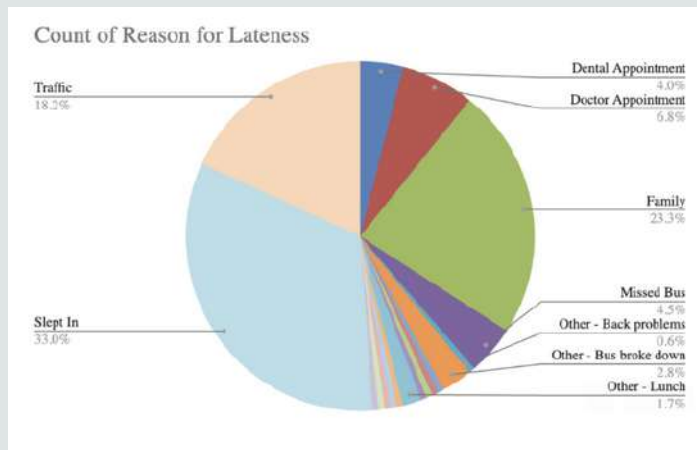
Thanks for your support in helping us keep the tuckshop safe, fair, and enjoyable for all our students.

Punctuality Matters- Supporting Our Students to Start the Day Well

We've been tracking reasons for student lateness this year, and recent results highlight some key areas where we can work together as a school community to improve.

The three most common reasons given are sleeping in (33%), family-related delays (23.3%), and traffic (18.2%). While we understand that mornings can be busy and unexpected things happen, regular lateness can have a real impact on learning – especially during the important first part of the day when key instructions, notices, and whanaungatanga take place.

We encourage whānau to help students establish strong morning routines, allow extra time for travel, and ensure alarms are set the night before. Your support in getting our students to school on time helps set them up for a positive, focused day of learning! Ngā mihi.



Ngā mihi nui,

Julie Wong

Acting Principal
Blockhouse Bay Intermediate School

INTRODUCING

BLOCKHOUSE BAY INTERMEDIATE



Introducing our very own Blockhouse Bay Intermediate Honey!



For just \$10, you can enjoy honey made by our very own BBI bees. Bees fly as far as 3km from their hive so who knows, some of these busy bees might have visited your own garden!

Honey is known for being packed with antioxidants and soothing properties.

Support BBI and our bees by purchasing your own pot of honey from the school office! All of the money goes towards the upkeep of our beehives.



\$10 EACH

AVAILABLE AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE



**BUY NOW TO
SUPPORT US
KEEPING OUR
BEEHIVE!**

KNOWLEDGE-A-THON



KNOWLEDGE-A-THON 2025

ALL WRAPPED UP!

The Knowledge-a-thon is all wrapped up, and now it's time for students to bring in their sponsorship money.

In recent years the knowledge-a-thon has funded the turf, outdoor hub, the playground, a new school sound system, the school chromebooks and the cricket nets!

This year our Arts Department is getting a glow up with a long awaited pottery kiln, giving students the opportunity to create three-dimensional pieces of functional and abstract art!

Over 250 children earned their green service star by getting 85% or more questions correct.

Next assembly we will be handing out prizes for individuals who raised the most and doing a spot prize draw, with every \$40 raised having gained your child an entry.

Thank you for all of your support with this years Knowledge-a-thon.

Heaps of Spot Prizes to be Won!



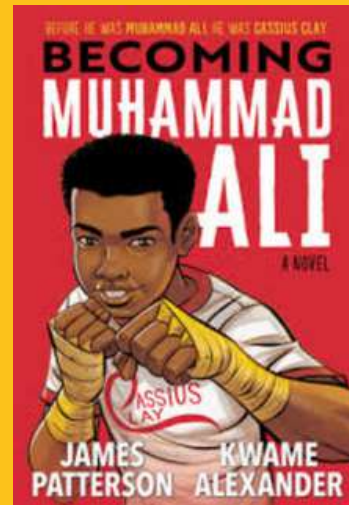
\$10 Tuckshop



FROM THE LIBRARY

BOOK OF THE WEEK

Before he was a household name, Cassius Clay was a kid with struggles like any other. Kwame Alexander and James Patterson join forces to vividly depict his life up to age seventeen in both prose and verse, including his childhood friends, struggles in school, the racism he faced, and his discovery of boxing. Readers will learn about Cassius' family and neighbors in Louisville, Kentucky, and how, after a thief stole his bike, Cassius began training as an amateur boxer at age twelve. Before long, he won his first Golden Gloves bout and began his transformation into the unrivaled Muhammad Ali.



[Goodreads 2025]



New to the library!



SCHOOL VALUES

Wairuatanga

Bringing Our Value to Life at BHBI

Over the past few weeks, our values focus has been on **Wairuatanga** – our sense of connection, and the way we show up in the world. Wairuatanga is about honouring ourselves, others, and our environment, and finding balance in the way we think, feel, and act.

In the classroom, Wairuatanga looks like:

- Being ready to learn, with a calm mind and a positive attitude.
- Respecting each other's ideas and cultures.
- Looking after our learning space and the resources we share.

During unstructured times – such as break times, or on the way to and from school – Wairuatanga is just as important. It's in the way we include others in our games, use kind words, and take care of our playground and local environment. These are the times where we can really practise showing respect and care for all people and places.

Our students have been reflecting on how they can take Wairuatanga beyond the classroom and into every part of their day. By doing so, we strengthen our school community and create a place where everyone feels valued, safe, and connected.

Ngā mihi for reinforcing this value at home – together, we help our tamariki carry Wairuatanga wherever they go.

Wellbeing

Wairuatanga



- Students value: physical, emotional, spiritual well-being
- Social/whanau
- Environmental excellence



COMING UP

HAVE YOUR SAY – STAND FOR THE 2025 SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS!

Kia ora e te whānau,

In 2025, our kura will take part in the triennial School Board Elections.

School boards play a vital role in shaping the direction of our school, supporting student success, and ensuring effective governance that reflects the needs and aspirations of our diverse community.

If you're passionate about education, equity, and making a difference for tamariki, we encourage you to consider standing for election. No prior experience is needed — just a commitment to working together and representing our whānau voice.

The election date is September 10th [via this link](#).

Learn more about the role of board members:

 **[COMMUNITY MEMBER GUIDE – NZSTA](#)**

 **[WATCH THIS SHORT VIDEO](#)**

LET'S STAND TALL FOR OUR TAMARIKI – RUIA TAITEA!

2026 CHINA TRIP



Planning is now underway in regards to our annual Cultural Exchange Trip. We have exciting plans for 2026 - we are going to China! We are planning to visit Chengdu, to see Pandas, Zhoushan, also known as the Buddhist Paradise on the Sea, and Shanghai, for Disney and rich cultural significance.

Students will engage in immersive activities, stay with host families, and build meaningful connections with their Chinese peers. We have been traveling internationally for 20 years, and it has always been a rewarding adventure and experience for our students.

Our China Trip is scheduled for April, 2026 (Term 2). The cost will be around \$3,500 NZD. We are working with travel agents to finalise costings. The cost will include return flights, travel insurance, accommodation, transportation, food and sightseeing activities.

[For more information and the application form click here.](#)

COMING UP

Festival of the ARTS

**SAVE THE
NIGHT!**

SEPTEMBER 11TH

On the evening of September 11th, we are showcasing the extraordinary talent of our students in the BBI Festival of Arts and Culture.

Come and see the incredible performances of our Kapa Haka and Bollywood groups; thrill to the sound and skills of Pasifika Beats and our Cook Island drummers. We will also have work by some of our Gifted and Talented artists on display, a dramatic performance in the school library and music from our school band and choir.

There really will be something for everyone, and best of all there is **NO admission cost**. There will also be a sausage sizzle, so bring some coins. The first performances are on stage at 6:00pm. Be in early, because we have strictly limited seating.



COMING UP

Transform lives through **faith**, **knowledge** and **education** founded on **Marist traditions**.

ENROLMENTS OPEN FOR 2026

*Year 7-13 Catholic
co-educational college
with no zoning
restrictions.*



For more details, go to www.marcellin.school.nz or call (09) 625 6509

IMPORTANT



UNIFORM REMINDERS



Earrings should be plain, with only one piercing in each ear.

For hair, stick to simple hair ties and plain headbands, no ribbons or claw clips.

Thermals should be in plain colours such as navy blue and black.

[See our school uniform guidelines here for more detail.](#)



OUR VALUES



Relationships

Whanaungatanga

- Lifelong learners
- Maximising potential
- Personal excellence and integrity
- Active participants



Respect

Manaakitanga

- Effective relationships
- Identity & Languages
- Celebration of cultures
- Respect
- Accepting differences
- Equity (resources)
- Knowing who and what we are/aware and accepting of ourselves and others



Wellbeing

Wairuatanga

- Students value: physical, emotional, spiritual well-being
- Social/whanau
- Environmental excellence



Leadership

Rangatiratanga

- Students understand that they are members of a wider, global community
- Service to people and places
- Compassion and care
- Developing potential



TERM DATES 2025

TERM 1: 30TH JAN - 11TH APRIL
TERM 2: 28TH APRIL - 27TH JUNE
TERM 3: 14TH JULY - 19TH SEPT
TERM 4: 6TH OCT - 12TH DEC

HOURS

SCHOOL: 8:45AM - 3.00PM
OFFICE: 8:00AM - 3.30PM