



Whanaungatanga

Rangatiratanga

Wairuatanga

Manaakitanga

WELCOME TO TERM 3 WEEK 9

Tēnā koutou e te whānau o Blockhouse Bay Intermediate,

Welcome to our Term Three, Week Nine Newsletter.

Kia ora e te whānau,

It's hard to believe we are already three-quarters of the way through the school year. Term 3 has been filled with opportunities for learning, growth, and celebration, and it's been a joy to see how far our students have come since the start of the year. As the days grow longer and spring begins to settle in, there's a renewed sense of energy across our school.

The past few weeks have been particularly busy and full of highlights. Our annual Knowledgeathon fundraiser has wrapped up with an incredible \$27,000 raised towards a kiln for our arts space. This is an investment that will create new opportunities for creativity and expression in the years ahead. And tonight, we look forward to our Festival of the Arts, where the talents and hard work of our students will take centre stage. These moments are a wonderful reminder of the balance we strive for at BBI, nurturing both excellence in learning and the joy of the wider experiences that school life brings.

CALENDAR:

- Culture and Arts Festival seated from 5:30 and goes until 7:55pm - 11th September
- Working Bee 3:15 - 4:15 - 18th September
- Star Awards Assembly 12:30pm - 1:50pm (parents notified if award is to be given) - 19th September
- Term Ends (2pm Finish) - 19th September
- Term 4 begins 8:45am - 6th October

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Festival of the Arts – Housekeeping

This evening, Thursday 11 September, we look forward to welcoming you to our school grounds for the special event. Performing students should arrive by 5.00pm to their designated classrooms, with parents invited to be seated by 5.30pm. Our kapa haka rōpū will open the evening at 6.00pm sharp, with a full programme of music, cultural, and drama performances to follow. The evening will conclude at 8.00pm. A sausage sizzle will be running from 5.30pm outside the hall. All students attending, whether performing or as audience, must arrive with an adult. A huge thank you to our cultural leaders, teachers, and especially our specialist teaching team, who have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to prepare this showcase.

AIMS Games 2025 – Outstanding Achievement

What a remarkable showing by our students at the Zespri AIMS Games—Australasia’s largest junior sporting tournament, held annually in Tauranga Moana and drawing over 14,000 athletes from more than 430 schools across 27 sports codes. This is a prestigious event where young athletes can showcase their skills on a national stage, celebrate fair play, and build lasting friendships. Here are our standout performers from this year:

- **Layla Quensell** (Rm 13, Swimming): Earned 3 medals and reached 7 finals in the 11-year-old girls division, an outstanding display of consistency and competitive spirit.
- **Meeshali Saha** (Rm 6, Tennis): Battled through after an early loss and triumphed in every subsequent match to finish 17th overall, a brilliant show of resilience.
- **Ethan Eccles** (Rm 27, Lawn Bowls): Achieved a Top 16 finish, competing against older Year 7 and 8 students, demonstrating composure and skill.
- **Boys’ Football:** Finished 6th overall. Narrowly missing out in the quarter-finals on penalties. Special mention to Taylor Reardon (Rm 22) for being one of the standout players across the week.
- **Girls’ Football:** Achieved 7th overall. An exceptional result with Kassidy Jones (Rm 25) leading the charge and shining among the competition.

Congratulations to every athlete and immense thanks to our staff and whānau for your unwavering support throughout the week. Your encouragement and teamwork reflect the true spirit of the AIMS Games.



BBI students as they head off to Japan!



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Punctuality

We have noticed a sharp rise in lateness over the past few weeks due to students “sleeping in,” now sitting at 40% of all late arrivals. With a busy school calendar, as you have seen, it is vital for students to start their school day on the right foot. Arriving on time means being part of the morning notices, hearing reminders, greeting peers, and stepping into class ready to learn alongside their classmates. Those first few minutes set the tone for the whole day. Students who arrive on time are calmer, more focused, and better prepared to take on challenges as supported by our Social Emotional Learning results. Please help us keep this message positive by supporting your child to get to school each morning with time to spare so they can enjoy the full experience of their day. Students are expected to at school from 8.30am and in class for morning roll call at 8.45am.

Castlewood Grove Entrance

A reminder to our community that the Castlewood Grove entrance is a single-lane driveway that leads directly to our staff car park. Please refrain from driving in unless you have a dental appointment at the on-site clinic. To keep this area safe and congestion-free, we also ask that parents avoid parking here after school pickup. Your support helps ensure smooth access for staff and clinic visitors, and keeps everyone safe.



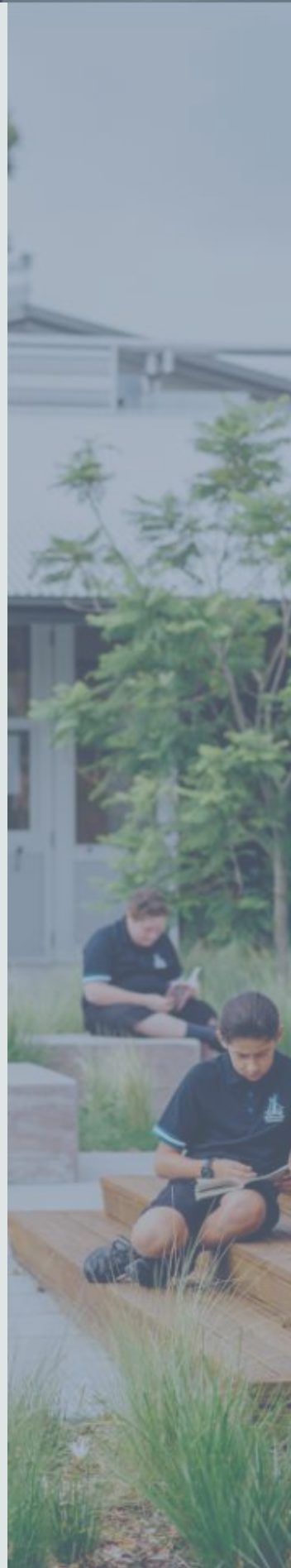
Looking Ahead

As we look towards Term 4, we are excited to welcome back Mr Michael Malins from his sabbatical. He returns refreshed, alongside a newly elected school board. Thank you to everyone in our community who took part in the election process, your voice helps shape the direction of our school.

For me personally, this marks the end of my time in the Acting Principal role. Over the past 19 weeks, it has been a privilege to serve our staff, students, and whānau in this capacity. I want to express my gratitude for the encouragement and trust you have shown throughout this time. BBI is a special place, and that comes down to the people, our students who bring energy and curiosity every day, our dedicated staff who go above and beyond, and our parents and whānau who give unwavering support.

Ngā mihi nui,

Julie Wong
Acting Principal
Blockhouse Bay Intermediate School



COMING UP

Festival of the ARTS

TONIGHT!!!

The BBI Festival of Arts and Culture is happening **TONIGHT!**

Tonight (**Thursday September 11**) 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. Please be seated by 5:45 at the latest so you don't miss any of the outstanding group performances.

Any student planning on attending the Festival of the Arts **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.



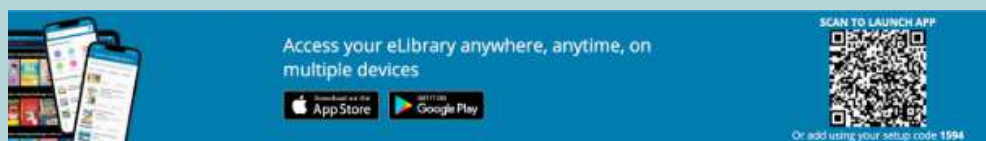
FROM THE LIBRARY



The school holidays are the perfect time to access our Wheelers eBooks and Audiobooks. If you would like helping accessing eBooks or audiobooks just pop into the library and see Donna, or email donnalm@bhbint.school.nz

Follow the links to the Junior and Senior platforms. The Junior platform has eBooks and Audiobooks, the Senior platform just has eBooks.

Login using Single Sign On using your school Google account, or download the ePlatform APP.



After 8 weeks, and 15 battles, we finally have our winner! It was a close battle...but the winner with 54.9% of the votes is **The Hunger Games!**

Our Battle of the Books has prompted many book conversations and debates. Thanks to everyone who voted! All of these books are winners, if you haven't read any I suggest you borrow or reserve them from the library today!

NEW TO THE LIBRARY!



AIMS 2025



AIMS GAMES 2025

The Zespri AIMS Games 2025 was an unforgettable week for Blockhouse Bay Intermediate. From 30 August to 5 September, our athletes joined over 14,000 students from across New Zealand and overseas to compete in Tauranga's "mini-Olympics."

BBI was proudly represented across multiple sports, with our students showing determination, teamwork, and resilience in every game and event. Whether it was on the football field, in the pool, around the cross-country course, or in individual competitions such as indoor bowls, tennis, and orienteering, our athletes gave their absolute best and represented our school with pride.

This year's results were outstanding, with both our Boys' and Girls' Football teams finishing inside the Top 8 - the only school in New Zealand to achieve this double feat. Alongside this, we celebrated medal-winning performances in swimming, top placings across a range of sports, and countless personal bests.

A huge thank you to our coaches, teachers, whānau, and supporters who made this week possible. Your encouragement and mahi behind the scenes ensured our athletes could shine on the big stage.

TENNIS

Congratulations to Meeshali Saha of Room 6 on an outstanding performance in the Tennis competition.

After a narrow loss in her opening match, Meeshali bounced back brilliantly, going undefeated for the rest of the week.

Her resilience and skill saw her finish an impressive 17th overall in New Zealand, an incredible achievement at such a high level.

Well done, Meeshali!



AIMS 2025

SWIMMING

A huge congratulations to Layla Quensell (Room 13) and Charlie Marra (Room 14) for their fantastic efforts in the pool this week.

Charlie impressed with several personal bests and collected a ribbon in the 200m freestyle, an awesome achievement.

Layla had an incredible week, clocking 11 personal bests, making 7 finals, and bringing home 3 medals in the following events:

- 1 50m Backstroke
- 2 50m Butterfly
- 3 100m Butterfly

Both swimmers showed dedication, determination, and school pride – ka pai Layla and Charlie!



INDOOR BOWLS

This year's Indoor Bowls competition drew over 250 entries, with Ethan Eccles (Room 27) representing our school. Ethan started strongly, winning three of his four opening matches to qualify for the knockout stage. By the end of Tuesday, only 75 players remained in the competition.

On Wednesday, the pressure was on as Ethan faced the best qualifiers in a straight knockout format. Rising to the challenge, he produced some fantastic performances, winning three more matches to advance into the Top 16 players in New Zealand.

This is an outstanding achievement, especially as Ethan is only in Year 7, competing against both Year 7 and 8 students. His commitment, determination, and sportsmanship were on full display throughout the tournament. Well done, Ethan!



ORIENTEERING

Ben Tari from Room 1 not only represented our school in Cross Country but also took on the challenge of Orienteering. With AIMS only in its second year of offering this growing sport in New Zealand, Ben showed great courage and determination in tackling a very challenging course. He finished in an impressive time, placing 35th overall.

A fantastic effort, Ben - well done!

AIMS 2025

CROSS COUNTRY

A massive shout-out to all our Cross Country runners who took on the challenge of a tough course and testing conditions. Every one of you represented our school and your whānau with pride, showing determination and resilience throughout the race. To top it off, our team was also recognised with the Sportsmanship Award, a true reflection of the spirit you all carried.

Congratulations to: Keria Hussey (Room 1) Ben Tari (Room 1) Dron Kukreja (Room 4) Lily Sexton (Room 7) Sarthak Neelam (Room 12) Revanth Kishore (Room 13) Heidi Hsieh (Room 16) Mayan Narsey (Room 23) Karen Kawada (Room 24)

We are incredibly proud of you all – well done!



BOYS FOOTBALL

Expectations were high as 12 boys headed to Tauranga to take on the challenge of Boys' Football, where the best Year 7 and 8 players from across New Zealand compete for top honours.

The team started pool play strongly, securing three convincing wins against Plimmerton School (6-1), Whangarei Intermediate (5-0), and Stonefields School (3-0), with their only setback being a narrow 1-2 loss to Tauranga Intermediate. This placed them 2nd in the pool and into the top 32.

In the next round of pool play, the boys drew with Northcross Intermediate before dominating Rototuna High School (6-1). Their final pool game against Pasadena Intermediate became the decider for a Top 8 spot, and the boys rose to the occasion, playing superb football to earn a 3-0 victory.

For the first time, our Boys' Football team made it into the Top 8. In the quarter-final against Remuera Intermediate, they played their best football of the week, taking a 2-0 halftime lead. Remuera fought back to level the score 2-2, sending the game to penalties. Despite their brave effort, our boys fell just short in the shootout.

They bounced back with a thrilling 5-3 win over last year's champions, Northcote Intermediate, before facing Takapuna Intermediate for 5th place. Once again, the match went to penalties, and once again, luck wasn't on their side, leaving them in 6th place overall.

To finish 6th in New Zealand is a remarkable achievement and one the entire school is incredibly proud of. A huge thank you goes to all the families who supported the team and to Mr Carney and Mr Vincent for their outstanding coaching and commitment to this group over the past two years.



AIMS 2025

GIRLS FOOTBALL

Twelve girls, a mix of experienced club footballers and players brand new to the game this year, headed to Tauranga for the AIMS challenge with the ambitious goal of a Top 16 finish. Their pool draw was tough, featuring a powerful Mt Maunganui Intermediate side and the defending champions, Northcross Intermediate.

The girls started strongly with a 2-0 win over Highlands Intermediate before going down 0-2 in a hard-fought battle against Mt Maunganui. They bounced back with a convincing 3-1 victory against Stanhope School, setting up a must-win clash with Northcross. In one of the games of the tournament, the girls showed incredible grit and skill to secure a 1-0 upset over the defending champions, booking their place in the Top 16.

In the Top 16 stage, the girls raised their game even further. They opened with a 1-0 win over Murray's Bay Intermediate, a team stacked with club players, before grinding out two gutsy 0-0 draws against Diocesan School for Girls and St Peter's School (Cambridge), both of which boast strong football programmes. These results saw them top their pool and earn a place in the Top 8.

Facing two very strong opponents in the quarterfinal stages, the girls battled bravely but couldn't find the results. That set up a rematch against Diocesan for 7th/8th place. Rising to the occasion, the girls finished their campaign in style with a 1-0 win, claiming 7th overall in New Zealand.

This achievement is nothing short of outstanding, particularly for a group that included so many first-time footballers. We are immensely proud of the way they played, supported each other, and represented our school. A huge thank you to the families for their unwavering support, and to Miss Abbott and Mr Vincent for their commitment and leadership with this team.



A HISTORIC ACHIEVEMENT

WOW!

For the first time, both our Boys' and Girls' Football teams placed inside the Top 8 at AIMS Games, making us the only school in the football competition to achieve this feat. This is an incredible accomplishment and a reflection of the hard work, determination, and spirit shown by all our players, coaches, and supporters.

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