



BLOCKHOUSE BAY INTERMEDIATE NEWSLETTER



Whanaungatanga

Rangatiratanga

Wairuatanga

Manaakitanga

WELCOME TO TERM 4 WEEK 5

Tēnā koutou, e te whānau o Blockhouse Bay Intermediate

Welcome to the Term four, Week five newsletter.

Welcome as we approach the mid-way of term four and our busy slide into the Christmas break. A change in the weather has added a lift to attendance and a positive air across the school.

We could not have asked for better weather for a start to camp 1. After weeks of gales and showers, our intrepid campers are in for a glorious week away from home.

Every year we promote this end of primary school experience for our year eight parent community. Every year we hear some very interesting reasons why parents do not send their students on camp. Our favorite being, "they can't go because they can't take their device".

Camp is a defining feature of the eight years of primary school. New adventures, new settings, new friends, a real sense of belonging, resilience and grit. It is a change from the norm and life from here on out is about change, as they head to high school with multiple classes and teachers in a day.

We can only implore parents to imagine the possibilities for their children. We go the distance so that your children can know they have it in them to make the distance. We will do anything to support you to realise this for your child.

We really want to hear why some parents do not send their children to camp and how we can support whānau to make this happen for next year. A survey will come out to our non-attendees to get your feedback on how we can approve access. Please help us to help those that follow. Your insights will help form the boards steps forward.

CALENDAR:

- Y8 Camp 1 - 3rd November until 7th November
- Totara and Kowhai Y7 surf trip - 11th November.
- Y8 Camp 2 - 17th November until 21st November
- Nikau Y7 surf trip - 25th November.
- Matai and Miro Y7 surf trip - 26th November

Attention Year 8 parents!

To help us plan future Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC) experiences, we value your feedback. Please take 2-3 minutes to complete our short Camp Survey – whether your child is attending camp or not. Responses are confidential and used only for planning.

Access to the survey: [Year 8 Camp Survey](#)

Thank you for your time.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

SLANZA – School Library Association of New Zealand.

Did you know that our librarian Donna was a librarian of the year recipient in 2024? Donna is our librarian of the year every year at BBI. Donna impacts every student at BBI. Yesterday I attended a hui in Wellington. The aim was to bring together leaders, researchers, and practitioners who care deeply about improving access to equitable and effective school library services that positively impact student literacy and learning outcomes.

Recent research and sector conversations have shone a light on both the strengths and the challenges in school library provision. This hui is a chance to look across the system, share insights, and consider the collective actions that will make a difference for all tamariki and rangatahi.

Why?

NZCER's report School library spaces, resources, and services in Aotearoa New Zealand (2024) provides a timely evidence base.

Sector interest is growing — from school leaders, public libraries, researchers, and others — to work more coherently across organisations and boundaries. But provision remains inequitable: many schools still lack fully effective and functional library services and spaces, and access to expert library staff.

Our school library is, in many ways, a centrepiece of the school. It is a place of learning and a place where students feel like they can be themselves.... we want to continue to develop our collections to reflect the many and varied interests of our students, and to be an antidote to the plethora of digital and to be an antidote to the plethora of digital information and misinformation.

It is a privilege to be able to support New Zealand's culture of reading; particularly for those who do not have equitable access to resources like ours. The array of books, a beautiful library and our librarian of the year.



Caretaker Position

Our long serving caretaker Vern is retiring. We are seeking a reliable, hands-on, and dedicated Caretaker to join our team of two, help us maintain a safe, tidy, and welcoming environment for our students, staff, and community. This is a full-time, permanent position that requires pride in your work and a positive, can-do attitude.

If you are looking for something different and or want a change, please check out the job description, on our website.

COMING UP

Hui-Fono 2025

Talofa Lava, Nau mai, Haere Mai

Blockhouse Bay Intermediate invites the Māori and Pasifika Communities to our

Term 4 Māori Hui-Pasifika Fono 2025

- to celebrate our Pasifika culture and to farewell our Y8 students with a final performance

Thursday 27th November - 5.00 pm - 7.30pm

Each family has been asked to bring a savoury or a sweet dish for our shared Kai on the Main Court at 5.30 pm.

Cultural performances from our Kapa Haka and Pasifika Beats Groups will commence in the school hall at 6.00 pm.

Kapa Haka and Pasifika Beats have been given permission forms to perform at the Hui / Fono.
All forms are to go to the school office as soon as possible

Ma le fa'aaloalo lava

Mrs Theresa Talafou - Pasifika Education Leader
Matua Ashley Manuel - Māori Curriculum Leader



AUCKLAND COUNCIL LIBRARIES
PRESENTS

Raumati READS

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

FREE

6 December 2025 - 1 February 2026
Keep your kids reading with fun activities and more.

Search **Libraries school holidays**

Proudly sponsored by

AUCKLAND LIVE AUCKLAND ZOO AUCKLAND COUNCIL Pools and Leisure

AUCKLAND COUNCIL LIBRARIES
PRESENTS

Raumati READS

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Be in to win awesome prizes!
Read for 10 days to **earn a reward!**
Read for 20+ days to **enter the prize draw**

Auckland Zoo **passes**
Auckland Live event **vouchers**
Auckland FC **game vouchers**
Auckland Council Pools and Leisure
'Learn to swim' lessons and more!

*While stocks last.

Search **Libraries school holidays**

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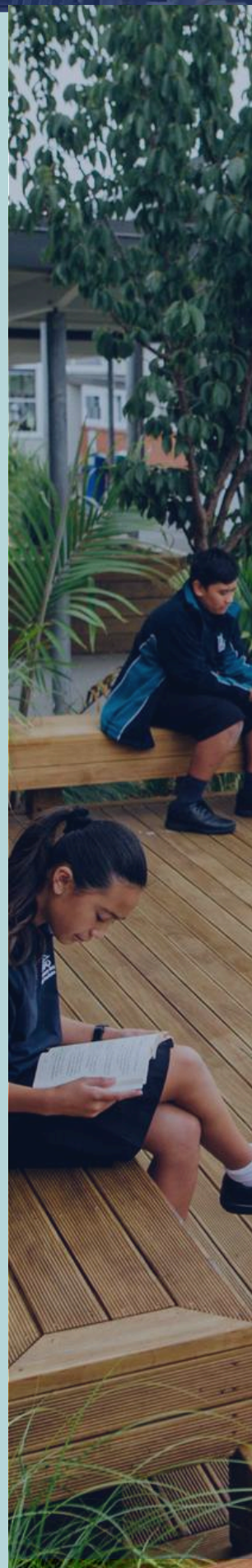
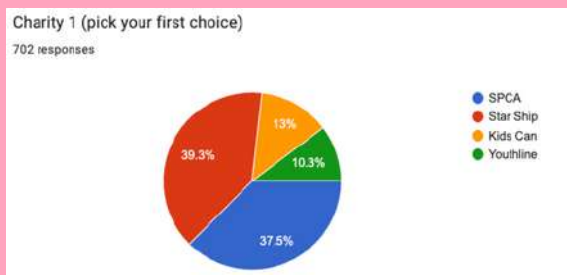




OTHER NEWS



Starship



OTHER NEWS

BREAKING NEWS

New bikes racks will be installed at our school toward the end of this Term!

We're excited to announce that our school has brand-new bike racks being delivered in the next few weeks, made possible by a \$6,000 Auckland Climate Grant generously supported through Auckland Transport and Auckland council. This grant was organised through the hard work and dedication from the student Enviro kids group and Whaea Laura our school Environment leader. These racks will make it easier and safer for our Year 7 and 8 students to ride their bikes, scooters, or skateboards to school. It's a great way to stay active, look after the environment, and start the day feeling energised. We can't wait to see our students making the most of this new addition to our school grounds!

Helmets for students traveling by bike/scooter/skateboard & safety rules:

Students without helmets will be asked to return their bikes/scooter/skateboards to the bike racks and report to the office so parents can be contacted, as **helmets are required by law for bicycles and are school policy for scooters/skateboards.**

When crossing roads and entering the school gates we ask that students walk holding thier bikes/scooter/skateboards rather than ride for their safety and the safety of others.

Helmet fitting video- [Click here](#)

Basic bike check- [Click here](#) (bikes can be checked free of charge at any Auckland bike hubs)

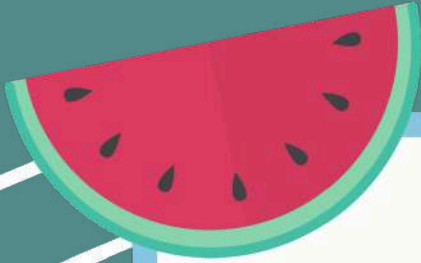
Services at bike hubs

At Auckland bike hubs you can:

- get your bike repaired for free if no new parts are needed.
- get advice on routes, maintenance, gear and how to connect with the cycling community.
- buy a low-cost, high-quality, second-hand bike.
- donate your bike if it's in reasonable condition.
- volunteer to meet like-minded people, upskill your bike repair skills and help others get riding.

Locations can be seen here (the closest to school is located near Olympic park and is open during Thursday - Sunday 10-2pm: EcoHub, 1 Olympic Place, New Lynn)





2025/26 SUMMER READING



AVOID THE SUMMER READING SLIDE...JOIN OUR
SUMMER READING PROGRAMME TODAY!

WHO CAN JOIN THE SUMMER READING PROGRAMME?

- * Students enrolled at BHBI for Year 7 in 2026
- * Any current Year 7 student returning to BHBI for Year 8 in 2026

CAN I EARN A RED STAR?

Yes, all students that complete the Summer Reading Programme will receive a red star in 2026.

To be eligible you need to: * Read over the summer holidays * Complete and return the required reading activities

For more information contact our Librarian, Donna Le Marquand donnaalm@bhbi.school.nz



SUMMER MATHS CHALLENGE 2025/26

Always forgetting things that you have already learnt in class? Avoid the Summer slide, get yourself ready for the school year, and register to take part in the BHBI Summer Maths Challenge! Completing this challenge could also earn you an academic star ✨

WHO CAN JOIN?

- All Math abilities
- Year 6 students who are coming to BHBI in 2026
- Year 7 students who are returning to BHBI as a Year 8 student in 2026

HOW DO I TAKE PART?

1. Fill out the Google form to register:
<https://forms.gle/yetHSzs34KAALmvK9>
2. Pick up your challenge sheet from the school office in the last week of school (9th-12th of December, 8am-3:30pm) **OR** download it from the school website and print it at home (not available until December 8th)
3. Attempt ALL of the questions
4. Return your named answer sheet to the office no later than **Friday, February the 6th**

If you answer 80% or more of the questions correctly, you earn a red academic star!

HELP DAY

If you need help with the challenge, teachers will be available in the FLS on Wednesday the 29th of January, 10am-12pm

Email Miss Harper (teacher in charge) if you have any questions:
rubyh@bhbiint.school.nz



BHBI Blockhouse Bay
Intermediate
Stand Tall • Ruia Taitea

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