



Monday 2 July 2018

"OUR BEST ALWAYS"

Dear parents

This last week of term has arrived!

We finish at our usual 3.00pm on Friday. The third term starts on **Monday 23 July**.

Term Certificates

Congratulations to the following children, recipients of our very special "Term Certificates". These are awarded one per class, and will be given out at Friday's assembly (starting at 9.10am), organised and run by our House Leaders: *Heidi Angove, Adam Pan, Kace Johnston, Natalie Janevska, Jacob Kong, Ishaan Khan, Yuri Kang, Evelyn Xu, Ivan Oliveria, Alicia Wang, Risa Miyata, Liza Yudkina, Kayleigh Thistlethwaite, Ciaran Anderson, Justin Fletcher, Courtney Farrington, Eryn Saunders, Jordan Fox, Zackery Jiang, Amer Ali Abdelrahman Rabah, Kenny Li and Lauren Tosh.*

School Office Hours

The school office will be closing at 3.30pm on **Friday 6 July** for the holiday break, and opening again on **Monday 23 July**.

However, during the holidays the school office will be open from 9.00am until 1.00pm on:

Wednesday 18th July 2018

Thursday 19th July 2018

Friday 20th July 2018

Class and Individual Photos

PhotoLife - class/individual photos are this week, on Wednesday 4 July 2018. Please ensure your child is wearing the correct school uniform.

This year ordering is being done online. If you require a sibling form please contact the office.

Music Festival

Congratulations to our choir, and choir teachers *Kimberley Rivett* and *Jinny Jo*, for performing so well at last week's Music Festival on Wednesday and Thursday nights. Special congratulations to those children who were chosen as soloists, or had other special roles.

Reminders: Before and After School

- Classes begin at 8.55am, and finish at 3.00pm.

- We prefer it if children don't arrive before 8.30am. However, if for some reason your children do arrive before 8.30am they must all wait on the hall deck please, and mustn't leave that area until the 8.30am bell.
- Latecomers arriving after the 8.55am bell must report to the office.
- We ask that children be collected promptly after school (no later than 3.15pm). Many thanks.
- Children are not allowed to play on the school playgrounds after school.

NZ Writers' Quiz

Last week some of our senior students represented our school in the N.Z. Writers' Quiz, hosted by Baverstock Oaks School. About 30 teams from most local schools took part.

Congratulations to all of the children who took part, very creditably. You worked really hard reading and studying all the books required: *Andrew Chen*, *Blake Nankivell*, *Chloe Zhu*, *Jordan Fox*, *Kate McKeen* and *Rebecca Hutchings*.

Very special thanks to *Sheryll Lamb* who once again did a tremendous job preparing our teams.

PARENT INTERVIEWS

Our interviews are this week, on **Wednesday 4 July** (3.20pm-5.00pm) and **Thursday 5 July** (3.20pm-8.00pm). If you have not already booked a time, and would like one, please ring the school office asap.

Keeping Our Children Safe in the Playground

We want all the children to feel, and be, safe, secure and happy.

There are always at least four staff members on duty at playtimes and lunchtimes, usually more. These staff members are clearly identified to the children by a brightly coloured jacket, and also carry a simple first aid kit to deal with minor scrapes immediately. Almost all teachers, including senior management, and many support staff, have current first aid certificates.

We also have our **Values Programme**, where children learn about the basic values of *Courtesy and Manners, Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, Consideration, Cooperation, Determination and Tolerance*. Two values are focused upon per term throughout the school.

Our **reflection time**, held in every classroom several times per week at 2.45pm, gives an opportunity for children to talk about and to practise school values, and to celebrate great behaviour and learning achievements.

We run a **Peer Mediation Programme**. Selected children are given mediation skills by a trained adult mediator to take ownership of less serious issues that arise in the playground. Key aspects of this programme are reinforced in the classrooms by teachers.

Children are encouraged to use their **"WITS"**. This teaches children strategies to deal with peer conflict and bullying. The programme was created with an understanding that this will enhance learning environments. It is a four stage process: *W=walk away, I=ignore, T=talk about it, S=seek help*.

Appropriate playground behaviour is discussed within each class, so that children are clear in their own minds as to what they can and can't do. This really amounts to one simple word-"respect"-respect for other children, for adults, and for other people's property.

Mr T

Coming Attractions!

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| Wednesday 4 July | Class and individual photos Parent Interviews 3.20pm-5.00pm |
| Thursday 5 July | Parent Interviews 3.20pm-8.00pm |
| Friday 6 July | PTA Sausage Sizzle Term 2 ends |
| Monday 23 July | Term 3 begins |

Children, have a wonderful and safe time during the holidays!

Kind regards,

Mr T

Children's Writing!

Stardome

Our class went and visited the Stardome beside One Tree Hill. We travelled by bus and there were a lot of people.

When we got there we ate our morning tea. Then I watched the people playing on the zipline. After that we went into the Stardome to learn about planets. We did a quiz where we had to go around the Stardome to answer all the questions. There were 5-6 people in a group. Our group scored 6/7. After the quiz we went to watch a movie. It was really cool, and I found it was very interesting. I learnt that there were at least 4000 planets!
Sadly it was time to leave and we said goodbye.

By Ethan Ma - Room 16

Stardome

On 11 May 2018, Rooms 14 and 16 went to Stardome.

When we arrived, we had a good morning tea/lunch and we had some fun on the playground. People started going on the zipline-well, it wasn't really one, it was more like a zipline/flying fox hybrid. Next, we went to the space gallery. There was also this lesson about the planets, orbiting and the solar systems.

After that there was the quiz. It was quite easy because they had photos of the exhibits where you could find the answers. My group got 6 out of 7 questions correct!

We then watched a movie called *Solar System Odyssey*, which was fairly short. It was about some time in the future when the people on Earth needed a new home, and they might have needed another planet. Two people visited the moons Titan, Callisto and Europa to see if they were suitable. Unsurprisingly, they all weren't. They also paid a little visit to Io, which had volcanoes and craters all over its surface. The girl, Ashley, knew coordinates on Earth that were perfect. Then we went back onto the bus. I think the trip to Stardome was awesome!

By Emma Chang - Room 16

"A Say from Your PTA"

End of Term Sausage Sizzle!

Celebrate the start of the school holidays with a yummy sausage sizzle on Friday 6th July from 3-3.30pm.

Don't forget to bring your gold coins- Sausage sizzle, cold drinks and chocolate bars will all be on sale for \$2 per item.

Mums, Dads, Grandparents and caregivers are all welcome to come along!

Dollars for Schools

The Good Home Gastropub in Howick is running their Dollars for Schools Programme from 25th June until 4th November.

How does it work? Simply head into The Good Home during this period, enjoy some drinks or a yummy meal and tell staff to allocate your points to Botany Downs Primary School. Enjoy a night out and you can earn our school a cash prize!

PTA Meeting

The next PTA will be held on Monday 6th August in the staffroom at 7.30pm. All are welcome!

Please note there is no PTA meeting tonight.

REMINDER

Term 2 finishes this Friday 6 July, at 3pm.

Term 3 starts on Monday 23 July.

Parents, feel welcome to add



on

facebook



NOTICE

I am the Audience Coordinator for the children's tv programme 'What Now'. During 2018 we are broadcasting live every Sunday between 8-10am from a different Auckland community. On Sunday 22nd July the show will be coming live from East Tamaki and I would like to invite your families to be part of the audience!

Families (including Mum & Dad) are all invited to be part of our awesome live audience...& it's FREE!! Seating is limited and open to all the public (it's a first in best dressed approach). Please feel free to email this link to your families to register online www.whatnow.tv/bonus/audience

We look forward to joining your community!

Kind regards, Suzanne.