



Monday 29 October 2018

"OUR BEST ALWAYS"

Dear parents

Scholastic Book Club

Orders for the Scholastic Book Club close this Wednesday 31st October.

These can be done easily by following the instructions on-line, or on the brochure, or making payment to the school.

Special Terrific Persons Awards

Congratulations to all the following children, who will receive their special certificates at this Friday morning's assembly, starting at 9.10am in the hall: *Daqi Mao, Aaron Qiao, Joynoor Singh, Natalie Janevska, Joy Turner, Kayla Fegan, Kevin Wu, Aydan Boparai, Evie Zhu, Matakeu Marsters, Arya Lawn, Sariah Hooker-Mason, Kevin Kuo, Ray Xu, Kobus Kaalsen, Rebecca Hutchings, Gordon Lim, Christopher Armstrong, Maria Uribe, Levi Brickell, Hayley Stevens, Alexis Jasmin, Jasmine Chilcott and Livvy Gowan.*

Senior Athletic Sports

These are now on Wednesday 7 November. A separate notice has gone home.

Did You Know?

- During term 3 we purchased entirely new Rainbow Reading books at all levels and new interactive audio pens. These are for our students in years 4 and 5 who are needing some extra support with their reading. The students are highly engaged and enjoy the new books and the freedom that the audio pens provide. Sheryll Lamb is our specialist in Rainbow Reading and she works alongside these students providing support in improving reading comprehension.
- The school has purchased an AED (Automated External Defibrillator). This is held in the office.
- You may have noticed some amazing new equipment in our Year 0/1 classes this term. Our wonderful PTA have funded some new resources in support of the play-based learning that the team have been implementing. This approach supports our newest learners as they transition from pre-school to school. As a team, we have visited other schools to learn about the model that best fits our children at Botany Downs, and we are currently working as part of the East Auckland Play-Based Learning Cluster, which meets several times per term, to find new, successful ways to further strengthen our school model. We will keep you posted on the

journey, but in the meantime, pop in and visit one of the junior rooms to see what exciting learning is happening.

Final ICAS Results for 2018

Congratulations to all students who sat the ICAS Mathematics Exam last term. Certificates will be handed out at assembly on Friday to the following students who achieved excellent results:

High Distinction: Maleiah De La Cruz

Distinction: Annie Gai, Reuben Martin, Joanne Chen, Theo Parreira, Minnie Yuan

Credit: Ryan Gao, Liam Jekel, Aimee Jin, Leroy Li, Jamie Seok, Annika Wang, Vernon Xiao, Emma Chang, Alex Johnson, Cody Marston, Vashisht Kerkal, Jesslyn Ma, Amer Rabah, Alpha Shi, Rebecca Wang, Ethan Wu,

Merit: Jordan Fox, Linaya Karunatillake, Willson Wang, Manni Hei, Spencer Richardson

Our School Values Programme

Congratulations to the following children who will be acknowledged at our assembly on Friday for showing the value of DETERMINATION: *Averie Chin, Adam Pan, Sean Hwang, Ryder Lindgreen, Soana Lomu, William Pirie, Arden Bryce, Kayla De Lange, Yuri Kang, Amarah Hoosen, Lexi Storey, Abhay Singh, Daniel Yang, Jessie Lin, Ella Zhou, Emma Langford, Caleb Jillings, Evelyn Liu, Jacob Cooper, Revelation Togafau, Summer Thomas, Asher Dawson, Jack Lilly and Gerhard Snyman.*

Teacher Industrial Action on Monday 12 November

As you may have seen in the media, rolling strike action across New Zealand is scheduled for the week beginning 12 November. Unless significant progress is made with teacher contract negotiations in the next few days, Auckland teachers will not be at work on Monday 12 November.

If the strike action goes ahead, the Board of Trustees has decided that the school will be closed on that day.

It is important that you make alternative arrangements for the care of your child/children on 12 November, in case the strike goes ahead.

Teachers are particularly concerned about several major issues, including:

- Inadequate support and funding for children who have special learning needs.
- The nationwide shortage of teachers in New Zealand, particularly in Auckland.
- The 40% decline in the number of applicants wishing to train to be teachers, as the attractiveness of teaching as a career option reduces.
- The large numbers of new teachers are now leaving the profession within their first five years.
- Poor remuneration

If there are any changes to the strike action you will be informed as soon as possible.

Thank you for your understanding.

South Auckland Weetbix Tryathalon - Wednesday 5 December

Calling all kids (7+ years) who are keen to have a go at this year's Tryathlon (swim, bike, run). This is an amazing event to build your child's confidence, encourage fitness and represent your Botany Downs Primary School. Whether your child is a budding athlete and wants to do the whole course themselves or just wants to "have a go" and complete the course with a friend there are options for every level.

If you are interested and would like to find out more, contact Melanie Nankivell on goneonholidayagain@hotmail.com or ph 0211531547. Please note that every child will need an adult to accompany them on the day of the event.

We will be running training sessions on the school field starting 7 November on Wednesdays from 3.15 - 4.15 pm and Sunday afternoons at Howick Intermediate School.

You can register online now at <https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=31830&G=68766> and link to Botany Downs Primary School to receive the school discount.

Every triathlete receives a t-shirt, a medal and a chance to show how much they can achieve! Click on this link to see some of the fun - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e39y2I3jSuI>

Class Organisation for Next Year

Forms need to be returned to the school office by **Wednesday 7th November 2018**, in a sealed envelope marked "**Confidential to the Principal**".

As always, while we will take careful note of the information you provide, the final decision about your child's class placement will be made by the staff.

Not Returning?

If your family is not returning to Botany Downs School next year, please let Aroha in the office know (arohab@botanydowns.school.nz)

Our Children are SUPERSTARS!

Congratulations to **Chris Armstrong** in room 17. Chris was selected in the Fencibles 9th grade representative football team to play in the annual national tournament in Three Kings during the school holidays. This was played over a period of 3 days and included a total of 16 teams from throughout Auckland.

His team won their pool, advancing to the semi-final and ultimately the final, losing 2-1 in a thrilling game. **Well done Chris!**

Year 6 Leaving Party (Save the Date!)

Calling all Year 6 Leavers! We are hoping to again this year have a leaving party for all the Year 6's at Lloyd Elmore Pool. Please save the date of Friday 30 November 7pm-8:30pm on your calendar. We are just awaiting confirmation and then we will send out invitations with more details. A reminder that this event is privately run by parent volunteers and is not an official school event. For queries contact Kirsten Hartnoll dkhartnoll@gmail.com or Rhona Hoffman rhonah@gmail.com

Have a great week everyone.

Kind regards,

Mr T

(principal@botanydowns.school.nz)

"A Say from Your PTA"

Dollars for Schools- last chance to vote for us!!

The Good Home Gastropub in Howick is running their Dollars for Schools Programme from 25th June until 4th November. We are currently in 6th place and as it is the last week of the competition, it would be great if we could move our way up the ladder to earn some money for the school.

All you need to do is to tell staff at the Good Home to allocate your points from any yummy meal or drinks to Botany Downs Primary. Make sure you continue to spread the word to family and friends so we can score our school a cash prize!

Fruju Fridays & more!

Each Friday after school you can buy a refreshing ice block, paddle pop or mini pop to cool down in the summer heat. Mini pops are \$1 each and all other iceblocks are \$2 each

NOTICES

From Howick Intermediate:

Tuesday 6 November:

11.30am - 12.30pm: Botany Downs Primary School Orientation Visit for Y6.

New Parent Information Evening:

Wednesday 7 November at 7.00pm

From Somerville Intermediate:

Somerville Intermediate is holding orientation visits at Somerville Intermediate for those Year 6 students from our school who will be attending Somerville in 2019, on Thursday 22nd November 2018 at 1.30pm.

They are also having a New Parent Evening for parents of those students attending Somerville next year, on Thursday 22nd November 2018 at 7.00 pm in their school gymnasium.

THANK YOU to KENNARDS HIRE

Kennards recently donated the use of posthole borers so we could plant our new fruit and shade trees.

kennardshire.co.nz

For all the equipment you need to take on those backyard tasks!

