

Botany Downs Primary School

Tuesday 2 February 2021

Our BEST - Always



Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Welcome back to our Botany Downs School families and a warm welcome to our 40 new families who have joined our school community. We do hope that you all enjoyed the summer holidays and are ready for another wonderful exciting year of learning.

We are very pleased to welcome a new teacher to our school, Miss Sophie Hill, who will be teaching Year 2 in Room 4. We are also happy to welcome back from maternity leave Mrs Michelle Takaiti who will be teaching year 5 in Room 16. Mrs Paula Hodgson has also returned from maternity leave to job share with Mrs Rochelle Carr in Room 12 on Wednesday.

Whanau Picnic and Meet the Teacher 2021 - Thursday 11 February

This is an wonderful opportunity for you to find out more about the school, and to chat to your children's teachers and other whanau in our BDS community.

All our staff will be at school from 5.00 - 7.30 pm to meet the whanau and to mix and mingle. We are all looking forward to seeing you there.

Times and Places for Meet the Teacher

- 5.15 ESOL (Mrs Kate Keenan) Teacher in Room 26
- 5.15pm: Parents/Caregivers of 5 year old children (Presentation on Structured Literacy to teach reading by Mrs Lisa Bethune).
- 5.30pm: Junior school parents go to classrooms
- 6.00pm: Middle School parents go to classrooms
- 6.30pm: Senior School school parents go to classrooms
- 7.00pm: Year 5 Camp Meeting in the ILE

School Newsletters

Our school newsletters are emailed at the start of *every school week*. They are an important way of communicating with you, so please check your emails and look out for them. Hard copies are available on request. Please notify the office if you would like a hard copy of the newsletter in 2021. arohab@botanydowns.school.nz

Newsletters are also posted on our school website and through our school app.

During term one we are working on a new school website and school app. Further details will be sent out when they are ready.

Contact Details

Please ensure that the school office has your current contact phone numbers, residential address details, and email addresses. Please email arohab@botanydowns.school.nz to update your details.



Coming up...

Monday 8 February -
Waitangi Day observed (public holiday)

Thursday 11 February -
Whanau Picnic and Meet the Teacher/camp meeting

Friday 12 February -
First school assembly

Monday 22 February -
Year 5 Camp Adair

Wednesday 3 March -
Senior swimming day

Wednesday 10 March -
Year 6 camp parent meeting

2021 Teacher Only Days

Thursday 1 April
(attached to Easter)

Friday 4 June
(attached to Queen's Birthday)

Friday 1 October
(Friday before Term 3 break)

Tuesday 26 October
(attached to Labour Weekend)

2021 Term Dates

Term 1 -
Tues 2 Feb - Fri 16 April

Term 2 -
Mon 3 May - Fri 9 July

Term 3 -
Mon 26 July - Fri 1 Oct

Term 4 -
Mon 18 Oct - Tues 14 Dec

School Uniform

It is essential that all children wear our official summer school uniform please, including black, flat sandals. **Please name all clothing.**

**Children are required to wear their sandals to and from school.
All children need to wear their school sunhat every day.**



Examples of suitable sandals

A reminder that our school uniforms (other than footwear) are sold by John Russell Schoolwear, 9 Moore St, Howick.

School Hours

School starts at 8.55am and finishes at 3.00pm. We encourage children to arrive at school after 8.35 but be here before 8.45 so they have enough time to get ready for their day.

All children who do arrive before 8.30am need to wait on the hall deck. Latecomers arriving after the 8.55am bell must go to the office to sign in. Please collect your children promptly at 3 pm.

Please do not play on the field or the playground before or after school as there is no supervision.



New starting 9th February 2021! ezlunch lunch orders through kindo

Available Tuesday, Thursday & Friday!

This year you will be able to order hot and cold meals, sushi, salads and more provided by Daily Lunch & Catering, through **kindo** by simply [clicking here](#)! Just one login for every school payment.

You can order (or cancel) **any time before 9 am** on the day or schedule in advance. Your lunch will be delivered to the school in time for lunch.

Click [here](#) to view the menu.

Orders are made online through your myKindo account. One account for the whole family!
Get started now and be ready... [Click here](#) or go to www.mykindo.co.nz to start ordering!

For Apple and Android users download the mykindo app. **Need Help?** Visit support.mykindo.co.nz or phone 869 5200 weekdays 8am-4pm.

www.mykindo.co.nz / www.ezlunch.co.nz



order online, delivered fresh to school
ezlunch.co.nz

kindo.

Swimming

Our swimming programme starts in week 2 of school. Teachers will let the children know which days their class swimming sessions are on. It is a school expectation that, unless there is a genuine reason for not taking part, all children will participate in swimming as it is part of our NZ Curriculum. A note/email is required if your child is not swimming.



School Assemblies

Our assemblies are a time for the whole school to get together to celebrate our achievements. Parents/caregivers and whanau are very welcome to attend.

Assemblies are on Friday mornings, starting at 9.10am. Our first official assembly this year is on Friday 12 February, at 9.10am.

SKIDS - Providing Before and After School, and Holiday Programmes

Before School care - 7.30am to 8.30am
After School care - 3.00pm to 6.00pm
Holiday Programmer - 7.30am to 6.00pm

To see if you qualify for an OSCAR subsidy, please click on the link:

<https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/deskfile/extra-help-information/childcare-assistance-tables/oscar-subsidy-current.html> (Government subsidy towards your child care)



To make a booking, please register on skids.aimy.co.nz or email us: botanydowns@skids.co.nz

School Staffing 2021

Principal: Vicki Parkins vickip@botanydowns.school.nz

Deputy Principal/ SENCO Years 4-6: Mark Insley marki@botanydowns.school.nz

Deputy Principal/SENCO Years 0-3: Lisa Bethune lisab@botanydowns.school.nz

The school is organised into three teams: Junior Team 0-2, Middle Team 3-4, Senior Team 5-6.

Year 0-1 Team Leader is Lisa Bethune lisab@botanydowns.school.nz

Year 2 Team Leader is Rita Lala rital@botanydowns.school.nz

Year 3 Team Leader is Jennie Edwards jenniee@botanydowns.school.nz

Year 4 Team Leader is Tom Huskinson tomh@botanydowns.school.nz

Year 5 Team Leader is Sharmila Raj sharmilar@botanydowns.school.nz

Year 6 Team leader is Joe D' Ambrosio joed@botanydowns.school.nz

Trish Toussaint is the Executive Office trisht@botanydowns.school.nz

Aroha Bishop is our Office Administrator arohab@botanydowns.school.nz

Paul Laloli is the Property Manager paull@botanydowns.school.nz

Room	Teacher	Year Group	Room	Teacher	Year Group
1	Heather Grant	2	15	Sharmila Raj	5
2	Jacque O'Driscoll	2	16	Michelle Takaiti	5
3	Rita Lala	2	17	Kylee Holmes	5
4	Sophie Hill	2	18	Joe D'Ambrosio	6
6	STEAM Room	Juniors	19	Kirsten Wright	6
7	Pravita Chand	1	20	Sarah Beach	4
8	Shirley Johnston	1	21	Summer Young	4
9	Sam Caceres	1	22	Helen Pfister	4
10	Vanessa Short	1	23	Tom Huskinson	4
11	Iris Liu	3	24	Term 2	0
12	Rochelle Carr	3	25	Term 3	0
13	Jennie Edwards	3	26	Kate Keenan	ESOL
14	Kerry Pearcey	6	27	Jinny Jo	Music Specialist
LSC Office	Susan Heath	0-6	STEAM Specialist teacher	Rachael Jeffs	4-6
Swimming Specialist Teacher	Wayne Johnson	0-6	Librarian	Vanessa Hatley-Owen	0-6

COVID-19 Update at BDS

For our school we will continue to:

- display QR code posters for the NZ COVID Tracer App
- keep our visitor register, attendance register and timetables up to date
- be monitoring for illness and asking anyone who is unwell to remain at home, or to go home
- encourage people with relevant symptoms to seek medical advice through Healthline or their GP and get tested for COVID if recommended to do so
- reinforce the importance of good hand washing and drying
- reinforce good cough and sneeze etiquette
- continue to regularly clean all parts of our school.



Welcome back to BDS for 2021 for a happy year filled with fun and learning.

Na mihi nuhi
From the staff at BDS

PTA Update...

WE NEED YOU!

The next PTA meeting is scheduled for **TONIGHT**. All parents are welcome to attend and we look forward to seeing new faces in the PTA to help assist the school.

Please email to PTA@botanydowns.school.nz if you would like to attend the meeting via Zoom.