

Botany Downs Primary School

Monday 8 March 2021

Our BEST - Always



Kia ora koutou,

Today we have enjoyed welcoming all our students and staff back onsite. Thank you once more to our parents and caregivers for the support you have shown us through this short Alert Level 3 period. I am very proud of our teachers for continuing to focus on children's learning throughout this period, with no downtime between the announcement and online lessons being provided. I would like to also thank the support staff who supported us and finally a special thanks to the teachers who came in during level 3 to supervise our bubbles.



I can appreciate that some of you again may have some concerns about your children's safety at this time. It is extremely important that children are in school, especially with this lockdown happening so close to the beginning of the year.

The Ministry has provided schools with clear expectations of what systems and procedures we need to have in place during this period to keep our children safe and I would personally like to reassure you that our school is taking these guidelines extremely seriously and we are ready for all children to attend. Please read again the newsletter that was sent out on Friday for more details.



The teachers will focus on resettling your children back into the classroom, while also having a major focus on reinforcing key messages such as 'staying out of others moist breath', not touching each other, as well as coughing into their elbow. Teachers will also be overseeing regular hand washing/sanitising during the day. This will be an extremely high priority for our staff, as they are committed to keeping all our children safe at school, as well as (like your own family) needing to keep themselves and their own families safe during this time.

Congratulations to our Special Award Winners

Congratulations to the following children who will be receiving their special awards in class on Friday. Unfortunately there can be no school assembly under Alert level 2.

Special Terrific Person Awards

Isla Jones, Dillion Jardine-Trail, Nikit Nandan, Claire Zhou, Sophie Chen, Adam Shawani, Abdullah Muhammad, Ansh Patel, Konrad Ofoia, Ziyu Qi, Aadhityaa Paarthiban, Anna Ferguson, Rebecca Houston, Ninke Du Plessis, Madison Kong, Anthan Tai, Shane McNeill, William Goosen, Khloe Vu, Liam Ontong and Leemil Diga.



Courtesy and Manners Award from our BDS Values

Nature Parsons, Alexander Ong, Joy-Ellen Tokai, Autumn Jacobs, Reuben Tate, Hasrat Dhillon, Melody Hironana, Jon Wu, Ishnoor Virk, Ian Lopez Woo, Angela Ni, Nathan Tan, Blake Manson, Joseph Nong, Cole Redlinghys, Travis Cracknell, Levi Xue, Liam Rameka, Ruben Hunter, Krish Jain and Jessie Lin.



Coming up...

Tuesday 9 March - Senior Swimming sports

Thursday 18 March - Camp parent meeting

Wednesday 24 March - Parent/teacher interviews

Thursday 25 March - Parent/teacher interviews

Thursday 1 April - Teacher Only Day

Friday 2 April - Good Friday (public holiday)

Monday 5 April - Easter Monday (public holiday)

Tuesday 6 April - Easter Tuesday (school holiday)

Friday 16 April - Last Day of Term 1

Monday 3 May - First Day of Term 2 / Yr 5 Camp Adair & Yr 6 Camp Bentzon

Swimming Sports

Swimming sports will be **THIS TUESDAY the 9th of March (tomorrow)**.

Due to COVID L2 restrictions we are not allowed to have parents on site for the event.

The event must be held this week so we can make our team for the HPPA swimming competition next week. Please send your child with their swimming gear and possibly some extra food to eat during the sporting event. Students have been notified if they are swimming in the event and an email will be sent home to parents reminding them.

Joe D'Ambrosio joed@botanydowns.school.nz



Camp meeting—New Date

Due to COVID restrictions we will be moving the camp meeting to be during what we hope to be Level 1. The new date for this is **Thursday the 18th March**.

Joe D'Ambrosio joed@botanydowns.school.nz



New School Hat Available

John Russell Schoolwear is delighted to announce the arrival of the new Botany Downs Primary school bucket hat.

We've custom designed a Bottle Green hat with Dark Grey piping, made of poly/cotton with a knitted elastic sweatband inside for a comfortable fit, and of course 'Botany Downs Primary School' embroidered logo on the front. It is available in Sizes: Sml, Med, Lge, and the hats will sell in store for \$17.

John Russell Schoolwear, 9 Moore St, ph: 09-534 9373



Choir

We have been notified that the Kids 4 Kids Choir event will not take place this year. Currently the event is being postponed until 2022. We are looking into another event where we can perform with other Auckland School. Further details will follow once we have confirmed our entry.

Lisa Bethune lisab@botanydowns.school.nz

Cricket

Last week Thursday the 25th of February, the cricket team competed in the HPPA Cricket Tournament at Lloyd Elsmore. There are 7 schools, each school playing 6 matches that are split played over 2 days. On Thursday, Botany Downs played 4 of the 6 games. We were in high spirits and showed excellent sportsmanship, cheering on our batsmen and bowlers. We lost 2, tied one and won our last match!

What a great way to end the day. Every match we got better and stronger with our skills, and we look forward to our next round of matches.

Kerry Percy kerry@botanydowns.school.nz



Ngā mihi,
Vicki Parkins, Principal
vickip@botanydowns.school.nz

PTA Update...

Hot Cross Buns Fundraising (Pre-Easter Holidays)

BDS PTA is doing the Hot Cross Buns Fundraising with Couplands Bakery with either Traditional or chocolate Hot Cross Buns.



Each 6-pack of hot cross buns will be \$5 each, and all orders will be done via kindo.

We hope that you will support our school with this great fundraising event.

Mufti & Pie Day - (WEDNESDAY 17th March 2021)

Due to the Covid Alert levels changing and school being closed we were not able to have our first PTA event for the school year on the day planned - we have now rescheduled to **17 March 2021**



Buy a pie from Jesters pies and come in mufti!

- Mufti is \$2 per child, pie price is dependent on your selection.
- Pie purchases must be completed before 11am on Tuesday 16 March, via kindo
- Mufti can be paid via kindo, or coins will be accepted on the hall deck on the day



Library News...

eBooks from Auckland Libraries

Did you know you can borrow ebooks for free from Auckland Libraries?

They have a great range of children's books that can be read on a device using the Libby app. You can also reserve books, and returning a book happens automatically. Follow the link below to find out more:

<https://auckland.overdrive.com/>

If you aren't a member of Auckland Libraries, you can also sign up on-line here:

<https://www.aucklandlibraries.govt.nz/pages/join-the-library.aspx#Start>



Books due back to Library

Now that we are back at school, please ensure your child's library books are returned this week.

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