

Botany Downs Primary School

Monday 22 March 2021

Our BEST - Always



Kia ora koutou,

We are all looking forward to our parent interviews this week on Wednesday and Thursday. Please see below for further information if you have not already made your appointment.

Friday Assembly 9.10 am.

Congratulations to the following children who will be receiving their Special Terrific Person Certificates, and Values Bookmarks at school assembly on Friday, starting at 9.10 am. We welcome you to attend.



Special Terrific Person Certificates

Flynn Hodgson, Wynand Bloem, Lisa Huang, Mason Huang, Rowena Luo, Ali Alsharefi, Jia Zhang, Jemma Seok, Rishaan Kumar, Deijahnah Matyas, Gemma Stephenson, ThaiKi Ono, Lillie Cross, Elena Huang, Ella Hartnoll, Maryam Moshtagh Askari, Kezia Tong, Mandy Belding, Cartyr Clifton, Sariah Hooker-Mason and Summer Chai.

Values Bookmarks

Keren Gao, Adalyn Cox, Yara El Chami, Ryan Mason, Theia Saunders, Lucas Chen, Amelia Berkett, Sui Gu, Ruby Turner, Avril An, Kourtney Chan, Evelyn Xu, Ken Hoang, Sienna Tye, Dion Choi, Mia El Chami, Mieka Swart, Courtney Kretzmann, Noah Jonck, Kathy Stubbs and Cyrus Sharp.

2021 House Leaders

We have pleasure in announcing that our 12 House Leaders have been appointed for 2021. This process was interrupted twice by COVID lockdowns which meant it has taken longer than in previous years.

Those children who expressed an interest in becoming one of our 2021 House Leaders completed an application form, were given problem-solving tasks and attended a group interview. The Teachers and the Leadership Team had a difficult but enjoyable job of narrowing down and selecting 12 deserving leaders from a large group of worthy candidates.

Botany Downs School fosters 'BEST' values of Belief, Excellence, Skills and Thoughtfulness and we believe that these 12 young people will endeavour to lead their Houses with these values in mind.

We congratulate them on their positions and wish them success for the year ahead.

A special notice with the students' names will be coming out tomorrow because we wanted the children to be able to go home and tell their parents and whanau first.

Kerry Pearcey, kerryp@botanydowns.school.nz (House Leader Coordinator)

Policies and Procedures

To find out about our school policies (including how to voice a concern), please go to School Docs:

<http://botanydowns.schooldocs.co.nz/> or go to the general link on our website:
<https://www.botanydowns.school.nz/general/>

Username: botanydowns / Password: best

Coming up...

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

Uniform Updates

Shoes, Socks and Sandals

On Wednesday night our BOT approved a change to our uniform policy which recognises that in cooler weather during Term 1 and 4 children may want to wear shoes and socks that traditionally students would have only worn in terms 3 and 4.

New Hats

We are slowly phasing in our new school hat and this only needs to be purchased if you need a new hat. We are continuing to slowly phase out our old wide brimmed school hats.



Lost Property

We have a very large number of BDS Fleece jackets in our lost property. Please could you look at our lost property outside Room 1 if you are missing a jacket. We also have sandals and mufti jackets in our lost property waiting to be claimed.

Parent/teacher Interviews

Online bookings for this week's parent/teacher interviews will **close at noon on Wednesday 24th March**. More information, and instructions for booking your appointment follow at the end of the newsletter.

ESOL Parents: You are welcome to go to Room 26 to meet Kate Keenan, our ESOL teacher, and have a look around the room at the following times:



Wednesday 24 March 3:00pm - 4:00pm

Thursday 25 March 6:30pm - 7:30pm

No appointment is required to visit the ESOL room as these will be informal conversations about the programme. There will be an opportunity to discuss your child's progress in ESOL during the parent interviews that are scheduled to take place at the end of Term 2.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Kate Keenan directly by emailing katek@botanydowns.school.nz

Walk to School Day

Step out for a healthier, safer and more environmentally friendly way to get to school. Join in the fun by letting your feet do the talking this **Wednesday 24 March 2021**.

Join other parents and school students of all ages as we make a change to get more active in the mornings and afternoons and walk to and from school. Whether you walk as a family or as a group of mates, whether you walk all of the way or part of the way – give it a try.



- Children learn more by walking to school – they discover their environment and all the magic that brings.
- They learn about road safety and skills for independence.
- Walking the kids to school is a special time for parents and caregivers – It's a time you will both always remember.
- Walking to school means your children get more exercise.
- Whether you walk, ride or scoot to school, it's a lot more enjoyable than sitting in a traffic jam.

Kylee Holmes, kyleeh@botanydowns.school.nz (Walking School Bus co-ordinator)

Swimming Competition at Lloyd Elsmore

Congratulations to the following swimmers for their outstanding effort at HPPA swimming and competing in the finals for their event.

Certificates for first, second and third places for our BDS Swimming sports and HPPA swimming sports will be given out at this week's assembly.

Joe D'ambrosio, joed@botanydowns.school.nz
(Sports Coordinator)



Championship Freestyle

10yr Boys / Girls

John Belding 5th place

Charlie McNae 3rd place

Kate Fleming 6th place

9Yr Boys / Girls

Aaron Qiao 1st place

Jiayi (Johnny) Zhou 2nd place

Jessie Elliot 6th place

Yuni Choi 3rd place

Sophia MacBeth 6th place

8Yr Boys / Girls

Duncan Luo 3rd place

Cooper Jiang 4th place

Sean Hwang 6th place

Kathryn Bates 2nd place

Emily Su'a 4th place

Rebecca Houston 5th place

Novice Freestyle

10Yr Girls

Risa Miyata 1st place

Jessica Huang 3rd place

9Yr Girls

Holly Reddish 3rd place

8Yr Boys

Dion (Doohyun) Choi 6th place

Backstroke

10Yr Boys / Girls

John Belding 4th place

Ethan Yin 7th place

Kate Fleming 2nd place

Charlie McNae 5th place

9Yr Boys / Girls

Jiayi (Johnny) Zhou 3rd place

Ben Wynyard 7th place

Selena Wu 6th place

Lillie Cross 7th place

Breaststroke

10 Yr Boys / Girls

John Belding 6th place

Ethan Yin 7th place

Kate Houston 2nd place

Charlie McNae 3rd place

9Yr Boys / Girls

Aaron Qiao 1st place

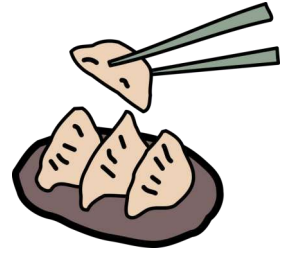
Jiayi (Johnny) Zhou 6th place

Lillie Cross 5th place

Emma Li 7th place

Experience Chinese Culture Morning - Friday 9 April—9.10am to 10.40am

All classes have been learning about Chinese culture and we will be having a special morning to celebrate this learning starting with an assembly at 9:10 am. Following this, there will be an opportunity for you to go to your child's classroom to share what they have learned about Chinese culture.



We are also excited to offer you the opportunity to order dumplings for your child to eat at morning tea time, you are welcome to stay and share this delicious treat with your child.

The cost is \$6.50 for a pack of 8 dumplings and there is a choice between pork or vegetarian. All orders and payments are to be made via Kindo for the dumplings. No cash payments can be accepted at school for the dumplings.

Dumpling purchases must be completed by 9 am, Wednesday 7th of April, unfortunately, we will not be able to accept any late orders.

Board of Trustee Election

Please see the following attached pages for statements from the candidates for the upcoming Mid-term Board of Trustee elections.



Bricks 4 Kids

Bricks 4 Kidz® After-School Classes build on the universal popularity of LEGO® to deliver high quality, educational play.

We are offering 2 classes at Botany Downs Primary School.

1. Motorised Model Building - Students will experience hands-on engineering fundamentals as they build motorised models using LEGO® Bricks. **(Every Tuesday)**
1. Junior Robotics with Coding – The class combines WeDo “drag and drop” pictorial Coding/Programming software. **(Every Thursday)**



Students experience the fun of model-building, from concept to completion. While exploring principles of STEAM (science, technology, engineering art and maths), students will develop problem solving and critical thinking skills.

Registration is still open for this term.

Please contact 022 370 4936 (Melody) or email eastauckland@bricks4kidz.com if you are interested.

Ngā mihi,
Vicki Parkins, Principal

vickip@botanydowns.school.nz

PTA Update...

Thank You! Mufti & Pie Day

The first Jesters Pie & Mufti day happened last week with great success. You will be impressed to know that just over 250 students purchased a pie or sausage roll from Jesters for lunch.

We thank all the students that donated \$2 for the mufti day as this money directly helps to reduce the cost of the year 6 camp. Thank you also to Jesters Pies for all their help and support, and we look forward to another Jesters Pie day later in the year in the winter months.

Fruju Friday - Thanks for your support...

- Just a reminder that Fruju Friday is now running on Fridays for the remainder of Term 1.
- We thank all those parents that are using Kindo now, as we can see the Kindo Express Lane is getting bigger with more students lining up to get their ice-blocks.
- We also encourage the parents not using Kindo to give it a go and allow you kids to jump into the express line which removes the need for cash at school. <https://kindo.co.nz/>



Hot Cross Buns Fundraising (Pre-Easter Holidays)

Thank you for supporting our school with this great fundraising event.

Orders have now closed, we will give you advance notice of when they are being delivered to school.



Botany Downs Primary School 2021 AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMME



They think it's FUN, you know it's EDUCATIONAL.

LEGO® Motorised Model Building (Year 0-6)

Time: 3:15 - 4:15pm (1h) - Every Tuesday

LEGO® Junior Robotics with Coding (Year 0-4)

Time: 3:15 - 4:45pm (1.5h) - Every Thursday

Location: Classroom 18



The programme is available for ALL the TERMS.

BOOK NOW: 022 370 4936 | eastuckland@bricks4kidz.com
www.bricks4kidz.co.nz/eastuckland/after-school-classes

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 Programme - 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



Book School Interviews Online

Parent-teacher interviews will be held at the following times:

- 3:30 pm – 5.00pm Wednesday 24 March 2021
- 3:30 pm – 8.00pm Thursday 25 March 2021

To book your interviews, go to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code in your browser, and enter the event code **6f9zu** Then follow these three simple steps:



First enter your name, your student's name, and your email address.

If you need to book for more than one student, change the "Book for x students" setting, and enter the other student's name.



On the next page. Choose from the list of teachers.



Then you'll see a timetable showing when your chosen teachers are available. Simply click on the times that suit you.

When you have finished, your interview timetable will be emailed to you. And you can return to the site and enter the event code **6f9zu** again to change or cancel your interviews.

If you don't have internet access, please call Trish or Aroha at the school office (phone 095349848). They will be able to make a booking for you.



BUCKLANDS BEACH ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB

Pride of the EAST

Offering community and competitive football to all ages!!

In-house programme for 5-12 year olds at Lloyd Elsmore on a Saturday morning. Competitive leagues available from 9 years.

Registrations now open, get in now to avoid disappointment.

Check out our Website for more details

www.bbafc.org.nz



Play with your mates
All games at LEP



@bbafc1976

Come see what all the fuss is about, join the family oriented club on the up and up!!

The best in-house programme in East Auckland!



BUCKLANDS BEACH ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB

Girls & Womens OPEN DAY

Inflatable Pitch, Giveaways, Sausage Sizzle
BBAFC First Team and NZ Reps will be there for autographs



Saturday 27th March
12-2pm @ Rogers Park



Bring a friend, have some fun!!

BOTANY DOWNS PRIMARY SCHOOL (1235)
2021 SCHOOL MID-TERM BOARD ELECTIONS
CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

Irene LIANG



Kia ora! 你好.

My name is Irene and I am the mother of a 7-year-old boy attending this school. Like you, I want the best for our children, and provide an enriched environment for them to thrive and reach their potential.

Botany Downs Primary is a great school, but we know there are ways to make it even better. For example, having more optional extracurricular activities available after school give children opportunities to explore their interests or acquire new skills e.g. sports, art, music and languages. I want to see more children including my son finding their passion in life early on, because passion brings focus, and focus leads to success. I also believe children will be benefited by more exposure to financial literacy and knowledge on emotional wellbeing. The world we live in has become increasingly challenging, we want to do our best to ensure our children have the skills and mindset they need to thrive in the future.

As the opportunity arises, I would like to take a more active role in the success of the school by standing for board of trustee election. I have over 13 years of working experience in the education, science and healthcare sectors. My strengths are strategic leadership, relationship building and effective communications. I'm also an active listener and welcome any inputs and suggestions from you. Being a people-focused person, I would like to utilise my skills to make a difference to the lives of students at Botany Downs Primary. As a busy working mum, you can be assured that I have you and your children's best interests in heart. I therefore ask for your support on me to represent you at the school board.

Thank you and best wishes to you all!

Jess Storey



Hello, Kia Ora, Talofa, Ni Hao, Annyeonghaseyo, my name is Jess Storey and I am applying to represent parents on the Botany Downs School Board. My husband and I live locally with our two kids. Our oldest daughter attends Botany Downs School and is currently in Year 4. I grew up in Howick, before heading overseas and returning to NZ in the early 2000's.

I have been involved in the PTA for the last 3 years and have held the position of Treasurer. I have been involved in many of the school events such as the Colour Run in 2019, Discos and regular mufti days and bake sales. I look forward to continuing in the PTA as we can fundraise again. I would like to take my commitment to the school further as a member of the Board of Trustees. I would love the opportunity to contribute to the success of Botany Downs School as it grows over the next few years. These are challenging times for the school community, and I think it important to contribute as best as I can to keep the school strong, giving our children and their teachers the best opportunities that they can. Professionally, I am an IT Manager, and have been working in the IT sector for the past 20 years. My expertise is in support and project management. I have excellent interpersonal skills and work well with a variety of different people in all different sectors. In the past I have worked for SkyCity, and Foodstuffs which means working with people of all different skill sets and expertise. I understand the need for prioritisation and feel these will be beneficial skills that I can bring to the BoT. In addition, I look forward to working with other parents and teachers to ensure that Botany Downs Primary delivers the best in can to our children and supports the critical role teachers play in contributing to that.

I thank you for the opportunity to contribute to our great school and thank you for your vote.

Brook TATE



Kia ora koutou katoa, hello everyone,

My name is Brook Tate, and I am standing for the Parent Representative on the Botany Downs School Board of Trustees. I grew up locally having attended Howick Intermediate and then Howick College before Auckland University in my earlier years.

I settled back in NZ in the area after some years away located in Asia and the Pacific. I have a daughter in year 4 and a son in year 2 at Botany Downs School. I feel strongly about supporting our children's education to be the best it can be, and so I'm eager to be involved with the school on the Board of Trustees as your Parent Representative. I believe I will bring a strong background in leadership, financial management and strategic planning developed from my work in financial services around Asia Pacific over the past almost 20 years.

I take the time to listen to others points of view, and collaborate with people to build great working relationships to achieve common goals. At home I am a keen cyclist and love getting out with the kids riding around the great network of pathways we have around the area.

I welcome the opportunity to contribute to the continued success of the school in being our best, always.

Richard TOSH



I am delighted to be applying for re-election onto the Botany Downs Primary School (BDPS) Board of Trustees.

I have been on the Board for 6 years, the last 3 years as Board Chair. The Board's role is to govern the school and to work seamlessly alongside the senior leadership team (SLT) which manages the school, led by the Principal. I have been lucky to work alongside Mr T, and then more recently Mrs Parkins (Vicki), great SLTs and fantastic fellow Board members.

A great deal has happened during the last 6 years and there have been many changes for the better at BDPS. Student achievement has remained at consistently high levels, even since COVID, and that is a credit to all the teaching staff at BDPS.

There is also a lot to look forward to, with the renovation of rooms 16 to 19 now completed, three new outdoor canopy areas expected in the first half of 2021, and a new 6 classroom block on the horizon. I would like to be a part of the continuing growth and development of the school during the next 3 years and believe that I can continue to add lots of value as a Board member.

I have two daughters, Brianna who is 15 and Lauren who is 10. Brianna attended BDPS for 6 years and is now in Year 11 at Howick College. Lauren is in Year 6 and enjoying all the opportunities that BDPS has to offer.

I am a lawyer by profession and currently a Special Counsel at DLA Piper (the second largest global law firm) where I specialise in insurance law and litigation. I have been involved in dealing with a multitude of different disputes during my career. While in New Zealand I have done a lot of leaky building litigation, and more recently, litigation arising out of the Canterbury and Kaikoura earthquakes. My analytical and legal skills have often come in useful on the Board.

I am passionate about the education of our children. As well as being on the Board of BDPS, I was a Board member at Howick Intermediate for 3 years and I have recently joined the Board at Howick College.

If re-elected onto the Board at BDPS, I would bring a wealth of experience of school governance along with my legal and communication skills, and a passion and determination to make BDPS even better than it is already.

I would be grateful for your vote.