

Botany Downs Primary School

Monday 3 May 2021



Kia ora koutou,

A warm welcome back to school for Term 2 to both our existing, and new BDS families. Monday is a very exciting and busy day with our Year 5 and 6 students heading off to their camps. Year 5 students are at Camp Adair on Monday and Tuesday, Year 6 students are at Camp Bentzon on Kawau Island from Monday to Friday.

We wish them all a happy and memorable experience.

Staffing

Ms Dawn Lumsden is returning to BDS to teach our year 0/1 class of students in Room 24. Welcome back to Ms Lumsden, and welcome to our new 5 years olds starting school.

Ms Lisa Bethune will not be at school for the next several weeks and we wish her a speedy recovery. Please email your class teacher, Team Leader or Vicki Parkins vickip@botanydowns.school.nz or Mark Insley marki@botanydowns.school.nz, rather than Ms Bethune as she is not responding to emails at this time.

Board of Trustees

Congratulations to our newly elected BOT members Irene Liang and Jess Storey. Richard Tosh has been unanimously seconded by our BOT to act as the Presiding Member for our BOT. (The term Chairperson has been replaced with the term Presiding Member by the Ministry of Education).

Walking School Bus

All parents/guardians are welcome to come and meet Candy Li from Auckland Transport to hear about what a Walking School Bus is and how it will benefit your family. **Monday 10th May 2.15pm** in the Staffroom.

Kylee Holmes, Coordinator (kyleeh@botanydowns.school.nz)

Uniform

Term 2 is the change over into our winter school uniform. We take great pride in our BDS school uniform which can be purchased from John Russell Schoolwear in Howick. <https://www.johnrussellmenswear.co.nz>. For more information about our uniform, please check the school website: <https://www.botanydowns.school.nz/general/>.



JOHN RUSSELL
SCHOOLWEAR

9 Moore St, Howick.
Ph: 534-9373.

Coming Up...

Monday 17 May -
Yr 3 Zoo trip

Wednesday 19 May -
Yr 2 Zoo trip / BOT meeting

Friday 21 May -
Yr 0/1 Zoo trip

Wednesday 2 June -
Yr 5 Zoo trip

Thursday 3 June -
Yr 6 Zoo trip

Friday 4 June -
Teacher Only Day

Monday 7 June -
Queen's Birthday (public holiday)

Wednesday 9 June -
Yr 4 Zoo trip

Zoo Trips

We are looking forward to our zoo trips this term to support our Living World Study for our Inquiries.

Thank you to our whānau that have paid our school activity donation as part of this donation goes directly to funding these trips. This donation can be made at our school office or through Kindo.



Absences

If your child is not going to attend school it is important we are told. Please either:

1. Email the school - absences@botanydowns.school.nz
2. Leave a message on our office answer phone: 534 9848
3. Use the School App - download school app from the app store

Policies and Procedures

Our school website has all our school procedures and policies under School Docs. Please visit this site if you need any information including what to do if you have a concern.

To access them, Simply go to: <http://botanydowns schooldocs.co.nz/>

Username: botanydowns / Password: best

COVID

We have continued to have COVID scanning sheets located on our gates and in all classrooms near a window. Please ensure you use these each time you enter our school grounds. Hand sanitizer is also available in classrooms.



PTA Updates

We will now be separating out the PTA newsletter from the school newsletter. Please look out for this during the week.

Ngā mihi

Vicki Parkins

Principal

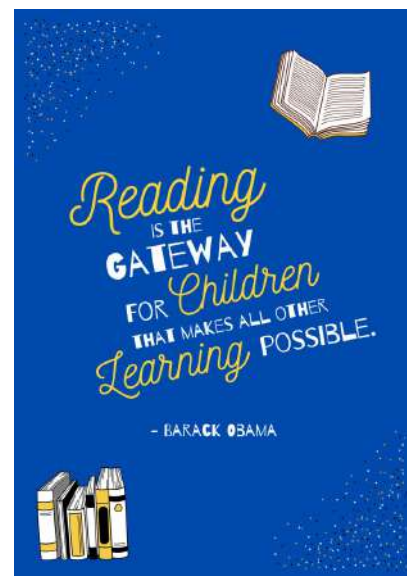
vickip@botanydowns.school.nz

Library News...

A friendly reminder to please ensure your children's library books are returned to the school library promptly so other students can borrow them.

Auckland Writer's Festival

This wonderful event takes place at the Aotea Centre between 11-16 May, and features many FREE events. Check out the website to see what children's authors are taking part: <https://www.writersfestival.co.nz/>.



Community Notices...

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 below:

<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





Information Session for BDS
Parents/caregivers:
Monday 10th May 2.15pm
in the Staffroom.



What is a Walking School Bus?

A walking school bus (WSB) is just like a school bus except children walk to and from school under the supervision of adult volunteers (often parents). This creates a safe and social journey to school.

Benefits for parents

- "More than anything, the WSB gives me time with my kids that I might miss by dropping them in the car...and I get to know other families that live in my community."
- "This is so much easier than taking the car...I don't have to find a park!"
- "What a great way to teach the kids about Road Safety."
- "I really look forward to my day on the WSB; I have met so many nice families in my neighbourhood."
- "You can have young children that you might not send off by themselves, but they can join the walking school bus."
- "I want my kids to walk; I want them to get to school having had a bit of exercise."
- "For me it was a social thing and I wanted to know who my kids were hanging out with."

Get on the bus!



For more information about starting a WSB at your school, please visit AT.govt.nz/walkingschoolbus or email us at walkingschoolbus@aucklandtransport.govt.nz

Travelwise
School