



Newsletter No.2 | March 2012

Dear Parents

Learning Dispositions

Staff in our preschools and school are focusing this year on developing essential learning dispositions which build lifelong learning 'muscles' in our students. The world is a rapidly changing place and it is our responsibility as educators to teach our children current knowledge, but more importantly, to cultivate the development of character, skills, attitude and qualities of mind and spirit that will equip them no matter what the conditions. We not only enable students to learn more and learn better, but we need to enable them to become better learners. Staff are working with Prof. Guy Claxton's Building Learning Power research and the four Rs of the learning-power mind:

- **Resilience** – Locking into learning: absorption, managing distractions, noticing, perseverance.
- **Resourcefulness** – Learning in different ways: questioning, making links, imagining, reasoning, capitalizing.
- **Reflectiveness** – Strategic learning: planning, revising, distilling, meta-learning.
- **Reciprocity** – Learning alone and with others: interdependence, collaboration, empathy and listening, imitation

Contact Sophia Warren if you are interested in learning more. Mike and Sophia Warren will be attending a one-day seminar presented by Professor Guy Claxton, in April.

Parent Teacher Interviews

These will be held on Tuesday 27 March to Thursday 29 March for students in Years 7-13. This is a great opportunity for parents and teachers to communicate in depth on each student's progress. The interview forms will be issued to parents this week. Parent teacher interviews for the Headstart and Year 1-6 children will be held in Term 2.

Dates for the Diary:

Tuesday 20 March 1.30pm:
Friends of Springbank AGM

**Tuesday 27 March to
Thursday 29 March:**
*Parent teacher interviews for
Year 7-13 students*

Monday 2 April:
*Interschool Swim
Championships*

**Last day of Term 1 is
Thursday 5 April**

**School resumes for Term 2
on Monday 23 April**

School Camps

Many thanks to teachers and parents for another outstanding set of camps from Headstart to Year 13. They are a great way to establish friendships and school spirit.



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Springbank Student Achievements

• **Leah Claus**, Top in New Zealand for the A Level Cambridge German examination, is pictured at the NZ Awards ceremony in Auckland, with the CEO, Ann Puntis.

• **Titouan Lamouric**, Year 10, competed in the Northland Rising Stars Swimming Champs, collecting 2 gold medals, 4 silver and 1 bronze. His record-breaking 50m butterfly was just 10 splits off the Division II national qualifying time.



• **Holly Sutcliffe**, Year 9, was runner-up in the Lions District (Taupo north) International Peace Poster Contest. She is pictured with her stunning artwork.

Friends of Springbank

A huge thank you to our amazing parent group who have decided to enhance our students' experiences at Springbank School with the following donations:

- Hockey safety gear for goalie
- Orienteering markers and station-clippers (for an innovative sport Mr Pera is promoting at Springbank)
- Chess/Draughts giant painted 'boards' and storage box for the pieces
- Camera tripod for videoing
- Board games for classrooms, art-mural materials
- Assistance to set up a school garden

The Friends of Springbank are discussing further ideas and they are enthusiastically planning this year's events. It is great to see so many new parents joining our parents' group. If you are keen to be involved, please phone Chairperson Louise Huett on 09 4017229.

The next meeting is the AGM on Tuesday 20 March at 1.30pm in the staffroom. All parents welcome.

Striving for Excellence

Staff are working hard this term to establish positive habits for personal success. This includes completing work to the best possible standard and making sure homework is handed in on time and done as well as possible. Interim Reports for Years 7-13 have been issued to parents.

Community Involvement

Staff, family and students are currently supporting the following community groups:

- Unicef 'School in a Box'
- Rotary Shelter Box (disaster relief)
- Leukaemia Foundation

Attendance and Punctuality

Parents are reminded that they must inform the Principal of any intended absence of their children from school. Any students absent from school in this regard are expected to catch up their missed school work themselves. It is preferred that such absences are kept to a minimum, as it interrupts student learning and can be detrimental, particularly at senior level when important academic teaching and assessments may be missed.

We have spoken to all students last week regarding punctuality. It is a requirement that all students are at school, ready to start lessons at 8.40am. Please ensure your children are at school by 8.35am **at the latest** so they are ready for class.

If your child is absent due to sickness, please ensure you phone Sally, leave a message, or email reception@springbank.school.nz



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School Athletics Day

Our Year 7-13 students enjoyed a brilliant day of athletics recently (See following page for photos). A huge thank you to PE teacher Christian Pera, athletics coach John Hunt and the many parent helpers on the day. The talent, determination and Springbank spirit shone through along with the colourful and enthusiastic House teams.

Springbank has considerable sporting talent and Christian is keen to develop and coach selected students through to elite level.

Congratulations to the following students who qualified and have been selected for the Northland Secondary Schools Championship.

Leah Claus	100m	Female U19 Senior
Hannah Jull	100m, long jump, triple jump	Female U16 Intermediate
Megan Bramley	200m, discus, triple jump, high jump	Female U14 Junior
Abigail Foster	Discus	Female U16 Intermediate
Danielle Briggs	Discus, shotput	Female U16 Intermediate
Irina Zudina	High jump	Female U14 Junior
Sarah Kingsford	High jump, 300m	Female U14 Junior
George Anson	200m	Male U16 Intermediate
Elias Deuschle	100m, 200m	Male U19 Senior
Cambell Matthews	Discus, shotput	Male U16 Intermediate
Eamonn Joyce	Javelin, triple jump	Male U19 Senior
James Quinn	Shotput	Male U19 Senior
Jack Thurston	High jump	Male U16 Intermediate

Outdoor Adventure

The Year 12 and 13 students have been having a fantastic time being challenged in all sorts of settings. They have tramped to Lane Cove's Duke's Nose and back, negotiated the tree-tops high-ropes course in the Glenbervie Forest, swum around the boats at Opito Bay, surfed at Matauri Bay, paddle-boarded at the Inlet and jumped off Charlie's Rock. All have passed a comprehensive First Aid Course (just in case!). They are now preparing for the Cape Brett Challenge; camping at Urupukapuka Island, swimming with all their belongings across to Rawhiti, then walking the 10km to Cape Brett. Mike Warren and support staff are focused on the students developing resilience, determination and the satisfaction of personal achievement when faced with challenge – all reflective of Springbank's 'capability, character and confidence'.

Aspire Scholarships for 2013 Year 9 Students

The government is offering 50 Aspire Scholarships for 2013 Year 9 students. If you (or someone you know) have a household income of less than \$56K p.a. you can apply for a full scholarship with all tuition fees paid, for your child to attend Springbank School for up to five years. We currently have two students who were successful in the national allocation of scholarships and it has been fantastic for them and their families.

Please encourage all those eligible to apply. Applications must be submitted by 11 May 2012. Contact Co-Principal Mike Warren for further information:

Mike.warren@springbank.school.nz

Springbank Preschool

Pre-schoolers exploring musical instruments and having fun with early literacy / Te Reo Maori:



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Athletics Day Photos

Some of the action captured at Springbank Athletics Day:



Staff Professional Development

Staff have attended the following courses:

- Cambridge A Level 2-day PD in Mathematics (Ben Hilliam, Chris Wallis) and in Business Studies (Caroline de Kock)
- 'Wise Pedagogical Leadership' one day seminar (Sophia Warren, Jacqui Larkan, Paula Kirby, Debbie Anderson, Christine Franklin, Angela Warren)
- E-Day for Young Enterprise Scheme 1 day seminar (Michelle Chapman).

Progress and Achievement (PAT) Tests

Each year students from Years 4-10 sit the New Zealand PAT Tests in Reading Comprehension & Vocabulary and Mathematics. This gives us a benchmark, at this point in time, for your child's ranking according to age and class, compared with national standardised results in Mathematics, Reading Comprehension and Vocabulary.

The results are measured in stanines 1-9 (1 being the lowest and 9 being the highest). Teachers use these results as a formative assessment tool, analyzing strengths and weaknesses to provide specific teaching programmes to best meet individual needs.



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Auckland Art Trip

In Week 3 the senior art students visited Auckland to check out the refurbished Art Gallery. The morning saw them at the gallery just as the doors opened and they spent 2 hours taking in the variety of contemporary and historic art works that were on show. They particularly liked the John Pule exhibition of his Pacific Art and the range of kinetic sculptures, especially Len Lye's exhibit. It was great for the students to see so much art work and especially to see the \$30 million renovations that have kept the gallery closed for the last three years. They also briefly visited The Gow Langsford Gallery, a dealer gallery, and saw a range of contemporary artists' work. It was a great way for the art students to start the year.



Hannah Jull, Charlotte Owen, and Felicitas Zoll at the Art Gallery

Multisport

Senior student leaders Jessica Cadenhead and Charlotte Owen have been proactive in organising family multisport events on Mondays after school. So far parents, students and staff have met at Rainbow Falls Track and Opito Bay, with the next venue being the Haruru Falls Waitangi Track. It's a great way to keep active and enjoy the last of the summer days.

Springbank Prefects

Congratulations to our newly-appointed Springbank Prefects and Senior Leaders who are already doing an outstanding job liaising with Junior and Middle School classes, organizing various activities and playing an active role at school assemblies.



Community Notices

• **Anne Gates, Dance Teacher**, is registered with the New Zealand Association of Modern Dance and she teaches the Jazz Syllabus. Dance aids in many aspects of development- coordination, fitness, balance, posture, confidence, flexibility, rhythm and listening skills. It is healthy, energetic and fun. Anne is taking enrolments for the 2012 year. There are classes available for beginners and experienced dancers, held at Waipapa. If you would like to enrol your child, or if you would like to know more please Anne 4050044 or Mobile 021 0556775. anneg@xnet.co.nz

• **School Holiday Camps @ Lonsdale Park** - Matauri Bay
For children aged 8-12 years.
Easter/Autumn camp: April 15th-20th -- theme "The Amazing Race"
Early bird price \$115
For a registration form, see the school office, download one from www.lonsdalechildren.blogspot.co.uk or contact Ruth & Jon Pirini
Email: lonsdalechildren@gmail.com
Phone: (09)4082003
Ruth's Cellphone: (022)6807241

• **Hockey Holiday Programme** (Years 3-8) – 16 and 17 April
Lindvart Park, Kaikohe.
• \$20 per day
• Call Mac 09 4343830 or email coaching@northlandhockey.org.nz



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Enterprise

The Year 7 students have had three guest entrepreneurs speak to their class in the last few weeks. Each speaker gave an overview of their business and answered questions about the skills and attributes that they needed in order to be successful, the problems their business has faced and how they were overcome, and future advice for budding entrepreneurs.

The students were fortunate to have had such great speakers, and we thank these people for their contribution to the Enterprise programme:

Liz Kingsford from Urban Puzzle
Paul Whitehead from Working Bee
Janet Williams from Artyfishell

The Year 10- 13 Business Studies and Enterprise students had the privilege of discovering a local business which fills a large portion of the world's demand for healthy and natural oils. Olivado creates avocado and olive oils which are available in New Zealand and exported around the world. Along with the production, they also bottle oils from other countries such as Kenya. Students were given a close up tour of the Kerikeri factory and shown the process the avocados and olives go through to become oil. Towards the end, students were given the opportunity to sample the different types of oil that Olivado produce. The chilli infused oil was one of the clear favourites!



Kind Regards,

Sophia & Mike Warren
Co-Principals

Community Notices

• **Friday March 30th Twilight Carnival at Riverview.** New this year - A fun family evening for young and old as we say good bye to daylight saving. Lots of food, sport, bouncy castles, lucky dips, horse rides, and more – all the fun family stuff of a school bazaar – don't miss it! 4-7pm Riverview School.

• **Northland Inline Skating Club** - starting Friday 2 March 6-8.30pm.

Thought for the week:

Week 4: *As long as you're going to be thinking anyway, think big.* – Donald Trump

Week 5: *"You're never given a dream without also being given the power to make it true."* – Richard Bach, author of Johnathan Livingstone Seagull.

Week 6: *"Promise me you will always remember – you are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem and smarter than you think."* – Christopher Robin to Pooh

Week 7: *Ask not what your school can do for you; ask what you can do for your school.* – Adapted from a quote by Magic Johnson of the L.A. Lakers, originally from US President John F Kennedy.



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