



Newsletter No.7 | August 2012

Dear Parents

Open Forum

Thank you to the parents who actively participated in our Parents' Forum. Parents were able to constructively voice and address a number of issues including attracting more students, specific curriculum subjects and their perceived importance or otherwise, student achievement and other topics. A big thank you to Kim Prichard who expertly facilitated the forum with clear organization and structure. Springbank Directors appreciated this opportunity to listen to different perspectives and to think critically about how we can make the experience for children at Springbank even better. We acknowledge and appreciate our dedicated staff who already work hard to provide the best learning and the best environment for our students. We also appreciated hearing from several parents who are extremely happy with Springbank, listing a supportive, safe, caring environment, high expectations for academic and sporting success, excellent facilities and fantastic staff. Our Springbank philosophy is still as strong as it has been for the last seventeen years. We believe all of the above factors contribute to a great school, and overall we develop capability, character and confidence in each of our students so they are best prepared for life.

The next step is for the Springbank Directors to take time to consider the Parent Forum points discussed, and to feed back to parents. We will discuss some points with staff and we may also survey parents on one or two issues, if we need further parent input.

Dates for the Diary:

30 August
Regional Science Fair

5 – 11 September
Senior Students Year 11-13
Exams

23 September
Market Day

Students Leaving **During School Hours**

All students must sign out at Reception before they leave the school grounds during school hours. They must also sign in if they arrive at school late. For the safety of all our students, it is imperative that parents or caregivers ensure students adhere to this. In the case of a fire or other emergency, we need to account for every student; and if they are absent we need to be informed.



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ICAS Science Results

ICAS is a voluntary international academic examination. This is not based on our New Zealand or International Cambridge Curriculum, however it is an opportunity for capable students to challenge their application of knowledge at a high level. The ICAS examinations are pitched at students from Year 4 to Year 13 who are deemed to be of above average to high ability in knowledge analysis and critical thinking.

We are delighted with the results of our 2012 ICAS Science. Of the 35 entries, 11% received High Distinction (in the top 1% in New Zealand) and 11% received Distinction (within the next 10% in New Zealand). Congratulations to the students who are listed below:

High Distinction (Top 1% in New Zealand)	Year
Isaac Chandler	6
Taran Kern	8
Jamie Hardcastle	9
Isabella Francis	10

Distinction (next 10%)	Year
Sam Sutcliffe	6
Luke Bramley	7
Holly Sutcliffe	9
Megan Bramley	10

Credit	Year
Max Hittle	6
Jake Dawson	6
Simon Thurston	7
Lauren Harrell	8
Sophie Piesse	8
Lewis Kidman	9
Emily Derrick	9
Tim Richardson	9
Jack Thurston	10

Friends of Springbank Update

A few dates to put into your diaries of our coming events:

- Friends will be doing the catering for the **Young Leaders Day** on 14th September at the Turner Centre, so any help on the day would be appreciated.

- Saturday November 3rd will be the **Fireworks/Bonfire Community Extravaganza**. It seems a long way off, but we have to start planning it now, so any volunteers out there, or if you would like to run a stall or have any ideas on how we could make it even more amazing, please contact Louise Huett 4017229 or 0211176984

- Yummy Stickers - Thanks to everyone who has handed in their completed sheets so far – remember to put your year/class number on them to be in to win the prize for the most stickers collected! More collection sheets can be picked up from Sally in the office. You have until Wednesday 19 September to get them back to school (completed or uncompleted) – the more stickers collected = more free sports equipment for our school!

- **Quiz Night** is no longer going ahead on Friday August 31st at Ake Ake Restaurant. It is postponed – date to be advised.



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Mathex Success

Report by Ben Hilliam

Springbank School experienced another successful year at the Northland Mathex competition with four teams gaining places ranging from 1st to 4th in each of their year groups.

This year, Springbank School sent two teams from each level from Year 5 and 6 to Year 10. These teams competed against roughly 40 other teams at each level from throughout Northland. After preparation in their Maths classes and a school competition during lunchtime, our students drove down to Whangarei Boys' High School ready to take on the rest of Northland.

Our Year 5 and 6 teams were the first to compete and also the most successful year group. Team A with members Isaac Chandler, Max Hittle, Sam Sutcliffe, and Blake Vujcich blitzed the competition, coming a clear first in the competition. Team B with a solid effort, came in at 4th place. The Year 7 team were unfortunately disadvantaged at an early stage when, due to the physical nature of the competition, Zach Kingsford had to withdraw from the competition with an injury to his toe. Zach had to be taken to the emergency department of the hospital, but fortunately has made a quick recovery. His team then down to just three members, had little chance to place, yet still played out the rest of the competition and finished middle of the field.

More success was found with our Year 8 Team (Taran Kern, Aimee Larkan, Aliesha Whitehead and Billy Robb) who came 3rd and Year 9 team (Timothy Richardson, Taiyo Serge, Emily Derrick and Holly Sutcliffe) who placed 2nd. Our strong results this year give us confidence to continue to compete and excel in the following years.



In the Zone: Tim Richardson sprinting with the next question for his team.



First in Northland: Our Year 5 and 6 team of Isaac Chandler, Max Hittle, Sam Sutcliffe, and Blake Vujcich

Art Exhibition

Thank you to Win Stringer for organising a very visually appealing Art Exhibition. There was a great variety of creative art on display. Thanks also to Antonio Pasquale and Stefania Muraro for donating their delectable wine for the evening's patrons.



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OPC Get 2 Go Challenge

On Tuesday 7 August, eight of our most adventurous Year 10s had a go at the annual Youthtown/OPC Get2Go Challenge and surprised everyone by placing fourth overall!

The Challenge is designed to give young people a taste of the fantastic adventurous activities that New Zealand has to offer, while also providing an opportunity to head to Great Barrier Island to compete against some of the best young adventure racers around!

Our crew were inspirational, cracking into every challenge with enthusiasm and resilience, despite their lack of training and experience. It was obvious that the schools that won train regularly and approach adventure racing as an official sport – an example we hope to follow and better in the coming years...

Congratulations to Sarah Kingsford, Megan Bramley, Pamela Makene-Dodd, Olivia Matthews, Alex Dawson, Bailey Urlich-Short, Max Cadenhead and Jack Thurston for taking the first step towards adventure racing greatness!

Northland - Region									
School	Kayak laps	Kayak scaled	Orient points	Orient scaled	MTB score	MTB scaled	Climb climb + knots	Climb scaled	Total
Springbank School	10	67	17	74	20	69	235	84	293

Outdoor Adventure

Our Outdoor Adventure class have been undertaking diving instruction, and our international students are loving it!



Thank You

Thanks to parents who nominated Springbank School to receive a donation for their bulk fuel. \$220.08 has been received by Springbank in this Fuel for Schools programme. If any other parents wish to nominate us, go to www.northfuels.co.nz

Preschool Staff

We farewelled Christine Franklin recently and acknowledged that she has made a fantastic contribution to our Preschool during her time with us. Christine's superb creative skills have resulted in a legacy of zany dress-up outfits, outdoor gardens and plantings, curtains, wall-hangings, and lamp-lights.



We are pleased to welcome **Jude Simpson**, a previous owner/manager of several preschool centres, ECE Northland Regional Advisor, consultant and lecturer. Jude comes with a wealth of experience and we are delighted to have her as a part of the Springbank Preschool teaching team.



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Springbank Scholar Rebate Reminder

We would like to remind families that the Springbank Scholar Rebate comes into effect in Term 4 this year. This is an annual refund on tuition fees for those students and families who have been with Springbank School for many years.

Each year the rebate is credited to Term 4 fees and is currently set at \$250 for students who have been enrolled at Springbank for over 3 years, and \$500 for those students who have been enrolled for over 6 years.

Middle School Options Programme

After last year's success, in Term 4 we are again planning a great Year 7 - 10 Options Programme for Friday afternoons. This programme will run for six weeks in Term 4.

Some ideas brainstormed for options are as follows:

- Learning to play chess
- Nutrition and Cooking Classes
- Art and Design
- Mosaic Crafts
- Story Writing
- Scrapbooking and Card-Making
- Drama
- Kayaking
- Photography
- Hip Hop Dance classes
- Circus Skills
- Papermaking
- Athletics
- Screen printing
- Outdoor Education
- Sailing
- Mandarin Language
- Woodcraft
- Pottery
- Yoga / Tai Chi
- Golf
- Badminton

We are looking for parents or members of the community who are willing to run an option for one or two hours from 1pm – 3:00pm on Friday afternoons for Term 4, either with the option ideas above or with their own ideas.

Please phone Michelle Chapman on 4075236 with your ideas or leave a message at the school office.

Headstart

Our Headstart students were lucky enough this week to be given a Science lesson by Mr Webb which included making and launching a rocket!



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Young Enterprise Scheme

After the success of winning the Northland YES Oral Presentation Award, the Springbank School YES team Dr. Gripper moved their product a step closer to achieving their goal of product production with a visit to the international company 3M in Auckland. The purpose of the meeting was to get technical advice around the development of their innovative product, and marketing suggestions and advice on launching their product into the marketplace. The team was accompanied by Wayne Hunt the team's mentor and Procurement Manager for Top Energy, who also sponsor the YES programme in Northland. The YES Northland Regional Co-ordinator Gary Larkan also attended.

The team had two brainstorming sessions, with the 3M Technical and Marketing Teams. The outcome of the meeting was the forming of a business relationship with 3M, future technical assistance, and \$1000 towards the graphic design of the teams' product packaging. Giving our Springbank students an opportunity like this to be a part of the corporate world and to pursue their dreams was invaluable.

On reviewing the day, 3M's June Tienstra stated "We thoroughly enjoyed your team's visit to 3M. Cheyanne, Chance, Matthew, Titouan and Jamie were a real credit to all of you, to the YES programme, Springbank School and the Kerikeri community. It was great to see such a motivated, enthusiastic, well presented, pleasant and articulate group tackling such a project and expanding their horizons and knowledge".



Dr. Gripper's goal is to have their surfing product on the shelves by the end of 2012.

Student Attendance

It is a Ministry of Education requirement that students attend school regularly. Absence due to illness must be reported each day to Reception, so we are aware of why students are away. Any other absence is to be requested from the Principal. This term, even after 3 weeks holiday mid-year, it is becoming increasingly frustrating to have parents taking their children out of school for overseas trips, snowboarding and other such holidays. Staff work hard to deliver a coherent, well-planned sequence of lessons, and absent students often struggle to catch up after missing school. In our experience erratic attendance often correlates with poor academic performance.

BP Community Projects

The Wendy House, which was one of the BP Community Enterprise Projects from last year, finally reached Mt Pleasant school this week. Deputy Principal Jane Scotland said, "What an exciting day we had yesterday when the playhouse arrived. We took the whole junior team out to watch it being craned off the back of the truck. Thank you soooooo much. It is amazing! Our children are so excited-What an amazing effort. It is fabulous and we have the children coming up with a list of things to buy for the inside with the \$400 you also donated".

Mt Pleasant School was severely damaged in the Christchurch Earthquakes and Springbank School is pleased to be giving a little something back to the Christchurch community. Thanks to Chance August, Cambell Matthews, Matt Taylor and CJ Walker for completing this project. Also a special thanks to Harold Magon for supervising the building, Toll United for transporting the Wendy House free of charge to Christchurch and Place Makers for the use of their hiab to lift onto the United truck.

Pictured: The Wendy House being unloaded at Mt Pleasant Primary School in Christchurch.



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Springbank Curriculum in Focus: Why Study Enterprise?

In the 21st century New Zealand is faced with unprecedented opportunities for growth and development. New demands will be put on all of our resources; our ability to respond to these demands will depend on the attributes, skills and knowledge of our young people.

The challenge for Springbank School and for us all is to be able to produce an educated work force which is flexible, responsible, resilient and multi-skilled; a body of individuals who are innovative and enterprising; who can work co-operatively to identify challenges and opportunities, assess the risks involved and make sound decisions.

Through our Enterprise Studies programme, students are given the opportunity to work in groups to plan, organise and implement Enterprise activities including the establishment of their own businesses, with the showcase being Springbank School's Market Day. They have the opportunity to identify a problem faced by a local charity in our community and solve it, and to take part in the \$2 and \$5 Challenges.

Through such enterprise experiences and with the teacher as a facilitator, the students at Springbank develop the following personal attributes and dispositions:

- Passion for new ideas, and the motivation, energy and enthusiasm to try them
- Vision for the future, and the self-confidence to reach to attain the vision
- Creativity, lateral thinking, and innovation; able to identify and assess opportunities
- A high level of self-esteem, matched with the ability to trust their own judgment
- Courage to be different and to be self directed; but valuing diversity and ethical behaviour
- Being flexible, able to deal with change; monitoring and evaluating their own and others' performance
- Effective communication and influencing skills, and the ability to carry others with them
- Technical knowledge in their field of endeavour, and knowledge of necessary business skills
- Ability to gather and manage resources
- Willingness to take calculated risks, to learn from mistakes; with the determination to keep trying
- Action oriented, and focused on future outcomes.

These attributes are difficult to measure in your child as a traditional percentage grade. However, these experiences are instrumental in the development of your child as a whole person, in their character, capability and confidence.

Developing Life Long Skills Through Enterprise

According to Business New Zealand, the top 10 skills employers look for are:

- communication skills
- customer service skills – in person, on the phone, and online
- ability to work well in a team
- literacy and numeracy skills
- confidence learning about and using computers and technology
- planning and organisational skills
- initiative and a can-do attitude
- problem-solving skills
- good work habits and independence
- health and safety skills.

These skills are all transferable, which means that they are useful in a wide range of careers. Enterprise Studies gives your child exposure, experience, development and practice of these skills, allowing them to successfully compete at universities and in the workplace.



What our students say:

"I was lucky enough to participate in the Springbank School Enterprise programme. For me personally it is one of the main reasons why I am such a well-rounded person now. With Enterprise came many opportunities that helped me develop my values and personal confidence, allowing me to speak with confidence in front of a large audience and interact with a variety of people and age ranges."

- Jade Parata, Head Girl



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2013 Term Dates

After consideration, we have set next year's school term dates as follows:

Term 1	30 January to 19 April (12 weeks)
Term 2	6 May to 12 July (10 weeks)
Term 3	29 July to 27 September (9 weeks)
Term 4	14 October to 5 December (8 weeks)

Public and School Holidays:

Textbook purchasing	Friday 25 January
Senior Course Confirmation	Friday 25 January
Northland Anniversary	Monday 28 January
Teacher Only Day	Tuesday 29 January
Waitangi Day	Wednesday 6 February
Good Friday	Friday 29 March
Easter Monday	Monday 1 April
Easter Tuesday	Tuesday 2 April
Anzac Day	Thursday 25 April
Queen's Birthday	Monday 3 June
Labour Day	Monday 28 October

The later start will enable us to receive the International Cambridge Examination results and to make any timetable adjustments before school commences. It will also reduce the mid-year break back to two weeks. Easter falls in Term 1, with a five-day weekend.

Please note that Springbank Headstart and Preschool remain open throughout the year, including during school holidays. Headstart and Preschool will close this year on Friday 21 December and re-open on Monday 7 January 2013.

Preschool and Headstart families are encouraged to stay right up until 21 December. We are sure that with Christmas shopping and busy days leading up to Christmas, Mums and Dads will really appreciate that!

Kind Regards,

Sophia & Mike Warren
Co-Principals

Community Notices:

• **Bus from Coopers Beach** – due to a bigger bus there are now 10 seats available for this bus service from Coopers Beach to Springbank School – please contact Emma on 09 408 7812

Thought for the week:

Week 4: *“Talk is cheap – be defined by your actions, not your words!”*

(Courtesy of Mr Pera)

Week 5: *“Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out.”*

– **Robert Collier**

(Courtesy of Mrs Stringer)

Week 6: *“Everyone is a genius. But if you judge a fish on its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing it is stupid.”*

– **Albert Einstein**

(Courtesy of Abi Foster)



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