



Newsletter No.9 | October 2013

Dear Parents

Term four is now in full swing! After a great deal of hard work throughout the year we wish our students all the very best in their final exams, which are already well underway.

On the last Monday of Term 3 at our Teacher Only Day, staff from each area of the school presented their ideas and objectives to be included in our strategic plan for the next three years. We really appreciate their input and we are in the process of collating the final document. We are proud of our strategic plan document so far, as it gives us a real focus and vision for the future.

As we lead up to the final Friends of Springbank event for 2013, the Fireworks Extravaganza, I would like to thank all parents who dedicate their time and energy to the Friends group. Please support Friends this coming Saturday night in any way you can, as they are expecting at least 2000 members of the community and they would really appreciate your help. The bonfire stack is looking very impressive so far, but if you have any wood or garden waste lying around, I'm sure we will be able to squeeze it on top! Just a reminder that gates open at 6:30pm this Saturday 2nd November. The cost is only \$5 per person and under 5s are free. There will be entertainment, fun games and activities and lots of yummy food and drink. The professional fireworks display will commence at 9:00pm.

In-Zone Careers Bus

Last week was jam packed full of hard work leading up to exams for the Middle and Senior School, so it was a well-deserved break when the In-Zone Careers Bus offered to come to Springbank School free of charge. The bus was filled with interactive terminals packed with career videos. The students each got their own computer and viewed the career videos that they were interested in. If they wanted more information they simply clicked a button and they were sent information to their mobile phone for them to view after school. The students went away feeling happy and privileged to have received so much useful information on career choices. A big thank you to the In-Zone Careers Bus for the opportunity.

- Nikki Chapman, Year 10



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ICAS Top Honours

Our ICAS English and Mathematics results are back and the staff and I are very pleased with them. I am especially impressed with our English results, as we have had a significant rise in the number of Distinction awards in ICAS English compared with 2012. I commend all students who entered ICAS and especially congratulate all of those who gained the following top honours.

ICAS English	
Distinction (top 10% in NZ)	Year
Jack Hittle	5
Kit Kinghan	5
Ishmael Strevens	6
Max Hittle	7
Luke Bramley	8
Aimee Larkan	9
Taiyo Serge	10
Isabella Francis	11
Credit (top 20% in NZ)	Year
Georgie Ludbrook	5
Noortje Nederlof	5
Khalila Strevens	5
Mya Napier	7
Aleisha Whitehead	9
Timothy Richardson	10
Megan Bramley	11
Jack Thurston	11

ICAS Mathematics

High Distinction (top 1% in NZ)	Year
Taiyo Serge	10
Distinction (top 10% in NZ)	Year
Jack Hittle	5
Max Hittle	7
Taran Kern	9
Timothy Richardson	10
Holly Sutcliffe	10
Credit (top 20% in NZ)	Year
Daniel Jeeves	4
Noortje Nederlof	5
Sam Sutcliffe	7
Blake Vujcich	7
Jake Dawson	8
Zach Kingsford	8
Lauren Harrell	9
Aimee Larkan	9
Megan Bramley	11
Jack Thurston	11

Scholar Rebate

Many of you will be pleased to see your scholar rebate deducted from your Term 4 fees. New parents, you may not realise that we have a special scholar rebate for students who have been at Springbank School for several years. After three full calendar years, you will receive a rebate of \$250 in the last term of each of the 4th, 5th and 6th years. After the 6th year, the rebate increases to \$500. The Springbank Scholar Rebate recognises your commitment to your child's long term education at Springbank School.



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Market Day

On Sunday 22nd September, the school came alive with young entrepreneurs for our annual Market Day. The atmosphere was fantastic, no doubt helped by the brilliant bands that entertained us. Our students had a range of products, services and fun activities on offer, including pony rides, bouncy castles, face painting, food and drink galore and a range of innovative products. It was great having our senior students and staff actively involved and it really did give the day a great sense of school spirit.



Congratulations to the following groups who gained awards for their products and stalls:

Junior School Most Innovative Product

Hand Bags

Hannah Leach

Junior School Outstanding Stall Presentation

Spread your Wings

Olivia Phillips, Fleur Nederlof and Lucy Blakeman

Middle/Senior School Most Innovative Product

Fab Badges

Harry and Charlotte Stanley-Scott

Middle/Senior School Outstanding Stall Presentation

Keep Calm and Eat Cake

Phoebe Huett and Sophie Lee

Highly Commended

Snappy Happy

Year 13 students

Cupcakes

Springbank Preschool

Headstart Receives Top Honours from ERO

Out of 250 centres in Northland, Springbank Headstart in Kerikeri is one of only three to receive a commendation by the Education Review Office. ERO reports that Headstart has been placed on a 4-year cycle of review, rather than the usual 3, due to its "high quality education" which caters for children from 4½ to 6 years old.

Headstart's innovative transition to school programme has attracted families from all over the Bay of Islands who are impressed by the dedicated teaching staff who, "extend and enrich children's abilities through building their knowledge and skills in a supportive and caring environment".

Experienced teachers Paula Kirby and Anna Pera "work together as a highly professional and supportive team" according to ERO. "They respond purposefully to children's interests and foster their curiosity and enthusiasm for learning.... High levels of interaction among children, one-to-one focused attention by adults, and prolonged conversations promote children's thinking and reasoning skills... The development of early literacy and mathematics skills are integral aspects of the programme".

Springbank Headstart is free to all children up to the age of 6 years, on acceptance. As expected, the centre is very often full and parents are booking in their children well ahead.

To read the full ERO report visit <http://www.ero.govt.nz>



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Staff changes

Some of you may be aware that Max Hittle will be taking a year's leave of absence for 2014. Max has family matters to attend to back in the USA. We wish him all the best for his time over there and look forward to his return.

We have also received resignations from Ben Hilliam and Chris Wallis, which will both take effect at the end of this year. Both Ben and Chris have been highly valued teachers of mathematics and ICT in the past two years that they have been at Springbank and we thank them very much for their dedication to their students, their hard work, their professionalism and their collegiality. Both Ben and Chris have gone above and beyond in organising extra-curricular competitions. Chris opened up the world for global online mathematics competitions for our students and Ben was instrumental in assisting with our IT management, development and the BYOD initiative.

Ben and Naomi, with their son Coen have decided to return to their extended family back in Christchurch, where Ben has accepted a position at St Andrew's College. While they have really enjoyed their time at Springbank and the Bay of Islands, they have missed the close family contact.

Chris has accepted a position on the R. Tucker Thompson sailing ship. With his extensive experience in outdoor pursuits and his love for the outdoors, we are sure that he will enjoy this new challenge.

We will have a farewell assembly for Ben and Chris towards the end of this term.



Kerikeri Retirement Village transformation underway!

Year 9 Community Project – Final Stages!

The Year 9 Community Project is in the implementation stage of their project, with a planned completion date of around the middle of November. On Thursday 24th of November, 11 builders from a variety of building companies were united under the Bay of Islands Certified Builders Association. These included Bay Builders, Absolute Builders and Graeme Laurie Builders, who volunteered their time to complete the building renovations of the Social Centre at the Kerikeri Retirement Village. This two day working bee has moved walls to establish a library, a conference room with a kitchenette and toilet, and they have created storage cupboards for the physiotherapy room and indoor bowls room. In total the Year 9 class has raised \$10,500 towards the project and a lot of local businesses have come on board to donate items or to provide generous discounts. This project has been part of the Springbank School Enterprise Programme and has enabled the students learn valuable life skills in a practical setting. These skills include team work, planning and organisation, meeting deadlines, leadership, written and oral communication and self-responsibility. I am extremely proud of all their efforts.

- Michelle Chapman



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Young Enterprise Awards

On Thursday 24th October, the Young Enterprise Regional Awards Dinner was held at the Copthorne Hotel in Waitangi. I accompanied our YES teams, along with their enterprise teacher Michelle Chapman, Directors Bob and Sophia Warren and Deputy Principal Phil Webb. Our two Year 10 teams up for awards were Lamal (who produced a stress balm in conjunction with Living Nature) and The Cashew Company (who manufactured cashew nut butter and honey roasted cashews from nuts imported from a mission in Mozambique). We were delighted that The Cashew Company has been awarded one of twelve National Young Enterprise Excellence Awards, and along with their mentor Sophia Warren and teacher Michelle Chapman, they will travel to Wellington to be presented with their trophy and \$1,000 prize money.

In the Northland Company of the Year, the Cashew Company was awarded second place and Lamal was awarded third place. First place actually went to Nick Fewtrell, a sole trader who was a past Springbank student for a number of years. The Cashew Company and Lamal also jointly won the Northtec Award for Excellence in Business Management. Additionally, Nikki Chapman won a special award for overcoming leadership challenges this year. She has won a seven day R. Tucker Thompson voyage worth \$1,800.

We are very pleased and proud of these results, as both of our teams comprise Year 10 students and the Young Enterprise Scheme is essentially a Year 12 and 13 competition. Congratulations to the students and to their teacher Michelle Chapman for a fantastic set of results.



BYOD Update

BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) is alive and well at Springbank and we already have many students who have taken up the offer to bring their digital device to school. Already we are seeing laptops and tablets being used in a variety of ways to assist and enhance teaching and learning and I look forward to witnessing further development in this area.



Please remember that it is not compulsory for all students to bring a device to school and it is entirely optional. There are no structured lessons which require all students to have their own device. This term is about testing our infrastructure (which is working very well), for the staff and students to explore uses for devices and to work out any technical issues that we may encounter. We don't yet have any plans for making BYOD compulsory in the immediate future, however I will keep you posted when we decide to take that next step.



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Coastal Classic on board Kia Kaha

Rebecca Gmuer-Hornell, one of our Year 9 students, was lucky enough to participate in the famous Coastal Classic yacht race from Auckland to the Bay of Islands over the long weekend. Her entertaining recollection of events is below!

We left the dock at around 9am. We hoisted the main sail and took off down the harbour towards the start line. The start plan was to hoist the gennaker and come up around North Head, but not everything always goes to plan. We got over the start line first and put up the gennaker. About 2 meters from the top the grinder popped out and the winch stopped turning. Reece was calling for trim but nothing happened. Big Cam was a bit too strong, and after a look we found the belt on the grinder had snapped! After retrieving it from mid-air, we came around North Head close to shore (possibly a little too close after just missing a sand bank). After laying Rangitoto light house and Tiri, we had to tack up the side of Kawau Island. We made progress from being the 4th 50 footer to coming 2nd. We got to the Hen and Chicks and got sucked into one of the Chicks and had to tack out. The front came through half way between Ocean Beach and Tutukaka. We were sailing in and out of the sou'westerly, until it was well and truly with us. The wind picked up from 15 knots to 30 knots within minutes. With the swell still coming from the other direction, we were jumping off the waves. After the wind and swell settled back down we put up the masthead AO gennaker and went off flying towards Cape Brett and made it there within a few hours. We got stuck under Percy Island in a hole but made it through well. We had to tack so we could clear Whale Rock and had a beat up the harbour towards Russell. We finished at around 11:12PM.

John Haydock – HIST grant

Last year John Haydock was awarded a Heads of Independent Schools Trust (HIST) grant of \$5,000 to explore his idea of online peer assisted learning (PAL). John has worked on this all year and at a recent Independent Schools' Principal's forum that I attended last term, it was a very proud moment when he presented his findings. I received very positive feedback from other ISNZ Principals regarding John's research and findings, and he did a fabulous job of condensing it all into a succinct and engaging presentation.

Kind regards,

Mike Warren
Principal

Changes in Child restraint laws

From 1st November the mandatory use of child restraints in vehicles will be extended by two years.

This means that all children will be required to be correctly secured in an approved restraint until their seventh birthday. At that time, parents and caregivers must continue to secure any children aged seven in an approved child restraint if one is available in the vehicle, and if not, any safety belt that is available. This requirement also includes any children travelling in the school van, however does not extend to buses.

Thought for the week:

Week 1 – Reciprocity:

Relationships have peaks and valleys. To make a relationship last both people must be committed to the climbs, just as much as they are to admiring the grand views.

– Kaliana Dietrich

Week 2 – Interdependence:

All have their worth and each contributes to the worth of the others

– J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Silmarillion*

Week 3 – Collaboration:

Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.

– Helen Keller



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