



Newsletter No. 3 | April 2014

Dear Parents

Today is a good day. At the time of writing, the sun is shining, it is a warm, still autumn day and life is good. However every day is a good day to be above ground, especially when one takes a snippet of time to notice and be grateful for all of the good things in one's life.

It is certainly not hard for me to be grateful for what I experience at Springbank on a daily basis. I am surrounded by wonderful, inspiring colleagues and often equally wonderful, inspiring students.

Following our wellbeing theme of "gratitude" this term, your child has been making entries in their individual gratitude diary on a regular basis. It has been a simple way of re-balancing our psyche towards the positive end of the spectrum, as through life's trials and challenges it can be easy to get stuck in a negative frame of mind and let the good stuff pass us by.

Try it for yourself. At this moment in time, think of two things large or small that you are grateful for.

How does that feel? Better than not good, I bet.

The gratitude diary also serves as a pick-me-up tool. On occasion, when one may be having a bad day, it is great to be able to turn to a random page of a gratitude diary and read a few excerpts. On that gloomy day, it is a powerful tool to remind us that life is a gift and good times are to be celebrated.

2015 Term Dates

Term 1

27 January to 2 April
(10 weeks)

Term 2

20 April to 3 July
(11 weeks)

Term 3

20 July to 25 September
(10 weeks)

Term 4

12 October to 3 December
(8 weeks)



Follow us on Facebook...



Cape Brett Challenge

A great sense of trepidation accompanied the students and staff on this year's Cape Brett Challenge – Cyclone Lusi was coming, but when?

We decided to go ahead with the first phase of the challenge, the night out on Urupukapuka Island and morning 1km ocean swim, so it was off the dock at 4pm on Cap'm Tim Roffey's "The Ark"! Cap'm Roffey outlined the mission – to take the Cape Brett lighthouse in time for an undetected extraction with minimum casualties. The gravity of the situation sunk in slowly as the trip out to our first objective got bumpier and wetter...

The crew were dropped on the island and told to prepare camp, while the (still dry) commanding officers braved the Albert Channel to assess the conditions and speculate on the morning's sea state – but wait, frantic waving from the shore? What terrible accident could have occurred in no more than two minutes alone – had we been intercepted by a rogue enemy party?

No, as we turned to investigate the source of consternation, we were questioned as to the whereabouts of the available school fly sheets!

"Still available, on the shelf in Room 4!" was the response from the (only moderately amused) Capi-tan Fifi Le Bouf – the disbelief spread quickly – lesson one, self-sufficiency in outdoor adventure operations is paramount!

Fortunately for the stranded sailors, a spare fly featured amongst the Capi-tan's emergency equipment and the ever magnanimous Cap'm Roffey suggested his spare tarp would provide the poor urchins with some more cover. Bless. Once back on the beach, the emergency equipment was distributed and soon, passable shelters blossomed under the trees. But then, alas, while reclining in Chateau Le Bouf, the Capi-tan was disturbed by a very concerned request for the school gas burner...

Despite the previous evening's setbacks and several failed attempts to roll down large hills gracefully, our brave souls roused quickly to the call – for it is far easier to be awake when you haven't really slept! The news from the grave Cap'm Roffey was not good, predicted sea conditions for Friday were dire and a safe pickup from either the primary or secondary extraction points could not be guaranteed... (continued)



Garage Sale

Every year the Year 9 Enterprise class is split into groups to undertake community projects, with the aim to help out a charity or group in the local area. Our group's project is to raise funds to help the Kerikeri Archery Club build a storage unit and a covered outdoor area. We would like to hold a Garage Sale to fundraise towards this project. If you have items that you want like to donate, could you please bring them to the school office and put the items into the cardboard boxes provided. Thank you very much.

- Jake, Chloe, Sophie and Michael
Year 9 Enterprise Students

First News

One of our parents has recommended a young people's newspaper, First News, and it may be a good option for keeping your children up-to-date with international news. First News is a weekly publication working with the National Literacy Trust of the UK, with excellent news stories slanted to children's interests and reading levels. Have a look at www.firstnews.co.uk for a taste of this resource and the option to subscribe. If you are interested in subscribing to the good old fashioned paper copy, please inform Sally at reception. Our intention is to facilitate a bulk order so that shipping costs are able to be reduced for each family.



Follow us on Facebook...



Cape Brett Challenge (continued)

The patient troops had to wait expectantly while senior staff adjourned to HMS Walter Mitty to dine on bacon, eggs, hash browns and enough-coffee-to-give-you-eight-legs and discuss plan H.

The sand crunched underneath the Capi-tan's wet toe shoe as he strode forth to deliver the new orders – the objectives were:

1. Approach Cable Bay by sea.
2. Execute a beach landing in worm formation.
3. Prepare and stow gear for next insertion point in the shadows of the mighty Puketi Forest.
4. Gather intelligence on the infamous Damp Camp whilst surviving any chance encounters with wayward wetas, petulant possums and amorous eels.

Special mention is owed to the phenomenal safety support crew of Cap'm Roffey, Gary "The Larrikin" Larkan and the admirable Admiral Webb for making sure that the troops had the appropriate support in their harrowing first two objectives.

Wetsuits were waving in the breeze, with no severe casualties scarcely an hour later, but there was no time to waste before we were



whisked away to our next checkpoint. This time camp was constructed artfully and in double time, with night operations completed almost too stealthily...

The proof of the tremendous tenacity in our current crop of adventurers came the following day, when the senior officers only narrowly escaped a full mutiny with the firm assurance that, in order to have future successful missions, we had to leave some of Damp Camp's mysteries undiscovered. A quick injury assessment was undertaken and revealed only mild eel-mauling and the odd extinguished ego after the feminine contingent raced to the top of the tree climbing standings.

Our thanks to all of the support crew mentioned above, as well as the ever flexible Mr and Mrs Richardson and Mr Warren for making Plan H possible.

The year is young and our group broken in – what adventures await!

- Capi-tan Fifi Le Bouf (Mr Pera)

Aspire Scholarships

New Zealand Aspire Scholarships are available for Year 9 and 10 students to attend Springbank School in 2015.

Scholarships cover Springbank's full tuition fees, and up to \$1,500 of course related costs, each year for up to five years.

If you or someone you know has a gross income of up to \$56K p.a. or less, a full scholarship to attend Springbank School can be applied for.

Applications for 2015 must be received in hard copy to the Ministry of National Offices by 5pm on Wednesday 30 April 2014.

For full terms of eligibility and the application process visit www.minedu.govt.nz or contact Mike Warren.

Drum lessons

From Term 2, Springbank School will have a new drumming instructor! Susie Oakley teaches drums at "The Music Place" in Kerikeri and comes highly recommended. If your child would like to learn the drums, this is a great opportunity for them to do so without having to commit to off-site after school lessons. Cost is \$25 for each ½ hour one-on-one session. If interested, please add your child's name to the list in reception.



Follow us on Facebook...



Headstart Beach Day Out

Headstart had a most enjoyable Beach Day Out at Paihia Beach. Highlights included the playground, swimming, sandcastle building and a visit from a wonderful pirate who was searching for buried treasure! A big thank you to all the parents (especially the pirate!) who helped make the day thoroughly enjoyable.



Sailing... Have a Go!

Our Year 4-6 students had two days of sailing instruction and fun with international sailing coach Reuben Corbett. A local lad, Reuben began his sailing on Lake Manuwai and has gone on to have a successful international career. We also thank Tony Dalbeth and Dery Godbert who also assisted with the coaching. The children learnt everything from rigging the boats through to capsizing. All had a great time and there is an opportunity for those wanting more sailing to have lessons during Term 4, 2014 at Lake Manuwai. The project is sponsored by the Lion Foundation. Many thanks to the parents who assisted over the two days.



- Lynne Alexander

Preschool

The Preschool has recently received some new playground equipment - climbing frames and boxes. It is great to see the children gaining confidence in and control of their bodies, including coordination and balance. They are certainly enjoying this new learning experience.



Invoices Emailed

From Term 2 we will be changing the way that families receive invoices. The invoices will be emailed directly to you and there will be a PDF attachment. We have had this capability for some time and we are now looking forward to implementing the change. Sally especially, whose time will be saved significantly!

You may make a special request for a paper copy if you wish. Please contact Sally (reception@springbank.school.nz). Chocolate-accompanied requests will be given priority!



Follow us on Facebook...



Strategic

Plan

In 2013, the Springbank School Directors, in consultation with all staff, have constructed a strategic plan for the next three years. All initiatives are based on our core values and vision and our learning framework. I intend to highlight the strategic plan in our newsletters over the coming months. Initially, I would like to present our core values, vision and our learning framework as the foundation for our future direction. We are already working on some very exciting initiatives and I look forward to sharing these with you soon.

Springbank's core values:

- **Exceptional Environment:** We believe that students need an exceptionally positive environment, providing an atmosphere of support, friendship and consideration for each other, as a framework for developing capability, character and confidence in every student.
- **Capability:** We believe it is essential that students gain skills that prepare them for a happy, successful life beyond school.
- **Character:** We believe that each student must be respected as an individual with unique passions, talents and skills.
- **Confidence:** We believe that students must have strong self belief.

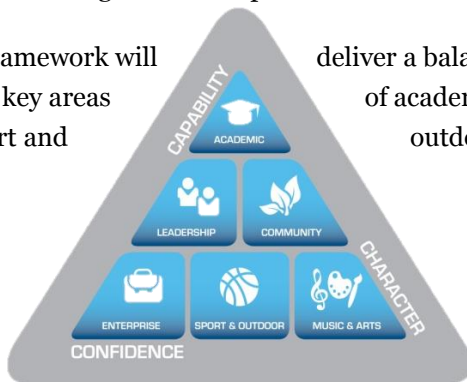
Our vision is to be an exceptional New Zealand school

We are committed to building capability, character and confidence in every child. Our school community will be inclusive, caring and family oriented.

Our teachers will provide challenging programmes and our students will continually strive for personal excellence.

Our students will develop a positive attitude, they will be self motivated, set challenging personal goals and be proud of their achievements.

Our Learning Framework will be based on the six key areas of academic, leadership, community, enterprise, sport and outdoor, and the arts.



deliver a balanced education of academic, leadership, outdoors, enterprise

Diaries

This is just a reminder to parents about our student diaries and the rationale behind why parents and form teachers sign them weekly.

The student diary is a tool for students to maintain their schedule and log their homework. It is a good way for you as parents to keep in the loop as to how much homework your child is receiving and when each piece may be due.

The diary is also used as a communication tool. Many of our teachers will write notes in the student diary for parents such as "I am very proud of Johnnie for his result of 97% in his latest maths test", or alternatively "Johnnie's result of 32% is disappointing". For students in our Middle and Senior School who may receive a "strike" for a disciplinary offence, it is recorded in the diary so that you are aware that they received a strike and what it was for.

Therefore it is important that you read the diary to ensure that you receive important pieces of information such as this. The reason that parents sign the diary on a weekly basis is to acknowledge that you have indeed read it and are happy with its contents.

Please feel free to use it as a medium with which to communicate with your child's form teacher. Once the teacher has signed it, you can be assured that they have read your note.



Follow us on Facebook...



Homestay Opportunity

Our International Student programme has become so popular that we require more Homestay families. Our International Students are all very keen to experience what Springbank School and our area has to offer and they need a place to live!

My family and I have been hosting Springbank's international students for the past three years and we personally find it to be a fantastic experience only myself but my child as well. We have found hosting a Springbank International Student to be a fantastic experience as we have really enjoyed having a child from a different culture living with us. All of our students have become part of our extended "whanau" with most wishing to come back as soon as they can. My child now has "host" sisters and brothers throughout Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Korea and soon to be Brazil!

If you have ever considered hosting a Springbank international student or know of someone in our community who would be a wonderful host family, please contact me at your earliest convenience on 09 407 5236 or via email on jill.grimshaw@springbank.school.nz. I am more than happy to answer any query that you may have and talk you through the process of becoming an international host family for Springbank School.

As a host family you receive homestay fees of \$220 per week (which equates to approximately \$11,000 for a full year, which is tax free).

If by chance you do take one of our students and you discover that hosting an International Student is perhaps not for you, then I would certainly work with you and the student to place them with another homestay family.

- Jill Grimshaw
International Student Director

Digital Device Usage Policy Update

Some of our students have been recording parts of lessons to assist their learning. This is an effective use of their device and in many cases we encourage it. We have updated our policy and we have communicated the update to our students at a recent assembly. For your information, the following has been added to our Digital Device Usage Policy:

Students shall require explicit permission from the teacher for each and every occasion that they wish to make a recording at school. Permission to record is at the sole discretion of the teacher. Springbank School retains full ownership and copyright of any recording. That recording must only be used for personal educational purposes, must not be shared or exchanged with any other party and must be destroyed when no longer required, or by request from Springbank School.

As a side note, we are witnessing some practical and often quite innovative uses for students' personal devices and we are pleased that they are able to assist their learning in a range of ways.



Follow us on Facebook...



Athletics Report

It has been a manic term with the introduction of the Springbank 5 Star achievement ladder. Students have been logging as many runs, jumps and throws as humanly possible since the start of term see how high up the ladder they can climb in order to achieve the coveted 5 Star rating. There are performance standards for each age group, varying from 1 to 5 stars for each event. The aim of the ladder is for every student to get six events (three field and three track) up to the same level on the ladder, thus qualifying them as a 1, 2, 3, 4 or 5 starred athlete. The programme has been a great success, with my shoulder being tapped on a regular basis to report new “PBs”.

The culmination of all of this work was the three days of competition held last week, which involved over 100 different events and a huge level of participation from all concerned. The gloves were off as students vied for the top spot in their chosen events and after numerous heats and defeats, the finals were hotly contested on Wednesday alongside the very busy field events. I was blown away by the enthusiasm and effort on display from all of the students, but when all was said and done – the MIGHTY STINGRAYS emerged victorious!

A huge word of thanks is again owed, not only to the students, but also to all of the staff, parents and family members who added to the festive event. I have no doubt that before long a real culture of excellence will develop at Springbank, and who knows, perhaps even some national champions...

On that note, further congratulations are due to the following students who qualified for, and competed at the Northland Secondary Schools Championships earlier in the term – they did us proud!

Taiyo Serge (Discus), Zach Kingsford (4th in 1500m PB), Sharnise Candy (Shot Put /2nd in Discus PB), Kenlyn Wilson (4th in Long Jump/2nd in 100m) and Megan Bramley (Long Jump/Triple Jump/2nd in Discus)

That is not the last from the track this year, as based on the results from this term we will be beefing up the development squad and getting into some hard work for the rest of the year on Monday and Wednesday afternoons – it is time to stand up and be counted!

Watch this space.

Christian Pera

Microsoft Office 365 – offered at no charge to students

For those of you considering purchasing office software for your child, please first consider this.

Microsoft have recently extended our school's licence agreement to provide Microsoft Office 365 Pro software to our students, AT NO COST. Microsoft Office 365 Pro software is similar to the usual Microsoft Office suite (such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint etc), however it is web based – similar to Google Apps. It is not necessarily stored on individual devices, but rather accessed using a web browser.

One advantage of students being able to hold a licence to Office 365, is that because it is web based and everything is stored in the “Cloud”, the Office software and students' documents can be accessed using a range of devices and from anywhere in the world.



Follow us on Facebook...



Lit Quiz

Congratulations to our two teams who represented us at the regional Lit Quiz competition. Lit Quiz, aimed at Year 7 -8 students, is essentially the sport of reading. Teams consist of four students who work together to answer wide-ranging literary questions. The teams are asked 100 questions in 10 categories, which vary from year to year. Contestants ponder questions from almost any genre including comics, poetry, nursery rhymes, classics and contemporary fiction.



There was a total of 28 teams at the Northland regional competition, many of which were comprised Year 8 students.

One of our teams comprising India Lang (Y6), Jack Hittle (Y6), Hannah Leach (Y7) and Meghshyam Prakash (Y8) came a respectable 13th place.

Our other team comprising Mya Napier (Y8), Max Hittle (Y8), Maisie Atchison-Darby (Y7) and Georgie Ludbrook (Y6) came in 5th place, only 5 points off 1st place!

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday break. Don't eat too many Easter eggs, and if you do, I hear that Principals are willing recipients of surplus stock.

I look forward to seeing you all, bright and bubbly, ready for Term 2 action on Monday 5th May.

Regards

Mike Warren

Principal

Thought for the week:

Week 9

Today you are you and that's truer than true! There's no one alive who is youer than you!

— Dr Seuss

Courtesy of Sally Collings

Week 10

Let us rise up and be thankful, for if we didn't learn a lot at least we learned a little, and if we didn't learn a little, at least we didn't get sick, and if we got sick, at least we didn't die; so, let us all be thankful.

Courtesy of Clare Dorans

Week 11

Gratitude paints little smiley faces on everything it touches

- Richelle E. Goodrich

Courtesy of Paula Kirby

Week 12

Know your destination, but don't focus on it. Look back at your journey and be grateful for how far you've come. But now, in this moment, take the best possible step forward - it is all you have the power to change.

Courtesy of Christian Pera



Follow us on Facebook...

Please support these local businesses, as they support Friends of Springbank:

The Garden Man Ltd

Now in the
Far North

Offering Free Quotes

TREE-WORK
HEDGE-TRIMMING
LAWNMOWING
WEED-CONTROL
SECTION-CLEARING

Contact David
☎ (09) 405 1883
☎ 021 123 6144



Your Full Service Investment Advisory Firm

Global research, local market knowledge

Ian Derrick and Bruce Mathieson
Authorised Financial Advisers / NZX Advisers
Hobson House, 14 Hobson Avenue, Kerikeri
09 407 7926 / kerikeri@craigsip.com
www.craigsip.com 0800 272 442



NZX **KiwiSaver** **CRAIGS**
INVESTMENT PARTNERS

Craigs Investment Partners is a NZX Participant firm. A Disclosure Statement is available on request and free of charge. Please visit www.craigsip.com for more information.

FAR NORTH BUILDING CENTRE

"We'll see you right!"

Servicing your building needs for:
TRADE - DIY - RURAL

Hours: Mon - Fri 7.30am - 5.00pm
Sat 8.00am - 1.00pm

22 Karamea Road, Mangonui
Phone: 09 406 0048

1986 STATEHIGHWAY 10
Opposite The Warehouse Carpark

• **YOUR ONE - STOP SHOP** •

Trade-ins welcome / Finance available Radiators / Brakes / Tyres

KERIKERI CARS LTD **Keri Auto Repairs**

for sales phone Brett
(09) 407 1456
Specialising in Vehicles
under \$10,000

for repairs phone Jenny
(09) 407 9252

www.kerikericars.co.nz

AUTO ONE
BAY OF ISLANDS

WOF
WHILE YOU SHOP

Automotive servicing
parts & accessories

AUTO ONE

18 Hobson Ave
Kerikeri
Service: 09 407 6984
Parts: 09 407 6288

View our online image gallery
www.harrisandthurston.co.nz

HARRIS & THURSTON
Fine Furniture - Kitchens - Specialist Joinery

Ph: 402 7070 E: harris.thurston@extra.co.nz

LAW NORTH LIMITED
Lawyers

For all
of your
legal
requirements

93 Kerikeri Road
Next to McDonalds
Tel (09) 407 7099
info@lawnorth.co.nz
www.lawnorth.co.nz



Follow us on Facebook...