SPRINGBANK SCHOOL

Newsletter 7

Newsletter No. 7 | September 2014

Dear Parents

Time flies when you're having fun!

It's quite ridiculous just how fast Term 3 has flown by. We began the term with our senior students looking ahead to finalizing their courses, followed by several weeks of revision before mock exams. Our teachers have offered after school revision classes throughout the term and we have been impressed with the attendance rate. It is also pleasing to see that our students appreciate the extra time that their teachers are investing in order to help them gain the best possible results.

With recent success in regional speeches, science fair and maths competitions our teachers and students are proving that our academic standard is as strong as ever.

As a judge in the junior poetry finals, I was inspired by the talent and confidence of our younger students. Their poems were clearly articulated, they were entertaining and many of our poets were clearly enjoying themselves whilst delivering their poem to a room full of parents.

Our five year olds at Headstart were also exceptional. Every single one of them stood up and recited their poem by heart in front of the large and I'm sure, quite daunting, group of parents. As each student's name was drawn, the rest called them up in a hilariously strange ritual, as if each one was being offered up as a sacrifice to the poem gods. No sacrifices were made, however, as each and every one rose to the challenge with confidence that can only be gained in such a supportive, friendly environment that is Springbank Headstart.

Upcoming Events

Market Day

Our annual Market Day is this coming Sunday, 21st September - 11am to 2pm.

Spring-break Monday

As Market Day is considered a school day for all of our students, Springbank School will be closed on Monday 22nd September.

Friends of Springbank Fireworks Extravaganza

Saturday 1st November. If you have any burnable items, please add to our pile on the field below the car park.

Any help beforehand or on the night would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Louise on 0211176984 or 094017229.

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Regional Science Fair

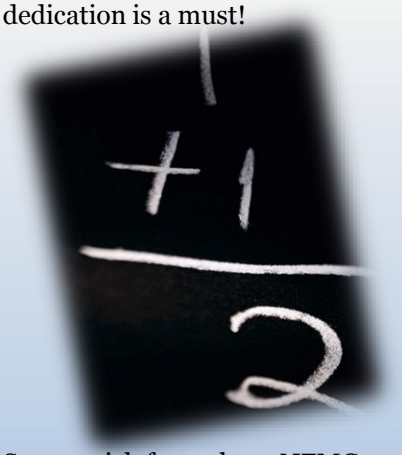
Congratulations to all of the students who represented Springbank at the recent Top Energy Regional Science Fair. We give credit to all of the budding young scientests who put in hours of their own time to research and build their Science Fair projects and a special congratulations to the following students who gained some impressive awards:

Gold	
Sara Finch	Mirror Mirror
Billy Robb Mayur Patel	Cover Your Booty
Special Award	
Blake Vujcich	Agri Soil Science
Silver	
Faraday Haydock Olivia MacCarthy	How Safe is our Water?
Bronze	
Orlando Tyson	Phriction
Callum Prichard Henri Mueller	The Benders
Lauren Harrell Paige Blunt-MacKenzie	Bristlebots

Congratulations also to our science teaching team of Phil Webb, John Haydock and Clare Dorans who were key to the success of our students.

New Zealand Maths Challenge

Henk Bertelink recently facilitated entry for our Year 7 – 10 students into the NZ Maths Challenge. The challenge involves students answering as many maths questions as they possibly can in a 24 hour period to amass points. Therefore, not only is maths talent and accuracy needed, but sheer dedication is a must!



Some quick facts about NZMC:

- 69,323 Kiwi students took part
- Over 21 Million (21,649,644) maths questions were answered over the week
- The Challenge was open to all schools across NZ

It is with great pleasure that I can confirm that Orlando Tyson (Yr 7) came 91st in New Zealand, with a final total of 17,872 points. Well done Orlando!

Floating classroom

On Monday 25th August, the Year 4-6 students had the privilege of joining Project Island Song's floating classroom. It was an exciting opportunity to experience learning outside the classroom in the beautiful Bay of Islands. The day was led by educator Helen Ough Dealy and Project Island Song coordinator Theresa Vujcich. We were ferried by the fantastic Explore crew.

The students learned about biosecurity, health and safety, pest control, tree planting and the protection and conservation of our native species, especially birds. Students were assigned to groups and before boarding the boat the Health and Safety officers had to check the passenger list. The biosecurity team checked everyone's bags for evidence of rodents and pests. It was particularly funny to find that the biosecurity crew, thinking they had completed their job, had overlooked the educator's bag, therefore missing potentially threatening pests that could infiltrate the island.

Another highlight was Urapukapuka Island, where the students made stoat traps, penguin boxes, rodent tracking tunnels, planted native trees and looked for native birds. Teamwork was the key to completing the various tasks and many skills were required to assemble the boxes and traps. The students discovered that digging into the ground to plant a tree was physically a lot harder than they thought. The unexpected bonus was meeting a Department of Conservation worker and his trusty dog, whose job it was to sniff for rats on the island. Our bags were checked and luckily we all passed!

A surprising and beautiful highlight of the trip was being blessed with the most gorgeous weather as the sun shone like a summer's day, which was incredible considering the stormy winter weather we have been having lately. Lastly we were fortunate to have fantastic parents to help supervise the students. It was such a valuable experience and we can't wait to have another opportunity like this one again.

Speech Success

Some of our top Year 7 – 10 speech makers participated in the second Bay of Islands Intermediate Speech Competition at Kerikeri High School. Thanks to Waipapa Rotary for sponsoring the event, which actually drew strong competition from as far as Kaitaia and Bream Bay. Well done to Sam Sutcliffe who won the Year 8 competition with his speech "Are We Alone?" and to Faraday Haydock who took out the Year 7 competition speaking on "The War on Pink". Both speeches were thoroughly researched and delivered with style and confidence.

Well done to Aimee Larkan (Yr 10) and Zach Kingsford (Yr 9) who also put in an excellent effort and represented Springbank to a high standard.

Strategic Plan

Continuing to take a peek into our strategic plan, in this issue we cover the area of Community. As one of the six areas of Springbank's learning framework, we believe that the connection that students have with both their school and wider community is important. Students will better understand the people and environment in which they live, they will assist in making it a better place for everyone to live and they will develop a sense of connection and compassion with others.

Community

Goal 1: Students will recognise the positive role they can play in the wider community and be actively involved in their community (linked with all curriculum areas).

Goal 2: For students to recognise that learning extends beyond the classroom by experiencing education outside the classroom activities.

Rationale:

So students can appreciate how communities support each other so they can flourish.

So students can be enterprising, use their initiative and be supportive of others.

So students can relate their learning to the real world and learn in a practical space.

Action Steps:

Each class in the Junior School to undertake a field trip once a term. For Middle & Senior School, each subject teacher to take their class on an annual EOTC experience

A Community Project through Enterprise.

Individual, group and class involvement in community projects.

Speakers come to school to talk to students about their roles in the community.

Events such as Springbank Market Day and Fireworks Night.

Headstart

On Fridays, Headstart ends the week with Buddy Reading with Room 3, which is always a highlight. A recent Friday was extra special as not only did we have our buddies, we were also fortunate to have two very special visitors – lambs Jimmy and Lulu.

The children had a very memorable afternoon reading both to their buddies and the lambs!

A big thank you to Sarah Atchison and her sister Kate for providing this wonderful experience.

Yr 1 – 3 Poetry Finals

On Wednesday, 10 September, the final round of the Junior Poetry Competition was held in Room 1. We had Mr Mike Warren and Mrs Sophia Warren as our judges for the morning. The standard of poetry was high and it was obvious to the judges that the children were enjoying reciting their poems to an audience. They praised the children for their authenticity, voice clarity and projection. This of course made it very hard for the judges to choose the winners.

Year 1 & 2:

1st	Hannah McIntyre
2nd	Ema Hollister
3rd	Clay Blakeman

Year 3:

1st	Hunter Blakeman
2nd equal	Ellie Heath
	Heidi Traas

The overall winner for 2014 was Hunter Blakeman who recited the poem "Down on the Farm" which was written by his Granddad, Mum and himself! Well done to all the children for the amazing effort they put into this year's poetry competition. Thank you to both Sophia and Mike for doing a wonderful job of judging the competition for us!

Year 4 – 6 Poetry Finals

The standard was also incredibly high at the top end of our Junior School. Congratulations to the following students:

Year 4

1st	Callum McIntye
2nd	Sam Prichard
3rd	Harry Hannan

Year 5

1st equal	Antonia Tyson
	Coco Hewitt
3rd	Sophie Fieldman

Year 6

1st	Malindi Reihana-Ruka
2nd	Khalila Strevens
3rd	Jack Hittle

She's Got the Papers to Prove It

Zoe Travers, a Springbank graduate, just passed her State Finals, which means that she's now a qualified nurse.

Following in her mother's footsteps and a 3rd generation registered nurse, Zoe was the youngest in her year at Northtec to graduate with a Bachelor of Nursing. Zoe is currently working at Kaitaia hospital through the new graduate programme and she is completing postgraduate nursing papers.

"I really do believe that Springbank was the best thing for me at the time, allowing me to have the skills to complete my degree and become a registered Nurse all at the age of 20. I learnt life skills at Springbank that I use everyday; perseverance, attitude and confidence."

Preschool

The Preschool children enjoyed having Anthony (Ivana's dad) come along on their forest walk.

He showed the children how to make a fire and taught them fire safety skills. They then enjoyed roasting their marshmallows in the fire.

Thank you Anthony for sharing your morning with the children. They just love having parents participate and contribute to their learning.

Equestrian

On Friday 8th August, four of our students represented us at the New Zealand Secondary Schools Equestrian Cup at Woodhill Sands in Auckland. The team consisting of Kimberley Rear, Megan Bramley, Sharnise Candy and Georgia Sheard placed 8th overall out of 57 teams from all over the country!

Megan Bramley competed in the Pony Showjumping and placed 2nd in the 80cm round and 4th in the 85cm. Sharnise Candy competed in the hack Show Hunter and placed 8th in the 80cm round and 3rd in the 90cm. Kimberley Rear competed in the Pony Show Hunter and placed 9th in both the 80cm and 90cm rounds. Georgia Sheard competed in the Hack Showjumping.

In each round there were approximately 30 riders competing. All placings above 10th gained points that counted towards the team's overall score. Springbank was the highest placed team north of Auckland.

Regards

Mike Warren

Principal

Keeping it Green

Springbank Prefects cleaning rubbish from Waimate North Road after recent flooding were shocked to fill up 6 rubbish bags within a length of roadway 200 metres long. Thanks for keeping New Zealand new, guys.

Thought for the week:

Week 5

Live... like somebody left the gate open.

Courtesy of Phil Webb

Week 6

Happiness is a perfume you cannot pour on others without getting few drops on yourself.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson
Courtesy of Jacqui Larkan

Week 7

A wise old owl sat on an oak,
The more he saw the less he spoke,
The less he spoke the more he heard,
Why aren't we like that wise old bird?

Courtesy of Lynne Alexander

Week 8

A little consideration, a little thought for others, makes all the difference.

- Winnie the Pooh
Courtesy of Anna Pera