



Newsletter No. 2 | March 2015

Dear Parents

Today is a proud day in the Warren household. This gloriously green St Patrick's Day coincided with school photos, and for me it was pretty special to have my son in his first Springbank photo. It was a hilarious sight witnessing the poor cameraman attempting to gather together the 30-odd pre-schoolers' wandering attentions, whilst the gaggle of parents (including myself) were busy issuing commands such as, "look at the camera", "put your arm down" and "open your eyes!"

Our Senior Leaders ran a special St Patrick's Wheels Day at interval, where our students were able to let loose around our carpark on anything with any number of wheels. Their treasure hunt has been postponed to tomorrow due to lunchtime rain. All proceeds from these initiatives will go towards Foster Hope, a local charity run by Springbank parent, Debbie Sutcliffe.

St Patrick's Day activities are only a small slice of what our senior students have initiated so far this year and we are already incredibly proud of this capable, confident group of leaders. Several of them are also assisting with our study skills classes for Year 7 – 9, which commence this week. Hearing accounts of how our senior students have evolved their study techniques over the years will be particularly informative and will give our Middle School students a kind of relevance that can only be found when hearing it from their peers.

2016 Term Dates

Please find the 2016 term dates below. After hot demand from many of our families, we have decided to have a three week holiday between Terms 2 and 3 in 2016. I will welcome your feedback next year to hear how your family had found the extended break.

Term 1:

26 January to 8 April (11 weeks)

Term 2:

26 April to 1 July (10 weeks)

Term 3:

25 July to 23 September (9 weeks)

Term 4:

10 October to 8 December (9 weeks)



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2015 Prefects

This year there were 16 applicants for the positions of Springbank Prefect. Mike Warren (Principal), Phil Webb (Deputy Principal) and John Haydock (TIC Senior Leadership) were very impressed with the candidates, who submitted well thought out and detailed written applications, were confident throughout the interview process and proposed some brilliant fresh ideas and initiatives for 2015.

It was a particularly challenging job selecting the final prefects, as all applicants were of a high calibre. Student and staff votes were thoroughly considered and the selection committee spent a substantial amount of time making the final decision.

Springbank School's 2015 Prefects are as follows:

Head Boy	Logan Alexander
Head Girl	Kimberley Rear
Deputy Head Girl	Elsa Meier
Prefects	Noah Atchison-Darby
	Megan Bramley
	Max Cadenhead
	Kirsten Foster
	Keegan Jones
	Sarah Kingsford
	Timothy Richardson



Pictured left to right: Mike Warren (Principal), Sarah Kingsford, Keegan Jones, Max Cadenhead, Timothy Richardson, Elsa Meier, Kimberley Rear, Noah Atchison-Darby, Logan Alexander, Kirsten Foster, Megan Bramley, Phil Webb (Deputy Principal).

CIE Awards

Congratulations again to Taiyo Serge for getting the highest mark in New Zealand in ICT for IGCSE.



Taiyo attended the CIE Awards dinner in Auckland on Thursday 27th February at Westlake Boys High School to collect his special certificate, along with Paul McFadden (Taiyo's ICT teacher), Phil Webb (Deputy Principal) and Taiyo's mother.

Vocal Coaching

The Music Place is now offering graded vocal coaching at Springbank School with Jo Slack.

By following the Trinity College grades, students will learn songs that develop their vocal techniques and skills. This can be combined with learning songs of their choice that are appropriate, fun and fit in with the grade level that they are working on.

If you are interested and would like to book a lesson, please contact Claire Gordon on 021 883 616 or 09 407 1506.



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Mrs Pera's Last Day at Headstart

We said goodbye to Mrs Pera on Friday 13th March as she starts her maternity leave and exciting new adventure and role as mum-to-be.

To bid her farewell and good luck we went for a special Forest Walk around the wider Springbank property with our Headstart students and families, followed by a shared lunch back at the classroom.

We are sad to see Mrs Pera leave us for the rest of the year as she stays at home with baby, but we're sure we will get lots of lovely visits from her and updates from Papa Bear, aka Mr Christian Pera.

We wish them all the very best over the next few weeks and look forward to hearing and meeting the newest edition of the Pera clan.

Welcome to Rosie Palmer

Kia ora to all of the Headstart children and their families! My name is Rosie, or Miss Palmer, and I am really excited to be at Headstart with you for the rest of this year.

I know we will have a really great year filled with fun activities and rewarding achievements.

I am a local Kerikerian who attended Springbank for the first 5 years of my secondary schooling. It's an incredible feeling to be back within the familiar Springbank family and see that the same important values are still being upheld for learning and self-development.

Since graduating with a Zoology degree, and then a Graduate Diploma of Primary Teaching, I have been working in the Gold Coast area as an environmental teacher.



I am passionate about incorporating nature and sustainability themes into learning opportunities and I aspire to discover all of the natural habitats of Springbank with the children. I also value the importance of fostering early skills in numeracy and literacy and this will continue to be a focus at Headstart.

I look forward to getting to know all of the Headstart children and their families individually, and to making this a valuable first year in their onward educational journey!

Mrs Collings ***A List Poem by Room 2***

Mrs Collings is so clever,
She can do ten things all at once!

She can answer the phone,
Get an ice-pack for me, do
photocopies for the teachers and
Look after sick children.

She can get a plaster for your knee,

Open the toilet doors and
Tell off screaming pre-schoolers.

She can work on her computer,
Help children rescue a ball in the
carpark, and
Ring the bell for the fire-drill.

Mrs Collings can do all these things
and still come up smiling!

Holiday Writing Camp

One of our families will be hosting a holiday writing camp during the first week of the holidays, for children between Years 6 and 10.

There will be professional guidance during quiet writing time combined with interesting talks.

The sessions will run from 10.00am to 3.00pm Tuesday to Thursday, and Friday 10.00am to 1.00pm.

There are limited spaces - Shared tutoring costs between \$65 to \$75 for the course, depending on the number of children attending.

If you would like to find out more, please e-mail Birgit Michaux on birgit@michaux.co.nz



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Art Trip to Sydney

After much preparation and huge fundraising efforts, the day for us to leave had finally arrived on 18th Feb. Ten senior students with Mrs Stringer and Mrs Simpson arrived in Sydney at about 8:00am. The Youth Hostel was great! It had a swimming pool, a sauna and even a cinema!

We viewed a lot of artworks while we were away. Our main purpose was to visit the Pop art exhibition at the Gallery of New South Wales 'Pop To Popism', which had iconic works from artists of the 60's like Andy Warhol, Roy Lichtenstein, Claus Oldenburg, David Hockney, as well as a number of Australian artists who were practising at the same time. It was amazing to see works of art that have been represented in books and magazines and especially to see the full scale of the works.

The Contemporary Art Gallery had an exhibition of the American artist Chuck Close. It was amazing to see his large photographic paintings which when you look up close, are made up of a series of patterns. These are even more amazing when you realise that he was a quadriplegic. We also managed to see a collection of traditional aboriginal bark paintings which were inspirational.



Walking from the magnificent Opera House, through the Botanical Gardens, we then sat in the beautiful sunshine beside Kerikeri artist, Chris Booth's sculpture, 'Wurrungwuri'. Learning about his research, inspiration and

adaption to the environment (including a gap for the bats to enter into the sculpture) made it all the more interesting.

Our other gallery visit was to meet Joanna Braithwaite at the Darren Knight Gallery where she exhibits her work. Mrs Stringer had taught her at school in the 70's and had tracked her down. She is now a most successful artist in Sydney and was very pleased to show us her works.

Of course we also had time for shopping and fun! At Darling Harbour we visited Madame Tussaud's, the Aquarium and the Wild Life Zoo. Some of the students visited Manly Beach and others went to Luna Park.

It was Chinese New Year while we were there and so much of the city was decorated with lanterns, dragons, and sheep. On our last night they closed off the main street for a parade of floats fireworks and performers; a fitting end to our trip.

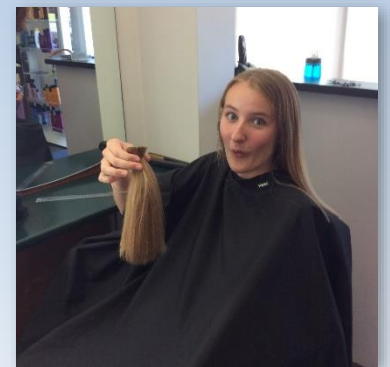
- Win Stringer

Chops for a Cause

After lots of deliberation, Aimee Larkan decided to have her hair cut to be sent off and made into a wig for a chemo patient living with cancer.



Her hair was very long! Aimee researched the length of hair that she needed to cut in order to be used for wigs and found the minimum length was 20cm. She got the hairdresser to measure her ponytail to a little more than 20cm and then had it cut off.



It was a neat experience for the hairdresser who has never had to cut off someone's ponytail for wigs before.

Well done to Aimee for her courageous effort to help others.



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Hot Rods

The Kurbside Rodders car club ran a colouring competition giving children of Kerikeri the chance to win a ride to school in some of their Hot Rods, and some of our students were the lucky winners!

The students had an amazing ride into school on Friday 27th February and share some of their experiences below.



Callum Mc Intyre

"It was ten out of ten. It was an awesome drive, especially when the driver went really fast, well, just a little fast at places. I loved the green shiny colour of the car. It had black with a stripe on the bonnet. At school people were taking photos and I felt excited."

Leon Haslar

"It was really funny because the driver of the car just went full speed. The Hot Rod I went in was really flash, it was green with a black stripe down its bonnet. I travelled with Oliver and Callum. When I got to school I got out of the Hot Rod and everyone was laughing and cheering and Mr. Warren was taking lots of pictures. Then I had to go to fitness."

Preschool

Grandparents' day was another success this year! How lovely it was to be able to share our learning with our grandparents and to have the opportunity to celebrate the special relationship between child and grandparent.



When our families are able to take the time to share in our school experience it reinforces the child's sense of personal worth. What a wonderful way to create a sense of family inclusion in our education journey.



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Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC) Trips

We are beginning to focus more on conducting practical learning experiences outside the confines of a traditional classroom environment. Each teacher will be taking their class(es) on field trips, whether it be amongst our wider grounds or out of school altogether. Many classes have already undertaken EOTC experiences. In addition to school camps, there have been trips to Waitangi for social studies, a biology rocky shore study, Middle School music classes experiencing a jazz production at the Turner Centre and of course our senior art trip to Sydney.

The students have enjoyed the rich, tangible learning experiences that arise out of learning in the living world, giving relevance to their studies and making learning real.

"I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. I do and I understand."

- Confucius

Regards

Mike Warren

Principal

Thought for the week:

Week 5

He drew a circle that shut me out
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.
But love and I had the wit to win:
We drew a circle that took him in.

Courtesy of Paul McFadden

Week 6

The most basic and powerful way to connect to another person is to listen. Just listen. Perhaps the most important thing we ever give each other is our attention.

Courtesy of Sally Collings

Week 7

I don't want to be at the mercy of my emotions. I want to use them, to enjoy them, and to dominate them.

Courtesy of Leone Cooper

Week 8

Don't be mean behind the scene.

Courtesy of Bridget Foster

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

**BAY OF ISLANDS
AUTO ONE**

- Automotive Servicing
- Automotive Repairs
- WOF
- Automotive Glass
- Tyres
- Parts & Accessories

09 407 6288
18 Hobson Ave
Kerikeri



OHAEAWAI BUTCHERY
Main Road Ohaeawai, RD2, Kaikohe

Basil Stewart
Butcher

09 405 9838
or 027 296 2639
ohaeawaibutchery2010@clear.net.nz



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