



Newsletter No. 3 | April 2015

Dear Parents

What is the difference between an exceptional education and a mediocre one? Academic success is high on the list, but what about the development of values, skills and attributes which can only be instilled over time?

When our children leave home and join the 'real world', what unique qualities will they have to set them apart? As they compete for career opportunities, make friends and hopefully develop love and respect with a partner for a lifetime relationship, what personal attributes will be advantageous?

The ability to relate to and interact with others positively cannot be underestimated at a time when digital technology and social media is encouraging engagement with a screen over engaging with each other.

Children need to learn how to communicate effectively face to face and the art of listening is as important as the art of speaking. Kindness, consideration and respect need to be practised by students and consistently modelled by parents and teachers for children to value them as important character attributes.

So what do we truly value as a community and as a family, and how can we ensure that we do not lose what is important?

The role of social etiquette appears to be unclear, or in many cases non-existent. Basic manners and courtesy are a mark of respect for each other. 'Please' and 'thank you' are appreciated by us all. As Term Two's focus is Social Etiquette, here are some fundamental courtesies that we at Springbank would like to acknowledge and reinforce:

The golden rule – treat others as you wish to be treated.

Instigate greetings – smile, address by name (remember names).

Practise handshake etiquette – give a firm handshake, look the other person in the eyes and smile.

Give genuine compliments and receive compliments with grace and a simple 'thank you'.



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ANZAC Days

On Friday 24th April, the staff and students of Springbank School held a special ANZAC memorial assembly to commemorate 100 years since the Gallipoli campaign and to remember our soldiers who gave the ultimate sacrifice. Their flag was lowered to half-mast to The Last Post and the Roll of Honour was read out by Springbank School's Prefects and Senior Leaders.



Staff and students recited The Ode for the Fallen, before the flag was raised once more and the school sung our national anthem together.

It was a special time for Springbank's students to appreciate those who have made great sacrifices so that we may now live in peace.

Many Springbank staff, students and families also attended the Dawn Service on ANZAC Day. It was an incredible

service. Being the 100th year since the Gallipoli campaign, so many of the local Kerikeri community came out to remember our fallen and it was heartening to see so many sacrifice their sleep in to pay their respects. What made it more special was having our Head Boy and Girl due to speak at the service. It was a proud moment when Kimberley Rear recited a speech that she had written. She was articulate, projected well and it was a particularly moving speech. When Logan Alexander was due to recite a poem, he was unfortunately overlooked. However, instead he recited it at Tuesday morning's assembly and did a fantastic job.

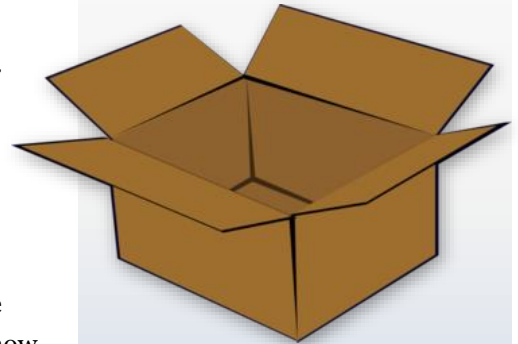
I strongly encourage all Springbank families to attend either the Dawn Service or 10:00am Service each year.

We will remember them.



Turning Trash into Treasure

What you might see as an old box could be a rocket ship! Some material and rope could be part of a dinosaur trap!



Every day the children at Preschool and Headstart are turning old or unwanted items into something new and exciting. We are always on the hunt for items to be used within our classrooms for the collage, art or carpentry areas.

If you have any clean, safe-to-use, unwanted items at home that you no longer need and are happy to donate to us, please drop them into the container outside Sally's office.

Items could include: material, rope, wiring, old guttering, shells, computer parts, old CDs / DVDs, blocks, zips, old tiles, puzzle pieces, buttons, remotes, lids or untreated wood. The possibilities are endless for the imagination.

If you do have some items and you're not sure if they would be suitable please email angela.warren@springbank.nz to check.

Thank you!



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Preschool ERO Report

The Education Review Office visited Springbank Preschool earlier in the year and were very complimentary about our programme. We are pleased with the final report, which is not yet released to the public, but here is a sneak peek at some excerpts:

Positive features noted ERO's 2012 report remain evident. For example, children continue to enjoy good relationships with each other and teachers regard children as capable learners. Good progress has been made to improve the outdoor environment and further develop planning and assessment of children's learning.

The centre's philosophy is evident in teaching practice and children's play. Children benefit from individualised and responsive teaching. Teachers are skilled at encouraging children's exploration and engagement in learning. They support children to make independent choices and plan their play.

Teachers' inclusive approaches ensure that all children participate in the programme. Children enjoy positive respectful relationships with adults and each other. They are listened to and valued by teachers. As a result, children confidently begin conversations and engage in cooperative play with their peers and adults.

Children's transitions into and from the preschool are well supported. They have good opportunities to familiarise themselves with new staff and settings. This gives them confidence as they take their next steps in their education journey.

Teachers benefit from professional relationships with staff from across the campus. Relevant professional learning supports them to reflect on and develop their practice. Self review is a feature of teachers' daily practice. Consideration is given to how their practices, programmes and resources can be modified to offer better outcomes for children's learning.

If you are interested in reading the full report, it will be released to the public within the next two weeks. Search on ERO's website for Springbank Preschool – www.ero.govt.nz.

Preschool

Getting messy is part of learning sometimes. Hands-on experiences with different textures provide many learning opportunities. Some examples are early maths and science as children mix, pour, measure and see how different substances combine.



Community Project Completion

Kenlyn Wilson and Andrew Knight completed their community project earlier this year. They negotiated with landowners for a piece of land for a picnic area on the Horeke to Kaikohe Cycle Trail and built a picnic table so that cyclists may have a break in comfort and enjoy the scenery.



Well done boys. It will be a must-stop point for sure!



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Equestrian

We recently had several young students compete at the Northland Secondary Schools Equestrian competition in Whangarei.

Lucy Blakeman, Dean Parker and Kodi Chamberlain, along with a rider from another school to make up the numbers for a team of four, competed for Springbank and did us proud. All three riders are Year 8 and were riding at introductory level. Dean placed 3rd in the individual dressage and 4th overall. Our team placed 3rd in the dressage and 3rd place overall! There were 60 riders and 15 teams competing on the day. Congratulations, team!



Community Projects

Each year, we have groups of students that plan, fundraise and implement projects for non-profit making charities/organisations in our community. Previously the students have submitted a business into a national competition previously sponsored by BP, in which Springbank has been very successful at this national level. Unfortunately this competition no longer exists. Although students are happy to continue completing these projects for the learning experience and the opportunity to give back to the community, the competitive aspect of this programme gives an extra incentive for students to see projects through to completion within a given timeframe. We are therefore looking for a business sponsor to support this enterprise programme. If you, or anyone you know, is interested, please contact Michelle Chapman at michelle.chapman@springbank.nz.

Child Restraints

Legislation around requirements for children to be secured in approved child restraints changed on 1st November 2013, to include all children under 7 years of age. Although this is the technical legal requirement, it is recommended that all children under 148cm in height are secured in approved child restraints, regardless of age.



The reason for this recommendation is that booster seats sit children up straight with their bottoms firmly against the back of the seat. They keep the lap part of the belt low over the top of the legs and allow them to be high enough for the sash part of the belt to go over the shoulder and breast bone and away from the neck. A bonus is that they can also see more.

To find out more, please visit <http://www.kidshealth.org.nz/car-safety-school-aged-children>.



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Athletics Day

The Middle & Senior School Athletics Day was an exciting affair as always. Students were donned in house coloured clothes and splattered in face paint to mark the occasion. The weather was a bit dicey in the morning and many of our competitors got soaked. However by late morning the rain cleared to make for a brilliant afternoon. As usual, the competition was fierce and I was impressed with our students for giving it their all. Congratulations to Orcas, who stormed home easily clear of the other houses to take the Athletics Day title. Sharks gained second place, Stingrays third and Dolphins fourth. A significant number of records were broken, some of which have been held for years. Well done to current record holders!

Thank you to Christian Pera who organised the day and also a huge thank you to Megan Bramley, Year 13, who put in several hours of her time to support Mr Pera. Thank you to Coach John Hunt for operating our starter gun and thank you to all parents who helped on the day. We appreciate your support and the day would not be a success without you.



Junior Athletics Afternoon

Thanks go out once again to Megan Bramley, for she not only dedicated time and effort in organising our Middle & Senior School Athletics Day, in addition she organised and ran our first ever Junior School Athletics Afternoon.



Our Junior students enjoyed being exposed to competitive track and field athletics and they also had a fun time in the process.



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NSS Athletics

We took a pocket rocket sized squad to Northland Secondary Schools' Championships this year, but I was quietly confident that we were a great deal more competitive than in previous years. The crew were far more composed than in previous years and all posted competitive performances:

Megan Bramley – 1st in Senior Girls' Triple Jump (9.28m), 2nd in Senior Girls' Discus (21.58m) & 4th in Senior Girls' Long Jump (4.34m*PB). These results are the culmination of three years of very hard work and resilient injury recovery from Meg – very pleasing!

Zach Kingsford – 3rd in Open 3000m (11:02), Zach was the only competitor in his age group, but his time is on a nationally competitive level.

Taiyo Serge – 3rd in Intermediate Discus (28.12m), Intermediate Long Jump (4.66m*PB) & Intermediate Shotput (9.12m), Taiyo gives his absolute all to his events!

Mya Napier – Junior Long Jump (3.97m*PB), Junior High Jump (1.35m*PB), Mya's results are excellent for a first timer with another year in the junior age group – expect big things in the future!

I am tremendously proud of these athletes as they are also amongst the schools hardest independent trainers. Many thanks are also due to Coach John Hunt for his tireless work on our athletics programme.

- Christian Pera



Market Day

Market Day has been set for **Sunday 20th September 2015.**

Please place this annual event into your planners.

Market Day is a great way for student to showcase their entrepreneurial ideas and learn the value of employment self-sufficiency.

This year we are looking for a business to sponsor the Market Day Awards. There are 5 awards up for grabs at the event.

- Junior School Most Innovative Product or Service
- Junior School Best Stall Presentation
- Middle/Senior School Most Innovative Product or Service
- Middle/Senior School Best Stall Presentation
- Best Overall Marketing Technique.

Michelle Chapman would be happy to hear from any interested sponsor. Please email her for further information on michelle.chapman@springbank.nz



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EOTC - AS Biology Field Trip

On Tuesday, 7th February, 2015, the AS Biology students travelled to Opito Bay to study the distribution patterns of *Nerita melanotragus* (Black Nerite or Periwinkle) on a rocky shore.



After enjoying several months of blue skies and sunshine, it was almost inevitable that the weather would choose the day of our field trip to offer the gift of rain. Despite the damp conditions, our intrepid biologists managed to complete the field work that involved the investigation of the edaphic factors affecting the distribution of the Black Nerites on a rocky shore.



It was a pleasure to work with this group of positive, determined and focussed students who managed to complete all tasks with smiles and good humour.



We even had time to enjoy some blueberry ice cream on the return leg of the journey!

- John Haydock

Mirira Primary School Receives Stationery

Ecovado, one of our YES teams from last year, fundraised and used a percentage of their profit from avocado soap sales to fill 50 backpacks full of stationery for Mirira Primary School in Kenya.

This school has dirt floors and limited resources. Over \$2500 was collected and a substantial amount of stationery was purchased. Olivado, a local business, transported the stationery backpacks to Kenya, free of charge and hand delivered the goods to the primary school in time for the start of the Kenyan school year.



Congratulation to the Ecovado directors, Jessica Prak-Khan and Ally Standing from Year 11. A job well done, girls. You should be proud of your achievements.



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EOTC - Room 1

Here is a slide from our walk out on the farm, looking for 3D shapes! We found heaps as we walked around and some of them weren't all that obvious either!

It was a great way for the children to see 3D shapes in the environment, and relate what we had learnt in the classroom to the world around us! The children

keep finding different shapes around the school during breaks and we have to go for a walk to see them! - Bridget Foster



I look forward to a great Term Two!

Regards

Mike Warren

Principal

Thought for the week:

Week 9 (Term 1)

Hang around people that pour water on the fires of your fears, and throw gasoline on the passions of your dreams

Courtesy of Andrea Druery

Week 10 (Term 1)

Wherever you are, always remember that understanding culture is not good or bad, it just is.

Courtesy of Jill Grimshaw

Week 1 (Term 2)

There are certain things that do not change and must not change;

The basic human values of truth, courage, kindness and courtesy.

Courtesy of Christian Pera

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**
ohaewaiibutchery2010@clear.net.nz

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