



Newsletter No. 4 | June 2016

Dear Parents

Wow, what a term! Term Two has whizzed by, but as they say, time flies when you're having fun. In addition to all of the wonderful work that has been completed in each class, there have been plenty of events and activities for our students to get stuck into, outside of the classroom. We have continued our field trips to ensure students put their theoretical knowledge into practice and to experience real-world examples of what they are learning. There have also been our Cross Country and interschool events, our Sheer Luck Holmes production which was amazing, our Art Exhibition, speeches, the Senior Ball, 40 Hour Famine sleepover, various winter sports, motocross coaching, staff vs students sports games, and we held the NSS Orienteering Champs on our school's farm.

Our Term Two theme of BOOST Independence has been a real success. Each Thought for the Week has been discussed in depth back in the classroom, and our students have been striving to practice independence in many forms. I am particularly impressed with our Senior Leaders' Thoughts. They have been insightful and inspirational – and I'm sure our younger students have enjoyed a student's perspective of independence from time to time. Our Prefects and Senior Leaders are perfect models for independence, as they have continued to immerse themselves in school life, several in particular being amazing Form Class leaders.

"A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way", and many of our senior students are perfect examples of this.

Market Day Approaches

This year, our annual Market Day will be held on Sunday 11th September from 11am – 2pm. As usual, the day promises to be full of fun, entertainment, delicious food, and innovative products created and produced by our very own students.



We are offering free stall space to local not-for-profit organisations to showcase their charity. If you know of any who may be interested, they can email michelle.chapman@springbank.nz or contact Sally on (09) 4075236.



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Stop Playin' Around!

Two weeks ago we were excited to be able to open two playgrounds; one at school and the other at our preschool. For those of you who have anything to do with commercial playgrounds, you will know that they are certainly not cheap, and I'm sure that most of you wouldn't come close to guessing how much these pieces of wood, plastic and metal cost! However, they are very good quality and will be sure to last for decades. Both playgrounds have proven to be particularly popular, and it is wonderful to see our students (and in some cases, teachers!) challenging themselves physically and having heaps of fun in the process.



Thank you to Harold Magon, the man who has built the entire school, for constructing both playgrounds, to Bob Warren for assisting and for the siteworks, and thanks to our Principal who played chief "safety tester" ☺.

Community Spirit High

Tim Richardson, Deputy Head Prefect, recently won the 2016 Trustpower Youth Community Spirit Award.

Tim has helped both the Springbank and wider communities in so many ways, but we will quickly run out of space if we begin to list them here.

Tim is the ideal ambassador for our region, as he has a genuine desire to help others and to be an active member of our school and our local community.



We are very proud of Tim for achieving recognition for his community spirit, and we are also proud to say that Tim is the third Springbank student to win this award since 2013.

"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." - Winston Churchill



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Sheer Luck Holmes

Our biennial school-wide production was entitled *Sheer Luck Holmes*, and it was simply outstanding! Andrea Druery instigated auditions late last year, and actors and actresses spent the summer learning their lines before kicking off the school year. Term One was full of rehearsals. With the assistance of Jacqui Larkan, the cast stayed after school most weekdays to construct their characters, then refine their performances.

Local primary schools were lucky enough to be entertained at the Thursday matinee, and the Friday and Saturday evening performances were exceptional. Thank you to all parents, teachers and students who helped make *Sheer Luck Holmes* a real success. Congratulations to Andrea and Jacqui, and the full cast and crew, and thank you for treating us to an amazing experience. I can't wait until 2018's production!



Student Art Exhibition

One of the highlights for the art department is the biennial Art Exhibition. This year we had art works on display from Headstart to Year 13. What a display it made!



A special thank you to Mike Nettmann who was our guest artist, and for donating one of his wonderful abstract works to the school, which is now in reception.



The senior students worked tirelessly behind the scenes to mount work, hang the works and provide nibbles. The Friends of Springbank were once again there to support us by manning the bar. It has been a great event to showcase our students' talents.

- Win Stringer



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2016 Springbank Cross Country

Thank you to Mr Adam Horgan and his Year 10 & 11 helpers for organising this year's Cross Country. Both the Junior and Middle/Senior events were brilliant to witness, as our students gave it absolutely heaps. We had some record-breaking times, and many of our students qualified for interschool competitions. Congratulations to our place-getters and well done to Orcas, who were top House! Here's a few snaps of the day:



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Kerikeri Districts Interschool Cross Country

On Tuesday 21st June, the Kerikeri Districts Interschool Cross Country was held at Takou Bay Farms, and we had sent a strong team to compete. It was a cold, clear day, and as the day progressed, a fierce wind came up, blowing head-on into the older competitors. Our athletes attacked the steep, undulating terrain. All of them put in their very best effort.

Our thanks go to the many parents who transported, cheered on, and fed the competitors. Extra thanks to the Sizer family for providing shelter with their gazebo.

We are very proud to announce the following placings:

Hunter Blakeman – 2nd in 9-year-old boys

Lucy Sizer – 1st in 11-year-old girls

Nathalie Hull – 1st in 12-year-old girls

Jai Dawson – 1st in 12-year-old boys

- Lynne Alexander



Northland Secondary Schools Cross Country

Our athletes who recently entered the Northland Secondary Schools Cross Country Championships did us proud. They all ran their absolute best and really cheered each other on.

In addition to several Top 10 placings, the following students ran great races to make the podium:

Jai Dawson took gold in the Year 7 & 8 boys, and Nathalie Hull took bronze in the Year 7 & 8 girls.

Well done, team!



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Middle-Senior Speech Competition – “What If?”

This year’s guiding topic aimed to elicit speeches which provoked and challenged an audience. We had a range of excellent presentations at classroom level, which were a prelude to the school finals on 20th June. The top two speakers from each year level competed in front of students, teachers, and parents.

Our judges, Sophia Warren and Lynne Alexander, were impressed by the level of content and the passion and energy of delivery from our speakers. Topics ranged from serious commentary on the current global refugee crisis, and animal welfare, to motivational talks on leadership and taking opportunities, to the more humorous takes on an adult-free world and fashion disasters.

We thoroughly enjoyed the contest!

Our winners were as follows:

Year 7 & 8: Lucy Sizer “What if I’d been born in Syria?”

Year 9 & 10: Faraday Haydock “What if we had no place to call home?”

Year 11 & 12: Aimee Larkan “What if Crocs were extinct?”

A big congratulations to our Speaker of the Day – Aimee Larkan (Year 12)

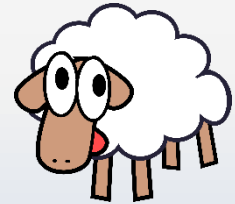
- Andrea Druery



Our speech finalists, from left to right: Harry Sizer, Lucy Sizer, Aimee Larkan, Faraday Haydock, Tosca Pasquale, Malindi Reihana-Ruka, Mike Michaux, Mark Michaux, Max Hittle IV, Sara Finch

Agri-Pets Day

After the success of last year’s Agri-Pets Day, we will be holding another one this year on Friday 11th November. This event is open to the whole school; students from Headstart though to Year 13 are invited to participate.



Students will be able to rear either a calf, lamb, or goat, then bring it to school and show off their leading and rearing abilities, as well as a fancy dress outfit. It does not matter whether you have raised an animal before. This will be your opportunity to give it a go. From the beginning of Term Three, there will be a registration form and basic rearing information available from the office. I look forward to seeing you and your pets again this year.

- Kimberley Knight
Deputy Head Prefect



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SPBT Leadership Week – Tony Scott

Since 2007, The Sir Peter Blake Leadership Week has been a time when New Zealand celebrates great leadership. This year the Sir Peter Blake Trust wants to encourage kiwis to back themselves to achieve their dreams – not to let failures stand in their way of achieving success, but rather learn from mistakes and use them to help adapt and strengthen the plan towards achieving their goals, just as Sir Peter Blake did.

The Trust has put together a ‘Dream Team’ of 300 inspiring leaders who are visiting schools to inspire students with their story, and encourage students to dream big and continue Sir Peter Blake’s legacy.

Springbank School was honoured to have Dream Team speaker Mr Tony Scott speak to our Senior School on Friday 24th June. Coincidentally, Tony is a Springbank parent – we are very lucky to have him in our midst!



Tony has served as a volunteer firefighter for five different brigades across the Auckland and Far North regions for more than 27 years, and as a crash firefighter at Auckland International Airport for 22 years. He is a mentor to other fire fighters, a dedicated fundraiser, and was a key driver of the Firefighter and Corporate Sky Tower Stair Challenges for the Leukaemia and Blood Cancer Foundation. The Challenges have so far raised more than \$5 million in total, and have been running since 2005. In 2015, the 750 firefighters from New Zealand and across the world raised more than a million dollars. He was also the founder of the 9/11 Firefighters Memorial Stair Climb to remember the firefighters who lost their lives while on duty. He is one of the Fire Service’s most dedicated event organisers and can often be found volunteering at functions or fundraising events throughout the year. Tony won the 2014 Pride of New Zealand Fundraiser of the Year award and a 2014 Kiwibank Local Hero Award, and this year has received The Queen’s Service Medal for his services to the New Zealand Fire Service and the community.

Upskill Yourself

It is safe to say we haven’t been utilising our fantastic rock wall as well as we could. However, we are only limited by the number of adults who are “qualified” to run climbing sessions. Next term we will be offering training sessions for staff who wish to make themselves available as climbing supervisors, and we would like to invite parents to take part.

If you are interested in helping supervise our rock wall, possibly during the odd after-school climbing session, please contact reception to register your interest. The more people we have available to supervise, the more students we can expose to the exciting world of rock climbing.

Off Your Bike?

Another resource that we would like to utilise as best we can, is our multi-sport track.

Friends of Springbank are exploring the idea of building a bike shed at school and filling it up with bikes for our students to use as they please.

If you have a bike in good condition, which you would be happy to donate to this initiative, please contact reception.

Many thanks in advance!



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2016 Senior Ball – Secret Garden

Since Year 11, Yuong Chaiyaklang (currently Year 13) has had a vision of his Senior Ball, and he has been quietly planning ever since. Yuong is an accomplished artist, and he used every ounce of his creativity in transforming Kerikeri's Turner Centre into a wonderland for last weekend's ball. By the sounds of it, he almost used every ounce of plant material from Plantzone, his family's nursery, as thousands of dollars worth of plants needed to be trucked in! Phil Webb, Senior Ball veteran, claims that, from memory (which still serves him well!), it was the most impressive ball setting he has had the pleasure of experiencing. Our senior students did an amazing job of setting up (and cleaning up) the venue. They also had an absolute blast, boogying the night away!



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Andrea Druery Hapu!

As we near the end of Term Two, Andrea and Christian Druery near the start of the biggest adventure of a lifetime. We have never officially announced this, and it's possible that some of you are not aware, but Andrea is pregnant, due late July, and will be going on maternity leave from the end of this week!

So officially from all of the Springbank Family, congratulations Andrea and Christian, and we wish you all the very best as you embark on the parenthood journey. Good times ahead!

To all of our staff, students, and parents – enjoy the next three weeks of school holidays, keep safe, and I look forward to seeing you again, bright and early, on Monday 25th July!

Regards

Mike Warren

Principal

House Sitting Opportunity

This is for those of you who are so organised that you are already planning your summer holiday break!

If you are heading away and would like a trust-worthy house sitter during the period 17th December to 10th January, please contact Jacqui Larkan on (09) 4075409 or jacqui.larkan@springbank.nz

Entertainment Book

One of our Year 9 Community Enterprise groups is selling Entertainment Books to raise money for Mid-North Hospice. Please support them by purchasing an Entertainment book, which gives you discounts to hundreds of restaurants, accommodation, entertainment, rental cars... the list goes on.

There is a sample Entertainment Book in reception – check it out!



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