



## Newsletter No.3 | March 2018

### *Dear Parents*

As demonstrated in this newsletter, there has been so much happening in and around Springbank; so much in fact that we've had to split some recent events off and include them in next month's newsletter!

Learning is best when being immersed in a variety of experiences. Many co-curricular and extra-curricular activities will be fun, some will be challenging, some will bring students closer together, and some will force students' characters to develop, testing them far outside of their comfort zone. These are times when we discover our passions, discover our potential, and discover strong friendships. We are fortunate to have an array of quality learning experiences, and our students (and teachers!) are making amazing lifelong memories. We must encourage our children to get involved and make the most of every experience as an opportunity to learn and grow together.

When all is said and done, it is these hands-on experiences that we remember as highlights of our schooling years. They are also some of the most effective for meaningful learning to take place.

"Tell me and I'll forget; show me and I may remember; involve me and I'll understand" – Chinese proverb

Let's get involved!



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## Springbank Athletics Day 2018

This year's Athletics Day was special and unique for a number of reasons; not least because it actually took place on the allotted day. Mrs. Druery was back after her 2017 hiatus, Mr. Whitaker put his best foot forward, and Mr. Haydock tried not to look wistful as he recalled the days when Taiyo, Tim & Jai beat all comers in the 2016 orange crush.

There was something especially rousing about the morning parade. The Stingrays claimed they had a new chant, though like the adage about folk songs (if it doesn't sound new, but it never gets old), it was hard to say. The Sharks reprised their dignity-shredding *SHARKNADO* and the Dolphins were suitably loud and co-ordinated. Mr. Warren duly awarded the house points for best chant to the Stingrays, and the games began.

Throughout the day the competitors threw, ran and jumped with skill and determination. Mr. McFadden had manicured the long jump pit and his team had things ticking over. Drifting across the field were roars of encouragement, cries of celebration and the parping of Vaughan's trumpet. As the sprint finals reached their climax, Mr. Whitaker mentioned, in an offhand way, "How about a teacher's race?" And so, teachers Hittle, Bertelink, Dorans, Warren, Whitaker and Horgan took their marks. The gunshot rang out, Mr. Horgan stooped to pick up \$2 that was lying on the track (rumours that he fell over are, frankly, delusional) and Mr. Whitaker stormed to victory. The closing events were a relay with batons flying and a first Springbank tug o' war. Dolphins everywhere had been looking forward to this and they certainly rose to the occasion – dominating their opponents.

When the gear was cleared and the points added, the Stingrays emerged victorious (from worst to first in one year!) with the Orcas second, Sharks third and Dolphins fourth. Another successful year that owed everything to the enthusiasm of the competitors and the work of our awesome staff and parents.

Kia ora! – Adam Horgan



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## ***Northern Secondary Schools Athletics***

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March, the athletics team travelled to Trigg Stadium in Whangarei to participate in the annual Northland Secondary Schools Track and Field competition. Buoyed by success at our recent Springbank Athletics Day and with their skills honed through training, our team made the most of the opportunity to compete against the best in the region at a top-class facility.

In a highly competitive environment and with no time for hesitation or doubt, our young athletes all excelled, producing performances to be proud of across a very long day; due to a cancellation of the 300m heats in his age group, Ollie Huett had his first race at 1510!

Several top three places were gained, and Mya Napier was rewarded for her dedication to track and field with a well-deserved first place in the high jump. What stood out most throughout the day was the sportsmanship and camaraderie amongst the competitors; while the competition was intense, before and after each race there were smiles, encouragement and congratulations – a reflection of the maxim that “good people make good athletes”.

I would like to thank all the athletes for their hard work in preparation for the event and their exemplary conduct on the day – most of the time they were great, and the rest of the time they were better!

- Adam Horgan

## ***Dates to Note***

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Easter Monday

**April 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Easter Tuesday

**April 5<sup>th</sup>** – Junior Inter-School Swimming Sports

**April 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>** – Cape Brett Challenge

**April 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>** – Geography Field Trip

**April 13<sup>th</sup>** – Last day of Term 1

**May 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>** – Watch This Space, Springbank School Production

## **Term 1 Holidays**

April 14<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>

## **Term 2 Dates**

April 30<sup>th</sup> – July 6<sup>th</sup> (10 weeks)



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## Epro8 Challenge

E – Engineer

Pro – Problem solve

8 – Innovate

Sixteen students (four teams of four) from Years 6, 7 and 8 represented Springbank at the EPro8 Challenge in Kerikeri on 14<sup>th</sup> March. Students participated in a range of problem solving team challenges, all with a science and engineering focus, as they competed against teams from across the Far North to earn points for the challenges they completed.

In the Year 5 and 6 section, 'Technic' took first place, while in the Year 7 and 8 section our two teams 'Probots' and 'Spring Loaded' tied for second place and had to compete against each other in a three minute tie-break for a place in the final.

Technic and Spring Loaded travelled to Whangarei on 21<sup>st</sup> March for the Northland region Grand Final and a whole new set of challenges. Whilst neither team placed in the top three, all of the students involved in both competitions had fun and learned a lot - not only about engineering and problem-solving but also about team-work, perseverance and creativity.

I would like to thank the students involved for their enthusiasm and good-humour, even when things weren't working for them, and we would all like to thank Friends of Springbank for sponsoring the cost of entry fees (\$720) for both events.

- Clare Dorans



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## Friends of Springbank

We are pleased to have approved financial contributions towards the following events and initiatives. A grand total of \$2070 supporting students and families!

<b>E-Pro 8 Challenge</b>	Entry Fees for x4 Teams	Junior & Middle School	\$ 480.00
<b>Friendship Chair/Table</b>	Materials	Junior School	\$ 150.00
<b>MacBeth Trip</b>	Travel & Accommodation	Middle School - Y7	\$ 600.00
<b>Senior Geography Trip</b>	Travel & Accommodation	Senior School	\$ 500.00
<b>Year 6 Lit Quiz Northland</b>	Entry Fees	Middle School – Y6	\$ 100.00
<b>E-Pro 8 Challenge Finals</b>	Entry Fees for x2 Teams	Junior & Middle School	\$ 240.00

**Calendar Sale** – We have a few calendars left to sell, Large \$10 / Desktop \$5. Please use the honesty box in the office or pay online into the FOS bank account.

**AGM** – Our next meeting is planned for Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May (first week back of Term 3) at 2-3pm in the staffroom and is our AGM. We would love you to come along – even if you can't commit to joining the committee or coming to every meeting we would appreciate your input into our planning for 2018.

Kind regards,

Erica Wells

Chairperson, Friends of Springbank



***“To further the educational experience of Springbank students”***

## Sporting and Cultural Achievements

We have been thrilled to share some outstanding sporting successes over the last few weeks, at assembly and on Facebook.

A number of our students have been excelling in their chosen sporting fields such as swimming, sailing and horse riding.

At Springbank School we are very proud of our students who extend their talents and abilities outside of the classroom.

We want to acknowledge all student achievements and to help be their cheerleader.

If your child is competing in a sport, musical or cultural event, has achieved a top award in Scouts, Guides or whatever it may be, we want to hear about it!

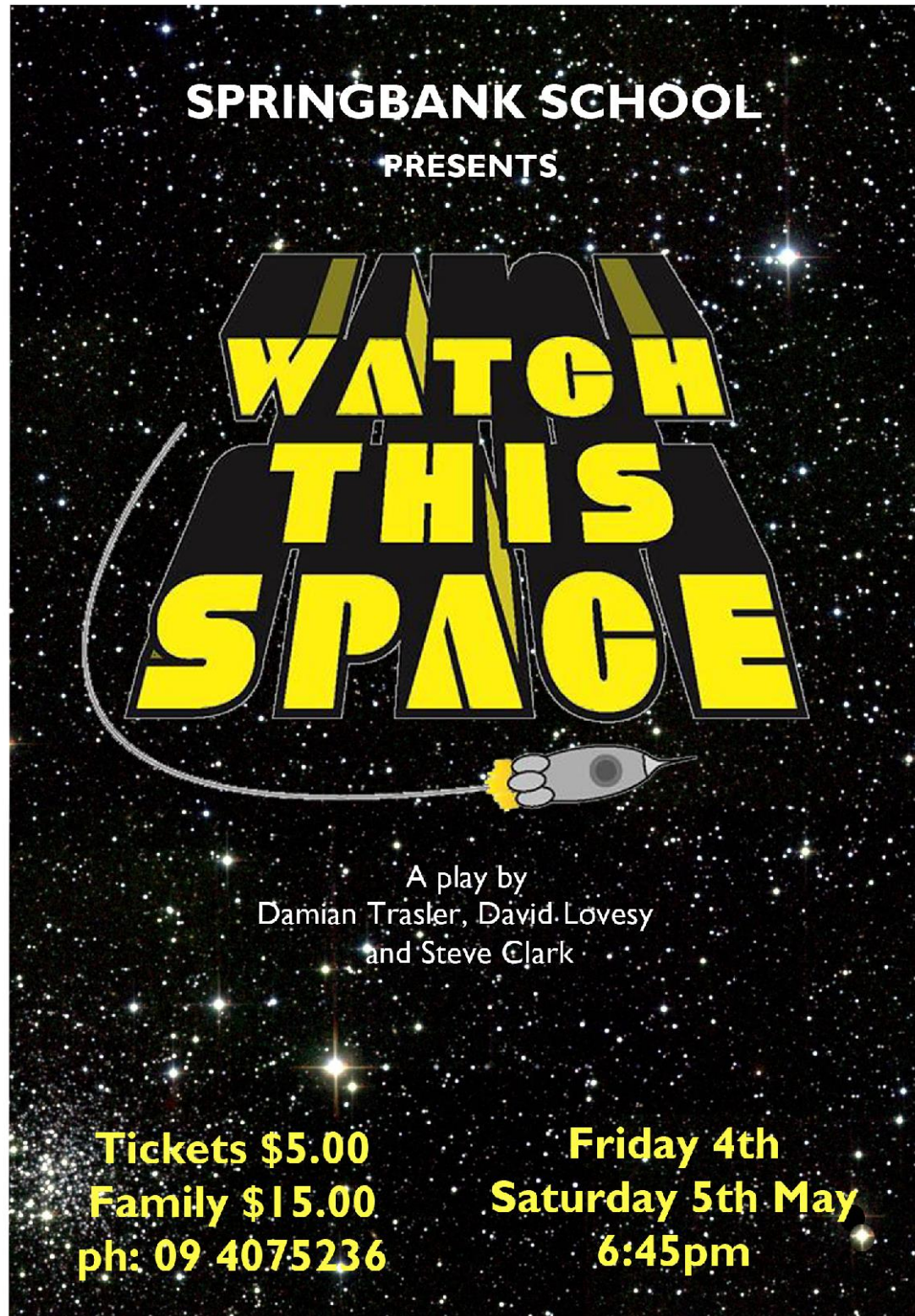
Please forward any details and / or photo to [sally.collings@springbank.school.nz](mailto:sally.collings@springbank.school.nz)

Sally will then make sure the information gets passed onto the correct teacher to share at assembly and to share on the Springbank School Facebook page.



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### *Springbank School Production 2018*

May the 4th (and 5th) be with you!

This year, Springbank School's keen young actors are spoofing it up in intergalactic style! With lots of pokes at all your favourite sci-fi characters, this year's show is sure to be a laugh for young and old, Trekkies and Star Wars fans alike!

- ✓ Please reserve your tickets by phone on 407 5236
- ✓ \$5 per person
- ✓ \$15 per family

Thank you so far to all the students, staff and parents who have been working tirelessly to help bring the 2018 production to stage.

It is going to be another superb performance and we can't wait to present the show to everyone in early May.

Book your seat now, so you don't miss out and please share with all your family and friends.

- Andrea Druery



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## Agri Kids

The Agri Kids competition took place at the Kerikeri Domain on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March. There was a buzz of activity around the entire domain as teams from the Teen Ag competition and Northland finalists in the New Zealand Young Farmer of the Year were also competing in their own activities.

For the 2018 Agri Kids division, Springbank School was represented by:

- Cameron Ireland
- Callum McIntyre and
- Hunter Blakeman

The boys had to complete eight challenges, which test a wide range of agriculture knowledge from theory to hands on skills.

Cameron, Callum and Hunter proved themselves to be a very capable team and made it through to the final race of the day. The boys worked really well together and pushed super hard to get a great placing of 4<sup>th</sup> for the day out of 32 teams.

It was a super effort and the boys should be very proud of themselves.

Thank you very much to Mrs Chapman for organising, and to their families, friends and staff who came along and supported them.



## Young Farmers / Teen Ag Club

Springbank School has participated in the Agri Kids competition for the last two years, and have proved ourselves to be very skilful and confident about a wide range of agricultural knowledge.

Young Farmers / Teen Ag Clubs have been up and running for just under ten years and we like the idea of starting one for Springbank.

As explained on the Agri Kids website, the club's aim is:

*"...to promote the fun side of agriculture while children develop valuable skills and make lifelong friendships. Members don't need to come off a farm, they just need to have a love of the land and be keen to get their hands a bit dirty!"*

If your child (and you as parent help) would like to be part of a Springbank School Young Farmers / Teen Ag Club, please forward a message of interest and names to:

[angela.warren@springbank.school.nz](mailto:angela.warren@springbank.school.nz)



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### *Lit Quiz*

On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March, four excited Year 6 students travelled to Kerikeri Primary School for the Northland heats of the LitQuiz. Mrs Cassie McIntyre took on the responsibility of driving the girls and supporting them at the competition; she was also called in as a marker when the organisers ran short!

The team answered questions in 10 categories, including Cats, Cities, Clocks, Escapes, Hunters and Wizards; and we are proud to report that they came second out of the Year 6 teams – well done! It has been great having such a young team, because they still have two years of eligibility for entering this prestigious competition, and I know they are keen!

Thank you to Friends of Springbank for helping us cover the entry fees.



### *Futsal*

Ishmael Strevens, Christian Leinberger, Joshua Traas, Oliver Huett, Naaman Boxer, Jack Hittle, Sean McConnachie and Jordan Wojtulewicz represented Springbank School at the Northland Secondary School Futsal tournament at Kensington Park, Whangarei earlier in the month.

This is the first time Springbank School has entered this competition and the team played extremely well! There were three pools of U16 teams and our boys won three out of their four games, putting them in 2nd place in their pool. Unfortunately, they missed out on the final play-offs by one point.

We are very proud of the great sportsmanship the boys showed on the field and everyone came home happy.

Thank you to Mr Chris Whitaker, who supported them at the event.



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### Students at a glance



**Name:** Millie Stovell

**Year:** 6

**House Group:** Dolphins

**What do you enjoy about Springbank School?** *I like learning about new things. I also really like fitness.*

**What's your favourite subject?** *Swimming every Wednesday*

**What's your favourite song?** *I don't really have one.*

**What's the best thing to do at lunchtime?** *Hanging with my friends and going on the swings.*

**If I were Principal I'd ...** *Have pink hair!*

**In my spare time out of school I like ...** *Dancing!*



**Name:** Clay Blakeman

**Year:** 5

**House Group:** Orcas

**What do you enjoy about Springbank**

**School?** *I like doing Maths, Science and Art.*

**What's your favourite subject?** *Maths!*

**What's your favourite song?** *Hall of Fame by The Script*

**What's the best thing to do at lunchtime?** *I like playing Buster or Cheat with my friends on the playground.*

**If I were Principal I'd ...** *Make uniforms! I was at an event once and noticed another school with uniforms but it was really rough material. So I would make uniforms with nice softish material, in a nice white or blue.*

**In my spare time out of school I like ...** *Mountain Biking, Soccer, building Lego with my brother.*



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## Goodbyes and Hellos at Preschool and Headstart

There are a few changes happening within Preschool and Headstart that we would like to update you all on.

Anna Wilson will be leaving Springbank Preschool at the end of Term 1. However, Anna isn't going too far, and lucky for us she is just moving across the carpark to Headstart to join Mrs Abi Frame.

It is with great delight that Anna has accepted the ECE Teaching position within Headstart and will start there officially at the beginning of Term 2. Anna has been a key staff member at Preschool since February 2016, showing great initiative with many projects and excursions for the preschool, along with forming fantastic bonds with both the children and their families. Anna will be missed within the Preschool grounds but we know her drive and passion for learning with young children will continue at Headstart.



For those who are unaware, Ms Jess Van Weerd has decided to leave Headstart at the end of Term 1. Jess has been a fantastic teacher with the Springbank Community since late 2012, where she first started teaching with us at Preschool, before moving up to her Headstart role in 2015. Jess has always demonstrated a very warm and loving manner to the children in her care, as well as families and colleagues. Jess will be missed by everyone, but we wish her all the very best on the next adventures and challenges she has lined up for herself.

We will thank and farewell Jess at a special assembly at Headstart on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March at 2:30pm.

We also say farewell to our Head Teacher, Annie Tikaram from Preschool as she has decided to further her own educational studies, with a Masters in Education. Annie joined us in June 2015 and has been a fantastic team leader for the Preschool staff. Annie has a lovely nurturing nature that the children really connect with. Annie's huge smile, warm laugh and ability to just get on with the job will be sadly missed, but we wish her well in her future studies.

With all these changes, we are excited to welcome back Kayla Gravatt who will join the Preschool Overs teaching team at the beginning of Term 2. Kayla is already a familiar face at Preschool, having been a Support Teacher on the Infant & Toddler side. Kayla will be joined by her daughter, Indie, and we are thrilled to have them both back at Preschool.



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## St Patrick's Day

Oh, the slime, the spiders and the songs!

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March, we celebrated St Patrick's Day at Springbank. The festivities, organised by the Prefects and senior leaders, included the egg toss, face painting, ice-cream spiders, and slime throwing at some teachers and students, which were run at lunchtime and interval.

We raised **\$365** for NEST, the Northland Emergency Services Trust, and we'd like to thank everyone who dressed up in green and helped us support this cause with donations.



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## World of Maths Roadshow

Students from Headstart to Year 8 had a great time exploring the World of Maths in a fun way on 23 March.

Students were given around 20 different puzzles, where logical thinking was needed to solve these problems. Students were amazing by helping each other out and giving suggestions how to solve each of the puzzles.

Feedback from the organiser: *"I am impressed with the knowledge, insights and attitude from all of these students."*

- Henk Bertelink



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## Marine Science Field Trip

The intrepid group of marine scientists journeyed to Opito Bay on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March to investigate the distribution pattern of several marine species on a rocky shore.

The work was carried out under the ideal conditions of sunshine and a soft, cooling breeze.

The students produced some interesting results that showed how the distribution of rock oysters, periwinkles and black nerites differs over the inter-tidal zone. Jannis managed to attract the attention of a rather large crab and the group were able to visit a cave that was literally festooned with anemones and crabs.

They followed up the field work with an analysis of their findings and produced line graphs and kite diagrams to represent distribution patterns.

A big thank you to the group who were hard working, focussed and enthusiastic.

- C. Shore (John Haydock)



## Free Surf Holiday Programme

The O'Neill Surf Academy are running their popular holiday surf programme over the next holidays on the Tutukaka Coast and at Taupo Bay.

### Fun, Active & Healthy

11-17yr olds | Monday-Friday

- Week One 16-20 April
- Week Two 23-27 April
- Free Kids Only

### Holiday Surf Programme

Suitable for beginner and intermediate surfers – developing surf skills and water confidence in a fun and safe environment plus fun beach games

**Limited spaces | Please email to book**

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## Headstart Report

Headstart have been very busy since our last update!

Angie at the Café invited us to come bake scones and grape cake! We were able to practice measuring flour, cutting grapes in half and washing dishes the old-school way. We also hatched four chrysalises that were attached to our classroom ceiling! The caterpillars turned into chrysalises, which turned into beautiful butterflies.

We have also been trying new fruit, brought in by Iona – babako, which tasted a little bit like pineapples and passionfruit! All the children had a go and almost everyone liked it.

We joined the Junior School for World of Maths. Headstart children loved working with their older friends who took such great care of us!

Bronson taught us some hockey skills. We were very good at dribbling the ball and making sure it didn't run away.



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## Preschool Update

We had an amazing St. Patricks Day celebrating in green. The children dressed in green and we had our Preschool decorated in kakariki. At Preschool, we love to celebrate different cultures and it was great to get a feel of what it is to be a different culture for the day. These opportunities enable us to make links with the wider community and affirm that everyone is different and unique.



We also shared a lovely pre-Easter Egg Hunt and BBQ together on the Wednesday before we broke up for the long Easter weekend. It was really nice to see so many families come along and catch up with each other and enjoy one of the last daylight savings evenings.



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### *But wait there's more ...*

The month of March has proved to be a very busy time with so many amazing events happening. We have lots of exciting reports to share with you, however we need to save some for next month's April Newsletter.

So keep watching, as next month we'll update you all on the very successful Shave for a Cure event, Crazy Hair Day, the Year 7 trip to Auckland to attend the Pop Up Globe, as well as photos from our End of Summer BBQ and Junior Hockey training at school.

But don't forget to keep an eye out on the school Facebook page as we update you regularly with news from in and around school. You don't even need a Facebook account:

<https://www.facebook.com/springbankschool>

Regards

Mike Warren  
Principal

### *Character Strength of the Week Quotes*

#### **Term 1, Week 6 – Judgment/Critical Thinking:**

"Life is a continuous exercise in creative problem solving."

- Michael J Gelb

*Courtesy of Mr Warren*

#### **Term 1, Week 7 – Love of Learning:**

"The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled."

- Plutarch, Greek philosopher & writer

*Courtesy of Mrs Phillips*

#### **Term 1, Week 8 – Perspective:**

"It's not what you look at that matters, it's what you see."

- Henry David Thoreau

*Courtesy of Mrs Frame*

#### **Term 1, Week 9 – Bravery:**

"There is little faith involved in setting out on a journey where the destination is certain and every step in between has been mapped in detail. Bravery...trust...are about leaving camp in the dark, when we do not know the route ahead and cannot be certain we will ever return."

- Bear Grylls

*Courtesy of Mr McFadden*



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