Dear Parents

Welcome to the start of the 2019 academic year! I hope you managed to spend some quality time with your children, taking advantage of the superb weather that we have been experiencing (can I say, almost too superb?!).

It has been wonderful catching up with students and parents this week, as well as welcoming new students and staff to the Springbank family. It was great to see so many family members attending Tuesday’s assembly. Of course you are more than welcome to attend any assemblies throughout the year.

A warm welcome to Kelly Bunce (science and maths), Jocelyn Nasmyth (English). Welcome back to Phil Webb who is teaching senior chemistry and lab technical support, and we welcome Sara Hittle into her new teaching role in the English department. Congratulations also to John Haydock who has been promoted to Deputy Principal of Senior School.

I wish our 26 new students (14 domestic, 12 international) a warm welcome, and I am excited to see what 2019 brings!

Dates to Note:

- **Term 1**: 29 January to 12 April
- **Term 2**: 29 April to 5 July
- **Term 3**: 22 July to 20 September
- **Term 4**: 7 October to 5 December

Public and School Holidays

- **Waitangi Day**: Wednesday 6th February
- **Term 1 Long Weekend**: Monday 4th March (Week 6)
- **Term 1 Long Weekend**: Friday 29th March (Week 9)
- **Queen’s Birthday**: Monday 3rd June
- **Labour Day**: Monday 28th October

As you can see above, we have two long weekends scheduled this term. The reason for this is that the Easter holidays fall within our Term 1 holidays this year, and these are usually a much-needed mid-term three-day break for our students.

Therefore, to compensate, our two long weekends will be scheduled in Weeks 6 and 9.
**Outstanding 2018 Springbank School Exam Results!**

All of the 2018 Cambridge International exam results have now been released, and we are thrilled with the results at every level.

Here’s a quick breakdown of our successes:

**A LEVEL (university entrance papers – Year 12 & 13)**
- 92% of all papers gained a pass grade or above – an amazing result at this level.
- 29% of all Year 12 students have now already gained University Entrance with one year of study remaining, and 100% of Year 13 students gained University Entrance!

**IGSCE (Year 11)**
- 96% of all papers were passed – the vast majority of them 60% or above.
- Several students gained outstanding individual results above 90% (A* grade)

**Primary (Year 6) and Lower Secondary (Year 9) Checkpoint**

The results are excellent, with both Primary and Lower Secondary scoring above the international average in every subject, which is a particularly impressive result.

Cambridge Primary (Year 6) English and Maths results were all above the international average, with Science being **well** above. 96% of all papers across the three subjects were passed!

Secondary 1 Checkpoint (Year 9) results were very strong across all three subjects, **well** above the international average. 92% of all papers were passed across all three subjects.

We would like to congratulate our dedicated teachers and all our students who have worked so hard to achieve personal excellence.

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**Open Day**

Springbank School will be holding an Open Day on **Monday 25th February from 8:30am.**

If you have any family or friends that have been wanting to find out more about Springbank School, please pass on our Open Day date to them.

Open Days are a great chance for parents and students to see our school in action, speak with teachers and sit in on our assembly.

Both our Headstart and Preschool centres also welcome visitors to come and spend some time with them.

If you would like further information to pass on to friends or family, you can find our brochures in the school office, call 09 407 5236, or email reception@springbank.school.nz.
2019 School Wide Focus – Character Strengths in Action

For your information, this is our students’ action plan for this year:

1. Identify **one** Character Strength per term that you will focus on. Choose Character Strengths that when you use them:
   a. you feel energised and invigorated rather than depleted
   b. you feel authentic, giving you a sense of your true self
   c. you feel a sense of direction and purpose

2. Each term notice when and how you use **that** one

3. Notice other people using a Character Strength and let them know

4. Record when someone else recognises you using a Character Strength (any of the 24 Character Strengths).

**This Character Strength journal is the bottom section of the weekly student planner.**

Form time will take the form of a weekly reflective session, in which you may nominate other students (or even your teacher!) for demonstrating Character Strengths in action. The nominated student documents these comments in his/her planner.

**Memorable Moments**

Teachers will issue Memorable Moments when a student demonstrates a character strength in action. You will then place your MM sticker next to the most appropriate character strength (in your planner).

**Assembly – Character Strength of the Week**

As there are literally hundreds of positive character traits, not just our 24, the assembly presentations will centre around character strengths that we have not yet explored. Classes will have an opportunity to present a Character Strength of the Week in Terms 3 & 4.

The Character Strength will be presented along with an inspirational quote, and the presenter will state which of the 24 character strengths their one most closely relates to. Presenters may suggest weekly tasks, but this is not required.
Springbank Cafe

Our school cafe is back up and running, and we would like to introduce and welcome Shanny to you all. Shanny is a new parent to Springbank School, is also our new cafe operator, and she is really looking forward to providing delicious and nutritious food and drink to our students, staff and parents.

If you don’t have to rush off after dropping off the children in the morning, pop around to the cafe and enjoy a coffee and/or a sweet treat.

Springbank Cafe Menu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hot Food:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nachos: Beef or Bean (with Sour Cream and Salsa)GF</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beef Slider*</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Hot Dog</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini Pizza: Hawaiian, Meatlovers, Veg</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Soup of the Day, with Bread Roll</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pies:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mince and Cheese, Mince, Steak and Cheese, Butter</td>
<td>$4.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicken</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Mince and Cheese</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spinach and Feta Roll (V)</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mini Mince Pie</td>
<td>$1.50</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mini Sausage Roll</td>
<td>$1.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sausage Roll</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
<td></td>
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Please place orders for Lunch by 10:20

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sammies and Salads:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicken Salad Wrap</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ham Salad Wrap</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toastie - Choose 2 Fillings. (Ham, Cheese, Tomato, Onion)*</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baked Croissant (Ham, Cheese and Tomato)</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toasted Bagel - Smoked Salmon Cream Cheese or BLT</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chicken Caesar Salad*</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cakes and Slices:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chocolate Brownie(GF)</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muesli Slice</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cinnamon Donut</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lamington (Choc and Raspberry)</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Muffin/Scones</td>
<td>$3.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cookie</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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* GF option available on Request

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drinks:</th>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coffee - Flat White, Cappucino, Latte</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hot Chocolate</td>
<td>$3.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iced Chocolate</td>
<td>$5.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bottled Water</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charlies Juice: Orange, Apple or Blackcurrent</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calciyum: Chocolate, Strawberry and Banana</td>
<td>$2.50</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Smoothies:</th>
<th>$5.00</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tropical:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banana, Lime and Almond</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed Berry</td>
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Back Playground Revamp

Towards the end of 2018, the students were asked for their feedback on the back playground by the turf, as we are looking to revamp this area.

A survey was sent out and students were asked:

- If they used the back playground, and if so, what they do or do not like about the space.
- What kind of equipment they would like to see installed.
- How would they like the space to look.

We received a great response from the students and found that the space is well used. However, the students would like to see some changes, and three common suggestions came through.

1. Swings
2. A Gaga Pit
3. Confidence / Obstacle Course

For those who are unsure of what a Gaga Pit is, here’s a link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qxtg8xEX2S4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qxtg8xEX2S4)

Our next step is to research pricing on the above suggestions, put together a proposal. Keep an eye out this term for more updates.
**Friends**

The Friends of Springbank School committee is ready for another exciting year. This year they are launching the Life Skills for Teens (& Parents!), giving Middle and Senior students the opportunity to attend a range of fantastic training courses at a discounted cost.

Friends is a voluntary committee of parents who are dedicated to providing monetary assistance and support for class trips, events and resources that would benefit the educational experience for all Springbank students.

The committee is always looking for more team members and welcomes anyone to come along to the monthly meetings.

**Meeting Dates for 2019**

- Wed 27th February
- Wed 27th March
- *No April meeting due to school holidays*
- Wed 29th May
- Wed 26th June
- Wed 31st July
- Wed 28th August
- Wed 18th September (week early before school holidays starts)
- Oct/Nov Dates TBC in the lead up to Fireworks

All meetings are held in the school staffroom at 2:00pm.

**Keeping Sun Smart**

The Northland summer has been super hot and it doesn’t look like it’s letting up anytime soon.

It’s great to be able to enjoy the sun, but we do wish to remind everyone the importance of keeping sun smart while at school.

Here are a few things our students should be doing:

- Bring a sun hat and wear it at all times when outside.
- Apply sunscreen before coming to school. There is sunscreen available at school to re-apply (every 2 hours).
- Water – bring a full bottle and keep hydrated.
- Light clothing – cotton clothing will breathe better in the heat and lighter colours won’t attract the heat as much.
- Shade – take some time out in the shade if you feel you’re getting too hot.
Parent Survey

Firstly, we would like to thank everyone who took part in the Parent Survey at the end of 2018. We were really pleased with the high number of responses and the speed in which you all replied.

At Springbank School we are committed to providing the best learning environment for your children, as well as creating a community for you, our families, where your opinions are valued and heard.

We are currently going through the final analysis of all the responses from the nine questions posed. In the meantime, please find below an initial feel of the results.

The three keys areas that families most appreciate about Springbank School are:

1. Our safe environment
2. Teachers
3. Class Sizes

Areas where families feel we could add more value or improve on:

1. Subject Options
2. Resources/facilities

Our support levels for students and staff rated high, as did our environment and communication.

It was also great that many of you took the time to answer the various sections where you could provide us with more in-depth feedback. We received some great complimentary replies, as well as some sound constructive suggestions and queries for us to consider.

Thank you for your feedback – it is much appreciated. Once we have completed our analysis, we look forward to sharing more of the survey feedback in greater depth and communicating our plans for the future in upcoming newsletters.

Library

Welcome back to another year of learning and READING!

There are going to be a lot of wonderful new books coming into the library this year, so don’t forget to pop up and visit.

If you took out up to 10 books for your summer reading over the holidays, please remember to bring those back.

It’s so nice to catch up with friends after the holidays, especially to talk about some of the books you read!

You might be able to inspire a friend to dive into the world of mystery or recommend a great author to them. The world of reading can take you to so many wonderful places, both real and imaginary.
Hockey

Hockey, one might say, is the greatest sport in the world... but that one might be biased!

The Bay of Islands Hockey Association is running a Super 8’s Hockey Twilight competition during the months of February and March. This competition is mainly for adults (family members and teachers), but students from Year 9 and older are also welcome to play.

If you would like to take part in this competition (even if you are brand new to this wonderful sport and just wish to have a run-around to burn off that Christmas pudding), please add your name to the list, which can be found in reception, or email mike.warren@springbank.nz.

Springbank School will pay each team’s entry fee, so you play for free!

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Music tuition offered at Springbank School

Private tuition available for classical piano, modern piano, or keyboard.

Age: 7 years and older. For younger students tuition is at my studio - see below.

**Tuition costs**: 30 mins $29 + GST
20 mins $20 + GST

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Music tuition at the Music Studio, Kingston House

I have a very well-equipped music studio, located at Kingston House, Hone Heke Road, Kerikeri. I have the facilities to teach a range of courses; group and private tuition for piano and keyboard, for all ages. Tuition fees vary, depending on course taken, lesson duration etc, and are not the same as those stated above.

I do teach 4 – 7 year olds, using an extremely good course, specifically designed to introduce music to young children. Because of the necessary parental involvement, taking this is not possible at Springbank, at this stage.

All enquiries welcome. Phone Ruth Simpson 09 4028372 or 027 3039577
**Headstart Report**

Headstart is happy to be back and looking forward to an exciting, fun-filled 2019!

We have had five new friends join us this term. We welcome Macy Lynn, Frank Warren, Christian Paity, Ruby Blackler and Blake Kruithof to the Headstart whanau. We haven't even completed one week of Term 1 yet, and our new friends are so well-settled and enjoying their new space.

This term we are looking at 'Under the Sea'. We wonder what fantastic things we are going to discover and learn about.

Bring on 2019!

Mrs Abi Frame & Miss Anna Wilson
Springbank Preschool Update

Hello everyone, from Preschool! We hope you all had a fabulous holiday. We sure did, and it has been so much fun hearing about all the adventures our friends had over the summer break.

We have been back into the swing of things for a couple of weeks now, and the New Year has kicked off with a rush of excitement. Everyone has arrived back with boundless energy, so we can tell this is going to be one awesome year of fun, play, and learning.

This year, our focus is on music and movement. We are all very excited about where this learning will take us. We are asking our parents if they have any ideas or know anyone who can support this project to give our tamariki as many different experiences as we can. To our friends in the wider Springbank community, if you have a musical or dance talent you would be happy to share with us, please contact us at Preschool on 09 407 9898 or preschool@springbank.school.nz

Bring on 2019!

I wish our students all the very best for this coming school year. I look forward to sharing all of our successes and highlights with you, so please keep a lookout for each new edition of our newsletter at the end of each month.

Kind regards,

Mike Warren – Principal