

Boulcott School

Boulcott School Community:
Excited about learning and aiming for excellence

Te kura whanui a tangata o Boulcott:
Kei te whakaongaonga mo nga mahi ako kei te whai, kia hiranga

Newsletter No. 1 – Wednesday, 8 February 2017

Happy New Year Parents and Caregivers,

Welcome to all those returning to Boulcott School and an especially warm welcome to our new students and their families. It is great to have you join us at Boulcott:

Reception/Year 1: Thomas Chen, Kyra Pahwa, Mandy Cao, Joseph Moemai, Taylor Donoghue, Alexia Kenning, Anna Henry, Olive Kerr, Ethan Huang, Maddison Roberts, Aaliya Dayal, Dana Asfari

Year 2: Ella Dawson, Sofia Baker,

Year 3: Ruby Taiapa, Bishr Asfari

Year 4: Hosanna Shandil

Year 5: Louie Lust

Year 6: Xaviera Xu, Orton Stewart, Kelly Ward, Hopoate Manu

Our school starting roll stands at 326 students.

We also sincerely welcome to the school community our new staff members – Mrs Fiona Ranchod, who is teaching a Year 3 class in Room 5; Mrs Claire Williams, who is providing learning support programmes during Term 1; Mr Craig O'Connell, who is teaching Year 4 in Room 13; and Miss Ashley Chesterfield, who is teaching Year 4 in Room 14.

Education Review Office Report

The official ERO report on Boulcott School conducted in November 2016 is now a public document and will soon be available from the Review Office website. We will also attach a link from the School's website for you to access the full report. I am very pleased with the review process which affirms the excellent work teachers at Boulcott are doing to promote the learning of students – some extracts:

'There is a strong sense of connectedness and belonging for students in the school.'

'The school environment features a positive tone and respectful interactions ...Students' opinions are sought, valued, and contribute to decision making.'

'The vision and valued outcomes defined by the school for all children are for them to experience high quality teaching and learning experiences designed to excite, engage and encourage them to be confident, successful learners who aim for excellence. This is reinforced through the CHEER values of: confidence, honesty, enthusiasm, excellence and respect.'

'The environment reflects the school's commitment to sustainability and the Enviro Schools programme. Provision has been made to extend and challenge students with higher abilities. The school has been very responsive to the areas for development identified in the previous ERO report.'

'The school's achievement information shows that between 2013 and 2015 most students achieved at or above the National Standards in reading, writing and mathematics. A high proportion of Year 6 students leave the school achieving well. Maori students' achievement is similar to that of their peers in the school. Since 2013 the percentage achieving at and above in relation to the National Standard in writing has significantly improved.'

'Ensuring equitable outcomes for all students is a priority. Leaders and teachers have identified students whose learning and achievement needs acceleration. Teachers use a range of effective teaching strategies that support engagement and achievement. Expectations for learning are made clear to students.'

'Sound systems and processes are in place to identify and assist students who require additional learning support. A useful range of programmes and interventions are implemented to meet students' identified needs. The school works collaboratively with parents, whanau and external agencies to enable students to engage in learning and experience success.'

School Foci 2017

As a staff we are undertaking some professional development work on mathematics during 2017. Our overall student results in maths of 80% At or Above National Standards, are in line with the Government's expectations, however we always strive to do better, and set specific targets to lift the achievement of those students not quite there yet. I will share more with you in future newsletters on our steps to adapt what we teach, to better serve your children.

Term One

We have an exciting first term planned for children. Syndicates are each working around the concept of 'Community' – how to respect others, how to contribute, how to be a good friend/classmate/citizen. The Senior Syndicate are going to camp at El Rancho in Waikanae for three days in Week 7 of this term.

The Junior school will be visiting Capital E the same week to view three performances in the Children's Art Festival; while both the Middle and Senior syndicates will be involved in swimming programmes at Naenae Pool during the term.

Staffing 2017

In 2017 Boulcott School's teaching staff will be:

Principal: Greig Mercer

Associate Principal with Responsibility for the Junior School: Jo Lock

New Entrants/Year 1: Karen Jellie Room 6, Jo Lock Room 7

Year 1/2 Leigh McGregor Room 10

Year 2: Eileen Falconer Room 8, Jane Anstiss Room 9

Senior Teacher with Responsibility for the Middle School: Holly Hughes

Year 3: Anna McKevitt Room 11, Dana Skinner Room 12 and Fiona Ranchod Room 5

Year 4: Craig O'Connell Room 13, Ashley Chesterfield Room 14, Holly Hughes Room 15

Associate Principal with Responsibility for the Senior School: Veronica Sawers

Year 5/6: Gaylene Nankivell Room 4, Andrea Rodley Room 3, Carmen Chambers Room 2,

Veronica Sawers Room 1

Learning Support Teacher: Claire Williams

Associate Principal and Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator: Darian Schulz

Part time teachers – Kathy Cutler, Suz Cody, Sue Mercer, Lisa Hassell

Administration Staff – Bev de Wever, Tania Blucher

Teacher Aides – Carol Healy, Karleen Wilkins, Donna Larsen, Kalpana Mody, Dharani Walpita & Matt McDowell

Caretaking and Cleaning Staff – Peter Rubick, Caroline, Nicole, Helen, & Krissie

School Day Organisation

School starts at 8:55am

Morning Tea 10:10 – 10:30am

Short Break (in class) 11:40am

Lunch 1 – 1:55pm

End of school 3pm

The school office hours are 8:30am – 3:30pm (Mon – Fri).

Children are able to enter their classrooms from 8:15am, however teachers are doing prep at this time so are in and out of their classrooms. If your child needs to be at school earlier than 8:15am there is a Before School Care Programme operating from 7:15am (details at the office). If your child arrives after the 8:55am bell please advise the office that your child has arrived at school.

Meet the Teacher Evening

We will be holding an 'Open Classroom - Meet the Teacher' opportunity on **Thursday, 9 February** (tomorrow evening). You are warmly invited to come along with or without your child to look at the classroom and meet their teacher.

At 7pm in the hall our senior teachers will introduce the members of their teaching teams, and provide you with some general information about how each syndicate will run. Then teachers will be available to chat with you in their classrooms between 7:30 and 8:30pm.

Please note, this evening is **not designed** as an interview about your child – please book a separate time if you wish to speak in depth with a teacher. It is offered as an informal introductory event, and teachers would love to meet as many parents/caregivers as possible.

Recognition Awards (CHEER)

We encourage students in the positive values that Boulcott School holds dear through school wide assembly awards. This year we will continue to present the '**CHEER**' Awards to selected students from each class every fortnight at assembly. Nominated children's names are celebrated in the newsletter. A few lucky nominees are drawn out for a prize at each assembly. If you see a Boulcott child displaying particularly positive behaviour do let the office know so we can acknowledge the good things our children do.

From the Office

Absences

Please ring the school office before 8:55am if your child is going to be absent for the day. Messages can be left on the school answer-phone or you can leave a message online on our website.

Family Donation

On Monday notices were sent out regarding the Family Donation. This can be paid in full or paid in instalments. Please email or ring Bev in the office if you intend paying in instalments so we can keep an accurate record.

A Family Donation to a state school is treated as an allowable donation for tax credit purposes – in other words, you can claim one third of your school donation back from the IRD at the end of the tax year (31 March). Keep your receipts and go online for further information at:

<http://www.ird.govt.nz/income-tax-individual/tax-credits>

Invoices

Invoices can be paid in instalments on a regular basis, so please email or speak to Bev in the office to confirm this. The expectation is that all invoices will be paid immediately, unless arrangements have been made with the office. All money and forms returned need to be in a (recycled) sealed envelope or plastic bag, with your child's name and room number clearly written. It would be helpful if parents could organise the envelopes or bags the night before so children can hand them directly to the classroom teacher. These are then handed into the office after the roll has been taken, as the office is busy dealing with absentees in the morning. Alternatively, you can pay by eftpos or direct credit using account 12-3142-0062729-00. Please include your child's surname as a reference.

Student Information Update

It is very important that we have up-to-date information on our records. If you have any changes to the information we presently hold, please inform the office.

School Lunches

As from this week, lunch orders are available on **Wednesdays** from Ban Mai Thai Café (Thai restaurant). Please place your order form in the lunch order box in the foyer, with the correct money, before school starts (no orders accepted after 8:55am). Order forms are available from the office. It would be helpful if the order forms were filled out the day/night before **at home** to make it easier for your child to place in the box on the correct day before school starts.

School Road Patrols

We have new road patrollers manning the pedestrian crossing before and after school. Please support their safety role and cross Boulcott Street at the crossing with your children. A patroller will call out 'Cross Now' as the signal for pedestrians to step onto the road once they have checked the road is safe. Thank you.

Religious Education (R.E.)

The Board of Trustees offers Religious Education for those families who wish their children to participate in a Christian based education programme. The programme runs on Friday mornings between 9 – 9:30am for **Y3–Y6 students**, and will start on Friday, 3 March. Effectively, Boulcott School is closed for normal instruction during this R.E. time slot. The children who do not participate in R.E. are supervised by teachers in a classroom or the library. On enrolment, all families were asked whether or not they wished their children to be involved. However, if you **do not** wish your child to take part in R.E. lessons this year, please let the office know so we can update our records.

Sun Safety

This term it is compulsory for all children to wear hats when outside at playtimes, lunch or undertaking sport. Please ensure your children have their sunhats at school every day to enable them to play outside freely. Children without sunhats will be restricted to the shade cloth area. You may also like to apply sun block to your children before school. Children also need to wear shoes at school to protect their feet, and clothes that are suitable for sun protection and sports activities. Sun hats can be purchased through the school office.

Sports

We have to register immediately children wishing to play Touch Rugby and Junior Netball. Notices for both sports have already been distributed this week by email but if you missed out on information please let the office know. Please note - registration payments must be made before your child can be placed in a team.

Jo Lock will be co-ordinating Junior Netball, while Holly Hughes and Andrea Rodley will be co-ordinating Touch Rugby. A Boulcott School sports top is required for any school sporting event. These can be purchased at our school office.

Goal Setting Interviews

Please keep the evening of either Tuesday, 4 April or Wednesday, 5 April free, as we will be holding our initial Parent Interview meetings on these days.

Lost Property

After only a week of school we already have a number of items in our lost property. Please name your child's clothing and hat so they can be returned to them if they are misplaced.

Library

Scholastic Book Club – Issue 1 for 2017 has been sent home with students and is due back at school by **Wednesday, 15 February**. You can order books online through LOOP or send the completed form and money to school and hand it to your classroom teacher. All cheques are to be made out to 'Scholastic NZ'.

Overdue Library Books – After the library stocktake was completed at the end of 2016 there was still a large number of overdue books. If you have an overdue book and have located it over the holidays please return it to school as soon as possible. Students that still have overdue books and have not paid for them will be unable to issue books until the book is returned or paid for. If you have any questions please contact Tania in the office.

Term Dates

Term 1: Wednesday 1 February – Thursday 13 April (11 weeks)

Term 2: Monday 1 May – Friday 7 July (10 weeks)

Term 3: Monday 24 July – Friday 29 September (10 weeks)

Term 4: Monday 16 October – Friday 15 December (9 weeks)

Home & School News

Ice Block Friday – Ice blocks will be on sale after school on Friday for Term 1 and then again in Term 4, under the shade sail. Ice blocks cost \$1-00.

Our first meeting will be **Tuesday, 14 February** at 7:30pm in the staffroom. Campout will be our first event - a great opportunity to be involved with our school community. We would love to see you there! If you can't make the meeting and would like more information or can help at Campout, please email homeschool@boulcott.school.nz.

Coming Events

Thurs 9 Feb	Meet the Teacher Evening 7pm (in the school hall)
Mon 13 Feb	BOT mtg 7pm (staffroom)
Tues 14 Feb	Home & School Mtg 7:30pm (staffroom)
Mon 20 Feb	Middle School Swimming starts
Tues 21 Feb	Camp Meeting for Parents 7pm
Fri 3 Mar	R.E. starts, School Assembly (2:10pm)
Fri 3 March	School Swimming Time Trials, School Assembly (2:10pm)

Tues 7 March	Senior School Swimming starts
Mon 13 March	BOT meeting 7pm (staffroom)
Tues 14 March	Junior Syndicate to Capital E
15-17 March	Senior Syndicate Camp
Fri 17 March	School Assembly (2:10pm)
Mon 20 March	Senior School Swimming continues
Tues 21 March	Home & School AGM
Wed 22 March	Central-Zone Swimming
Tues 4 April	Parent Interviews
Wed 5 April	Parent Interviews
Thurs 6 April	Years 3-6 Swimming Sports
Friday 7 April	School Assembly (2:10pm)
Mon 10 April	BOT meeting 7pm (staffroom)
Thurs 13 April	School Assembly (2:10pm) & End of Term 1 (3pm)

Please contact us if you have any concerns or enquiries.

Greig Mercer
Principal

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Marrzipan Drama - We run awesome drama classes at school, which focus on key life skills and public speaking ability. We play fun engaging games and perform at the end of term once to parents and once to the school. All scripts are original, engaging, educational and HILARIOUS. All children receive a certificate to remind them they are awesome! You can sign your child up for a trial lesson via our website www.marrzipandrama.co.nz or contact Jex on 027 217 0693.

Naenae Soccer Club – Registrations and Open Day, Sunday, 12 February 2017, 1pm-3pm. Registration Evening, Wednesday 15 February 6:30pm – 7:30pm, at Naenae Soccer Clubrooms, Seddon Street, Naenae. For more information contact Heather: 0274 928 484 or email naenaejuniors@gmail.com.

Stop Out Sports Club – Registration and Open Day, Saturday, 11 February 2017, 1pm – 3pm. Registration evening, Thursday, 9 February, 6pm – 8pm, at Stop Out Clubrooms, Hutt Park. For more information email Tania at juniors@stopout.org.nz.

Gilina's Dance Studio – Students 7-8 years of age are invited to try Galina's dance classes. Classes are held every Thursday at 4pm, St James Church Hall, 71 Woburn Road, next to the Central Library. The first lesson is free. Come along and have a go!

Heart Foundation Annual Street Appeal – The Wellington Region Street Appeal will take place on 17/18 February 2017 and they need volunteers to help with the street appeal. Collections will be based over various Wellington regions. If you can help please email Maryl@heartfoundation.org.nz.

The Major Minors Children's Choir – Is celebrating its 5th year of singing and welcomes new members. Rehearsals are on Sundays 3-4pm at "The Spot", corner Fergusson Drive and Milton Street, Upper Hutt. For more information email hvkidschoir@gmail.com for Joanne on 027 566 7672.

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