

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. 3 – Wednesday, 8 March 2017

Greetings Parents and Caregivers,

We warmly welcome to Boulcott School the following new students and their families. It is great to have you join us at Boulcott:

Year 1: Kaleb Christiansen, Grace Robinson, Harlyem Patau-Singh, Indie Black, Sophie Fitness, Kristian Davis-Lenz, Avril Hao

Year 2: Albert Hao

Our school roll stands at 333

Student Leadership Roles - Representative Council

The 2017 Student Representative Council has begun to meet to bring forward class suggestions and discuss possible improvements for the school. These students were elected by their class peers to represent the views, ideas and opinions of the children at Boulcott and make decisions based on the good of all.

The 2017 Student Council members are: Michael Lopez, William Davis-Lenz, Krista Hutchinson-Briggs, Xaviera Xu, Koby Machrius, Skylah Langstraat, Isla Hughes, Zion Pou, Lucy Worthington, Maddie Lythe, Khan Judd, Stella Frickleton, Issy Hourigan.

Education Outside of The Classroom (EOTC)

The Boulcott School community has strongly endorsed the school providing opportunities for different learning experiences to be offered to children beyond the classroom.

Our Year 5 and 6 students leave next Wednesday for a three day camp at El Rancho in Waikanae. School camps fall within the Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC) section of the school curriculum, offering experiences which tie in with the specific learning areas of science, social studies, technology, health and PE. There are important elements of personal and social learning (e.g. independence, self reliance, overcoming new challenges, co-operating with others, teamwork and social living) involved in EOTC experiences. Boulcott School has a strong history of biennial school camps for Senior students. My thanks to the teachers for the many hours of hard work planning and preparing for this exciting learning adventure.

The Junior Syndicate are also involved in an Education Outside the Classroom opportunity having a day planned with Capital E on Tuesday, 14 March. The Junior school will watch three different performances; at the Opera House, the Hannah Playhouse and on the Waterfront. Again, my thanks to teachers for the planning and organisation which makes this experience possible for our children.

ICAS

Information about this year's ICAS examinations for Science, English, Writing and Mathematics for Year 4-6 students will be coming home today.

Please note these exams are only suitable for children who are strong in these academic areas. If you are unsure if these exams are appropriate for your child I encourage you to discuss their participation with your child's class teacher.

Parent Interviews

Our first set of parent interview evenings have been scheduled for **Tuesday, 4 April** and **Wednesday, 5 April**. These interviews will focus on establishing learning and social goals for each child. We wish to continue the 'three way conference' process at Boulcott School. Three-way conferences are designed to help each student develop as an independent learner. Your child will share with you evidence of their learning, and will discuss with you the goals they are working towards. The three way conference aims to encourage students to take personal responsibility for their learning and facilitate the development of both oral communication skills and self-confidence. We invite you to bring your child along to the goal setting interview so that students, parents and teachers can engage in open dialogue and establish learning goals through to Term 3. You will get an opportunity to speak privately with the teacher, should you wish to, as part of the interview.

To book a 15 minute interview time with your child's teacher, please go online to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz, school code **w572u** and select an interview time that is convenient for you. **Please make your booking by Friday, 31 March in order for teachers to adequately prepare for the interview.** We look forward to meeting with you.

One form of assessment information which teachers will share with you at interviews is PAT data, undertaken with children from Year 3 to 6. PAT (Progressive Achievement Tests) are multi choice assessments which we undertake in reading, mathematics and listening comprehension during the first month of each school year. Other assessments are also undertaken but PATs are a standardised, national assessment which give a 'stanine' rating for each individual compared to their age and class group peers across New Zealand. Stanines range across a standard deviation curve ranking students from 1 through to 9. Students recording a **4, 5, or 6** stanine indicates they are performing in the average range; a **2 or 3** stanine indicates a below average performance; a **7 or 8** indicates above average; while stanine **1** indicates a learning concern, and a **9** indicates superior performance. Teachers will share information with you about your child, but please remember the PAT results given are your child's performance in a test situation on just one particular day and may not be a true reflection of their overall performance in class. The purpose of PAT data collection is to inform our teachers and to report on student learning trends to the Board of Trustees; we certainly do not use this data to rank students.

A second set of goal setting interviews have been scheduled for early in Term 3. These interviews will focus on reviewing the initial goals and establishing learning and social goals for the second half of the year. A goal sheet will be sent home following these meetings that will incorporate National Standards and the class teachers professional prediction as to whether your child will be above, below or at the specified National Standard by the end of the school year.

Your child will also receive a traditional summative written report either at the end of Term 2 (only for children completing 12 months, 24 months or 36 months at school during Terms 1 or 2); or at the end of the year for all other students.

Recognition Awards (CHEER)

This fortnight we recognize these wonderful students who have been noticed displaying our school 'CHEER' values:

Congratulations to Junior Syndicate: Mustafa Altaf, Thomas Chen, Aaliya Dayal, Mandy Cao, Sofia Baker, Micaela De La Rosa, Ben Young, Scarlett Hourigan, Jasper Russ, Luke Whiley.

Congratulations to Middle Syndicate: Flynn Mildenhall, Hugo Sidford, Cassidy Blakeborough, Luke Henry, Alana Tye, Reuben Coetzee, Jayden Tolley-Beales, Keiara Patau, Jackson McDougall, Lindsey Song, Albin Mowat, Lucy Worthington.

Congratulations to Senior Syndicate: Ashton Gulliver, Michael Lopez, Sienna Frickleton, Skye Holditch, Jack Hutchings, Sophie Martin, Martin Jin, Zion Pou.

Home and School Campout

On Saturday, 25 March, **please note new date**, the Home and School are holding their annual **Campout** at school starting from 3pm. Pitch your tent on the school field if you are keen to stay the night – if not, the Home and School would still love to see you. Come along and purchase dinner. There is lots of wonderful food on offer. Everything on sale on the day is fundraising for the school. So come along and support the work of the Home and School Association. If you would like more information or can help at Campout please email homeschool@boulcott.school.nz.

Ice block sales (\$1 each) continue each Friday afternoon under the sunshade. The AGM of the Home and School Association will be held on **Monday, 27th March** at 7:30pm in the school staffroom. You are most welcome to attend.

Sports

The Middle School have completed their annual swimming programme with the instructors at Naenae Pool. Lessons have gone well with improvements in stroke development and water confidence evident. Our Senior Syndicate will be starting their swimming instruction in the week following their El Rancho Camp, and the Junior School are booked in during Term 2.

Running Club has started again with Mrs McKeivitt, Mrs Skinner and Mr O'Connell who are keen to see as many children as possible join in fun fitness activities at 8am on Tuesday mornings on the field.

Touch Rugby is being enthusiastically played on Thursday and Friday afternoons with 12 different teams representing Boulcott School. A huge thank you to all coaches and managers for giving our children this opportunity.

The Boot Bin

Do you know that leather boots take 40 years to break down and 80 years for the sole. We need your sports boots, shoes or sneakers that you don't wear anymore. If they are in good condition they can be donated to the 'Boot Bin' in Room 1. These shoes will be donated to children in our local community so they can be encouraged to play sport this year. Thank you for your donations.



Library News

Congratulations to 40 Boulcott students who participated in The Big Read, a summer reading challenge run by Hutt City Libraries, over the Christmas break. Students progress through bronze, silver, gold and platinum levels. A student completing bronze will have read a minimum of two books and for platinum a minimum of 20 books. Congratulations and well done to the following students:

Bronze – Issachar.

Silver – Sia, Phoebe.

Gold – Amelia, Holly, Samantha, Maddison, William, Olivia, Todd, Luke, Sam, Isabelle and Tamati.

Platinum – Alexandra, Emma, Zara, Frances, Joshua, Rebecca, Jake, Maddison, Isla, Ashlee, Bishr, Stephen, Benjamin, Malachi, Hollie, Dana, Zoe, Lucy, Elesha, Ben, Lucy, Jack, Tim, Josh, Gemma and Jacob.

Guitar Lessons

Ryan is back again teaching guitar on Thursdays at school. If your child is interested please email ryansguitartutoring@gmail.com. Lessons \$15 per week, guitar rental \$5 per week.

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)

Coming Events

Mon 13 March	BOT meeting 7pm (staffroom)
Tues 14 March	Junior Syndicate trip to Capital E
15-17 March	Senior Syndicate Camp
Fri 17 March	School Assembly (2:10pm)
Mon 20 March	Senior School Swimming (Mon-Thurs)
Wed 22 March	Central-Zone Swimming
Sat 25 March	Home & School Campout (note amended date)
Mon 27 March	Senior School Swimming (Mon-Thurs), Home & School AGM (7:30pm)
Tues 4 April	Parent Interviews
Wed 5 April	AFL Tournament Year 5 & 6, Parent Interviews
Thurs 6 April	Years 3-6 Boulcott School 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)
Monday, 1 May	Start of Term 2

Please contact us if you have any concerns or bouquets.
Kind regards

Greig Mercer
Principal

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