

BC PRIMARY **NEWSLETTER**

FRIDAY 10 AUGUST, 2018

Kia ora Parents & Caregivers,

It's exciting to see our primary Kapa Haka groups continuing to go from strength to strength. This week our primary team partnered with the secondary team to welcome two groups into our school. On Monday they led our mihi whakatauki to welcome the Hon. Jan Tinetti - MP for Tauranga and previous principal of Merivale Primary. This morning the Kapa Haka group performed the Haka powhiri welcoming visitors from Japan. They sang waiata and completed the hongi with all the visitors. This was a wonderful opportunity for learning of both Te Reo and tikanga Māori.

This week has been Book Week where our wonderful library team have been putting the spotlight on reading and authors. The week has finished off with Book Character Dress Up Day, with this year's theme being Bible Characters. It is wonderful to see the children coming along to school dressed as their favourite Bible characters, and having some fun with the day.

Our Lego / Robotics clubs are now up and running with the first round of children getting into this lunchtime learning opportunity. There are a number of clubs happening that target different ages across the school. You don't have to observe for long to see the the level of engagement children have in these activities, designed to develop creativity, problem solving, teamwork and the development of coding knowledge. We look forward to seeing this initiative grow as we look for ways of expanding the programme.

Blessings,

Marcus Norrish
Head of Primary



TERM 3 KEY DATES

Food Bank Appeal
13th to 17th August

Dental Van for Primary
13th to 24th August

Tauranga Music Festival
Monday 3rd September
Baycourt Theatre

Maori Language Week
10th to 14th September

Talent Quest
Wednesday 12th September
Year 3/4 - 11:00am
Year 5/6 - 6:30pm

Last Day of Term 3
Friday 28th September

@BCPrimary



Our Vision

To be a Christian learning community of excellence where lives are transformed.

 **CHALLENGING
THE INTELLECTUAL**

 **DEVELOPING
THE CULTURAL**

 **EXERCISING
THE PHYSICAL**

 **SHAPING
THE MORAL**

AROUND THE SCHOOL

Digital Discipleship & Online Safety



As parents we are all very aware of protecting our children as they have ever increasing access to the digital world. Online devices provide many benefits to our lives, but also come with challenges. A significant one is the potential access children could have to inappropriate content. There are a number of proactive things you can do as parents to support your family:

SAFESURFER

Safe surfer is a Social Enterprise that was started by two local Christian techies that exists to help families stay safe online. This organisation provides an app that can protect a device and also a device that can be installed in the home to protect all devices on the network.



SAFESURFER have recently won the "Tech Innovator of the Year at the 2018 NZ Charities Technology Awards". We would encourage you as parents to

explore the services that **SAFESURFER** provide by visiting their [website](#). You can read more about this innovative group in [this newspaper article](#).

Screen Time Management

One of the biggest challenges for parents can be managing screen time. There are a number of tools out there that can support this.

One option is **Our Pact**, which is an app that is installed on your child's iPad. Using this app you can set screen limits for children in a range of ways. This could include having the iPad shut down during certain hours or limiting access to some apps. [CLICK HERE](#) for more info.

Teacher Strikes

You may have noticed in the media that primary teachers are currently in contract negotiations with the government, which is being led by the teachers union (NZEI). The negotiations are at a point where teachers have agreed to strike. While Bethlehem College teachers have been part of this process and have voted for change, it is **IMPORTANT** for you to know that due to BC being an 'Area School' (Y0-13), our teachers are not part of the upcoming strike. School will remain open with programmes running as usual.



Is your child shy? Do they feel intimidated by the idea of public speaking and performance? Do they sometimes find it difficult to make eye contact? Do they just need dedicated time per week to just be CRAZY?!

*Come and join the revolutionary self-confidence programme - **Marrzipan!***

Marrzipan run classes after school, that focus on key life skills and public speaking ability.

*Children 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. You can sign your child up for a **Trial Lesson***

via the website www.marrzipandrama.co.nz

Foodbank Schools Appeal

Bethlehem College are getting behind the Tauranga Community Foodbank! Notices have been sent home with children and we are asking that you consider sending a food donation to school next week. Well done to our primary Student Council who are getting behind this initiative. Food will be collected and displayed in the school library so the children can see the results of this team effort! The notice sent home includes a suggested list of items that would be useful for the Foodbank.



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