

Buckland's Beach Primary School September 2015 Newsletter

Dear Parents

Special greetings are extended to our new children and their families: Brian Lin-Jackson, Emma Lang, Bradley Daubermann, Amber Daubermann, Eunice Law & Jayme Peters.



Board of Trustees News

Library Update

Final minor works are now coming to an end and we're hopeful to be given possession shortly and to be able to move in our brand new modern library furniture and book stock. Staff are starting to plan how to "open" the library and are working on updating the library vision. To this end, they have been advised by the National Library Service and have visited other recommended school libraries.

Astroturf P.T.A. Project

The BOT is continuing to work closely with the PTA over progress with the exciting Astroturf project on the top field. The P.T. A. are hoping for this project to be undertaken over the Christmas holidays but it is unknown at present whether this is achievable.

Our next B.O.T. Meeting is scheduled for Monday 19th October, 7pm staffroom. Visitors are welcome, and agenda items requested need to be received early the week prior.

PTA News

Our next PTA meeting is this evening at 7.30 p.m. in the staffroom. Everyone is welcome and we look forward to seeing you there.

Father's Day Breakfast – 7.30 a.m. Friday 4th September. Bring dad along to the school hall for a special breakfast. Coffee and Bacon Butties available. All proceeds go towards the Turf Project.

Thank you for supporting our ongoing activities.

Digital Devices & BYOD Year 5 & 6 Parent Survey

A review of E-Learning is underway and will be shared when completed. As part of the data gathering, all parents of Year 5 & 6 students were

sent an anonymous survey about the use of digital devices and the 'Bring Your Own Devices' (BYOD) trial underway in Year 5 & 6. All parents who responded are thanked for their participation. The summary of feedback is shared for your interest.

Description of Respondents to the Survey

42 parents whose children are participating in the **BYOD trial** responded to the survey. They came from 6 classrooms, with an average of 17% response per class. More parents of Year 5 (60%) students than parents of Year 6 (40%) responded. Parents of students of both genders responded in equal numbers. There has been growing levels of participation since Term 3 2014, but significantly more responses came from parents of students who began bringing their own devices in Term 1, 2015.

SURVEY RESULTS BYOD PARTICIPANTS N = 42

(% do not add to 100 as midpoint or neutral responses were not included in this summary)

Satisfaction with Security of ipads

- **90%** of parents are **very satisfied** or **satisfied** that their children were looking after their ipad
- **85%** of parents were **very satisfied** or **satisfied** with the support provided by the school to help keep ipads secure
- **5%** of parents are **less than satisfied** that the school can keep the ipad secure

Satisfaction with teaching of Digital Citizenship

78% of parents are **very satisfied** or **satisfied** with the teaching of their child to be a safe digital citizen

- **9%** of parents are **less than satisfied** with the teaching of their child to be a safe digital citizen

Satisfaction with School Response to Concerns about usage

- **85%** of parents are **very satisfied** or **satisfied** with the school's response to concerns

- **8%** of parents are **less than satisfied** with the school's response to concerns

Satisfaction with Learning in the Classroom and at home

- **81%** of parents are **very satisfied** or **satisfied** that the students are using their ipad to enhance learning in the classroom and at home
- **12%** of parents are **less than satisfied** that the students are using their ipad to enhance learning in the classroom and at home

Home usage is predominantly ipads, laptops and desktops.

Comments about Satisfaction Levels

There were many positives about satisfaction, for example:

"We've been pleased with the way the ipad has been looked after as we did have initial concerns, with the support of the school this has shown us our child can be trusted with such a device which has been very pleasing for us as parents."

"I am more than happy with all aspects of BYOD. The support that my child receives is fantastic. Thanks for making it easy."

There are a number of concerns that show parents seek knowledge of how to be supportive and involved. One-off concerns were expressed about security, lunchtime rules, loss of basic skills, instant gratification in researching. Several responses were about too much home use, for example

"the only thing is when my child has homework that involves an ipad we don't always know what he's doing on the ipad, we don't know what homework he's supposed to be doing and now always sure that he's not sometimes playing games. We have to rely on his honesty."

Comments about Educational Benefits N = 26

Positive aspects of learning = 23
 Positive engagement in learning = 9
 Negative = 1

There were patterns of responses with main positives seen as engagement, information literacy skills, confidence with technology and preparedness for future learning. Example comments are below.

"My child is engaged in his learning and instinctively reaches for his ipad to provide a resource to answer questions during conversations at home. He is happy to discuss and question the veracity of the information he finds. The ability of inputting information via the keyboard or screen is intuitive and my child finds it easier and quicker to undertake tasks using the device than a similar output with traditional paper and pencil. The information is more readily shared for a team based learning process. The option to use video, links, email, documents, images, text in a variety of ways is engaging and helps to keep my child's interest."

"He is able to search for information anytime, anywhere. Using the wide range of apps to support his learning has been great. He is more enthusiastic and connected to his learning because it is on a device, he sees this as being way better than a boring exercise book. He has been able to show us some tips when using the ipad."

"None required. We are very satisfied with the BYOD programme and applaud BBPS for introducing it."

Suggestions for Improvement

There were several replies suggesting parents seek knowledge about what their children are doing at school, and support from workshops and flyers of explanation were suggested.

One-off comments included: games are seen as negative, students are too young, some apps not used, homework not understood, school should fund ipads not astroturf, remind students to take ipads home, do homework at school.

NON BYOD PARTICIPANTS N = 8

The main barriers to participation were security (N=6) and cost (N=5). Child safety (N=3) and educational value (N=3) were factors.

Satisfaction with Equity of Access to ipads

- **2** parents are **very satisfied** or **satisfied** that their children have equity of access to ipads

- **3** parents are **not satisfied at all** that their children have equity of access to ipads

Satisfaction with teaching of Digital Citizenship

- **2** parents are **very satisfied** or **satisfied** with the teaching of their child to be a safe digital citizen
- **3** parents are **less than satisfied** with the teaching of their child to be a safe digital citizen

Satisfaction with School Response to Concerns about usage

- **3** parents are **very satisfied** or **satisfied** with the school's response to concerns
- **3** parents are **less than satisfied** with the school's response to concerns

Satisfaction with Learning in the Classroom

- **2** parents are **very satisfied** or **satisfied** that the students are using their ipad to enhance learning in the classroom
- **3** of parents are **less than satisfied** that the students are using their ipad to enhance learning in the classroom

Home learning using devices N=9

All use devices at home, which are predominantly ipads, laptops and desktops.

COMMENTS N=8

There were 2 comments showing concerns about unsupervised student usage and 2 comments over equity of access raised and responded to by the school at the time of occurrence.

SUMMARY OF PARENT SURVEY ABOUT BYOD

Most of the 42 respondents are positive about the BYOD trial. Parents see educational benefits for their children's engagement and learning. They see their child and the school to be keeping devices secure. Digital citizenship is being taught well overall.

There are some concerns, mostly by the 9 non-participants in the trial who responded. Concerns

are wide-ranging, with one-off relating to home usage (e.g. over use at home, gaming, addiction) and others to loss of basics at school and supervision. Equity of access was a concern mentioned several times.

RECOMMENDATIONS for school consideration

1. Plan workshops for parents to give more information about how ipads are used in learning programmes and in homework.
2. Consider how the school can help with concerns such as overuse, gaming, addiction and time management at home
3. Check adherence to the rules for before & after school usage and in wet lunchtimes. This has already been undertaken but needs constant checking for consistency of expectations and adherence to these.
4. Consider apps needed for 2016.
5. Continue to consider best ways of providing equity of access to devices.

Learning & Teaching

First Lego League Competition

On Saturday 5th September BBPS have 2 teams competing at Strathallan School in Karaka in the First Lego League Competition. This is a public event and everyone is welcome to come and support us. The NZ champion will compete in the United States next year. Good luck to both our teams and Mrs Chilvers.

Sports News

Netball, Soccer and Rugby

All our Interschool teams trained hard and competed well. They showed great sportsmanship and commitment and we are very proud of all of them. A big thank you to Mr Hazel, Mrs Griffin, Mrs Spencer and Mr Chamberlain for coaching/managing our teams.

Cross Country

Once again this year we are grateful to the Pakuranga Athletics Club for hosting our school cross country teams at Lloyd Elsmore Athletics Club. We have been invited to have our interschool runners practice alongside Owairoa and Pigeon Mountain Primary Schools. The times and dates are 9.00 a.m. Sunday 6th & 13th September. We will not have finalised our teams by the 6th September so the invitation is for **all hopefuls** for the interschool team. The expectation is that all interschool runners will take

part one Sunday of the two, preferably both.

Koanga Festival

Our Kapa Haka students will be performing in the Koanga Festival at 11.40 a.m. this Saturday 5th September at Elim College in the auditorium. Good luck to everyone!

Enviro News

FREE fruit trees

Botany Kings Plant Barn have donated 15 FREE fruit trees to BBPS. The Enviro council are working towards where best to plant these and extend our all ready fabulous orchard of 48 fruit trees!

Patch to Plate

Mrs Howie and Mrs Riach have thoroughly enjoyed our first few sessions with a small group of keen students who are exploring and experimenting with recipes and many ways to use Lemons. All produce is grown at school and the first batch of Honey Lemons was a great recipe from the Lott family, yum!

Vector Solar Panels Competition

Yes, we came 7th with 1003 votes so thank you to all who voted, we should be getting confirmation from Vector and the next steps about installing our new solar panel system soon!

Photo Art competition

A huge number of entries from staff and students! The photos were all taken of the Bucklands Beach area. Well done, BBPS for your enthusiasm! The winners will be announced on Friday 4th of September! Staff are working with the BOT to develop student driven artworks around the school.

KidsLink

KidsLink.co.nz helps connect parents to relevant, local, current and trusted service providers – services which help parents with all their child's learning, behavioural, physical, extra-curricular and care needs. All service providers available on KidsLink.co.nz have been met by KidsLink and have signed a declaration attesting to their qualifications & experience, professional membership and suitability to work with children & young people. KidsLink itself is owned and run by teachers. Using the website is completely free and

you are under no financial obligation until you actively use a service provider.

Regards
Dorothy Bigwood

Yummy Apple Stickers

Please keep sending your stickers to school. The final day for this round will be on Friday 11th September. A big thank you to everyone that has supported us so far.

Community Notices

Junior Learn to Sail – Come and join the fun on the water at BBYC. Master the ability to sail your own yacht. Junior YNZ learn to sail programme ages 9-14. Holiday programmes over 5 days next course – 5-9 October. Sundays for 5 weeks – next course 11th October. Enquire now – email coach@bbyc.org.nz or phone 534-3046 for more information.

Holiday Fun - Come and join one of our great events these holidays!

Kite Day - Cockle Bay Beach, September 30th, 10am till 12noon

Amazing Race - Barry Curtis Park, Tuesday 6th October, 2pm till 4pm

Glow Worm Walks @ Totara Park - Tuesday and Thursday, 9.15pm till 10.30pm

Email outandabout@clmnz.co.nz to make your booking

Bucklands Beach Sea Scouts 60th Anniversary - In September 1955 Scouting was introduced to the Bucklands Beach community. You are cordially invited to join them in celebrating this occasion. **Who can attend:** All past and present members, leaders, parents, siblings and friends are welcome **Programme: Saturday 17 October** 2:00 pm - Informal mix & mingle with old scouts and leaders at the Ship 4:00 pm - Brief commemorative ceremony and cutting of the Birthday cake. Accompanied by light scout entertainment. Tea & Coffee provided 6:00 pm - Join us with your friends and family for a Celebration Dinner at the Bowling Club. **Sunday 18 October** - 11:00am to 2:00 pm - Family water activities at Little Bucklands Beach. Go out for a sail or a row, kayak, or just enjoy a picnic lunch & buy sausages off the Scouts Please let every one you know, know about this event, you will be amazed how many former Bucklands Beach Sea Scouts there are around the place. You can find the registration form at: <http://www.bucklandsbeach.seascouts.org.nz/60th-anniversary.html>

The Ben Williams Cricket Academy will be running school holiday coaching clinics for Year 4 and 5 cricketers in the upcoming school holidays. These will be held at the new indoor cricket facility at St Kentigern College on both Fridays of the school holidays (Friday 2nd October and Friday 9th October) from 9-3pm. More information can be found at www.cricketcoaching.co.nz