



SPRINGBANK SCHOOL

Capability – Character – Confidence



Newsletter No. 2 | February 2022

[Dear Springbank Family](#)

The 2022 academic year is underway, and what an action packed start we have had! Orientation Day, House Activity Days, Leadership Day, and prefect initiatives off the ground, with a 'Twosday' fundraiser already complete! So far, we have been fortunate that the Omicron wave has not slowed us down, and we aim to continue with as many of our usual activities and special days that we can, including our Athletics Day and Junior School Duathlon.

I wish to offer a huge congratulations to our newly appointed prefects. With Michelle Chapman in her new role as Middle and Senior School Deputy Principal, it was a pleasure for me to undertake the prefect appointment process alongside her. Michelle is painstaking in her analysis and decision-making, and for very good reason. It is crucial that we select prefects who will lead their peers and represent Springbank to the highest standard. We are very confident that our 2022 prefect team will do just that – as they have already demonstrated throughout the last two weeks.

As you peruse this newsletter, it is wonderful for us to celebrate the range of outdoor activities and fun days that we undertake. One may be excused for wondering when all of the quality learning takes place! We are a school after all! Of course we absolutely set a high academic standard, and I am thoroughly impressed with how our new students and teachers have settled in to our hardworking, supportive culture.

A complete education is multi-faceted. We aim to develop academic, social, and physical capabilities and build on a range of character strengths, whilst allowing children to grow into their own skin, becoming confident in themselves as unique individuals and ready for their world beyond school. I also believe that a person's childhood years should be some of the greatest, most fulfilling, happiest, and memorable years of their life.

Dates & Events to Note:

- **Auckland University Presentation** – Thursday 3rd March
- **Vocation Pathways Presentation** – Friday 4th March
- **Cape Brett Challenge** – Thursday 10th – Saturday 12th March
- **Mid Term Break** – Mon 14th March
- **School Photo Day** – Now postponed to 1st July
- **Athletics Day** – Tues 22nd March
- **Junior School Duathlon** – Date TBC



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Orientation Day

Springbank school started the year on a high with our inaugural orientation day! Middle and Senior School class groups combined to participate in a range of informative and fun activities to help all of our new students settle in.

These included learning volleyball skills, then progressing to real games, which were definitely a highlight of the day. This was followed by jumping into the water hole to cool us off. We had information sessions on how to navigate our OneNote online workspaces and setting up our emails to prepare us for learning!

This was an exciting and reassuring day for our new students to fit in and for our Year 7 students to get to know their older peers and set themselves up for a wonderful year ahead!

- Katija Zivkovich, Prefect



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House Day

The first week back at school was a fun and relaxed way to ease back into school life. Day One introduced the teachers, new students, and the new normal by having assembly via Zoom in our form classes. The rest of the day comprised of swimming in the waterhole and games.

On the second day, Year 5 - 13 were split into house groups. Dolphins and Sharks had an eventful day at the Kerikeri Community Pools, whilst Orcas and Stingrays got to partake in the Top Team fun activities. On the third day the groups switched places. However, instead of going to the pools, Stingrays and Orcas went to Matauri Bay.

My highlight of the whole experience was definitely the Top Team competition. Out of the many activities including archery, basketball shooting game, rock climbing, and jousting, rock climbing was the favourite!

All in all, it was a great way to start the school year. Thank you to everyone who helped make it happen.

- Briar Booth, Year 11



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House Day continues

The day started and the horn went off, the team's leader picked up the cone and the rest of the team made a circle around the cone like they were royalty. We ran to our first rotation of the day, my team (The Purple Lizards) had archery first. Although many of us had never done archery before, the energetic staff taught us how it was done. They taught us all the fancy tricks to hit the balloon that was seated in the middle of the black foam board. After a few turns each, I pulled back my bow and let go. Not only did I hit the balloon, I made it fly off the board! After the first rotation we went to the middle group meeting area, and we all had a pep talk. After that we had to stand up and do a circle around the cone again and walk to our next rotation which was log jousting, where we had to try and hit each other off the pole. After we had beat the other team and all congratulated each other, we went back to the meeting area again, but this time I had to run and ring the bell for lunch time.

When we came back, we had to circle around the cone and shout our chant, PURPLE LIZARD!, and we were told what we had to do. The next rotation was basketball shooting. The rules were try and get as many hoops as you can and then run to the back of the line after you have taken a shot. If you had no balls left you had to count down from 5, and if you got to 5 you could steal the other team's ball. The scores were so close at 102 / 98, but the other team won, so we congratulated them.

The last rotation of the day was the rock wall. It was very high! I was so scared to climb up but before we started, we were told the safety rules. Then "click", I felt something around me; I was being buckled into a harness... I was climbing first. As scared as I was, I grabbed the first rock on the wall and pulled myself up. The higher I got, the more I wanted to come down, but I could hear Isabel cheering me on from the bottom of the rock wall that I was so close and not much further. I looked down. I started shaking. I was too scared to keep going, but I managed to take three more steps upward and reached out and hit that button! I hit it so many times so everybody heard it, that I accomplished my fear.

It was the best and most fun day ever, and it pushed my limits.

Jaymie Hamuera, Year 9



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House Day continues

Despite it being a rainy and windy start to the second day of House Group activities, the students who headed to Mautauri Bay were full of excitement.

How do you have fun in the rain at the beach? Well, no problem: swimming, as you are already wet! The weather did not put off the volleyball players and the skim boarders had the added advantage of very wet sand! The weather did impact the surf which led to some speedy boogie boarding.

It's always fun to get out of the classroom, and it was a good opportunity to get to know new classmates.

- Liam Parker, Year 9

Wow, what an amazing day we all had at the Top Team adventure experience. We did a lot of activities such as basketball and challenging each other on the joust. The joust was super fun but tiring trying to knock our opponent off the pole.

The climbing wall was what I enjoyed the most though as it was really high and we had to climb to the top and hit a buzzer. Because it was so high, it was exciting, and we needed to persevere to get to the top.

It felt good that our house teammates encouraged each other to keep trying to reach the top. It was a really enjoyable day.

- Peyton Manning, Year 5



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Leadership Day

Our Year 12 and 13 students came together on Friday 11th February for their Leadership Day, which was held at school. Leadership Day is a great opportunity for our oldest students to learn about their personal strengths and values, and how to utilise them as they move through their final years of high school.

Our students listened to a talk from Mrs Sophia Warren, founder, and ex-Principal of Springbank School about the importance of goal setting, or as she phrased it “goal-getting”. The day also included some fun and entertaining challenges, with students breaking into groups, where they had to build the highest tower of cards, participate in various balancing challenges, and more.

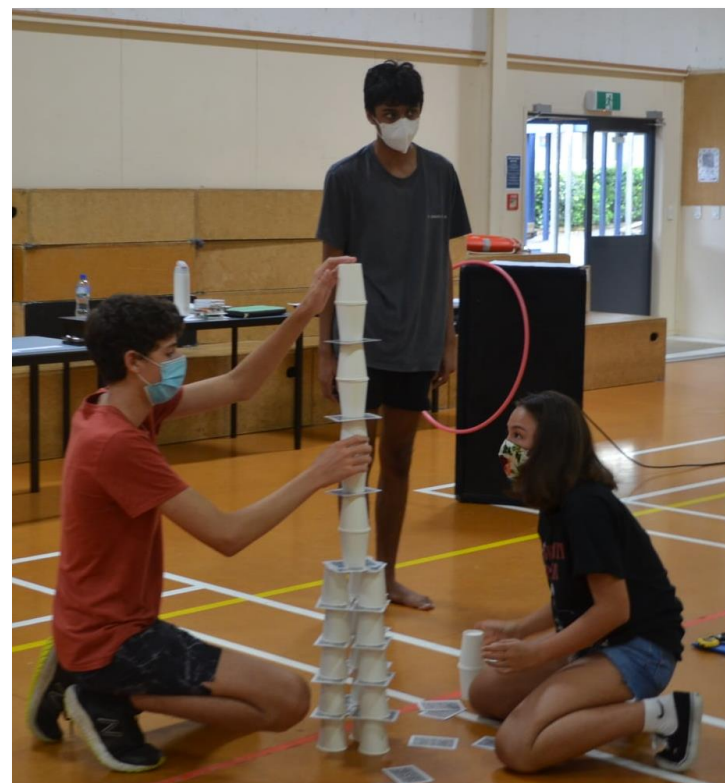
Thank you to Mrs Chapman and Mrs Druery for organising the day's programme, and thanks to the Friends of Springbank for their financial support of the day.

During the 2nd week of school, Mrs. Chapman and Mrs. Druery hosted an amazing Leadership day for the Year 12s and 13s.

One of the main events was a speech by Mrs. Warren Senior about ‘Goal Getting’. She reflected on her own experiences such as the challenges of starting Springbank School, to tell us her story of personal growth and creating good habits. We spoke about mental blocks that prevent us from getting our goals, and how to overcome them.

I found Mrs. Warren’s speech incredibly inspirational, and I know we all really appreciated the time and effort she put into speaking with us. It was a great motivational boost to start out the year.

- Ellie Epley, Head Girl



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Let us introduce Springbank School's 2022 Prefects! From left to right:

- Elle Epley (Head Girl)
- Bethany Flanagan (Deputy Head Girl)
- Callum McIntyre
- Anna Kidman
- James Broadwith
- Katija Zivkovich
- Ethan Williams
- Rebecca Nugteren
- Jaluka Clarke

2022 Prefect Team

Springbank School is proud to introduce the 2022 Prefect team.

After a thorough application and interview process, with Mike Warren (Principal) and Michelle Chapman (Deputy Middle/Senior School Principal), along with consideration of student and staff votes, nine students have been chosen to represent Springbank as our Prefects.

Every year the quality of applicants is of a very high standard, and both Mr Warren and Mrs Chapman were very impressed with the candidates, who submitted well thought out and detailed written applications, were confident throughout the interview process and proposed some fresh ideas and initiatives for 2022.

Our Prefects have started the year strongly with their first fundraising day on 22/2/22 – Twosday! There was a lot of excitement around the school, as students were encouraged to dress in pairs and everyone helped raise a great first donation for Bald Angels (see next slide for details).

Clubs and initiatives introduced by our Prefects to everyone at assembly on Monday 28th February have included:

- Book Club – weekly club for those book / literacy enthusiasts.
- 100 Club – encouraging students to log their progress around the track.
- Student Council – weekly meetings where representatives from each year level can collaborate, share ideas and talk about ideas for school.
- Debate Club – students from Year 7-13 are encouraged to come along and broaden their debating and speaking skills.
- Badminton Club – Wednesday lunchtimes
- Student v Staff Games – Every Friday lunchtime



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Twosday

The date 22/2/22 was a unique date in the calendar as it can be read forwards, backwards and upside down! So, at school we celebrated TWOSDAY!

Our school Prefect team and senior students encouraged students to dress up in pairs, donate \$2.00, buy a cupcake for \$2.00, play some games for \$2.00, and just have a fabulous day celebrating everything twos!

A superb total of **\$482.00** was raised from the day and will be going to our school wide 'Chosen Charity' for 2022 – Bald Angels.

Thank you to our Prefect team for your swift organisation and your amazing enthusiasm.



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Outdoor Adventure – Surfing

Our Outdoor Adventure classes have been enjoying some fabulous surf conditions so far in Term One. Mr Epley, Ms Haden, and Mr Horgan have the “hard” task of heading out to the beach with the students to hit the waves!

Our Outdoor Adventure programme is a fantastic opportunity for senior students to experience a range of outdoor pursuits activities that build confidence, leadership, resilience, and long-lasting friendships.

Outdoor Adventure is designed to train and equip our students as explorers, protectors, and adventures of their world. Students will emerge confident in a multitude of outdoor environments and situations, and they will take away practical survival skills whilst they have an absolute blast in the process. Fingernails will get dirty!

Outdoor Adventure is a formal subject for Year 10 to 13 students. Activities include a combination of the following:

- Surfing
- Kayaking
- Bush Craft
- Waka Ama
- Hiking/Tramping
- Rock Wall Climbing
- Sailing
- Free Diving
- Stand Up Paddle Boarding



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Friends of Springbank

Friends of Springbank (FOS) held its first meeting of the year on Tuesday 23rd February. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome back previous members and also to offer a warm welcome to any new members who may wish to join.

FOS is a parent-led fundraising charity, providing financial support to Springbank students for extracurricular activities. Last year FOS sponsored the Senior School trip to Weta Workshop Unleashed, arranged for Nano Girl to visit and inspire all our students in the wonder of science, and provided financial support to students attending the Model United Nations Assembly, amongst many others.

We meet on the last Wednesday of every month, and this year we are exploring different ways to hold our meetings, in order to make the group more accessible for those who work, live a distance from school, or would prefer to stay distanced during the current pandemic, if you are a current or potential FOS member and would be interested in being part of FOS, and would prefer video conferencing, please contact Annie (Secretary) at aa_newnham@yahoo.co.uk.

For students or teachers who wish to apply for financial support, a reminder that the FOS application forms are in the office. Please leave completed forms in the FOS tray and they will be reviewed at each meeting.

Finally, FOS have been the lucky recipient of \$2950.86, donated by the 2021 Springbank Futsal Team. Last year the Futsal team fundraised relentlessly, with the intention of financing their own trip to the AIMS games. Unfortunately, due to Covid, the games were cancelled. The team have kindly passed their fund to FOS with a request that this be used to support any sporting applications. Thank you, Team Futsal!

Upcoming meetings:

- Wednesday 30th March 2022
- Annual General Meeting Wednesday 4th May



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Headstart Report

We have had a wonderful start to the new school year at Headstart. We welcomed several new friends to class for Term One, along with welcoming Ms Alexander and Mrs Stirling. There have been some exciting new changes and additions to our outdoor environment, with our old sandpit being replaced with a beautiful garden space and a mini trampoline and tree swing adding to our outdoor fun. There have been great demonstrations of teamwork, kindness, and cooperation with the children as they use these new pieces of equipment.

We would like to give two big thankys; to the Paitry family for donating some cool craft activities and extra train tracks to us, and to the Chamberlain family for donating some large wooden fruit boxes, which will be used as part of our new garden space.

We are excited for what the rest of Term One brings us, as we continue to get to know each other better.



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Preschool Update

Our Preschool tamariki are bug crazy at the moment! We are well and truly on the path to becoming entomologists, spending our days searching for, caring for, and researching bugs. The tamariki know exactly where to find their favourite bugs at Preschool and spend time flipping tyres, lifting logs, and moving mats to see who's hiding underneath.

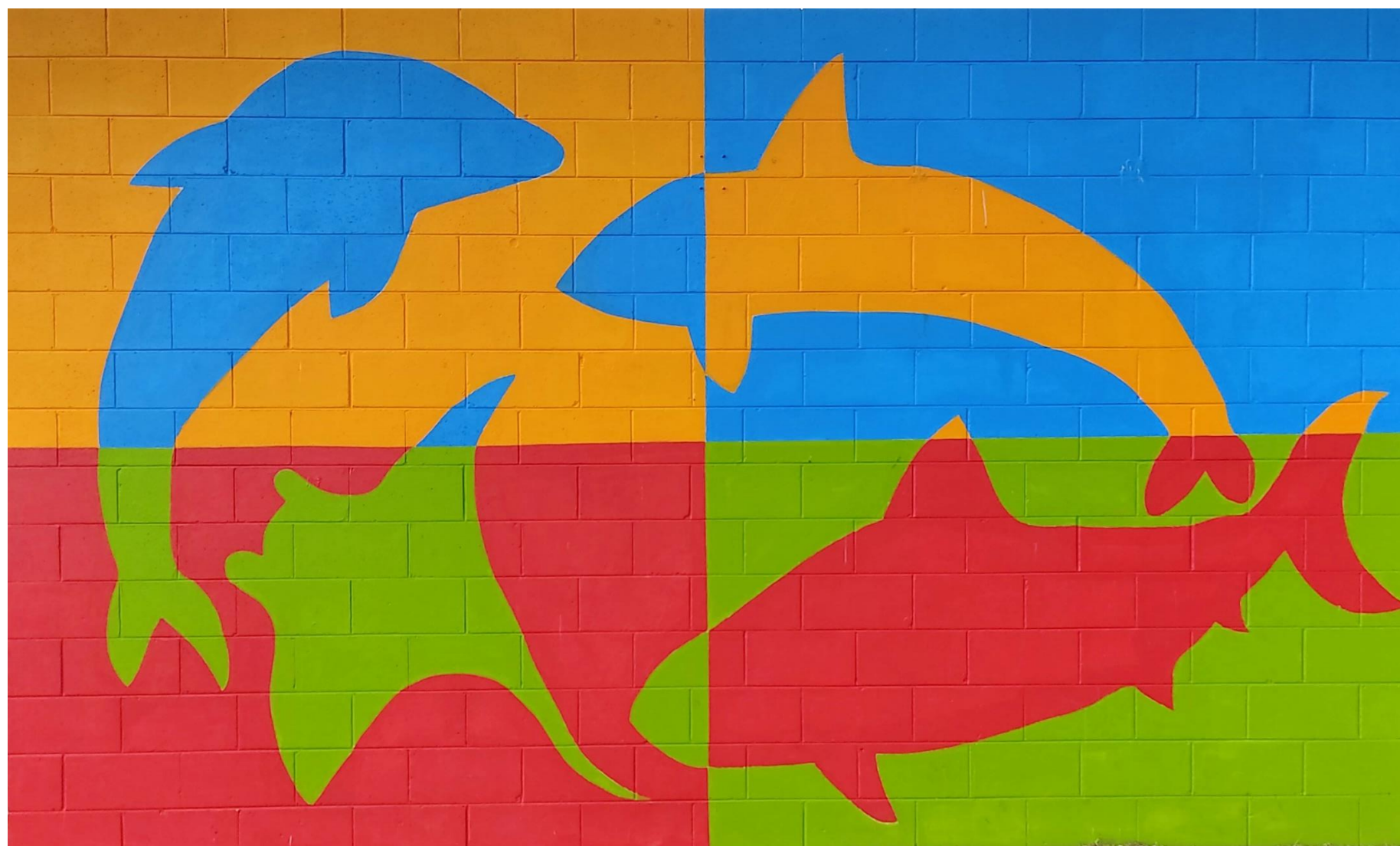
The preschool teachers are working alongside the children to foster aroha and kaitiakitanga as we explore bugs and their habitats. We love these bugs and want to look after them respectfully. Our bug adventures will continue into next month, as we celebrate Wiki o Ngarara; Bug Week. We want to say a very big thank you to families who shared their Moccona coffee containers with us. The lids from these are becoming perfect viewing containers for bugs.

Another big thank you for keeping unwell tamariki (and adults) at home as we continue to navigate through 'that' virus.



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We look forward to some house-based chanting and cheering at our upcoming Athletics Day and Junior School Duathlon!

The Stingrays are the 2021 reigning House champions. Surely the rest of us won't allow them to take it out for 2022? ...not that I am biased or anything!

Regards,

Mike Warren
Principal

Thoughts for the Week 2022:

Term 1, Week 1:

Aim High

Work Hard

Enjoy the Journey

Celebrate your achievements

Courtesy of Mr Warren

Term 1, Week 2:

"All human beings have the capability of doing what they want, what they're attracted to."

- Jack Kirby

Courtesy of Mr Warren

Term 1, Week3:

"I like to challenge myself and push myself harder, to do things that I don't think I can."

- Bethany Hamilton

Courtesy of Mrs Hulse

Term 1, Week 4:

"Ambition is the first step to success. The second step is action."

Courtesy of Mr Warren



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