



Newsletter No. 2 | February 2021

Dear Parents

What a wonderful start to the year many of our students have had. It was great for me to be able to experience three out of our four school camps to see first-hand the fun, friendships, excitement, and personal growth that our students had in a range of activities and settings. We are so fortunate to live in Northland, which offers excellent natural locations and camping facilities. We have several students' camp reports in this newsletter, which are lovely to read through.

We are excited to have announced our Prefect team so early this year. Well done to all Prefects who had to submit their applications on the first day of term and have an interview on the third day of term! Many have already swung into action with organising their initiatives and events, and I look forward to them stamping their mark on our school throughout the year.

Looking ahead, there are plenty of events and competitions that our students will be taking part in. Please look out for announcements regarding these and encourage your children to get involved. One of those events is our school-wide production, which we hold every two years. Our talented performers are well into the swing of rehearsing and the stage has already been created for them to perfect their roles. Please lock Saturday 10th April, 7:00pm into your diary.

Another important date for you to lock in is the afternoon of Friday 19th March, for our End of Summer BBQ and Springbank's 25th Birthday Celebration. All past and present Springbank staff, students, and families are invited to join in the festivities. All food, entertainment, and activities will be complimentary. More information on Page 11 of this newsletter; please check it out.

Dates & Events to Note:

- **School Photos** – Friday 5th March
- **Cape Brett Challenge** – Thursday 11th – Saturday 13th March
- **End of Summer BBQ & 25th Birthday Celebrations** – Friday 19th March
- **Puppet Show** – Headstart to Year 6, Friday 19th March
- **Athletics Day** – Friday 26th March
- **Junior Duathlon** – Friday 26th March
- **Northland Senior Boys Volleyball Competition** – Tuesday 30th March
- **Northland Senior Girls Volleyball Competition** – Wednesday 31st March
- **SeaWeek Talk** – Headstart to Year 9 Wednesday 31st March



Follow us on Facebook...

Phone: +64 9 4075236 | www.springbank.school.nz

Leadership Day

During the first week of school, Mr Haydock and Mrs Druery took the Year 12s and 13s to Cornerstone Church so we could brainstorm leadership initiatives and play fun ice breakers.

It was wonderful getting to know my classmates and school mates better through two truths and a lie where we learnt that Mr Haydock played football for 40 years straight and that Shaelyn has a 5th sibling named Patrick. We also did individual activities such as writing letters to our future selves about our goals for this year.

Whilst most were discussing ways we can help our community, 10 of us were being interviewed by Mr Haydock and Mr Warren to be prefect. I must say that many of us were on edge, but the delicious pizza lunch they fed us beforehand definitely helped calm the nerves.

All in all, it was a great day; my personal highlight being fast-walking duck duck goose with Mrs Druery.

A big thank you to Mr Warren and Mr Haydock for choosing us all to be prefects and for the fun day!

- Ellie Epley, Prefect

Springbank School Prefects 2021

We are proud to introduce to you our Prefect team for 2021. Our elected Prefects had to submit their application of interest to the school by the first day of Term One. Applicants were then interviewed by John Haydock, Senior School Deputy Principal and Mike Warren, Principal.

All of the ten students who applied to be a Prefect for 2021 were successful. They each demonstrated a clear understanding of the importance that the Prefect role holds at school, they articulated themselves well, and they presented several new and exciting initiatives that they would like to run at school. We wish our Prefect team all the very best for 2021 and look forward to a strong year ahead.



Prefects L to R: Ellie Epley, Jack Hittle (Head Boy), Charlotte Conner, James Broadwith, Bethany Flanagan, Lana Pistorius, Malindi Reihana-Ruka (Head Girl), Rebecca Nugteren, Shaelyn Whitehead, and Josh Traas.



Follow us on Facebook...

Phone: +64 9 4075236 | www.springbank.school.nz

Year 1-3 Camp – Coopers Beach

The Coopers Beach camp for our younger Junior School students, has been a hit for years. The famous waterslide is always a huge favourite for both students and parents. Lauren Philips and Austin Kell share their experiences from camp 2021:

Austin Kell – Year 3

Thank you to all the parents who came on our camp at Coopers Beach and helped out. Thank you Mrs Larkan and Mrs Foster for organising everything.

We went boogie boarding at the beach. It was a lot of fun and the surf was huge. We also built some very cool sandcastles.

Everyone was really excited when the 80 metre waterslide opened up. I set myself a goal to get to the end of the waterslide. By the end of Day 1, I didn't get there.

On Day 2 the waterslide was opened up again. This was the first time EVER that they have done the waterslide on BOTH DAYS! On Day 2 I achieved my goal of getting to the end of the waterslide and touching the red bean bag.

THIS MADE IT THE BEST CAMP EVER!!!



Lauren Phillips – Year 3

Last week I went to Coopers Beach. I had a lot of fun. I went down the steepest, longest waterslide I know. I went really fast. The first time I went with Dad, we went off the end.

We went down to the beach to catch really big waves on our boogie boards. We also used our boogie boards to slide down the grassy hill. I liked playing with the hula hoops. A scavenger hunt around camp was lots of fun. So was the sandcastle building. My friends and I did a 3D model of Springbank School's logo.

The food was really good. Spaghetti for breakfast was a treat for me. I really want to thank Angela Shaw and Louise Blackler for organising all the food for us.

We had cool parents at camp who I think had as much fun as us. They were trying to compete for the Blakeman Cup for the most impressive waterslide efforts. Simone Kistemaker won it!

Thank you to all the parents who came and the teachers for all their hard work.



Follow us on Facebook...

Phone: +64 9 4075236 | www.springbank.school.nz

Year 1-3 Camp – Coopers Beach Photos



Follow us on Facebook...

Phone: +64 9 4075236 | www.springbank.school.nz

Middle School Camp – The Farm

For years I have been hearing about the farm. My older brother and sister have both been there and I have listened enviously to the stories of the Shoe Monster, motorbike trails, camp songs, amazing food, and more. Finally this year it was my turn. I had high expectations and The Farm lived up to them tenfold. Even the pouring rain didn't dampen our fun (it may have soaked some of our tents and gear though). One of the highlights for everyone was the mud run. It was awesome! Even if I'm still scraping mud out of my ears... A big thank you to the teachers and parents behind the scenes, especially Mrs. Chapman who made the whole thing possible.

- Clay Blakeman, Year 8



Follow us on Facebook...

Phone: +64 9 4075236 | www.springbank.school.nz

Middle School Camp Photos



Follow us on Facebook...

Phone: +64 9 4075236 | www.springbank.school.nz

Senior School Camp – Whananaki Holiday Park

For this year's camp the Senior School went down on Wednesday 10th February to Whananaki holiday park.

After setting up tents we headed off on a walk over the longest footbridge in the southern hemisphere and a few nearby beaches, before topping it off with a refreshing swim.

Back at camp the weather took a turn for the worst, so we broke out the card games and the odd match of quoits into the evening. However, despite the rain, we made the most out of it, some by going for a swim or a game of basketball (which had a striking resemblance to water polo).

On the second day we headed off to Sandy Bay for some epic surf! It was awesome to see everyone having a go and catching some gnarly waves. As well as the pumping waves, we also got to experience a red sea of kelp, which most of us took home entangled in our hair. In the evening we had the entertainment, which included a pageant, acapella group, and a great dance off between the Year 12s and 13s. A tiebreaker match between Ellie and Jack for the win proved in favour of the 13s, with the Russian squat kick being the finishing move. Even the teachers got involved (we had a stunning retake of the worm by Mrs Grimshaw, which was a bit closer to the slug), and Mr Horgan got everyone up off their feet with his little boogie. To finish off the night everyone either enjoyed a game of volleyball, a well-needed shower, or a climb onto the pontoon (we got at least 15 people on at once).

On the last day, the weather cleared, and the sun finally shone through the clouds, so we had a relaxing day of packing down, swimming, and eating. It could be summed up with Naaman walking back from the shops with three drinks and a whole creamery's worth of ice cream.

It was awesome to see the way students from all year levels worked together throughout the camp to create a fun and lighthearted atmosphere, which rain or shine meant that a good time was had by all.

Lastly, this awesome camp wouldn't have been possible without the organisation of Mr Haydock, Mr Horgan, Mrs Druery and Mr Epley, so thank you. We would also like to give another big thank you to the parents and students who came along and made it such a good camp!

- Malindi Reihana-Ruka (Head Girl) and Jack Hittle (Head Boy)



Follow us on Facebook...

Phone: +64 9 4075236 | www.springbank.school.nz

Senior School Camp – Whananaki Photos



Follow us on Facebook...

Phone: +64 9 4075236 | www.springbank.school.nz

[Northland Regional Council Safe Boating Programme](#)

The Middle School students were given the opportunity to learn about safe boating from Sam and Jules from The Northland Regional Council on Friday 5th February and Tuesday 7th February.

As we live in the beautiful Bay of Islands, we seized the opportunity for this free programme, which included radio communication while on the water, safety equipment and their uses, how to read a marine map and the marine roadway, and what the different buoys, marks, and beacons mean, as well as the different lights and light phases. Feedback from supervising Springbank staff was that they did a great job of providing information in a way that kept our students engaged.

There were lots of hands-on activities that helped the kinetic learners absorb the information and kept everyone interested and entertained. This also included relay races and trying on of life vests, along with visual aids such as the enlarged maritime map and equipment for the students to identify and see in use. It was a great learning experience from knowledgeable presenters.

- Michelle Chapman



[Safe Practices Programme with Constable Rob](#)

Earlier in Term One, we had a visit from Constable Rob who came to talk to our students about Safe Practices around ATV use, drugs and alcohol (DARE programme), as well as talking about safe use with the internet and personal devices.

Here are a few words from one our Year 8 students.

"I learned a lot about safety with strangers and drugs and alcohol. I now know that if someone offers you a cigarette to say no and walk away. I also learned about how there was a fake marijuana which was legal for some time. It caused a lot of trouble because they didn't do enough testing to see if it was safe. Overall I thought that Constable Rob was very helpful. He was straight forward and didn't hide the fact that there are bad things out there. Instead, he told us how to avoid these things and how to act in certain situations. It was a great experience, and I would definitely recommend it to others hoping to learn about safe practices."

- Taisei Epley, Year 8



Follow us on Facebook...

Phone: +64 9 4075236 | www.springbank.school.nz

Friends of Springbank

The Friends of Springbank Committee held their first meeting for the year on Wednesday 17th February. It was wonderful to see so many parents come and join the meeting. In fact, the school staff room (where the meetings are held) was full! 23 parents came along for the first meeting, which is amazing! It was superb to see so many new parents from Preschool, Headstart, and School come along to learn about what Friends of Springbank does for the students at Springbank.

Already we have had several funding requests submitted, and so far for Term One we are pleased to be supporting:

- Senior Leadership Day
- Volleyball Teams Competition Fees
- Blake Inspire Award Initiative
- Supplying ice blocks for Athletics Day and Junior Duathlon

Friends will be continuing the Life Skills for Teens programme, in which students are given the opportunity to take part in a variety of subsidised skill based programmes. Previous courses have included car maintenance, first aid, barista course, and driving courses. Possible new programmes for 2021 are cooking classes, Coastguard course, surf lifesaving, bike maintenance, and sewing.

All parents and caregivers of children at Springbank School, Headstart, and Preschool are welcome to attend the meetings. They are held on the last Wednesday of every month (give or take term times and holidays) at 2:00pm in the school staff room, beside the art room.

The next meetings are on:

- Wednesday 24th March
- Wednesday 14th April



Follow us on Facebook...

Phone: +64 9 4075236 | www.springbank.school.nz

2021 End of Summer BBQ & 25th Birthday Celebrations

We would like to invite all past and present Springbank students, staff, and families to join us for an afternoon of fun and entertainment on Friday 19th March. This year our End of Summer BBQ is being combined with the celebration of Springbank School turning 25 years old.

Here is a brief look back at how and why Springbank was established.

Springbank School was founded in 1996 by Sophia and Bob Warren who started with their “first fifteen”, which included three of their four sons. They were looking for an alternative schooling option for their own children and wanted to create a learning environment that was fun and supportive, with a focus on excellence for children across Northland. Sophia, a trained primary teacher, took on the role as lead teacher and principal, while Bob managed the finances and development of the school. The founding vision, to provide a high-quality learning experience where students would be ‘Learning for Life’, is now defined in the three core values of Capability, Character, and Confidence.

From small beginnings with two classrooms, Springbank School’s campus have developed into 17 classrooms, a library, a large gymnasium, indoor rock-climbing wall, sports turf, technology spaces, and two preschools.

Sophia was principal for 17 years, before son Mike Warren took over as Principal in 2012. Having been a foundation student, Mike has the same passion and vision for his own young children and is committed to providing Northland’s next generation with the very best education. Springbank School is unique in that it is a family owned and run private school. Mike is “extremely proud to be continuing my parents’ vision of offering the highest quality education in a genuinely safe, supportive environment. Our students continue to grow in confidence as they strive for personal excellence and are proud to celebrate their achievements alongside one another.” Strong family ties with the school continue with Mike’s three sons Mason, Frank, and Lachlan all enrolled at school, and many past students also have their own children at Springbank.



 **SPRINGBANK SCHOOL**

To ALL past and present Springbank students, staff, and families: You are invited to the

2021 END OF SUMMER BBQ

25TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS!

Friday 19th March
3pm - 7pm on the school fields

Join us for some games, bouncy castle fun, spot prizes, walk around the track & yummy BBQ, all amongst friendly company!

BBQ with sausages, patties, bread & salad will be complimentary. Feel free to bring your own picnic hamper & blanket.

Building Capability, Character and Confidence since 1996.



Follow us on Facebook...

Phone: +64 9 4075236 | www.springbank.school.nz

Love Grace Handbag Appeal

Wellbeing is Springbank's focus for the year. One aspect of wellbeing is an outward focus to wellbeing in the community.

Mrs Binedell and Charli Conner (Prefect) have initiated the idea to support the Love Grace Handbag appeal as organised by the BNZ, in association with Women's Refuge.

The appeal aims to collect handbags full of useful items to help women in need. Below is a reminder of the items that you can contribute. All items need to be returned to your class by Friday 5th March.



Love Grace Handbag appeal

Supporting women in need and escaping domestic violence.

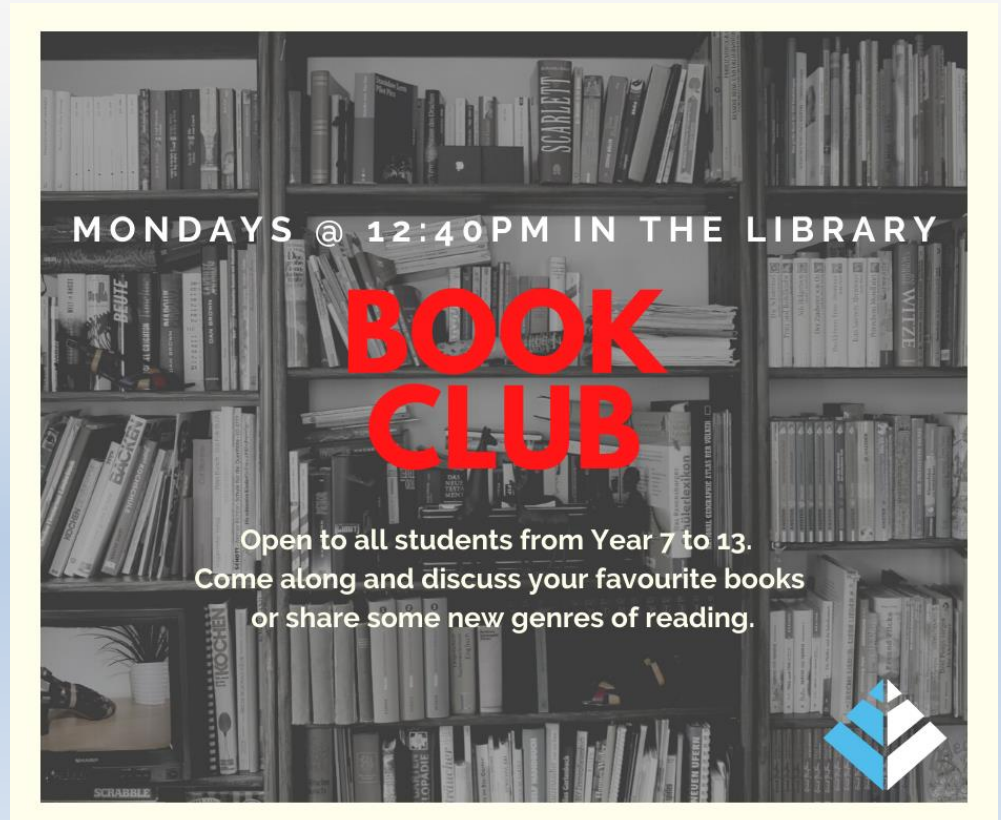


Basic Items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toothpaste • Toothbrush • Shower Gel • Shampoo • Conditioner • Deodorant • Hand sanitiser • Face masks 	Extras <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanitary products • Wipes and tissues • Soap • Hand cream • Lip balm • Cotton buds • Plasters • Facecloth • Hairbrush 	Luxury items <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make-up • Perfume • Hairbands/clips • Notebook • Pen • Playing Cards • Purse Wallet • Sunglasses • Costume jewellery
--	---	--

bnz

Book Club

Bethany Flanagan (Prefect) would like to invite all Year 7 – 13 students who have an interest in books and reading to join the weekly Book Club. The club will be held in the school library every Monday at 12:40pm.



MONDAYS @ 12:40PM IN THE LIBRARY

BOOK CLUB

Open to all students from Year 7 to 13.
Come along and discuss your favourite books
or share some new genres of reading.



Follow us on Facebook...

Phone: +64 9 4075236 | www.springbank.school.nz

Springbank School Fitness Track

The Springbank School fitness track was created by Bob Warren in 2013 and meanders around several kilometres of native trees, shrubs and flaxes. Our students head out onto the track weekly as part of their fitness sessions, for class lessons as well as being part of the annual Junior Duathlon and Cross Country circuit.

The fitness track is also available for all parents and families to walk or run around during school hours. There are several tracks to follow which could be part of your own fitness program, perhaps as a group walk after morning drop offs or before pick ups at 3pm.

Please note there are some simple rules we do ask you to follow:

- You must report into reception and let Di Grant know you going to be on the track. Also please report back when you have finished.
- Dogs are welcome on the track but they must be on a lead at all times. Also, all dog droppings must be collected and taken away.
- Please leave all gates and fences as you find them, and beware that the fences are electric.
- If you notice any hazards, please report these back to the office.

Springbank Cafe

The Springbank Café is run by Shanny, one of our parents, and is open to all students, staff and families from Monday to Thursday. The café is closed on Fridays.

Students from Preschool, Headstart, and School may place orders with Shanny. A detailed menu is located at the café or can be found on the school website under 'Student Information'.

If you need that quick coffee fix after morning drop offs, pop around to Shanny and get yourself a delicious hot drink. The café is located between Rooms 10 and 11 at the back of the school gym.



School Production

The Springbank School production is back for 2021. After being postponed last year, the students are back practising very hard, with Mrs Druery and Mrs Larkan as directors.

The production is called "Dirk Smirk" and is a James Bond Spoof with lots of laughs.

Matinee Show – Friday 9th April 3:45pm

Evening Show – Saturday 10th April 7:00pm

Tickets \$5.00 per person. These will be on sale from the first week of March.

See Ms Grant in the school office to reserve your seats.



Follow us on Facebook...

Phone: +64 9 4075236 | www.springbank.school.nz

Headstart Report

We are excited to be back for 2021 and have 17 wonderful children in the Headstart classroom for Term One. The children's interest of flight is our focus so far for the term. We have been talking about what flies, how something flies and even had a go at making our own colourful birds.

We have already been out and about on our first trip, visiting the local airport. Unfortunately no planes came in as the flight was cancelled, but luckily for us we were given an exclusive tour out the back of the airport and on the tarmac.

Another big focus is recycling, reducing, and reusing waste. We are working hard towards having litter-free lunchboxes and have a special performance lined up for assembly in Week 6. We are really enjoying being back with our older friends for Buddy Reading time too.



Follow us on Facebook...

Phone: +64 9 4075236 | www.springbank.school.nz

Preschool Update

We are back into the full swing of things down at Preschool and having so much fun! It really is the best place to work, play, and learn. Our group times have started up again for the year, and we are looking forward to lots of discovery and learning together.

Our numbers continue to grow at Preschool, with most days almost full, and we now have 12 staff teaching at Preschool. Our younger friends continue to enjoy the wider surroundings of Springbank such as weekly visits to the school library, gym, turf, and walks around the fitness track. It is really special to have the strong connections with our friends up at Headstart and the big school, and we are looking forward to being involved with as many events with the wider Springbank community as possible.



Follow us on Facebook...

Phone: +64 9 4075236 | www.springbank.school.nz



The annual Kai Iwi Lakes Triathlon is back on Saturday 20th March. Entries are now open for children aged from 5 years to adults. There are individual and team events available.

<https://dashboard.sportnorthlandevents.co.nz/register/?id=KAITRI21>

Long Course Tri (16yrs & over)

- Swim 700m or Kayak 1500m, Cycle 20km, Run 8.5km

Short Course Tri (13yrs & over)

- Swim 350m, Cycle 9km, Run 3.5km

Try a Tri (13yrs & over)

- Swim 100, Cycle 9km, Run 2.5km

Kids Duathlon (5 – 13years)

- Run 500m, Swim 100, Run 500m

Kerikeri

COLOUR BONANZA

COLOUR RUN

Sat 13th March 2021

BAYSPORT GROUNDS - 10am

f Eventfinda



The Springbank School group for the Weet-Bix Kids Tryathlon is now ready. If your child is already registered you can click on the link below to join the Springbank group.

<https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=40605&G=118218>

The Weet-Bix Kids Tryathlon will be held at Waitangi on Sunday 11th April. In preparation for the biking and running section of the event, the annual Springbank Junior Duathlon will be back on Friday 26th March.



Follow us on Facebook...

Phone: +64 9 4075236 | www.springbank.school.nz

The Sharing Shed

We'd like to reintroduce the Sharing Shed, created in May 2020 by one of our parents, Jo Warren.

The concept is for a school community space for sharing. Our families can leave excess produce, eggs, flowers, seedlings or preserves and possibly more as we go along, from home to share with everyone.

- There is no charge or donations. It's purely just sharing with other families.
- No baking please, as it is too hard to keep ants away.
- Please label and put on a use by date if applicable.
- The Sharing Shed will be cleared out each Friday by Jo.
- The Sharing Shed has been made with 100% recycled products and untreated timber.

In order for the Sharing Shed to be effective, families must also take the shared goods. They will be free to Springbank families, and there is no expectation that you must share anything in return. Of course if you would like to, then it also helps the Sharing Shed!



Here's hoping for a Covid-free, lockdown-free March!

Regards,

Mike Warren
Principal

Thoughts for the Week 2021:

Term 1, Week 1:

Aim high

Work hard

Enjoy the journey

Celebrate your achievements

- Courtesy of Mr Warren

Term 1, Week 2:

"Exercise is good for the mind, body and soul."

- Susie Michelle Cortwright

- Courtesy of Mr Hittle

Term 1, Week 3:

"What you give your attention to, controls you. When you control your attention, you will control your destiny."

- Michael Simmons

- Courtesy of Ms Hatherly

Term 1, Week 4:

"Lean on me, when you're not strong and I'll be your friend, I'll help you carry on. For it won't be long, 'til I'm going to need somebody to lean on."

- Bill Withers

- Courtesy of Mr Epley



Follow us on Facebook...

Phone: +64 9 4075236 | www.springbank.school.nz