



SPRINGBANK SCHOOL

Capability – Character – Confidence



Newsletter No. 3 | March 2022

[Dear Springbank Family](#)

Being part of stable, warm, and strong relationships is a defining factor in human happiness. And nothing beats face-to-face interaction, the opportunity to genuinely connect with others, to understand the richness of human nature and to grow in understanding of our own character strengths. Our students are fortunate to have the opportunity to build and sustain authentic lasting relationships with classmates and with teachers, based on mutual respect, support, and positivity.

Especially during times of heightened stress and anxiety, connections with family, friends, and community are as important as ever. I have been particularly impressed with how our school community has been so compassionate and generous throughout this month. Our Prefects have successfully run fundraisers for St Patrick's Day and Little Heart Day, and we have supported Bald Angels' Keep Our Kids Warm campaign. I have been so proud of how, together, our school community has raised significant funds and donated a huge range of items.

By giving generously to others, knowing that it will make a genuine positive difference to the lives of those who need our support most, it has a distinct effect on their mental and emotional wellbeing. What is sometimes forgotten, is that compassion and generosity also has a positive effect on our own wellbeing. Simply put, we feel good when helping others.

Considering others, being kind, and being part of a good community with strong values, helps to set Springbank students up for a good life.

Dates & Events to Note:

- **End of Term BBQ** – Monday 11th April
- **Term One Ends** – Thursday 14th April
- **School Holidays** – Friday 15th April to Sunday 1st May
- **Term Two** – Monday 2nd May to Friday 8th July (10 weeks)



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Shore Fun Day

Our Room 1-3 children kick started off the month of March with a trip to Coopers Beach for their 'Shore Fun Day'. Coopers Beach is always a Term One highlight for camp with a one-night sleepover, however this year it was kept to just a day trip.

The weather was superb with ideal conditions to hit the surf, and create some wonderful sand creations.

The Coopers Beach Camp also has to have one of the best water slides in Northland! A real favourite for students, parents and the odd keen staff member on every visit. This year was no different, with huge smiles and squeals of delight as students zoomed their way down from the top, trying to reach the red beanbag at the bottom.

It was a brilliant day out for our students and couldn't have happened without the huge support and company of our wonderful parents and teachers. A huge thank you must go to Mrs Foster for organising the whole day, and helping create so many wonderful memories.

Here are some words from the students on their experiences from the day:

"I loved the waterslide"

"The waterslide was EPIC!"

"Building sandcastles was the best part for me."

"Looking down on the steep waterslide, I began to worry. Waiting in the line, time ticking by, I was slowly but surely getting slowly to my turn. I took a deep breath, closed my eyes and pushed off!"

"I loved sliding down the hill. It was my first time ever."

"Mrs Foster, please can we go again!?"

"It was a beautiful day. The sun was shining and glistening on the sea."

"We got wet, we ate food, we swam in the sea, we played in the sand, and we all had a great time. It was one of the best days ever!"



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Shore Fun Day continues ...



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Tertiary Education Talks – Years 12 & 13

Our Year 12 and 13 students have the opportunity to listen to speakers from various tertiary educational campuses this term. Coming into the final years of their high school education, these talks are really helpful for students to gain some insight to how the next level of their education and study may look like.

With so many choices and locations for tertiary education and trade training around New Zealand, these talks introduced our students to a wide variety of subjects and career paths they may choose to consider.

Some key points taken from the talks, for our students to consider when choosing a career were:

- What do I love doing and what interests me?
- Do I have a preferred location to study? And does that campus provide what I need and want?
- What are my skills?
 - Hard skills – skills I've acquired through study.
 - Soft skills – skills I possess including teamwork and time management
- What are my talents and strengths?
- What is a my personality type?
 - Do I prefer to work alone or enjoy working with others?
 - Do I want to be a leader or a follower?
- What subjects do I need to take, to complement and support further tertiary study?



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Cape Brett Challenge

At lunchtime on the 10th of March, the 2022 Senior Outdoor Adventure class set off for the annual Cape Brett Challenge.

Once we had arrived at Opito Bay, we packed our countless bags into one boat before all piling on to Mr. Warren's boat to head to Urupukapuka Island. After unloading the boats and pitching the tents, the Year 12s and 13s battled it out in a high stakes match of Ultimate Frisbee, which the Year 12s ultimately won - the game was neck and neck with only 1 point's difference between the two teams.

After tucking into a hearty dinner, there was heated game of Piggy-in-the-Middle. By the time we'd finished playing and got ready for bed, it was so dark you could hardly see the fluorescent yellow tennis ball we'd been tossing back and forth.

It was an early start on Friday morning, gulping down our breakfast and squeezing into our wetsuits before embarking on Part 1 of the Cape Brett Challenge: The Swim. It was a tough couple of kilometres, but after a few leg cramps and face-splashes we had made it to Rawhiti! After a record breaking 30-minute-long change into our hiking clothes, we took off along the road to the Cape Brett Trailhead. (By the way, the record that we broke was the slowest time to get ready).

We began to climb the steps that marked the beginning of the 16 km journey which lay ahead of us. It certainly was a difficult experience, but the countless jaw-dropping vistas scattered along the way made it all worthwhile. We stopped briefly for lunch at the Trapper's Cabin at the 9k mark which gave our tired legs a chance to rest. We pushed through the last half of the hike and finally arrived at the DOC hut sweaty and exhausted, but with a sense of accomplishment. (The sweaty part was nothing that the short paddle to the boat didn't fix).

You would think that the swim and hike would leave us too worn-out, but once we had arrived back at Urupukapuka Bay, yet another game of Ultimate Frisbee ensued, although there were fewer impressive catches and much more limping around the field. Later that night, a makeshift game of cricket began, however it ended suddenly when Magnus managed to hit the trick-shot of a lifetime: With a swing of the driftwood, we were using as a bat, Shelby the tennis ball was wedged between a protruding screw and a wooden post – a gap which was only a few centimetres wide!

The following morning, we packed our gear into the boat and embarked on the short boat ride back home.

All in all, it was an incredible experience and has certainly been one of the highlights of the 2022 school year so far.

- Ethan Williams, Year 13



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Cape Brett Challenge continues ...

I think my favourite moment from Cape Brett was at the very end of the hike when we arrived at the Cape. The whole trip I had been yearning to see any sort of sea creature such as a dolphin or a whale. During the hike Mr. Horgan had mentioned that there were sometimes seals on the rocks by the dock house. When we were sitting by the water I looked across the small channel and saw four seals basking right in front of us. It was such a great way to end the hike. It sort of felt like a little reward!

-Ellie Epley, Year 13



I was so grateful to be able to do the Cape Brett Challenge again this year. The swim and hike are such an amazing experience, mixing exhilarating activities with the beautiful sights of the Bay of Islands.

My highlights are a tie break between watching Magnus wedge the tennis ball, Shelby, into a tiny gap, with a magnificent hit in beach cricket and watching Kanwar getting drenched by the waves as he sat leaning over the side of the boat.

-Bethany Flanagan, Year 13



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Year 5-6 Camp

Room 4 had the fabulous opportunity to head away on a two-night camp onboard The Rock Adventure Cruise mid March. The students, parents and boat crew had an awesome time fishing, kayaking, snorkeling, hiking and paddleboarding.

We were so fortunate to be able to head away on this camp together as a class and would like to give a huge thanks to everyone who made this camp possible. We had a blast!

"I take a deep breath. Using all my bravery I swing my legs over the side. "You can do this," I tell myself, then plop, I'm In the water. All my nerves disappear, like they were never there. I look around, WOW! There are hundreds if not thousands of colourful fish. Some are spotted, some are stripey and some are bright, and they are all swimming around me like a tornado.

I hear "Look it's a stingray!" I peer down. Two big stingrays are right underneath me! I breathe heavily into my snorkel, the same way you might do if you were wearing a face mask. I reach my hand out trying to touch a fish. It felt weird for a couple of seconds. The fish had some type of pattern on it, and it was misty blue.

I decided to head back to the boat. On my way I see fish popping out of coral and rocks."

BEST CAMP EVER!!!

By Adrianna

"Snorkeling, calm, warm and magical. Big and small fish all around me. I dive into the water. My friends swimming with me. Big waves in the distance, my dad in a kayak. I swim back cold, VERY COLD... Fay, Adrianna, and Lindi were covering Fay up with sand. Ruby shouting to me... "Come in please." But I am too cold.

Hanging my towel up on the boat, it starts to rain. I feel refreshed. I think I showed zest and bravery on camp because I had heaps of energy and I tried new things."

By Addi.



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Year 5-6 Camp continues ...



"I move away from the warm crackling fire as Erin calls out for the second group of kayakers. The first kayak pulls into the boat, they heave themselves out of the bright orange kayaks, swapped their life jackets and slowly walked into the warm cozy boat.

After a while, Richard, Gaby, and I strolled to the end of the boat. Fresh cool water lapped at my feet. We sat down Richard first then Gaby, finally it was my turn. "Feet, feet, hands, cheeks". Richard took a paddle and with that we paddled into the dark. Water glistened in the night. The water was smooth, flat and calm. The sound of water splashing filled the air.

Every time a paddle hit the water, phosphorescent sparks shot out of the water like silver glitter. With every paddle we got closer and closer to the rocks, I looked upwards towards the green blob though it was black when I saw it. "We will start heading back to the boat now." Splash! Splash! We were quickly turning towards the boat. "Whoosh!" We pulled onto The Rock Adventure vessel. Dan again, "Feet, feet, hands, cheek".

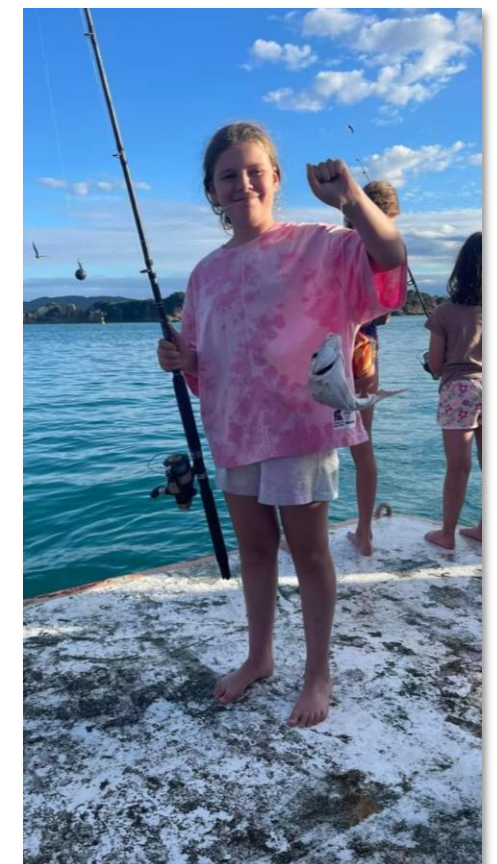
By Scarlett.

"I put on a bright red lifejacket waiting for my turn. I slowly hopped into the wobbly green-yellow Kayak.

Ruby hops on alongside me with that crazy old Stephen. Starting off we headed around the coast. Flicking the paddle Stephen looked into the clear blue water to see if there were any dazzling phosphorescence glittering in the dark. Nearly crashing into rocks we headed around the cliff face. Paddling the kayak back to the "Rock", Stephen starts splashing us.

Splashing him back Ruby has a turn steering the rocking boat. My turn, I grab hold of the paddle persevering as I steer the kayak back to The "Rock". Pulling up to the back of the huge boat I grab onto the edge. Scrambling out of the kayak I go to get my towel that was the greatest kayaking ever! My favourite thing about kayaking was seeing the phosphorescence."

By Fay



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St Patrick's Day

What a great way to end Week 7 of the term, with a nod to St Patrick's Day.

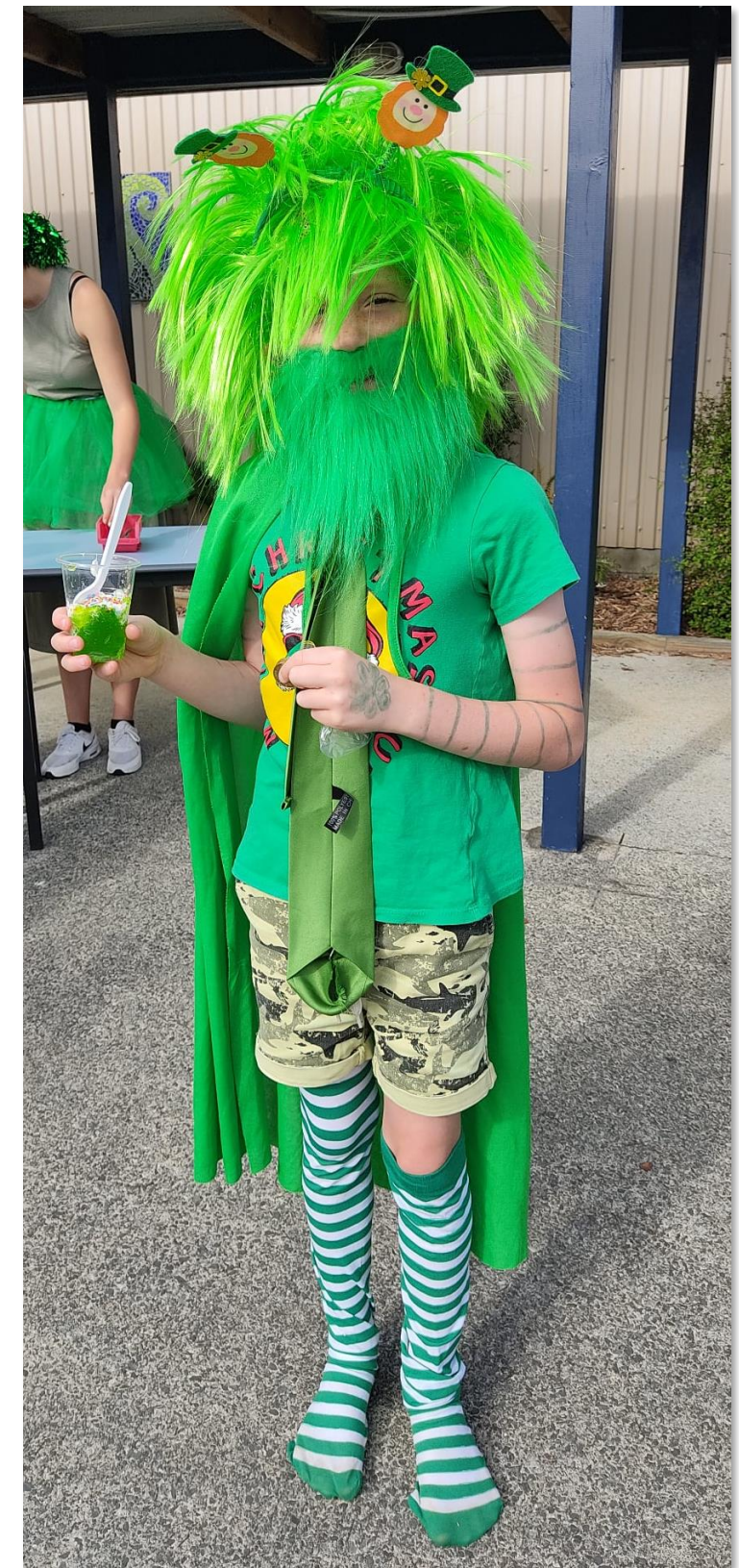
There were some superb dress ups this year, and it's great to see our students really getting into the spirit and having some fun.

A total of **\$250.00** was raised today, which will be going to our school-wide chosen charity, Bald Angels.

St Patrick's Day was a huge success. We made little green jelly cups with whipped cream and sprinkles, and what a delightful and unique experience they were.

But my highlight for the day was the slime-throwing at lunch, Bethany and I made the green slime, and this year instead of throwing at still targets, we had a staff vs student football game. This may not have been the wisest, but it was heaps of fun. Many of the football players got drenched with green slime. Soon this turned to chaos with students just throwing slime at each other, and me, haha! But this was a highlight and it was such a fun way to celebrate St Patrick's Day.

- Rebecca Nugteren, Year 13 Prefect



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Junior Duathlon

Our Junior Duathlon was held on Friday 25th March, and it was fantastic!

Back for its 4th year, this event includes students from Headstart to Year 6, taking on biking and running.

There are three course groups to choose from:

FANTAIL – Bike 1km and run 400m

KAKAPO – Bike 1.5km and run 1km

MOA – Bike 3.9km and run 1.7km



Fantail Race		Kakapo Race		Moa Race	
<u>Girls</u> 3 rd Perry Lynn 2 nd Ella Sorensen 1 st Evie Andrew (new course record taking off 22 seconds)	<u>Boys</u> 3 rd Blu Baxter 2 nd Robbie Gabriels 1 st Lockie Warren	<u>Girls</u> 3 rd Macy Lynn 2 nd Tabby Arnold 1 st Ilha Carlyon (new course record taking off 30 seconds)	<u>Boys</u> 3 rd Max Barker 2 nd Austin Kell 1 st Liam Faircliff (new course record taking off 16 seconds)	<u>Girls</u> 3 rd Holly McIntrye 2 nd Fay Stirling 1 st Addi Warren	<u>Boys</u> 3 rd Eddie Warren 2 nd Mason Warren 1 st Nelson Freeman

The atmosphere and energy from the students is always exciting, and the sportsmanship and cheering for their friends as they cross the finish line is wonderful to see.

There were some tight races this year, with some epic runs to the final line, pushing the students and their legs to their limits, to nudge ahead at the finishing line.

Well done to all our students who participated in the 2022 event. Your determination, speed, and enthusiasm is awesome to watch, and you are inspiring.

Thank you to our group of parents and senior students who helped volunteer during the morning, with support around the track and at the finish line. Lastly, a huge thank you to Jo Warren for organising and running this exciting annual junior event



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Junior Duathlon continues ...



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Athletics Day

On Friday 25th March, our Middle & Senior Athletics Day was also on, so it was an action-packed day of events around the school for our students.

Athletics Day sees our students from Years 7 to 13 compete in various events including shot put, discus, sprints, long jump, and a series of tabloid sports, including the entertaining gumboot throw.

The day was interrupted with a few light rain showers, but it's never a proper Athletics Day without a bit of rain ☺! However, this didn't deter the students from giving it their all and having fun as they moved around the different disciplines. In fact, many welcomed the cool rain, as it was a lovely hot day.

The senior boys' sprints and relay races were hotly contested, with some fast-paced running. The parent/teacher sprint was once again a battle between Mr Horgan and Mr Warren, with Mr Horgan sneaking through with a win to retain his sprint title.

The final event of the day is the House Tug of War Challenge. The 2021 winners, the Sharks, had a bit of pressure on them to retain the top spot after a huge win last year. But it wasn't to be, with a powerful performance from the Orcas dominating the challenge and taking out the 2022 Tug of War Challenge!

Thank you to our parent volunteers on the day for your support and thanks to our teachers, especially Mr Horgan, for running another successful and enjoyable Athletics Day.



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Athletics Day continues ...



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Springbank Clothing

Whilst we don't have a formal uniform at Springbank School. We do have six items of clothing on offer to purchase. These clothing items are not compulsory. However, they can be added in nicely to your child's everyday school wardrobe if you wish.

There are currently six items available:

- Cap
- Bucket hat
- T-shirt
- Track jacket
- Half zip polar fleece
- Full zip polar fleece

We are also looking into the option of a pair of sports shorts in navy. These have yet to arrive, and we will forward details once they are here.

The clothing samples will be available to view outside the school office during Week One of Term Two, and order forms with pricing and payment instructions will be in the office to collect at the same time.



Springbank House T-Shirts

You may have noticed some new house t-shirts being worn around school at our recent Junior Duathlon and Athletics Day.

Shannon (a Springbank parent) has helped create some t-shirt designs for our house groups and they look fantastic!

The t-shirts are 100% cotton and are available in kids sizes 2 – 16 and also in adults sizes from XS to 3XL. The t-shirts will be available to buy for \$25.00 each.

Samples of the house t-shirts will be on display as well during Week One of Term Two, along with order forms.



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Friends of Springbank

The Friends of Springbank committee met, for the second time this year, on Wednesday 30th March. Future fundraising events were discussed, together with suggestions for social events, which we hope will be enjoyed by staff, students and parents over the coming year. More details will follow!

Funding allocated at this meeting included contributions to the Junior School to subsidise the cost of both swimming in Term Two and gymnastics later in Term Three. Funding was also allocated to cover 50% of the cost of the Defensive Driving Course, benefiting students in the Senior School. Friends of Springbank also agreed to cover the cost of transport for all students in Yr11-13 to enable them to attend the Far North Careers Roadshow. This should be a great place for our senior students to network and meet providers of diplomas, degrees, apprenticeships and cadetships.

Ellie Epley, Springbank School's Head Girl was also in attendance to update us on upcoming events such as the Senior Ball, volleyball competitions, the OPC trip and a careers & university visit to Auckland in Term Two.

It was a very productive and positive meeting! Our next meeting will be held in the staffroom, at 2pm on the 4th of May. This will be our Annual General Meeting and we would like to extend a warm welcome to anyone who is interested in coming along.

Upcoming meetings:

- AGM Wednesday 4th May
- Wednesday 25th May
- Wednesday 29th June
- Wednesday 27th July

The Friends of Springbank is a committee run by a friendly group of parent volunteers who are passionate about our school, and we help fund various events, competitions and excursions for the students of Springbank School, Headstart and Preschool.

We hold monthly meetings in the school staffroom, and everyone is welcome to attend. There is no set commitment to join, we can send meeting minutes via email, and as a committee member you can have your say on how funds raised are spent.

Our key objective is to **“Further the educational experience of the Springbank School students”**



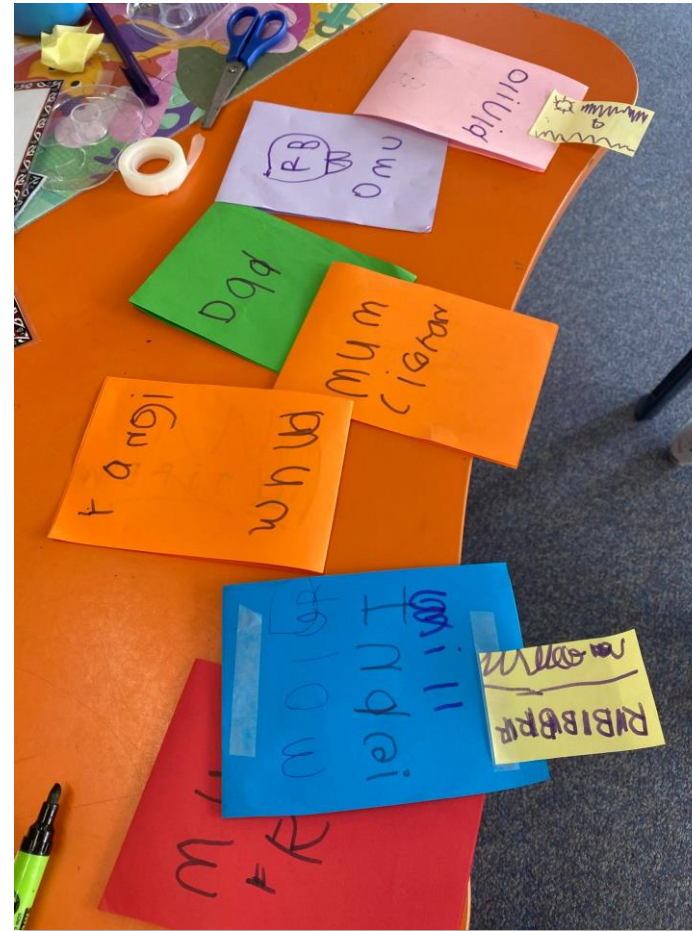
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Headstart Report

We continue to explore our interests at Headstart together, and a reoccurring theme amongst the children has been their increased focus on writing, using letters, numbers and forming words as part of our everyday lives. It is great to see the children wanting to engage and develop this strength in their literacy writing skills.

We have also been training hard over the last few weeks of March in preparation for the Junior Duathlon. We love getting involved with wider Springbank School events and have the best time. For some of us, this was our first “competitive” race, and we are so proud of the determination, perseverance and speed the children displayed during the race. There were full smiles everywhere and even a beautiful rainbow to share the morning.



Preschool Update

Exploration has been our focus this month. With the celebration of Sea Week and Bug Week, the tamariki have developed ways to find out what they want to know and used different strategies and experiences in exploration, to use their own initiative. We have watched our tamariki's confidence grow and their ability to support and communicate with their peers with trying something new.

Creativity has been in full bloom and our tamariki have taken real pride in displaying their artwork at Preschool. It has been interesting gaining a perspective on their world and how they see things. Expressing this through art has been colourful and so much fun. We also had a wonderful time heading to the field and supporting our older siblings and friends in their Junior Duathlon. Many of us can't wait until it is our turn to take part. It has been a lovely month of settling back into Preschool life, reconnecting and making new friends.



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Community Notices

Northern Dance Academy

Classes available in ballet, modern jazz & contemporary.

Fully qualified registered teachers with the Royal Academy of Dance (UK & worldwide) Imperial society of teachers of dancing (UK & Worldwide) New Zealand Association of Modern Dance (NZ) syllabus

Age 3+

Performances, Examinations, Competitions.

contact: Liz Harvey 02108471533

northerndanceacademy@yahoo.co.nz



Bald Angels

'Keep Our Kids Warm'



Please only provide **NEW** or **EXCELLENT** quality pre-loved items (no holes, pilling, stains)

CLOTHING:

(for birth to 17 years)

- Warm jackets
- Track pants
- New underwear & socks
- Pyjamas
- Slippers & gumboots
- Knitwear

BEDDING:

- Clean quilts & pillows
- Blankets



Take a look around home over the holidays for any clothing or bedding that you no longer need, and drop it into the box outside the school office.



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New Garden Boxes

Mid term, we created a new seating area beside the concrete courtyard for students to sit and relax, during morning tea and lunch.

Garden boxes were kindly donated to us from Alexander AG LTD for the space, and they fit in perfectly. We have also placed one by the Junior School sandpit to use as a storage bin, as well as Headstart receiving two boxes to use in their vegetable garden rebuild.



Regards,

Mike Warren
Principal

Thoughts for the Week 2022:

Term 1, Week 5:

"Don't chase after success, chase after capability. If you are capable of anything, the success will be chasing you."

Courtesy of Mrs Angela Warren

Term 1, Week 6:

"If we did all the things we are capable of, we would literally astound ourselves."

Courtesy of the Prefect Team

Term 1, Week 7:

"If I have the belief that I can do it, I shall surely acquire the capacity to do it even if I may not have it at the beginning."

- Mahatma Ghandi

Courtesy of Mrs Binedell

Term 1, Week 8:

"The capability to learn, ... a special type of potential, is indeed the power to re-form or re-shape oneself by altering one's general dispositions."

- Israel Sheffler

Courtesy of Mr Broadwith



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