



SPRINGBANK SCHOOL

Capability – Character – Confidence



Newsletter No. 8 | August 2022

Dear Springbank Family

What an edition we have for you this month! This newsletter is crammed full of rich educational experiences, most of which are in addition to our bustling in-class environments. What is particularly special about this edition is the student voice woven throughout. It is wonderful to experience a variety of students' perspectives from events such as MUNA, Floating Classroom, Tough Guy and Gal Challenge, and a STEM careers presentation.

There is a lot going on. Without really realising it, we find ourselves in somewhat of a post-Covid (and post-flu!) stage, *back to normal* as it were, able to socialise in close proximity, attend a range of interschool activities without fear of cancellation, and take part in many sports and extra-curricular events. We are once again allowed to welcome families back to our usual events such as speeches, poems, and Science Fair. Friends of Springbank even hosted an awesome parents-only quiz night, which was a lovely get-together and a lot of fun!

At this time, it enables us to reflect on the last couple of years and appreciate the range of benefits that a physical school environment provides that a distance-learning model cannot. Many educational experiences, both inside and outside of the classroom, challenge our children mentally, socially, and physically. These experiences allow our children to safely work outside of their comfort zone to overcome challenges, to compete and sometimes win, to be placed in environments that enable them to interact with others and form new friendships, and to build confidence in who they are as individuals. In turn, this self-confidence is put to the test when our children accept new challenges/experiences to once again work outside their comfort zone, which, by the way, grows with each new experience.

This newsletter is a celebration of our students who say "Yes", who accept a challenge or put their hand up to take part in these confidence-building activities. In addition, they have put their hand up to write about their experiences, which I have particularly enjoyed reading.

As luck would have it, by looking at the "Dates & Events to Note" on the right of this page, I have a suspicion that September is going to provide our students with even more key confidence-building opportunities!

Dates & Events to Note:

- **NZ Playhouse Performance** – Wednesday 7th September
- **OPC Year 13 Trip** – Sunday 11th – Friday 16th September
- **Market Day** – Sunday 18th September
- **SpringBreak Monday (holiday)** – Monday 19th September
- **Springbank's Got Talent Final** – Wednesday 21st September
- **Young Ambassadors Competition** – Thursday 22nd September
- **Term Three Holidays** – Saturday 24th September to Sunday 9th October



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MUNA

At the end of July, nine students from Years 12 and 13 had the very exciting opportunity to attend the Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) at Auckland Girls' Grammar School.

MUNA is a programme that is run worldwide, and our event ran for two days, with roughly 90 teams from schools across Auckland and Northland representing a variety of countries and their governments. Springbank School sent three teams: Russia (Ethan Williams, Marlowe McAngus, and Ellie Epley), Germany (Bethany Flanagan, Eloise Drayton, and James Broadwith) and South Sudan (represented by Jaluka Clarke, Yuki Hirayama, and Aliana Mankelow). We were tasked with dressing up in clothing which represented our given nations, delivering speeches in response to remits that affected our countries, and taking part in riveting discussion about several current global issues.

South Sudan (represented by Jaluka, Yuki, and Aliana) won the award for the best-dressed country! This is the second year in a row that this title had gone to a Springbank team.



For me, a personal highlight of the event was lobbying other countries to gain support for our amendments, as well as passing notes between the teams to discuss alliances.

Overall, we all had such a fun and fulfilling time researching, presenting, and debating.

There was also plenty of fun to be had outside of the event - whether that was enjoying some delicious pizza, or even celebrating Jaluka's 17th birthday (complete with cake)!

On our return, we were invited to a Rotary Club dinner in Waipapa to share our experiences with the Rotary members who supported our teams by sponsoring the cost of our entry fees. We had a delicious dinner and so much fun recounting our adventures.

A huge thank you to both the Waipapa Club for their sponsorship and the Friends of Springbank for contributing to the funding of the trip. Also, we appreciate all Mrs. Hittle did in organising, driving, and attending the trip, and Marlowe's mum Jillian for coming as a parent helper!

- Ethan Williams, Year 13



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MUNA continues

Mrs Hittle had one slot open in the MUNA team, so she asked me if I would like to participate. Since I had just arrived in NZ only a few weeks previous, I was told that I would be fine just standing on the stage as support without saying anything, as English is my second language. I decided to participate. Along with my classmates, Jaluka and Aliana, we became the delegates of South Sudan. Mrs Hittle and Mrs McAngus kindly prepared the beautiful costumes for us. We looked like local South Sudanese. Although I was told I didn't have to say anything, I did research on South Sudan. Our remits were about COVID-19 vaccination coverage and climate change. After studying South Sudan, I ended up writing both speeches.



On Day One, the venue was much bigger than I expected. There were about 400 participants. Springbank School had three teams; Russia, Germany, and South Sudan. On the first day of MUNA, Russia and Germany did their presentation. I had a chance to watch them and do mental training for the next day. I practised my scripts many times before I went to bed.

Before the beginning of Day Two, our team ran through our presentation from beginning to end before we went to the hall. It was the first time for me to speak in front of hundreds of people so I was a bit nervous, but with support from my classmates, I got excited and knew I could do it. When I got up on the stage, the lectern was higher than I thought, so I stood on my tippy toes as I spoke. Surprisingly, I was comfortable speaking in front of a large crowd; in English, my second language!

I learned more about many countries in the world by listening to other presentations. I gained a lot of information about world affairs and other opinions by listening to the representatives of the countries. It was a very good opportunity to think about the remits because they were being discussed at the United Nations.

At first, I was going to say nothing, but giving a speech in front of a lot of people opened new possibilities for me and gave me confidence. I really appreciate Mrs Hittle for giving me the chance and supporting us. I also thank the Rotary Club of Waipapa and the friends of Springbank for financing the event. It was a precious and valuable opportunity for me.

- Yuki Hirayama, Year 12



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[Floating Classroom – Year 5 & 6 Trip](#)

Early this month our class went on the Floating Classroom trip with Project Island Song. It was an awesome adventurous journey which included making rat traps, planting flax, bird watching, and hiking.

When we got there we had some morning tea, then we split into two groups. One group made rat traps and the other hiked to the planting spot where we named our plants and planted them. There was mud everywhere and we were covered in dirt. Then the planting group hiked up a super big mountain. From there we could see the other group who we yelled out to and they waved back. We rolled down the hill trying to miss the sheep droppings and had some lunch and the birds kept trying to get our food.

After that we switched which meant my group started making rat traps which helped us learn teamwork and how to use integrity. Once we made the traps we got to colour on them which was super cool. Making the rat traps wouldn't have been possible without our amazing parents who helped us. The Men's Shed Kerikeri taught us how to make the traps and ITM donated the wood.

Once again, thanks to Mrs Filer and all our awesome parents, the people that supplied us with all the stuff like the plants, the boat, and the other supplies, and the most important, Project Island Song. Thank you so much for letting us come on this extraordinary trip.

By Samantha Rowland, Year 6



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Daffodil Day

Springbank School was proud to support Daffodil Day with community art displayed in local stores and fundraising at school. Led by Louisa and Jaasmeet, students were encouraged to wear yellow, there was a lunchtime bake sale, games in the gym, and a colouring competition for the Junior School to take part in.

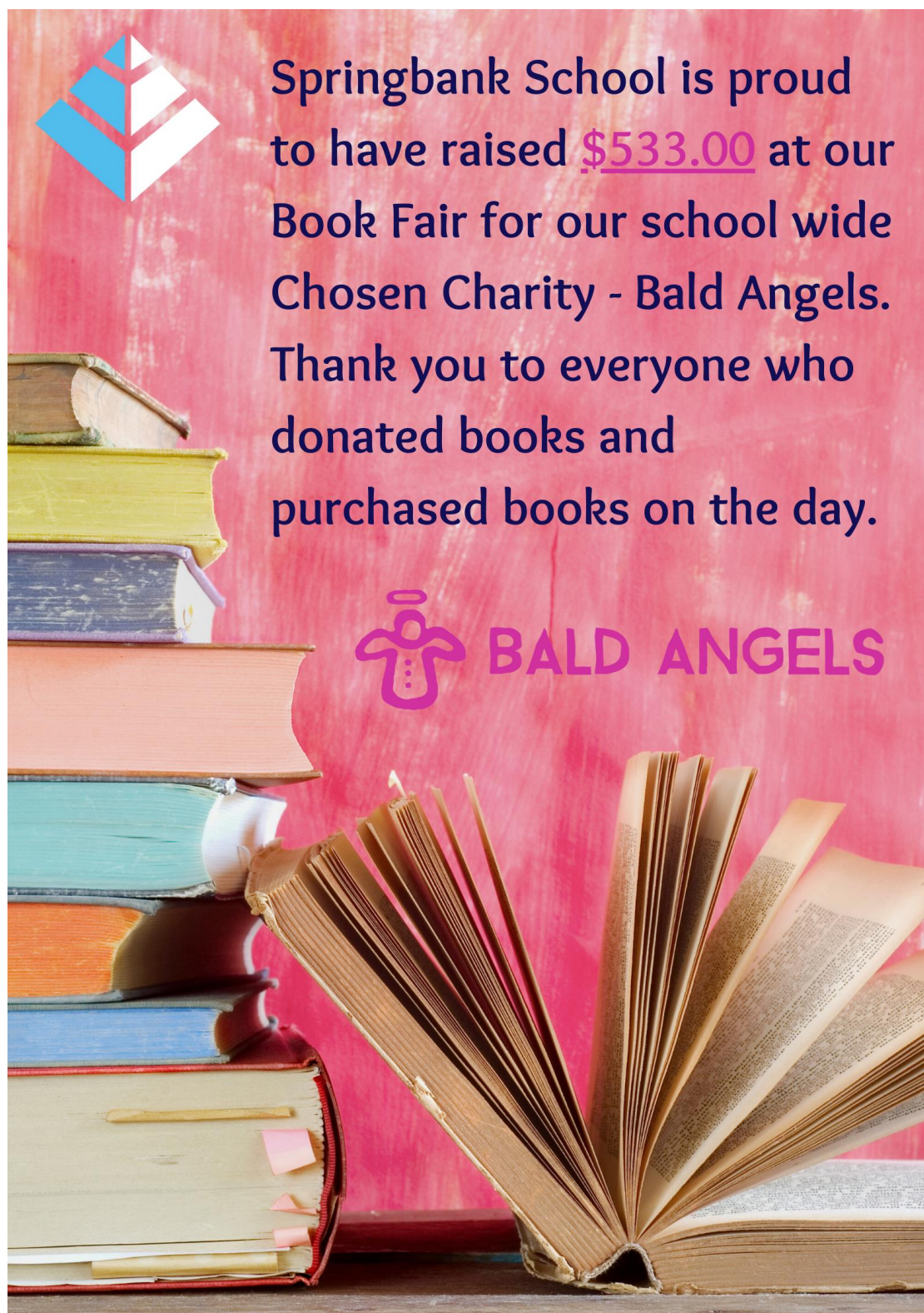
As a school community we were proud to raise **\$451.00** for the Cancer Society. Thank you to everyone for your generous support.



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Book Fair



Bald Angels Charitable Trust

Ngā Anahera Pākira

"caring for kids in our community"



25 August 2022,

Kia ora koutou katoa,

😊 You are all amazing! 🙏

We are so lucky to have Springbank School in our community, and once again we would like to extend the deepest gratitude to you to all for supporting Bald Angels Charitable Trust.

Your fundraising for Bald Angels so far this year has helped us in our mission to support vulnerable young people to thrive. Your recent Book Fair deposit of \$533.00 is amazing! Congratulations on another great school project!

In the last 12 months we have, again, been privileged to provide baby wear, blankets, clothes, Angel Sacks, angel bears, kai and emergency housing support to hundreds of tamariki across Te Tai Tokerau.

We've also worked with several very vulnerable young people to build confidence, life skills and financial literacy so they can live better lives. Our mentors and volunteers have contributed to their wellbeing across all four wellbeing pillars of Te Whare Tapa Whā; social, physical, mental and spiritual.

This has meant these youth have gained employment; retained jobs; avoided fines and penalties; had advocacy in court and at work; been referred for mental health and physical health support; been supported to attain driver licenses; gained social networks; had accommodation issues sorted; received food, clothing and bedding; and been partnered with caring mentors.

Lives are changed through this intervention and care work.

It is a privilege to be able to deliver support packages across the Far North, and YOUR support for our charity makes a big difference. Thank you all so much!

If you'd be keen to help us with the annual Christmas Toy Drive, that would be fabulous!

I've listed our fave items on the following page.

Arohanui- ngā mihi nui

Thérèse

Thérèse Wickbom

On behalf of the Bald Angels Charitable Trust



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Middle / Senior Speeches

During the first week of August we held our Middle & Senior School Speech Finals.

Students wrote and prepared their speeches last term, presenting them to their peers and English teachers, with finalists then being chosen for the finals.

16 students from Year 7 to 12 impressed everyone with their variety of speeches, that our judges Jill Hatherly and Janna Sicely said were engaging, informative, persuasive, whimsical, and entertaining.

Speeches can be a daunting time, but our students displayed great confidence and poise. Well done to everyone who made the finals, and please help us congratulate our 2022 Middle & Senior School Speech winners and runner-ups.

Year 7 & 8

- Winner - Makayla Barker "If Pets Could Talk"
- Runner Up - Charlie Rowe "Bow Hunting"

Year 9 & 10

- Winner - Elizabeth Esscher "Isaac Newton"
- Runner Up - Sebastian Mottl - "Being a Teenager"

Year 11 & 12

- Winner - Anna Kidman "How To Start A Cult"
- Runner Up - Briar Booth "Sibling Rivalry"

Overall Outstanding Speaker

- Anna Kidman



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Science Fair

Students from Year 7 to 10 displayed their scientific knowledge and theories at the annual Science Fair during Week Four. Top finalists from each year group then moved forward to the Far North Regional Science & Technology Fair being hosted at the Turner Centre.

Well done to all our students for presenting some interesting and thought-provoking science projects. Explaining your scientific knowledge in writing can be difficult, but it was fantastic to see such clear attention to detail, questions, thinking, and your conclusions.

Congratulations to the following students who received an award at the regional fair:

Year 7

- GOLD - Makayla Barker, 'Seeing Red'

Year 8

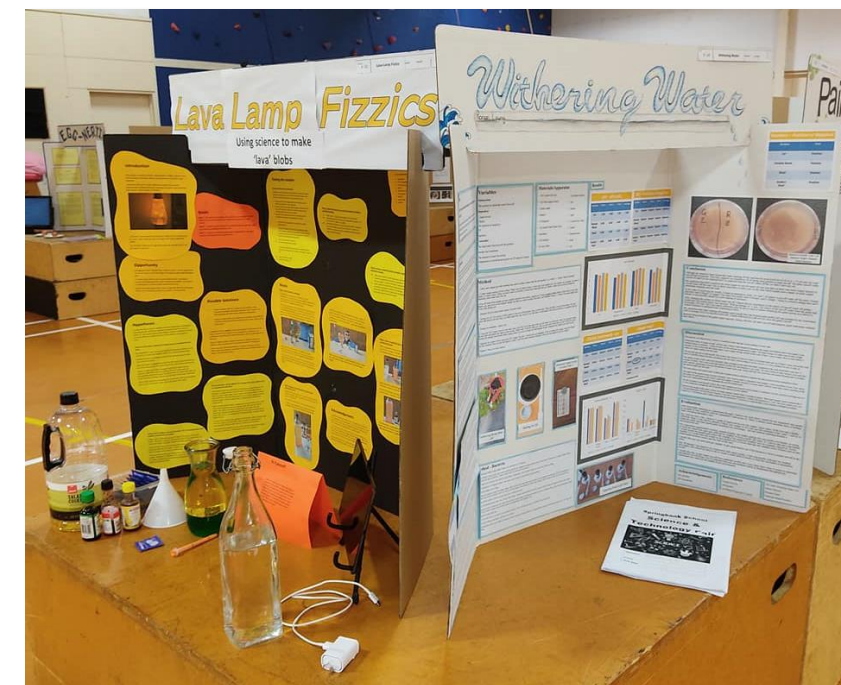
- SILVER - Charlie Rowe, 'Baaaah. What's for Lunch?'

Year 9

- BRONZE - Ronan Leung, 'Withering Water'
- SPECIAL AWARD - Lilly Hulse, 'Night Owl'

Year 10

- GOLD, TWO SPECIAL AWARDS & 1ST EQUAL OVERALL YEAR 9 and 10 - Bella Booth, 'Production v Location'
- GOLD & SPECIAL AWARD - Tiarna Andrew, 'Placebo Effect'
- SILVER - Jaasmeet Randhawa and Sophie Hunia, 'To Conform or Not to Conform'
- GOLD - Zoe Wells, 'Eyewitness Testimony'
- GOLD & SPECIAL AWARD - Louisa Joyce, 'Honey, I found A Cure!'



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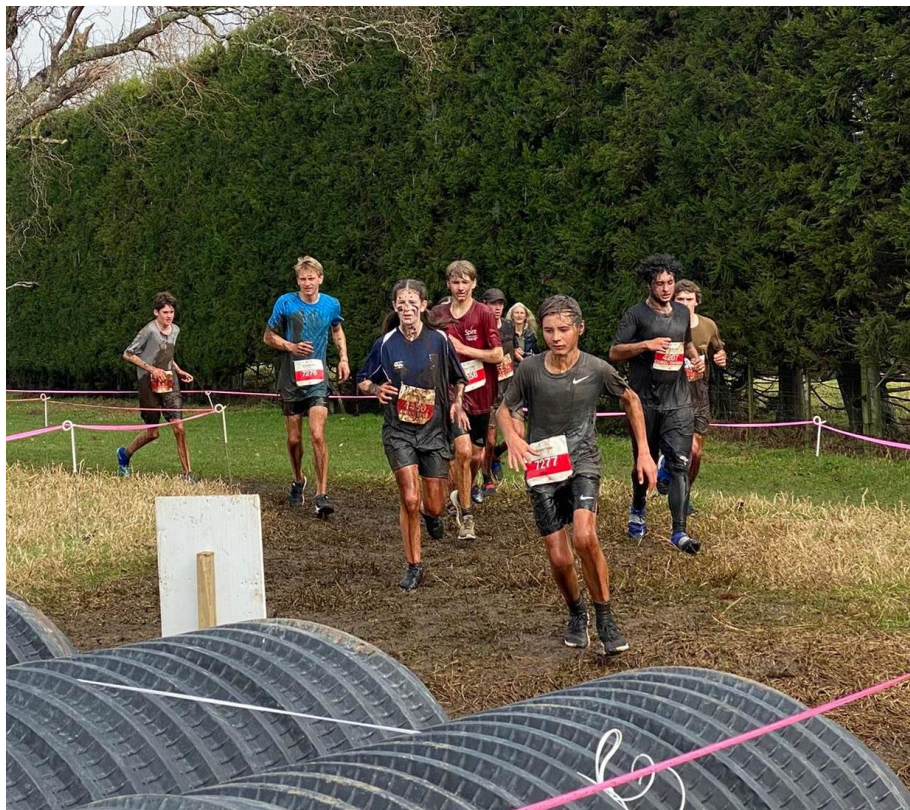
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Tough Guy and Gal Challenge

On one of the coldest and foggiest mornings this winter, 22 students braved an early start and arrived at school at 6:30am for the long drive down to Kumeu Showgrounds for the 2022 Tough Guy and Gal Event. As we arrived at the venue, the temperature dipped to a chilly 7 degrees and thick mist covered the Showgrounds. Despite this, everyone was in high spirits ready for the 6 km mud run! Race numbers were pinned on, shoes secured with tape, and start briefings given. We battled with extreme amounts of mud and cold water, climbing over large fences and sliding through drainpipes. It was really good to see that everyone was trying their hardest and having fun while coated from head to toe in mud, giving it their all even in the cold conditions.

I would like to say a big thank you to Mr Warren for allowing me to run this event, to Mrs Chapman and Taryn for the help with organisation, and the parents who helped transport and support on the day. Even though no one achieved a podium finish, everyone ran hard and Mr Warren was able to gain 2nd placed teacher!

- Oliver Sizer, Year 11



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Tough Guy and Gal Challenge

5th August 2022, the day I had been waiting for; Tough guy and Gal mud run. My alarm went off at exactly 5:00. I rolled over to turn it off and got up and started getting ready for the big event. As I got in the car ready to come to school at 5:35, I already felt butterflies in my stomach.

We came through the school gate, and I saw people around me getting ready for the big run. I got out of the car and sat in the bus bay waiting for Zaelea to get there. I saw her car drive over the speed bump, and boom! The butterflies were back. I put my bag in the car and so did the other boys. We were all ready, so we left school and on our way, picked up Evie from Kawakawa and started heading towards Auckland.

It took us a while to find where we were supposed to go but we eventually found it. I stepped out of the car and took a breath. I looked around me and everyone was so much bigger, taller, and older than me... I was getting scared. We got dressed and then we heard a loud voice over the speakers asking us to go in front of the big black stadium. We started walking over to the big stadium and I got a huge fright; the guy talking through the big speakers was in a clown suit and a horrendous orange wig. He started talking to us about the rules, gave us a safety briefing, then we headed off to the starting line.

We got let off in groups before we got to the front. I remember saying to Evie, "I do not want to do this anymore." She said, "It will be fun", and we went through to where we were going to start our 6ks run. 3...2...1 GO! We started running and it was just stones and grass and then around 3 corners, bam, all of a sudden there was a big wall we had to climb over, and little did I know on the other side there was a huge deep mud pool! I did not think it was going to be that deep but boy was I wrong! I just put my feet in, fell in the mud, and went in over my waist. It was deep and cold. But I got through it and waited for Evie and Zaelea, and then what do you know, there is another one but deeper!

After that it was just all fun. There were tubes to go through, nets we had to go under, and more walls to climb over. Altogether it was a fun, long and kind of challenging day, but it was worth it. The best part was having a nice hot shower afterwards and getting at least most of the mud off.

- Jaymie Hamuera, Year 9



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Springbank School International Students

A HUGE Springbank Welcome to our International Students and their families.

It is so wonderful to be able to finally welcome our International Students and their families back to our country and our school.

Yuki Hirayama, Year 12, from Japan, has settled in well into life here at Springbank School and got the opportunity to enjoy a fun day out with other Northland International students at Northtec (Whangarei) Cooking School. Yuki got the opportunity to learn how to cook (and eat) kumara and mushroom pies, followed with a meringue roulade for dessert, as well as speaking at MUNA (Model United Nations Assembly).

It's been wonderful to welcome Casper and Arisara, Year 10, from Thailand, and their parents (Christian and Pinla) back to Springbank School, after having to return home to Thailand when our country closed our borders back in 2020.

Youssef Awad, Year 11, from Egypt is very happy that our borders have opened, and international students can return.

Elisabeth Ringel, Year 10, from Germany, really enjoys Outdoor Adventure with her host-sister and classmates.

Alvin and Laurits, Year 9 and Year 7, from Denmark, and their parents (Anja and Frank), are so happy that they could learn more about New Zealand History through visiting the Waitangi Treaty Grounds.

Javier Oyarzun, Year 10, from Chile, is also really enjoying Outdoor Adventure with his classmates, and is looking forward to watching the All Blacks play Australia at Eden Park and hopefully win the Bledisloe Cup, at the end of this term.

- Jill Grimshaw, International Student Director



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Springbank School International Students

Kindness is not just a word ...

After only 7 days at Springbank School as an international student our son, age 13 was invited to join the school's hockey team. Our son has never played hockey before, let alone liked sports at all. Two days later he entered the hockey field for the first time ever in a real match.

Our son was of course tremblingly nervous and ran wobbling onto the field. After 5 minutes he smacked the ball into his own net. Nobody yelled, nobody cursed, nobody picked on him. On the contrary the boys and girls from his own team came to him, clapping his shoulder, trying to cheer him up. His own goalkeeper even said to him "sorry I let you down". Wow.

Our son was totally overwhelmed and relieved by this friendly, generous attitude - so were his parents. In his old school back home and probably in many other schools too, the reaction would have been quite different.

Minutes later our son sprinted around the field filled with joy of playing.

On our way home, he stated that his new mates were cool and that Springbank is something special. Kindness is not just a word or a slogan, it's real.

By the way, now he wants to be a hockey player! And he has promised not to score in his own net again.

With Kind regards

The Danish Family



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Engineering STEM Talk

On Wednesday of Week 3, we had two representatives from Engineering NZ come and talk to our years 7-13 about careers in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics). They talked about their own journeys and careers and delved into the other career paths you can take in STEM, from mechanical engineering to architecture. The presentation opened students up to the world of STEM and the diverse range of opportunities it presents.

For myself, it was very valuable to hear and gain knowledge of their own real-world experience and the challenges they went through to get to where they are today.

Other thoughts from my peers:

- *"The presentation was very knowledgeable and opened my eyes to the possible pathways I could take in my future."*
- *"It was really inspirational, and I gained lots of beneficial knowledge as I hope to one day go into those fields."*
- *"The STEM talk dived into the expansive world of engineering, informing us of the thrilling and fulfilling careers that it offers."*

- Louisa Joyce, Year 10



World Literacy - Ethan

Ethan Williams, Springbank School's Head Boy, is an ambassador for the World Literacy Foundation.

Sadly, illiteracy is still a problem that affects so much of the world's population. To be able to read and write confidently should be a human right. However, for so many, they don't have the resources or access to help.

Ethan started a Give A Little page earlier this month, to help raise some money for the World Literacy Foundation.

We are really proud of Ethan's commitment as an ambassador to the World Literacy Foundation, and his passion to helping build awareness of their work. Ethan successfully raised **\$310.00!**



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Jump Jam

At Springbank we love to celebrate each child's individuality and that we all have a unique role to play in society. For a number of years, Springbank has been supporting a worthwhile charity called StarJam.

StarJam is a not-for-profit organisation supporting young people with disabilities (known as 'Jammers') to unleash their potential through the magic of music, dance, and performance. StarJam provides weekly workshops in drumming, singing, dancing, and band, as well as opportunities for the Jammers to perform at public and private events. Their unique programmes, all free-of-charge, provide the Jammers with opportunities to learn and develop skill sets, gain confidence, respect and build friendships.

On Thursday 18th August students from Headstart to Year 6 hit the gym to jump, dance, and work out to the Jump Jam videos. Students were asked to bring in a gold coin donation, and we are proud to have raised **\$115.00** this year for StarJam!



Junior Gymnastics

Across Term Three, our students from Headstart to Year 6 have been attending weekly gymnastics classes in Waipapa. These classes are a fantastic way for the students to build confidence moving their bodies, learn and master basic gymnastics moves, and have fun with exercise. Thank you to the Friends of Springbank Committee for financially supporting this programme across the term.



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Friends of Springbank

The Friends of Springbank Committee hosted a quiz night for family & friends of Springbank on Saturday 6th August. It was a fabulous opportunity to mix and mingle with other parents and friends outside of the school carpark and enjoy a night out!

The quiz consisted of eight rounds, with a mix of questions from 'the year that was', logo guessing, sports, film, and New Zealand trivia. Brain power was put to the test with some enthusiastic answers, a few challenges thrown in, and lots of laughs and fun.

It was wonderful to see everyone getting into the spirit of the evening, dressing up in their finest Hollywood Glam, and having a great time.

A special thanks to Chairperson Susanna Booth for jumpstarting the quiz night idea, and thanks to Louise, Angela, Taryn, Alice, and Aynsley for all your help with the event as well.



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Friends of Springbank Quiz Night continues



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Fireworks Extravaganza

Preparation for the 2022 Fireworks Extravaganza is underway!

Our fabulous fireworks raffle is back, with a prize pool of \$5,000 worth of prizes (see right). Tickets will go on sale from Wednesday 7th September. A huge thank you to all the amazing sponsors who have donated prizes this year. Your support is greatly appreciated, and we're excited to host this fantastic community event on Saturday 5th November.

Thank you to Angela Shaw and Louise Blackler who work tirelessly behind the scenes to organise all the raffle details.

The Friends of Springbank committee are calling out for volunteers to help with the upcoming Fireworks Extravaganza. Every pair of hands to help with the event, big or small, really helps make the event run smoothly. If you are able to help with pre-event setup, running a food stall, or helping with the pack-down the next day, please give your name and details to Taryn in the office.

The next Friends meeting will be on Wednesday 21st September at 2pm in the school staffroom. That's the last week before Term Three breaks up.

Then once we are back for Term Four, meetings will run every week leading up to the Fireworks Extravaganza. All parents and family from Preschool, Headstart, and School are welcome. Meeting dates:

- Wednesday 12th, 19th and 26th October
- Wednesday 2nd November



- All n Rhythm - 2 x Vouchers
- Anoint Skincare - 2 x Pamper Hampers
- Bay Tennis - Voucher
- Cafe@Redwoods - 2 x Café Vouchers
- Chocolate Hamper
- Hermanas - Hair Care Pack
- Fitness Lab - Voucher
- Freestyle Construction - Building Labour & Supplies
- Great Escape Sailing School - Voucher
- Hayley Pascoe Ceramics - 2 x Ceramic Mugs
- Keri Berries - 12 x Single Ice cream Vouchers
- Kerikeri Optometrists - Sunglasses
- Kerikeri Minigolf - 4 x Family Passes
- Latin Fit - 10 Class Pass
- Lygon Café - 5 x Coffee Vouchers
- Merlin NZ - Flight for Two
- Northland RV - Domestic Ice Boxes (x2)
- OC Tenders - Prezzie Card
- Phoenix Vets - Hamper and Voucher
- Salt Air - Flight for One
- Te Hine Ruru Retreat - Massage Voucher
- Unichem - Gift Hamper
- Your Prana - Voucher
- OC Tenders - Prezzy Card



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Headstart Report

Buddy reading on a Friday is always a highlight for the children at Headstart. The children love reading their reader from the previous day's reading session. It is great to see their confidence to share their reading skills but they also know that their buddy will help them if needed.

Their big buddy is from Room 3, Year 4. They read a picture book to their younger buddy and chat together to get to know each other.



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Preschool Round Up

We've had another busy month at preschool!

Not only did we have our visit from ERO (the Education Review Office) this month, we have filled our days with fun and adventure!

Our tamariki have enjoyed dance classes, swimming lessons, forest walks, and visits from lambs. We have welcomed back our friends from their extended holidays, and said "see you soon" to others.

We have explored playgrounds, clay, our dads, waiata and poi during group times, and have added bird feeders and flowers to our gardens. We have survived the wet weather and are looking forward to spring!



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Thoughts for the Week 2022:

Term 3, Week 2:

"Do not let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do."

Courtesy of Mrs Druery

Term 3, Week 3:

"Be kind to yourself and support the people around you."

Courtesy of Mr Horgan

Term 3, Week 4:

"A ship in harbour is safe, but that is not what ships are built for."

- John Augustus Shedd

Courtesy of Ethan Williams, Head Boy

Term 3, Week 5:

"Confidence comes not from always being right but from not fearing to be wrong."

- Peter McIntyre

Courtesy of Ms Wils

Well done for making it to the end of August's newsletter; it is amazing what you can cram into one month! I'm already looking forward to September's, as there is so much going on!

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Mike Warren'.

Mike Warren
Principal



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