



21 October 2021
Newsletter

Zoom Meeting



PRINCIPALS MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Caregivers
Kia Ora

Term 4 has begun with a continuation of Level 3 lock-down. It is not what we were expecting yet the teachers and staff at Browns Bay School are doing their best to make sure your children will continue with their learning. The photos I've seen of classes online and activities in the newsletter show the involvement of students which is great to see.

The Distance Learning programme has been activated and teachers are running online programmes and Zoom meetings. Hard Packs of activities have been distributed to the children who require them. The school has three very full Bubbles in operation with these children being supervised while they do the Class Grids.

We are working hard to ensure we are ready for when school can re- open again. All staff at school under Level 3 have had a negative Covid test in order to return to school to work in the Bubbles.

We will be waiting for next Tuesday to hear what Cabinet is planning for Years 1 to 10 students for Term 4. Yesterday the Minister of Education, Chris Hipkins, announced:

"I'm not completely ruling out these students (Years 1 to 10) in level 3 regions being able to return before the end of the year but if they do, we'll need to be satisfied there are sufficient processes in place to minimise any risk.

We've got to acknowledge that any settings where there are groups of children under 12, it's higher risk – as they are not yet able to be vaccinated.

But there are mitigations that can be put in place to keep the risk as low as possible. We can consider rostered attendance to reduce the number of students on site at any given time. The warmer summer months also provide more opportunities for learning outdoors where the risk of COVID-19 spreading is lower.

Cabinet will consider the latest health advice and the options on Tuesday."

TEACHER ONLY DAY (TUESDAY 26 OCTOBER – (SCHOOL CLOSED)

A Teacher Only Day on **TUESDAY 26 OCTOBER** is set to proceed next week (this is the Tuesday following Labour Day). This day is linked in with the other Mid-Bay Primary Schools. Browns Bay School will be closed on this day. The new Grid for October 27 to 29 will be available on Tuesday night. The Online Grids have lots of activities for children yet the teachers will not be available for Zooms or Seesaw.

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In 2019 these days were provided for primary teachers by the Minister as part of the Teachers Collective Agreement Accord for workload and professional development. They are special ACCORD days that teachers have a right to take during school time and not in Term Breaks. Eight days were provided to be used by 30 June 2022 and we have used only 4 since 2019 due mainly to COVID restrictions – we contractually have to provide them for teachers before the close off date of 30 June 2022. We are very conscious that if this is delayed we will have to take 4 days in Term 1 and 2 in 2022.

TERM 4 EVENTS

At the end of last term we made the sad decision to cancel our planned Production “Launch!” which was originally to be performed in Term 3. The decision was based on the uncertainty of the Alert Levels going in to the first weeks of the Term and the restrictions being placed on schools. I would like to acknowledge the work that has been done by the Production Leaders (Karen Warren and Carrie Jackson), the author Erica Kent, teachers and students before and during lockdown to prepare for “Launch!” The decision to cancel was not an easy one and I know it will be a huge disappointment to all involved.

Life Education has been moved online with the Educator Charlie and Harold joining classes in Zooms next week. This is a new format for Life Education and we are very happy to be part of their new programme.

The FOTS team will be having a meeting on Thursday to look at the events we have planned for Term 4.



BOT MEETING

The Browns Bay School Board of Trustees meeting for this month will be via Zoom at 6.30pm on Thursday 28 October. If you would like to attend this Zoom meeting please send an email to peterm@brownsbay.school.nz before 6pm on Tuesday 26 October and a link will be emailed. Please note that these meetings are open to the public yet they are not entitled to take part in the meeting by word or action (the board can resolve to grant a member of the public speaking rights).

THE BUILD



Our New Building has been progressing under Level 3. The Team were able to lay mesh for the first floor over the week and tomorrow will be the day for the concrete pour. You can see updates of the build on the [Live Camera](#).

Peter Mulcahy
PRINCIPAL

UPCOMING EVENTS

A full schedule of events for Term 4 2021 is available on our school website calendar with the most current events included in each newsletter.

Monday 25 October - Labour Day - (School Closed)	Tuesday 26 October - Teacher Only Day – (School Closed) – No Zooms or Seesaw
Tuesday 27 October – Grid available online – after 3pm	Wednesday 27 October – ICAS English Exam - 11.30am
Thursday 28 October – BOT Meeting – 6.30pm - Zoom	Friday 29 October – ICAS Maths Exam – 11.30am
Monday 01 November – ICAS Science Exam – 11.30am	Friday 17 December - Term 4 Ends – 1pm

SCHOOL EVENTS

YEAR 2 DRAWING COMPETITION

Last Term, Year 2 classes included a drawing competition as part of the reading activities on their Distance Learning Grid.

The book they chose was [The Lonely Book](#) – written by Chris Sanders and illustrated by Natalie Conaty.

We are lucky that Chris Sanders lives in our neighbourhood, and when he found out we were including one of his books on our distance learning grid, he offered to judge the drawing competition along with the book's illustrator, Natalie.

They were absolutely amazed at the wonderful illustrations they received, so well done everyone! They chose 3 winners who will each receive a copy of The Lonely Book. The lucky winners are Madeline Zhang Rm 3, Agnes Jun Rm 6 and Audrey Li Rm 3.



Thanks again for all your hard work during our distance learning time. Tanya Sheppard and the Year 2 Team.

Chris also sent a video clip to thank everyone who entered. Please see link below:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/md7as7f1ayf0ck5/IMG_1316.MOV?dl=0

ROOM 11 SPRINGTIME

Mrs Dore has been so happy with the effort already made by her Year 1 children this Term, especially after the holiday break and such a long time out of the school environment.

They made animals out of shapes found from things used around the home and following a story about seasons, drew pictures of themselves in their favourite season and wrote about it.



BUBBLE CLASSES IN ACTION

Taniwha Art



Paper Weaving



We made these lamas in our bubble using a weaving process.

Friendship bracelets in Room 15 Bubble.

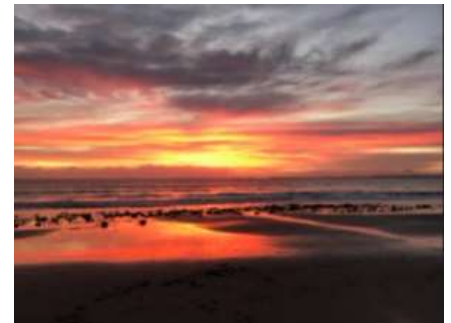


OUR STUDENTS AT HOME



HAPPY PLACE

Just a few of our Browns Bay School Staff sharing their happy place photos.



SCHOOL NOTICES

ICAS ENGLISH, MATHS AND SCIENCE

Students sat the ICAS Digital Technologies exam last term, but we then moved in to distance learning. I am happy to report that ICAS have enabled us to sit the remaining three exams remotely.

Parents of children who have registered for these exams should have received two notices explaining the process. If not, please let me know by email: Karenc@brownsbay.school.nz.

The children will receive their exam instructions from me via zoom on the day. They will then log in to the exam platform from home with their One-Time-Code and begin the exam. Fortunately, we have been doing the ICAS exams at school using this platform for the last two years so many of the children will be familiar with the process. The dates and times are:

ENGLISH: Wednesday 27 October 11:30 am

MATHS: Friday 29 October 11:30 am

SCIENCE: Monday 01 November 11:30 am

FOTS – Friends of the School

CONTACT FOTS

If you would like to subscribe to our volunteer's mailing list, or if you wish to learn more please email fots@my.brownsbayschool.nz, or find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/Browns-Bay-School-Friends-of-the-School.



FACEBOOK Did you know we share a Facebook page with Browns Bay School? For news, photos, updates and event information, search www.facebook.com/Browns-Bay-School-Friends-of-the-School.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

