



# Belfast School Newsletter

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Friday, 19 August 2022

## Absences:

absences@belfast.school.nz  
or text 027 6364254

## Contact Details:

P: (03) 323 8849  
E: office@belfast.school.nz

700 Main North Road  
Belfast  
Christchurch 8051

## Principal:

Sue Elley

## Board Chair:

Caroline Elkington

## Dates of Interest:

Mon. 22/08 - Rooms 5 & 7  
trips to the Groynes

Wed. 24/08 - Y7/8 teams at  
Cantamaths at Christchurch  
Area; Y7s start 4.00 and  
Y8s start 5.00

Wed. 24/08 - Y7/8 ePro8  
inter-school at Kaiapoi  
North School starting 5.00

Thurs. 25/08 - Student  
Leaders in Wellington

Fri. 26/08 - Teacher Only  
Day, school will be closed

## Welcome to our new Pupils:

Archie Bishop, Indi Riach, Oscar Stewart-Tindall, Arcus Mason, Isla Flack, Lucy Cliff, Khalid Alghobari, Thalia Alghobari, Ayaan Hussain, Aydin Hussain, Matilda Batenburg, Aaliyah Pakeha, and Jason Noh.



## Dear Parents/Caregivers and Whānau

Tēnā tātou i raro i te maru o Ngāi Tahu. Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa. As-salamu alaykum. Hola. Talofa lava. Kon'nichiwa. Kamusta. Nǐ hǎu. Namastee. Magandang hapon. Ni sa bula vinaka. Kia orana. Fakatalofa atu. Malo e leilei.

Have you noticed the daylight hours being longer this week? It's a welcome sign that winter is coming to an end. While the crisp morning frosts have given us some beautiful days, the rain has not made life easy at school with soggy playgrounds and inside lunchtimes. Our caretaker Craig, with the help of some hard-working senior students, have laid new bark under the playground equipment to counter the muddy ground and keep things safer. Hopefully this means less mud on shoes.



**Reminder:** Friday, 26 August 2022 is a Teacher Only day and school will be closed.

## Welcome to new Staff:

Tom Hall and Nic Cromarty have joined the Belfast team in the Year 3/4 syndicate this term filling the gaps left by Monique Smith and Caroline Jones who started their maternity leave. We are really looking forward to working with Tom and Nic over this half of the year and know they will be great assets to the team.

We were thrilled to hear the news that Caroline Jones (Room 10 teacher last term) gave birth to a daughter - Thea this week. It is wonderful news for the Jones family who are all doing well. We look forward to meeting Thea soon.



## **Trips and Events:**

It is always good to get our students out into the community and this term we have a number of events and trips taking place. Junior classes have been visiting The Groynes, and a group of students from different levels across the school with strengths and interests in art visited the Art Gallery this week. Next week we have two Year 7/8 teams participating in the Technology EPRO8 Challenge at Kaiapoi North School, and two Year 7/8 teams competing in the Cantamaths Competition. Good luck to all the students participating.

On Thursday, 25 August, our 10 student leaders will be travelling to Wellington to visit Parliament, Weta Workshops and the National Library to see historical items like the Treaty of Waitangi. This trip is an opportunity to see how leadership is demonstrated in different ways in New Zealand.

On Thursday this week, we had a visit from some Swannanoa School senior students with their principal, Brian Price and teacher Phillip Finch, to see senior students working at Belfast School. The Kiwi Rail team visited last week delivering the Rail Safety Programme for Years 3-8. This, highly interactive programme was really beneficial for our students because of the close proximity of the railway lines through the community. Next time our plan is to run the programme with the junior classes.

## **Great feedback from Breens Intermediate:**

Our Year 7/8 students go to the technology hub at Breens Intermediate every Friday morning where they have specialist teachers for Food Technology (cooking), Soft Materials (sewing), Hard Materials (wood and metal work) and Digitech. The teachers at Breens regularly give us positive feedback about our students with comments like - they are hardworking, respectful and a pleasure to teach. We feel so proud to hear how well our students represent the school when they are in different learning settings.

## **Progress on our Senior Campus:**

If you drive along Johns Road you can see the machinery on the new senior campus site and the beginning of drilling for the piles. After such a long wait it is really exciting to see the construction work starting. Updated timeframes from Leighs Construction have the completion date for the buildings as November 2023.



## **Winter Wellness:**

There has continued to be quite large numbers of students away with winter illnesses this term, but thankfully fewer staff have been unwell. The Ministry of Health has provided a resource for parents / caregivers - [Winter Wellness Guide for Tamariki](#). We are continuing to use masks as a good defence against all the airborne winter illnesses.



## **Board Elections:**



Recently you will have received the names of the seven candidates and information on how to vote on-line for the parent representatives on the Board. Please make sure you vote before the close off date of **12 noon, Wednesday, 7 September**.

The new Board takes office on Wednesday, 14 September 2022.



## Update on the School Hall:

As you may know, we have been working with the Ministry of Education on a long-term property plan for our school that considers future growth and the condition of our existing buildings.

Through this work, engineers have identified that the foundations supporting the steel columns in the hall are undersized and fall below the required 34% of the New Build Standard (%NBS). This by itself is not a concern, but there is the potential for the steel columns to move in an earthquake which could cause the brick veneer on the outside to fall. As you know, the exterior is not in the best condition and has been fenced off for some time.

Since the issues were identified, the Ministry has been in discussions with the Council and, for the reasons outlined above, the council has now issued an earthquake-prone building notice. This notice has been placed near the entrance of the hall.

I know these notices can be alarming. However, engineers have confirmed that we can continue to use the hall because the main risk of the brick veneer dislodging is being managed. The fencing will continue to keep students and staff safe.

Work to upgrade the hall is expected to start later this year and be completed in the first half of 2023. This work, among other things, will address the foundation issues and the brick veneer. This will bring the building above 67%NBS. Once this happens, the earthquake-prone notice will be removed.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Principal via email [principal@belfast.school.nz](mailto:principal@belfast.school.nz)

Nga mihi, noho ora mai - stay well everyone.

**Sue Elley**

**Tumuaki - Principal**

**Children turning 5 years of age!** If you have a child **turning 5 between now and April 2023** and who will be attending Belfast School, please enroll your child. We need to know how many 5 year olds are starting so we can plan for their visits etc. Please phone Sally on 323-8849 for further enrolment information or email [principal@belfast.school.nz](mailto:principal@belfast.school.nz)

## Absences:



If your child is going to be absent from school, can you please let the school Office know by either leaving a message on the answerphone - 323 8849 option 1, send a text to 027 6364254, or by email to [absences@belfast.school.nz](mailto:absences@belfast.school.nz) Please state your child's name, room number and reason why they will be absent. Thank you.

## Drop Off and Pick Up:

Children are able to enter their classrooms from 8:30 a.m. onwards when their teachers are in their rooms and able to supervise. Prior to 8:30 a.m. there is no supervision for children arriving early, so we encourage you to time your child's arrival at school for 8:30 a.m. At pick up time we have designated areas for children and parents to meet. Children should go to their parents in these areas to help us minimise adults being in close proximity to children not connected with their family. The areas are: by the Junior playground (not in front of the Junior building); the court area besides the school gardens adjacent to the hall. The garden area keeps everyone away from the car parking area for safety.



## Medical Issues/Health Concerns:

Please make sure you have discussed any medical issues with either the Principal when completing your child's Enrolment form; or your child's class teacher. If your child's medical information needs to be updated, please collect a medical form from the school Office. This information is confidentially saved into our Student Management System so that we can provide your child with the necessary care.

## School Lunches:

Bakery items can be purchased for the children's lunches on Friday mornings for Friday lunch. Full details and order forms are available from the school Office.



## Congratulations to:

Andre Hall, Room 14, who competed at the NZ Gymnastics Nationals in July 2022 in Invercargill. He got 3<sup>rd</sup> place on P Bar. His team are the level 5 National Champions.

Andre was the highest placed Canterbury boy finishing 4<sup>th</sup> on day one. On day two he fell 3 times on three apparatus and still managed to finish in the top 12 and was 2<sup>nd</sup> placed Canterbury boy.

He is holding the Chen Cup which is awarded to the Top level 5 team and is wearing his medals. He was the youngest MAG competition in the country at Nationals.





## Junior Neighbourhood Support:

This is a lovely photo of our Junior Neighbourhood leaders, Charlotte, Lily and Bill, that was included in an article titled "Eye on Communities".

### Junior Neighbourhood Support



**Kia Ora Whānau!**

It's such a lovely greeting, with nothing in English that can translate with so much meaning.

It is a blessing of good health, be healthy - ora and showing that we have a tie to each other like an extended family – whānau.

It is what I use to greet the children at schools and especially at assemblies, this is a place where I experience a strong connection of extended family.

Kia ora whānau, greets everyone equally and all together at the same time, no matter where we are from, it is like a common denominator on those tricky maths equations!

I am now into my 7th year co-ordinating the JNS programme, so in some schools, it means I have seen small new entrant children now become senior students at their schools.

It also means that they have had their whole primary school knowing that Neighbourhood Support is out there in their community, and they are a part of it.

**Where will they go from here?**

I'm hoping that they will continue to do those little things for their neighbours that I have encouraged - put out the elderly neighbour's wheelie bins, pick up rubbish on the street, report graffiti, however, I really don't get to know what happens to my messages.



Belfast School, JNS Leaders: Charlotte, Lily and Bill.



# Community Notices

## Shizoku Martial Arts:

Are you looking for a new activity that will build your child's CONFIDENCE and SELF-ESTEEM? We are now taking enrollments in a Life skill focused Martial arts school for all ages. We Educate. Inspire. Empower youth with FOCUS, CONFIDENCE and other essential life skills while learning self-defence. Book a trial class with Shizoku Martial Arts. [www.smakarate.co.nz](http://www.smakarate.co.nz)

Our award-winning club will give your child valuable tools for life. It is also a great compliment for other sports to improve their strength, speed, strategy planning and agility ahead of next season.

Book your child now and get your FREE Trial at [www.smakarate.co.nz](http://www.smakarate.co.nz)





# Community Notices

## Help please - we need volunteers for a day!

The Daffodil Day appeal is happening on **26 and 27 August** and we need your help.

We are looking for individuals or groups of volunteers to support Daffodil Day in raising much needed funds for the Cancer Society in our area, Christchurch.



If you are able to help, please email [anya.masley@cancercwc.org.nz](mailto:anya.masley@cancercwc.org.nz) with your preferred date and site location (found [here](#)).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us – contact Anya Masley, HR Volunteer Coordinator, Phone 021 919134.

## McDonalds 2022 Youth Duathlon - Sunday, 25 September:



At South Hagley Park, Christchurch

7-10 Years:

Run 1 Km

Cycle 4 Km

Run 500m

11-15 Years:

Run 2 Km

Cycle 8 Km

Run 1 Km

Registration at:

[www.mcdonaldsduathlon.co.nz](http://www.mcdonaldsduathlon.co.nz)





# Community Notices

## Come and Try BMX – Registration Day Sunday, 21 August:

PHOTO : Olympic rider  
Rebecca Petch

**REGISTRATION DAY  
SUNDAY  
21<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST\***

**NEW SEASON ABOUT  
TO START. COME & SEE  
WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT!**

**\*FOR BACK UP RAIN DATES  
PLEASE CHECK FACEBOOK**

**Local track details**

There are a number of great tracks around the Mainland North Region. Find the one closest to you, and have a go.

**CHCH CITY BMX CLUB**  
Kyle Park  
Waterloo Road, Hornby  
info@chcbmx.nz  
www.facebook.com/CHCBMX

**NORTH AVON CHCH BMX CLUB**  
Bexley Reserve  
nacbm@gmail.com  
www.facebook.com/North-Avon-Christchurch-BMX-Club-153985061282782

**NORTH CANTERBURY BMX CLUB**  
32 Millton Ave, Waimakariri  
(next to Ashley Bridge picnic area)  
ncbmclub@gmail.com  
www.facebook.com/NorthCanterburyBMX

**NELSON BMX CLUB**  
Tahunanui Recreation Reserve  
Beach Road, Tahunanui, Nelson  
www.facebook.com/nelsonbmclub

**RACING STARTS  
SUNDAY  
28TH AUGUST**

**COME AND TRY**







# Community Notices

## Junior Indoor Sports:



**CENTRAL CITY  
SPORTS CHCH**

# INDOOR NETBALL

**JUNIOR / YOUTH**  
(7yrs - 14yrs) (15yrs - 18yrs)

**Thursday Evenings 4pm - 6pm**

Cost: \$48.00 (Juniors) \$45.00 (Youth)

Dates: Term 4 '22 & Term 1 '23

Contact: 03 366 66 01

[www.actionindoorsports.com/christchurch](http://www.actionindoorsports.com/christchurch)  
[netball@actionindoorsports.com](mailto:netball@actionindoorsports.com)



**CENTRAL CITY  
SPORTS CHCH**

# INDOOR FOOTBALL

**JUNIOR / YOUTH**  
(7yrs - 14yrs) (15yrs - 18yrs)

**Friday Evenings 4pm - 9pm**

Cost: \$48.00 (Juniors) \$45.00 (Youth)

Dates: Term 4 '22 & Term 1 '23

Contact: 03 366 66 01

[www.actionindoorsports.com/christchurch](http://www.actionindoorsports.com/christchurch)  
[football@actionindoorsports.com](mailto:football@actionindoorsports.com)





## Community Notices

**Are you able to host a Student?**

**Is your family interested in other cultures?**

**Do you have a spare bedroom?**

**Are you able to host a student  
from 29/11/2022 to 14/12/2022?**

**We are a local language school in Christchurch CBD and looking for host families who can offer safe and friendly homestay accommodation.**

**If you are interested please contact us through:**

**Call: 03 365 1920**

**Text: 021288 8790**

**Email: [doris@cancan.com](mailto:doris@cancan.com)**



# Community Notices

**Boost Your Learning:**

**BOOST YOUR LEARNING**

**PRIVATE TUITION**

**PRIMARY TO NCEA**

Learn to LOVE Learning

**WWW.BOOSTYOURLEARNING.CO.NZ**