



SAPPHIRE BLOCK NEWSLETTER

Term 1,
2019

Kia ora koutou! Welcome back to our returning Year 6s, and a very warm welcome to our Year 5 students, our new class members and all the whānau of Sapphire block! We have had a few changes to the block this year; staff, students and programmes so hopefully you can make it to the Meet the Teacher Evening to hear more about these.

Who are we?



Hi my name is Victoria Reynolds, I am a first year teacher and very excited to get involved in the Birchville Community.

I love camping, playing sports in particular netball, football and tennis, and going for long walks with my energetic puppy Jess. If I am not playing sport, you can often find me planning my next holiday as I love to travel to new places, or with my head in a book. I look forward to meeting you all in the coming weeks as we all get ready for an exciting year.

victoria@birchville.school.nz

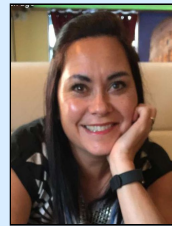


Kia ora koutou whanau. My name is Brad Barry and I grew up on a sheep farm near Feilding.

I will be teaching in Sapphire block this year. I am looking forward to getting back into the classroom, catching up with the year 6's and re-introducing myself to the year 5's. I live in Lower Hutt with my wife, Julie (who is a beginning teacher in Moonstone) and my two boys Ben (12) and Noah (10).

I enjoy reading science fiction books and watching movies with my family. We also like to explore the outdoors: go on bushwalks, visit the beach, go mountain biking, and visit local areas of interest.

brad@birchville.school.nz



Kia ora i te whānau. Most of you know me pretty well by now as I am entering my 5th year at Birchville school.

For those that don't, my name is Lisa Webster and I am mum to four beautiful children ranging in age from 8 to 25. My husband is also in education so life for us during term time is pretty hectic. We both love our jobs and are finally learning to make the most of the holidays!

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This term our school is focussing on Making A Difference - so things might get a bit MAD at times. MAD will form the basis for the teaching and learning in Sapphire block.

Project Based Learning

An exciting part of our programme will be our MAD Projects. Students will work in teams to formulate, research and complete a project that will Make A Difference to either the environment or to people.

Sustainability & Enviroschools

"Refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle and rot". We will be working with outside agencies to educate and bring about positive changes regarding our waste at school.

Class Dojo

Please check your emails and sign up to this if you haven't already. Class Dojo will be used to share information, your child's work and as our behaviour reward system.

Makerspace

We will explore making 3D tangible models using online design tools. We welcome all donations of construction materials eg. Lego, blocks, pliable cardboard, tubes, wires, batteries, lights, tape, balsa wood, nails etc.

Zones of Regulation

Students need to be in the 'Green' zone to learn. We will continue to use our GEMS and explore ways to regulate our moods and behaviour to maximise learning.

Life Education

Harold will be back in Week 3 to teach us some life lessons about respecting differences, dealing with change and the impact of our choices on others.

Interschool Sport

The first event on our sports calendar this year is Danish rounders. Floorball runs in Terms 1 & 2. Later in the term will be cricket and hockey. More information to follow soon.

Duties

This year all our students Year 5 & 6 have rostered responsibilities. Ask your child how they'll be helping out and developing their leadership in and around the class.

Upcoming dates

Wed 6 Feb	Waitangi Day
Mon 11 Feb	Meet the Teacher Evening
Wed 13 Feb	BOT @ 6.30pm

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