Issue 16 - 23 October 2026 | Panui 16 - 23 Whiringa-ā-nuku 2026 | 简报2026年10月16日—23

NEWSLETTER

Belmont Intermediate School



Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of the School,
Tēnā koutou katoa me ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa,
尊敬的各位家长、监护人和学校的朋友们：

What an exciting start to Term 4! With so much happening in a relatively short space of time, we have certainly hit the ground running as we head into the final stretch of 2026. It has been wonderful to see our students and staff return with such enthusiasm and energy, reflecting the positive spirit and sense of community we have built throughout the year.

Our school production, Madagascar Jr, was an outstanding success and a wonderful showcase of the incredible talent we have at Belmont Intermediate. The feedback from our school community, staff and students has been overwhelmingly positive, and I could not be prouder of everyone involved. My sincere thanks go to our generous sponsors, parent helpers and wider school community for their support in helping us bring this production to life. It was a tremendous team effort, and I am confident our cast and crew will look back on this experience with great pride and fond memories for many years to come.

Yesterday's Athletics Day was another fantastic school event, with great weather, enthusiastic participation and plenty of healthy competition. It was wonderful to see our students giving their best, supporting one another and enjoying the day. A special thank you to our Sports Coordinator, Mr Simpson, and our teaching staff for their hard work, organisation and energy in making the day such a success. We look forward to sharing a full wrap-up of the results and top placegetters in our next newsletter.

Congratulations to our girls' basketball A-team, who achieved an impressive third place at the Auckland Championships earlier this week. This is a fantastic result and a fitting reward for the dedication, hard work and commitment the girls have shown throughout the year. Under the expert coaching of Mr Simpson, the team has continued to develop and excel, and they should be incredibly proud of what they have achieved. Well done, girls!

Reporting Absences
Parents/caregivers are expected to report their child's absence promptly each day. Our preferred method is through the HERO app, which notifies both the school office and your child's homeroom teacher. Alternatively, please email office@belmontint.school.nz, copying in your child's teacher. Notifying the teacher alone is not sufficient.

The school is required to follow up on all unexplained absences, and our office team spends a significant amount of time each day contacting families who have not reported their child's absence. Please ensure you report absences proactively rather than waiting for the school to contact you. Your cooperation is essential and appreciated. Thank you for your cooperation and support!

Student Punctuality

We have noticed an increase in students arriving late to school, particularly as we approach the end of the year. While we understand there are occasionally legitimate reasons for lateness, some students are arriving late on a regular basis. The school bell rings at 8:40am, and all students are expected to be at school and ready to start their day on time. We ask parents and caregivers to please reinforce the importance of punctuality and ensure their children arrive at school on time each morning.

Teacher Only Day
A reminder to our community that school is closed on Monday due to Labour Day.
We also have a Teacher Only Day on Friday, November 6th.



Congratulations to these students who received a Principal's Certificate at the Formal Assembly on 21 October: Orletta Rowe, Yuri Aquebay, Olivia Delaney , Lulu Lehoczky, Rishi Davidson, Roberto Ortiz Lam, Imogen Gallagher, Lucas Macklin, Isabella Lusty, Sophia Edmonds, Wilde Meredith, Scheherazade Boow, Toby Latimer, Archie White, Lucas Park, Liv Gibson, Sienna Yang, George Scarfe, Toby Porter, Isabel Palmer Sanderson.

We congratulate the following students who received the Academic Pin at assembly: Zoë Greenhill, Ava Yianakis, Eloise Gladding, Mireine Eiamsirirak, Ruby Moon, Vincent Dahlberg, Alice Jiang, George McDonald, Fletcher Jessop, Thitsa Hlaing, Vida McNatty, Aki Cheung, Gangmin Lee, Cleo Topham, Boston Marsh.

Ngā mihi nui

Nick Hill
Principal/ Tumuaki



	Upcoming Dates for Your Calendar	
Week 3	Mon, 26 October	Labour Day, Public Holiday - School will be closed
	Thurs, 29 October	Auckland Champs Volleyball
Week 4	1 - 8 November	Auckland Middle Schools Art Exhibition
	Mon, 2 Nov	Board Meeting Intermediate Schools Speech Competition - Finals
	Tues, 3 Nov	NH Touch Zone Day
	Fri, 6 Nov	Teacher Only Day - School will be closed NH Athletics Zone Day



Year 7 Parents: Is your child attending BIS in 2027?

Class placement planning has begun, so please let us know if your child WILL NOT be returning to BIS for Year 8. Email Melissa at office@belmontint.school.nz

Merit Mentions

Room 1	Tanya Sharma Imogen Manning	For her positive start to BIS, bringing a warm, friendly, and determined attitude to the classroom. It has been fantastic to see how well she has settled into the school. For her continued dedication to learning and application of feedback. Imogen is working hard to make personal progress across all subject areas. Well done!
Room 2	Milah Visser Kaylee Shin	For demonstrating kindness by always offering a supporting hand to those around her. Her remarkable perseverance shines through as she continues to give her best effort. For settling into school so smoothly, making wonderful friends, and diving right into every activity. Her remarkable bravery has been fantastic to see!
Room 3	J'Ariah Hart Lachlan Roberts	For showing kindness and empathy to those around her, and ensuring that others feel a sense of belonging in the class. Ari is a brilliant classmate and student - well done! Lachlan has started Term 4 with a very obvious drive and focus on working hard, particularly in Reading and Writing. Well done Lachlan!
Room 4	Hayley Gu Yan Lu	For making a positive start at BIS, settling in confidently and showing impressive focus and determination towards her learning. Kai pai, Hayley! For growing in confidence when contributing to class discussions, showing genuine care for others and demonstrating determination and commitment to her learning.
Room 5	Cole Archer Beth Reed	For showing resilience and courage, and for facing challenges with determination and a positive attitude, you bring a fun energy back into our class. Beth is a focused learner who consistently strives for excellence in all she does. Her dedication and commitment make her a wonderful role model class captain.
Room 6	Mika Besier Sunny Liu	Mika consistently shines by living our school values every day. Her kindness, care, and genuine friendship make our classroom a better place. Ka pai, Mika! Sunny has made a fantastic start at BIS, settling in confidently and showing impressive focus and determination towards her learning. Ka pai, Sunny!
Room 7	Austen Lo Ed Luxton	Austen has made a fantastic start at BIS, adapting quickly and showing himself to be a well-rounded student in academics and sport. We are glad to have him in Room 7! Ed has made amazing progress throughout the year, developing into a responsible, kind and resilient student. His growth has been wonderful to see. Ka pai, Ed!
Room 8	Greta Smith Pippin Caradus	Greta has shown excellent application to mathematical problems and problem-solving tasks. She approaches challenges with determination and a willingness to persevere! Pippin has shown fantastic effort and enthusiasm in the Madagascar school play! His creative performance, confidence and commitment have been wonderful to see.
Room 9	Finlay Robertson Willa Rose	For the tremendous effort and commitment he has shown in his learning. He has worked hard to give his best in every lesson, and his perseverance is a great example to the class. For her outstanding improvement and dedication to her classwork this term. She has approached every task with determination and pride, and it has been wonderful to see her confidence grow.
Room 10	George Kennedy Tracy Oo	For consistently showing respect to peers and teachers, and upholding the school's core values with pride. For your positive attitude and kindness towards your peers and teachers. Thank you for your hard work and dedication.
Room 11	Martin Hayward Shiya Chen	For working hard and striving for your personal best in class. Your dedication to trying your hardest in all that you do is great to see. Well done, Martin! For showing incredible dedication and hard work in mathematics. The effort and care you put into every task shows true drive for success. Well done, Shiya!
Room 12	Clem Whittington Alisa Li	For being such a wonderful classmate for our new student and making sure his first week at BIS was smooth. For taking on an incredible workload and performing at an excellent level right across the board. BIS is lucky to have you. Ka pai!
Room 13	Arlo Ford Finn Atkinson	For your outstanding participation during our film study discussions this week, adding value to everyone's learning! Keep it up, Arlo!! For your enthusiasm and engagement during our debate sessions and persuasive topics this week. I am excited to read your 2-sided argumentative essay! Well done, Finn!!

Merit Mentions

Room 14	Tilly White Noah Simons	For your outstanding work ethic and natural leadership in the classroom. Your positive energy brightens our classroom community every single day. Well done, Tilly! For your quiet determination, polite and respectful manner, and continuous hard work in everything you do. Thank you for being such a kind and dependable student!
Room 15	Elijah Hughes Dulcie King-Cole	For your dedication to your role in the production. Eli, you showed outstanding commitment, and it shone through in your performance. Well done! Dulcie leads by example through her consistent hard work and positive attitude. She is an asset to Room 15, and we are lucky to have her!
Room 16	Maisie Hawk Will Chipper	For an outstanding effort and attitude in mathematics. Maisie, your hard work and perseverance with challenging mathematics is resulting in amazing progress. You should be very proud. For an amazing improvement in focus and diligence. Will, you are showing a real commitment to your school work, and the results are admirable. Keep it up!
Room 17	Jack Choi Joel Oosterdjik	Welcome to BIS, Jack! We are so excited for you to be part of our whānau! For being a wonderfully thoughtful and respectful student who always looks out for others. Your presence makes Room 17 a brighter and happier place!
Room 18	Danny Xu Zoe Smith	For a brilliant start to Term 4. Danny has a positive attitude in class, collaborates well with his classmates, and pushes himself in maths and writing. Ka Pai! For her dedication and positive attitude. She consistently displays respect for her peers and works hard to overcome new challenges. We are so glad you're back.
Room 19	Zac Loh-Chua Grace Peart	For demonstrating genuine care for those around him and being a supportive team member who encourages others and contributes to group activities. For consistently showing kindness towards others, while working collaboratively with her classmates to create a positive and supportive learning environment.
Room 20	Ida McAlpine Raymond Chang	For her consistent dedication in all that she does. Ida's positive attitude and ambition has meant she is an asset to any collaborative working environment. Ka pai, Ida! For showing respect towards your teachers and for always offering help to others. Raymond, your kindness and respect for others will serve you well in the future!
Room 23	Hunter Secker Oliver Clarke	For your dedication to learning and continuous improvement. You are so kind and always come into class with a positive attitude. For an awesome start to BIS! Starting a new class towards the end of the year is hard, but you embraced it and fit right in. We are lucky to have you!
Room 24	Leon Zhu Gabriel Page	For your consistent dedication and positive attitude towards learning. Gabriel and Leon, your kindness, ambition and willingness to support others make you valued members of our class. You show respect towards those around you and contribute positively to learning in Room 24. Ka pai, Gabriel and Leon!

Specialist Merit Mentions

Science	Amelia Nachat, Pippin Caradus, Rodrigo Hakas, Nia Thomas, Rio Ha, Max Fu, Louis Diaz Martin	Great participation and showing curiosity in Science.
Food Tech	Lou Pondard, Maisie Barber, Estel Chou, Rehansa Perera, Beth Reed, Emme Wild, Ros Chapman, Evie Porath, Gwenno Smith, Chloe Nicholls, Nicole Garde	For your commitment to the role of food tech monitor during Term 3, for your outstanding levels of reliability, helpfulness and the way you have carried out duties willingly and with a smile.
Languages	Frankie Seeque, Keri Oh, Lynda Amosa, Vedant Vinod, Will Chipper, Elena Stephenson, Ida McAlpine	For your excellent effort and energy, and your commitment to a strong finish to your Chinese studies. 很棒！
Visual Art	The entire production making team!	For creating large scale paintings and props that were truly awesome and contributed so beautifully to our school production. Well done to you all for sharing your creativity and doing such lovely work.

Specialist Merit Mentions		
Music	Evie Porath, Beth Reed, Vincent Lawrence, Tahlia Bates, Mackenzie France, Hadley Milligan, Poppy Buisson-Hiriart, Will Chipper, Ida McAlpine, Alex Bowen, Dana Kim, Declan Takuira	For being an absolute pleasure to have in the music room. You show genuine care for your own learning and that of others, and consistently bring a polite, positive attitude to every lesson.
Dance/Drama	Joe Marie Mamon, Willa Rose, Marni Horn, Noah Eiem, Cassandra Reid, Bea Service, Chris Salus, Sophia Arnott, Ava Yianakis, Arash Azizi, Yijun Kim, Jacob Scott	For their excellent effort, positive attitude, and great contributions during dance and drama lessons. Well done!
ESOL	Seth Fu	Thank you Seth, for your amazing effort to design the ESOL Yearbook page for our classes. You are a creative, talented learner.

SCHOOL NOTICES & NEWS



Quiz Nation – Keep the Momentum Going!

Our students have now completed their second Quiz Nation test! We hope everyone enjoyed putting their holiday learning to the test and seeing how many of the 70 questions they could remember.

There's still time to get involved in the fundraising if you haven't already as fundraising continues until the end of week 5! Please set up your child's online fundraising page and share it with whānau, friends and family.

👉 Set up your fundraising page here

Fantastic prizes are up for grabs, including a private movie screening at The Vic for the class that raises the most, plus prizes for our top Year 7 and Year 8 fundraisers.

Thank you for supporting our students and helping make a difference at BIS!



SchoolDocs and Policies for Review

Our school policies are stored in SchoolDocs. When they are due for review, we invite school staff and the community to provide feedback. This term, the School Board are currently reviewing 7 policies in the Curriculum, Student Achievement and Privacy Policy sections. If you wish to be part of this process, please follow the steps below.

Should you wish to seek clarification or discuss a school policy or procedure, please email the Principal or the School Board's Presiding Member, Kirsty McDonald. Please do not email our teaching staff about school policy.

The policies for review:
1. Curriculum and Student Achievement Policy (board)
2. Reporting about Student Progress and Achievement (board)
3. Learning Support
4. Māori Educational Achievement
5. Religious Instruction
6. Health Curriculum (board)
7. Privacy Policy (board)

Accessing the Policies
1. Visit the website https://belmontint.schooldocs.co.nz and enter the username (belmontint) and password (excellence)
2. Follow the link to the relevant policy as listed to read it
3. Click the red "Under Review" button near the top right-hand corner of the page and select the reviewer type - "Parent" and enter your name (optional)
4. Submit your ratings and comments

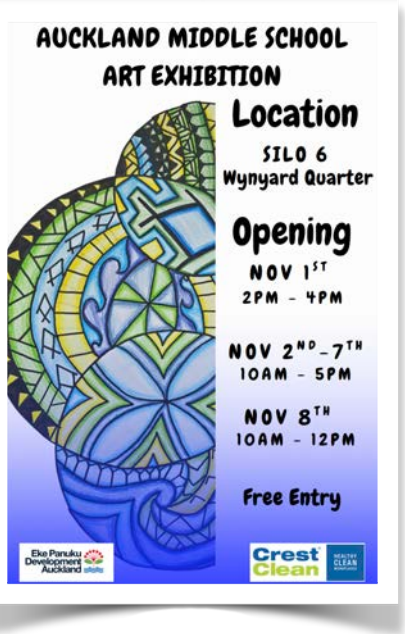
A Huge Thank You from the Food Technology Department!

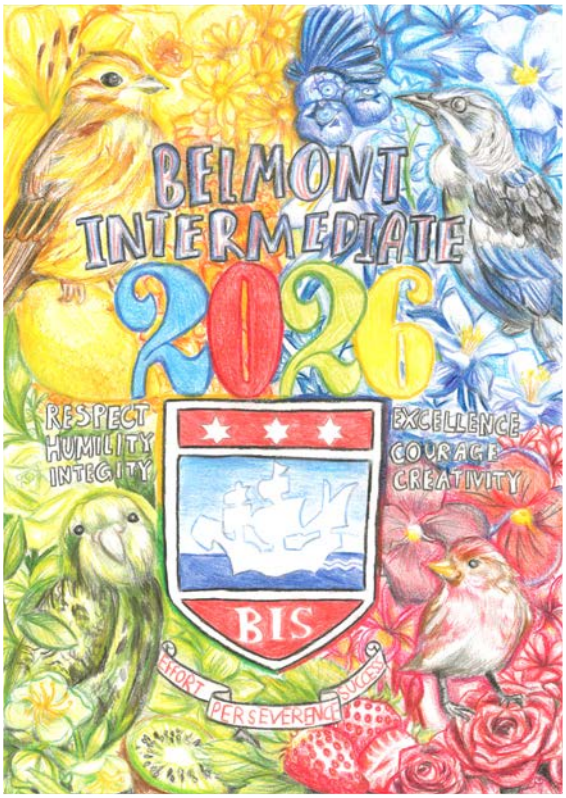
A big thank you to all the families who generously donated their New World stickers to our Food Technology Department!

Thanks to your contributions, we have been able to purchase a fantastic selection of high-quality SMEG knives for our students to use during their cooking lessons.

We would also like to extend a special thank you for the generous donation of a SMEG chopping board. We really appreciate your kindness and support in helping us equip our Food Technology classroom with these wonderful new resources!







2026 Yearbook Cover Design Competition Winner!

The results are in! After receiving a fantastic range of creative entries for our 2026 Yearbook Cover Design Competition, Ms Rooke and her team of judges had the difficult task of narrowing them down to just 11 finalists.

Congratulations to our talented finalists:
Yan Lu, Jade Valdez, Elena Stephenson, Hazy Park, Kassidy Yuan, Stella Anderson, Hazel Singh, Frieda Martens, Marni Horn, Jovia Ho and Alice Jiang.

After much deliberation, we are delighted to announce that Alice Jiang is our 2026 Yearbook Cover Design Competition winner!

Alice's wonderful design will take pride of place on the front cover of this year's yearbook.



What a tweet-worthy creation!

Blues Fill the Bus is Back for 2026!

BIS is excited to be supporting the Blues Fill the Bus campaign this year, helping families in need across our region this Christmas.

The Blues have set an ambitious goal of collecting over 50,000 non-perishable food items for four local charities, and we'd love our BIS community to get behind this fantastic cause!

From Monday 2 November, we'll collect non-perishable food donations at school. We encourage families to contribute whatever they can – every can, packet and food item makes a difference!

The campaign will wrap up with a fun-filled Blues Fill the Bus Community Day at Eden Park on Saturday 28 November, from 11am–2pm, featuring family activities, entertainment and the chance to meet the 2027 Blues and nib Blues squads.

Let's come together as a school community and help fill the bus for families who need a little extra support this Christmas!

🚌 💙



Rotary North Shore Intermediate Schools Speech Competition

On Wednesday, Noah Eiem (Room 4) and Ethan Barrett (Room 8) proudly represented BIS at the preliminary round of the Rotary North Shore Intermediate Schools Speech Competition. The standard of speeches was exceptionally high, with talented speakers from across the North Shore taking part.

A huge congratulations to Noah, who has secured a place in the final on Monday 2 November! We wish him all the best as he prepares for the next round.

Both boys should be incredibly proud of their efforts and the way they represented our school.



Mental Health Awareness Week at BIS

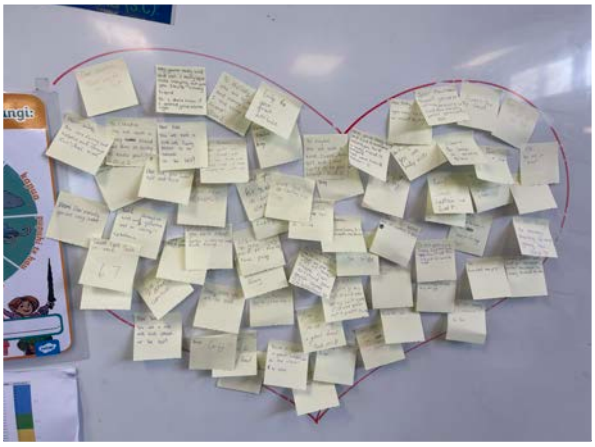
Last week, BIS recognised Mental Health Awareness Week (MHAW), with a focus on belonging and connection.

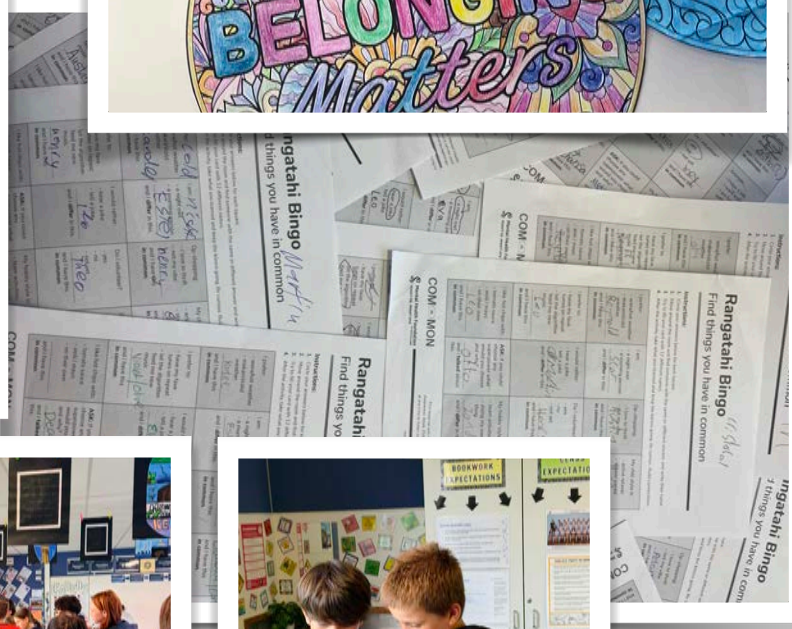
Each day brought a new challenge and learning opportunity, encouraging students to explore the small actions we can take to bring people together, strengthen our relationships and help everyone feel valued and included.

Alongside these daily challenges, teachers incorporated activities and resources from the Mental Health Foundation of New Zealand to encourage meaningful conversations about mental health and wellbeing.

It was wonderful to see our students putting these ideas into practice, supporting one another, building positive relationships and recognising the importance of creating a school community where everyone feels they belong.













Madagascar Jr – What a Show!

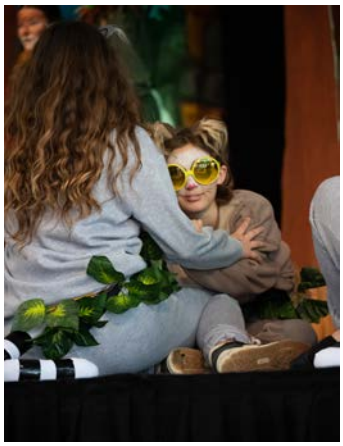
What an incredible journey! Our school production of Madagascar Jr was a roaring success, with four fantastic performances showcasing the amazing talent, dedication and enthusiasm of our BIS students.

From the colourful costumes and incredible makeup to the singing, dancing and impressive sets, the show was a true spectacle! We couldn't be prouder of our talented cast and crew, who worked tirelessly over many months to bring this production to life. A huge thank you to our wonderful creative team, staff, parent volunteers, sponsors and families who helped make it all possible. The laughter, applause and fantastic feedback from our audiences made it all worthwhile. Most importantly, our students had an unforgettable experience, building confidence, friendships and memories that will last a lifetime.

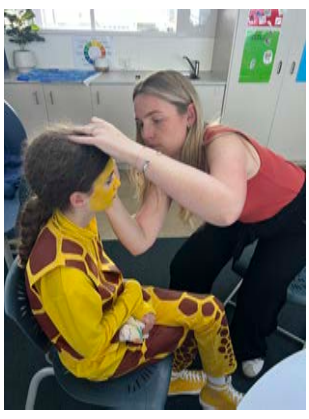



















SPORTS

3rd in Auckland – Girls Basketball!

A fantastic achievement for our BIS Girls Basketball team, who secured 3rd place at the Auckland Basketball Championships!

The girls played exceptionally well throughout the tournament, narrowly missing out on a place in the final after a nail-biting 13–14 loss in the semi-final.

Showing incredible resilience and determination, they bounced back in style with an impressive 36–4 victory in the 3rd/4th place playoff, securing their spot among Auckland's top three teams!

We are incredibly proud of the girls for their teamwork, effort and fighting spirit throughout the competition.

Congratulations, girls – 3rd in Auckland is an outstanding achievement!



THE BIS BUZZ

OUR SCHOOL.
OUR STORIES.
OUR VOICE.

Athletics day

by Vincent Dahlberg

Yesterday was Athletics Day, and here are some of the ways the kids survived it...

First, to get out of the high jump, they made sure they were eliminated early. In the long jump, the technique was different: when jumpers rotated to the back of the line, let them go ahead, and you would never have to jump. In sprints, kids could simply go slowly in the heats, and they wouldn't make it into the finals. Shot put and discus were one and the same because, for both events, if you didn't throw far, it wasn't hard to avoid winning.

To skip Athletics Day completely, the kids could wear a fake sling to school, but then they would have to get their parents to email their teacher about their "injury", and that's way too hard and a bit risky. However, even when they have to participate in the events, they still spend more time waiting in lines and sitting down than actually doing athletics. This seems fine, but if you sit down for too long, you can get really bored. So, what's a way to avoid getting bored on the day?

Chatting with friends is a really good way to avoid getting bored, but that only goes so far. Kids can also play mental games like paper, scissors, rock and I Spy to pass the time. Cheering for their house colour is another good option because the more they cheer, the faster the time seems to go. Nonetheless, if they aren't the type to cheer, then worry no more! After playing these games, they will most likely have passed enough time for their next event to come around.

However, if these tricks don't work, then the only option is to participate in athletics. If they pretend to enjoy it, they might actually start liking it. As the saying goes, "Fake it till you make it!" Who knows? After this Athletics Day, they might actually start enjoying sport. Enjoying athletics is like building a skill: the more you give it a go, the more fun it can become! You never know, trying something new might turn you from a sports avoider into a sports lover. The key is to give it a chance before you decide it's not for you!

How to Survive Athletics (Tips for Next Year)

1. Fuel and Hydration

You can't survive hours out on the field running on empty, so sorting out your food and drinks is priority number one. Pack plenty of snacks, grab some cash for whatever food is around, and keep a huge water bottle on you so you aren't dying of thirst by the second round after standing out in the sun all morning.

2. Mindset

Athletics day is mostly non-running events with a tiny bit of actual suffering, so your head needs to be in the right place. Don't stress about looking like an Olympian-keep a chill attitude, vibe with your mates, cheer everyone on from the sidelines, and just treat the whole thing as an excuse to dodge classes for the day.

3. Manage your sports

When house leaders and teachers start walking around with clipboards calling people up, you gotta play it smart. If you're actually trying to compete, go for it-especially when the 100m actually draws a massive hyped-up crowd along the track-but otherwise, master the art of vanishing to the water taps or getting lost in the sea of kids right as your name gets called.

4. Don't waste your energy

The biggest rookie mistake is sprinting everywhere at the start of the day and burning out before lunch. Save your legs, find some dry ground to sit on, and pace yourself so you actually have some juice left by the time the final relays happen.

MADE BY CHRIS SALUS

BIS Athletics Day 2026!

What a fantastic day for BIS Athletics Day today! The weather certainly turned it on for us, and it was wonderful to see so many students getting involved, giving everything a go, cheering on their friends and showing great house spirit!

From some impressive athletic performances to plenty of smiles, encouragement and determination, it was a brilliant day of participation, competition and fun.

A huge thank you to our staff, parent helpers, and everyone who helped make the day run so smoothly, and especially to the PTA for the much-appreciated ice blocks.

Well done to all our students for your fantastic effort and enthusiasm.











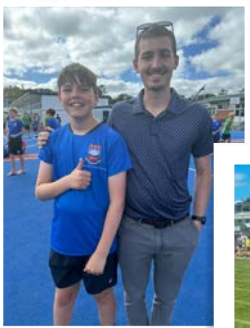




















SUCCESS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL

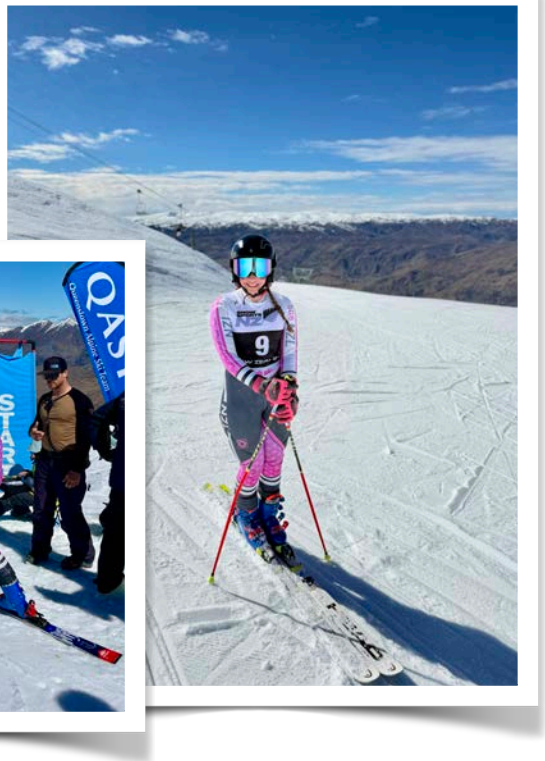
Zoe Smith Selected for NZ Alpine Youth Squad 2027!

Congratulations to Zoe Smith on being selected for the 2027 New Zealand Alpine Youth Squad!

This is an outstanding achievement and a wonderful recognition of Zoe's talent, dedication and hard work on the ski slopes.

We are incredibly proud of Zoe and look forward to following her progress as she takes this exciting next step in her skiing journey.

Well done, Zoe! What a fantastic achievement!







National Gymnastics Success for Sophia!

A huge congratulations to Sophia Edmonds, who achieved outstanding results at the 2026 XP Gymnastics Nationals, held at Mercury Baypark in Tauranga during the school holidays.

Competing against some of the country's best gymnasts, with over 900 athletes taking part in the event, Sophia proudly represented the Harbour region in the Youth International level and brought home an impressive collection of medals!

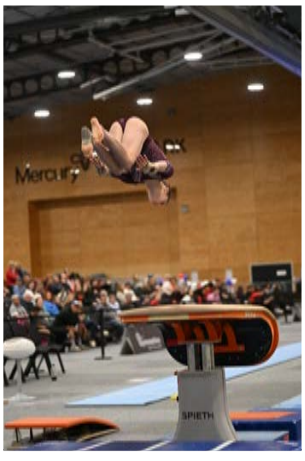
- Gold – Team and Vault
- Silver – All-Around and Beam
- Bronze – Bars and Floor

What a fantastic way to finish her competition season! Sophia's achievements are a wonderful reflection of her hard work, dedication and talent.

Congratulations, Sophia! We are incredibly proud of you!











Mountain Biking Success for Eloise!

A huge congratulations to Room 8 student Eloise Gladding, who achieved fantastic results at the Secondary School National Mountain Biking Championships last week!

Competing against hundreds of riders from across the country, Eloise finished an impressive 10th in Enduro and 6th in Downhill!

The downhill event was particularly challenging, with competitors tackling a Grade 6 trail used by professional riders at Crankworx – definitely not for the faint-hearted!

What an incredible achievement on such a demanding course. We are extremely proud of Eloise's courage, determination and skill.

Well done, Eloise!







Artistic Swimming Nationals – Cassandra Reid!

Congratulations to Cassandra Reid, who competed at the NZ National Artistic Swimming Championships in Hamilton from 26-30 September.

Competing alongside her teammates, Cassandra demonstrated fantastic dedication and teamwork. While the team didn't place, Cassandra achieved a personal best performance, a wonderful accomplishment at the national level!

Well done, Cassandra! We're incredibly proud of your hard work and determination!







National Squash Champion – Jayden Zhang!

A huge congratulations to Jayden Zhang, who claimed 1st place in the Boys U13 division at the 2026 Squash NZ Junior Championships, earning the title of U13 National Champion!

This is an outstanding achievement and a fantastic reward for Jayden's hard work, dedication and talent.

We are incredibly proud of Jayden's success and delighted to celebrate his achievement with him.





COMMUNITY NEWS & NOTICES



Auditions: Premiere Choirs in 2027

Students attending Takapuna Grammar School in 2027 who love to sing are invited to audition for the school's premier choirs!

Auditions will be held on Thursday 29 October at the Georgea Tindall Performing Arts Centre, TGS. Students will be asked to sing the NZ National Anthem in English.

- Girls: 1:30–2:30pm (Ms Elise Bradley)
- Boys: 3:00–3:30pm (Mr David Squire)
-

Students interested in the all-comers choirs do not need to audition and can sign up next year.

Interested? Register here or scan the QR code.





