

BREAM BAY COLLEGE

Newsletter

Edition 21 OCTOBER 2024



You are invited to the

Bream Bay College

2024 Senior Prizegiving

Friday 1st November 10.00am-12.30pm in the Auditorium

We look forward to celebrating our student achievements with you.

Light refreshments provided in the staffroom for prizewinners and their whānau after prizegiving.

Upcoming Events

FRIDAY 25 OCTOBER Staff Only Day (no school for students)

> MONDAY 28 OCTOBER Labour Day Holiday

> FRIDAY 1 NOVEMBER Senior Prizegiving (School Closing at 1pm)

WEDNESDAY 27 NOVEMBER Board of Trustees Meeting 6pm

THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER Junior Prizegiving Last day of school for students 2024

2025 Start Dates

Monday 3rd February, 2025 Year 7 and Year 13 start

Tuesday 4th February 2025 All years start

PRINCIPAL'S COMMENT

Tēnā koutou Bream Bay College Whānau,

As we head into the final stretch of the 2024 academic year, it's a time of celebration and reflection, especially for our Year 11-13 students. We are looking forward to recognising their achievements, contributions, and the commitment they have shown throughout the year.

This Wednesday, we will hold our Commendations Assembly to acknowledge students who have consistently demonstrated our MANA values. These awards are based on data from the Attributes section of our school reports, reflecting the qualities we uphold as a community.

Later on Wednesday evening, we will celebrate at our Sports and Cultural Assembly, where we honour the exceptional dedication and accomplishments of students involved in sports and cultural activities, both within and beyond the school. It's a special moment to thank those who have gone the extra mile in representing our college with pride.

The following week, on Friday, 1st November, from 10 am to 1 pm, we will host our most prestigious event of the year — our 2024 Senior Prizegiving. This whole-school event is an opportunity for us to come together as a community to celebrate our top achievers, recognise outstanding contributions, and bid farewell to the graduating class of 2018. We warmly invite everyone to join us in marking this important occasion.

As we celebrate these incredible young people, we also extend our gratitude to the caregivers, whānau, teachers, and friends who have supported them on their journey. Your guidance and encouragement have played a vital role in their success.

"Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini." Success is not the work of an individual, but the work of many.

I'd also like to remind students that our expectations around uniform, attendance, and commitment to learning remain unchanged in Term 4. It is essential for students to be at school every day, dressed in the correct uniform and ready for learning. For our senior students, this time is crucial to finish the year strong and set an example for our younger students. Our junior students, particularly Year 10s, must continue building the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in NCEA Level 1. Missing learning time now means missing the opportunity to be well-prepared for the challenges ahead.

Our staff are committed to maintaining high standards and ensuring that the curriculum remains rigorous for all students. We also remind students and caregivers that denim, activewear, and hoodies are not part of our school uniform. Adherence to uniform expectations is a basic requirement that reflects our community's values.

A huge congratulations to all students and staff participating in extra-curricular activities this summer. Whether it's touch rugby in Waipu, surf lifesaving at Ruakākā and Waipu, volleyball, cricket, or joining the new athletics programme on Monday afternoons, it's fantastic to see so many students embracing these opportunities. Extracurricular involvement promotes health, social connections, discipline, and new skills—and it's worth noting that many of our top academic achievers are also actively engaged in these pursuits. I encourage all students to find an organised activity to participate in over the summer.

Lastly, I want to express my heartfelt thanks to the staff and students who recently travelled to Japan and Singapore. The trip was an amazing opportunity to experience cultural diversity and explore unique attractions. Our students represented Bream Bay College with pride and mana, demonstrating respect, initiative, and a genuine enthusiasm for learning. Their efforts did not go unnoticed, with many people commenting on how well they carried themselves as ambassadors for our community.

Ngā mihi nui, Julian Cosgrove



YEAR 8 SHAKESPEAR CAMP/S

In weeks 9 and 10 of Term 3, Bream Bay Colleges Year 8 students got the opportunity to go down to Shakespear Regional Park and have an enjoyable and entertaining three-day camp. Waking up early on Wednesday morning was hard, but that did not stop people's lively and pumped attitude for the fun days ahead of us.

When we first got there we got shown around and were told the safety rules for us to follow so that we would have a safe and fun time. After that we claimed our beds and we got straight into activities, activities we included - bush cooking, archery, catapulting, team building, orienteering, and rock climbing.

Bush cooking was a very diverse activity that not many of us had done before. We got a chance to light a fire and learned about what elements make a fire, and how to care for a fire and keep it alive. Archery was a very competitive activity between our teams and the parents. Trying to beat the parents was definitely a highlight of archery, but sadly the parents won.

Catapulting was a time for us to learn about knots and catapulting mechanisms, we had to really use our brains and our problem-solving skills to try to figure out what the catapulting mechanism needed and how to do it. Team building was a great time to get to know one another and make new friends and connections. This activity was quite helpful as we spent the 3 days at camp with these people.

Going outside orienteering was fun because we got to be independent and explore the space around us and try things we never had before. Rock climbing pushed quite a few people out of their comfort zones, with being up high on the climbing walls, but the views from the top did not disappoint.

A massive highlight for us would be the talent show, it was a chance for us to show our amazing talents and be brave. During our time at camp, we had many responsibilities like feeding the pigs, doing jobs, getting to do whatever we wanted in our free time within our boundaries, and trying so many different activities we hadn't experienced before. On our last day at camp, the Shakespear Park instructors put us into teams and gave us a map. We were playing wizards and warlocks, it felt like we were in a fairytale. We got to meet new characters and do activities to move on and get points in our quest. We had to be careful of trolls though, otherwise, we would lose points!

Between feeding pigs, playing spotlight, Miss Doherty's wake-up song, and The teachers sitting outside our cabins saying "We're still here" when we would not sleep and Conrad chasing us in wizards and warlocks, camp did not have a dull moment, we had so much fun and would go back again and again, we made so many memories, new friends and connections.

By Addison Wells - Year 8 Student.

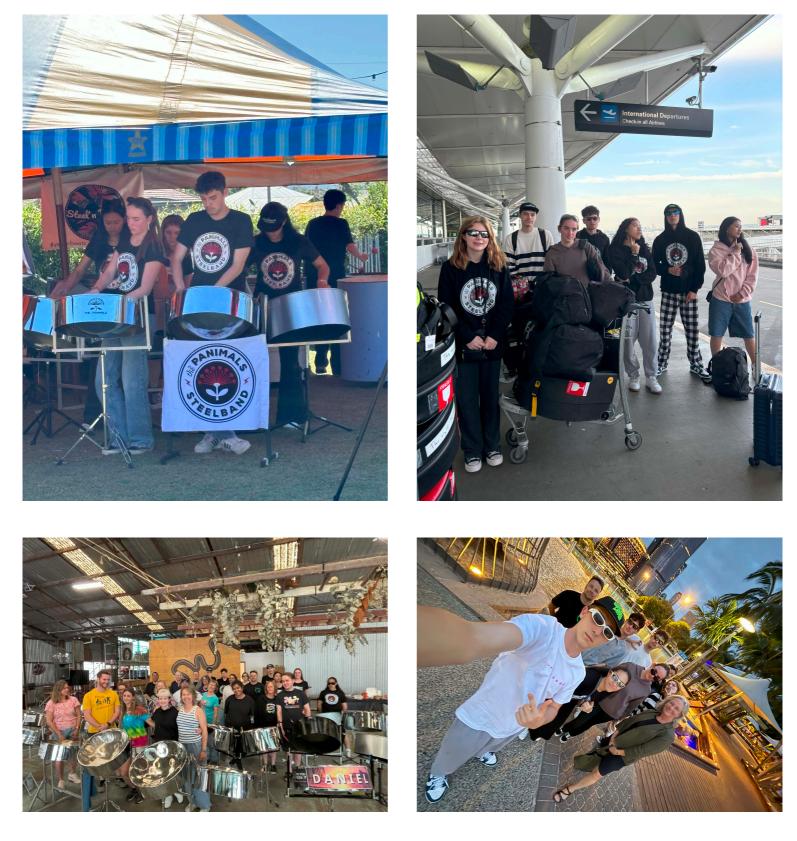


PANIMALS JOURNEY TO BRISBANE

The Panimals recently embarked on an exciting journey to Brisbane, where they immersed themselves in learning, sharing, and connecting with the wider Australasian steelpan community. The centerpiece of their visit was *Blockorama*, an annual event hosted by Brisbane's premier steelband, *Rivercity*. This vibrant showcase featured steelbands of all ages, each performing captivating 45-minute sets. One of the most memorable moments was the massed band performances, where all the groups came together to create a breathtaking, unified sound.

The following day, the Panimals attended workshops and enjoyed a shared morning tea, learning two new songs alongside fellow passionate pannists. Linda, the band leader of *Rivercity*, praised the Panimals, saying, "They are a first-class band, and it was an honor to have them take part in our event. They are an absolute delight to listen to and watch."

Throughout the trip, the Panimals were outstanding ambassadors for the school, receiving only positive feedback from everyone they met. In their downtime, they also explored Brisbane, visiting Dreamworld, Surfers Paradise, Brisbane City with many sing-alongs in the van.



Bream Bay College Cultural Exchange Trip to Japan

Higashi High - Friday, 27 September - Tuesday, 08 October 2024

Bream Bay College's long standing relationship, of over 30 years, with its sister school Higashi High School in Osaka, Japan gives students a unique opportunity to build friendships and explore a culture very different from New Zealand's.

A group of four teachers and twenty students, left Bream Bay College at 6.30am on the morning of 27 September. After a long trip from Singapore to Japan we were met by Higashi teachers, our host students and their families. They had written personalised signs to welcome us and we had a number of photos taken before learners departed with their respective host families. Sunday was spent navigating the ins and outs of public trains. We had the pleasure of being guided by two of the teachers from Higashi High School, Eriko and Sophie, who took us to a park filled with deer which led to an incredible Buddhist temple, impressive in its age and size.

To the jaunty sounds of a brass band, Monday morning saw us all take off our shoes, wear plastic slippers and file onto stage. Learners played a traditional Māori game with their tī rākau, sang and danced, followed by a rousing haka. Both the Higashi High School Principal and Head Student greeted us and we introduced ourselves; formalities were then finalised with a gift exchange. We felt truly welcome as we left the gym to a rendition of God Bless New Zealand.



During the week we spent in Osaka, students became part of their Japanese host family and were immersed in their way of life. Japanese hosts are incredibly generous, showering their guests with gifts and hospitality, taking them shopping and showing them all the sights in their area.

Out and about in the city you realise how huge the population of Japan is compared to New Zealand, 126 million versus 4.8 million. Almost three million people live in Osaka, and sometimes students live a long way from school and take an hour by train to get there. Losing your host student in the morning rush crowd at the train station is a real and scary possibility, so you follow their every move closely. Japanese are very polite people and you soon learn some of the rules of behaviour that they've developed to make everyday life among so many people run smoothly. On escalators everyone stands on the right, leaving the left clear for people who are in a hurry. Lines on the floor show which side you are supposed to go up a set of stairs, with another one pointing the way down. You're not supposed to talk on the train, but if you do, make sure it's quiet. And always take off your shoes before you go into homes, restaurants and the classroom.

Osaka is known for its food and we were lucky enough to try some of the local specialties, like takoyaki, a ball-shaped snack. Every home in Osaka has at least one takoyaki pan for making these. Japanese school days are much longer than in New Zealand and the students are very polite and well-behaved in class. Interestingly enough, our students, in comparison, were complimented for their high energy, creativity and willingness to improvise. This was proven when our students participated in a high energy dodgeball game where learners had to avoid balls being thrown at them from both the back and front sections. Our learners showed their prowess in lobbing a ball and were declared the winners.

After school students go to clubs at the school – for dance, sport or cultural activities and these can finish as late as 6.30pm. Then it's time for the hour-long train ride home, dinner, helping the family and then bed. Senior students preparing for exams go to 'cram schools' for hours after school, or at the weekend, even though their exams are still months away. In Japanese school there seems to be a lot more pressure on students to do well.

Our time in Singapore was a highlight, not only for the wide variety of foods but also for the sights and sounds that impressed us with their beauty. Our time at Sentosa Island was a brilliant experience, from our cable car trip in a Hello Kitty cab, the stunning sea life seen at the aquarium, to all the rides we were able to experience at Universal Studios. It was a day to remember and a fun way to end a memorable trip.

A huge thanks to all who came along. Each person added a unique quality to the trip. Not to mention, all the parents, teachers and caregivers who helped to raise and collect money, attended meetings and filled in forms etc. We certainly have to thank Higashi HighSchool and the teachers who worked with us, the host families and the students who offered up their time and homes to our learners. Further gratitude goes to the two teachers; Whaea Tivaan Doak Smith, Mrs Sherilyn Bradshaw; Deputy Principal, Whaea Junie Shelford and Principal, Mr Julian Cosgrove.

Bream Bay students visit Higashi High School every second year (in between their students coming here) and we would encourage everyone to either host a Japanese student or embrace the next opportunity (in 2026) to travel there. It's a fantastic chance to gain a real insight into a different country and culture, and also make new friends. Now is the time to get your name on the list and save up money - cost is in the region of \$5000, which covers flights, accommodation, and any entertainment etc. This also requires a commitment to fund-raising efforts as well as practice time to present a performance in Japan. We hope you take advantage of this incredible and life-changing experience.









COMMUNITY NOTICES

Get Ready for a Spooktacular Night!

OTP School PTA & Jan Anderson - Bayleys Bream's 'Trick or Treat off the Street' Halloween event is fast approaching, and it's going to be a frightfully fun night for all!

It is going to be a fantastic evening for the whole family, with a Haunted House, Spooky Games, Bouncy Castle, Live Music & Slime & Glow Sticks available to purchase.

There will be plenty of 'Scare-a-licious Food' available to purchase on the night Marsden Lions will be there with their infamous 'Ghost Chips' alongside Mr Whippy & his 'Screaming Good Ice Creams' as well as spookily good Hot Dogs, Nachos & a Sausage Sizzle.

Oh & did we mention.....LOTS of lollies!

All funds raised will go towards supporting OTP School.

Date: October 31st

Time: 4:30 - 7:30

Location: One Tree Point School

Entry: \$10 per child (5yrs +), \$5 per child (under 5yrs), ADULTS FREE!

EFTPOS Available at the gate - Please bring cash for food vendors.

Of course, we couldn't do this without the generous support of our wonderful sponsors and the team of Super Spookers from BBC– thank you for helping us make this event happen!

Mark your calendars, and we can't wait to see you there for a safe and spooky Halloween!





BECOME A LIFEGUARD!

You will learn surf skills, have heaps of fun, make new friends and belong to an aw<mark>eso</mark>me club!

Lifeguard & Fatrol Support Training MINIMUM 14 YEARS OF AGE* before 15th March 2025

- Attend Saturday training sessions
- training sessions • Attend pool sessions
- Attend exam
- Complete workbook
- Attend Exam 15 December

For more information or to sign up email:

chiefinstructor.ruakaka@gmail.com



DECEMBER: 7th, 14th







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