

SPORTS NOTICES

FLIPPA BALL

The **Titirangi Barracudas** played the Monte Cecilia Seahorses. The teams were well matched but the final score was 3 - 2 to them. All our team members played well and showed good concentration and commitment to giving it their best. The Barracudas finished 3rd in the competition. Well done to you all!

The **Titirangi Sharks** played off with Summerland for 3rd or 4th place in the competition. It was a tough finish to a great Flippaball Term 1 for the Sharks going down 7 - 0 therefore coming 4th. There were many shots at goal for the Sharks; however they were unable to penetrate a strong goalie. The Team did not give up with most goal attempts coming in the second half. Great fighting spirit shown by the whole team. Good work the Sharks!

The **Titirangi Kingis** played the Woodlands Park Sharks. This game decided 1st and 2nd place in the competition, and we are very proud to say that the mighty Kingi's won 7 goals to 1! Fantastic work from the whole team but special mention to our two goalies in this week's game, Cole and Brandon, you were just awesome! Well done Kingi's, the competition champions! If your child is interested in playing Flippaball in Term 2, please email titirangiflippaball@gmail.com or call Andy on 8179425 or 027 3260304 for more information.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Zoom on in to Titirangi Library these April school holidays where we will be having an interactive story time about cars, rockets, trucks and trains suitable for children from four to eight years.

Drive on into the library on Wednesday the 15th and Wednesday the 22nd of April at 10.30am to beep your horn and refuel with some cool stories. Vroom vroom vroom!

The Frog Prince! A unique take on an old favourite with live music, songs, dances and magic ideal for preschool and primary aged children and their families Sat 18th April, *10am* Lollipops Playland, 1A Rankin Ave, New Lynn \$8 per person UNDER 2s FREE. (\$6 per person for groups of 8 or more) Payment: Cash or cheque at the door. No eftpos. Bookings recommended. BOOKINGS 845 6133 021 02315184. info@starfishmagic.com. www.starfishmagic.com

Don't miss the excitement of our April holiday activities - for children 5 to 14 years. Join in the fun: go-kart racing, the latest block-buster movie, cooking, a Butterfly Creek trip, Business for Kids and so much more. Programmes are available 14 to 24 April. **Please enrol now - some places still available.** Phone Parnell Trust 379 2095 x9724, email ptc@parnell.org.nz or visit www.parnell.org.nz

STARDOME Sessions for the April school holidays. Two daily at 10.00 am and 1.00 pm. Wonders of the Universe show and Space-room activity. Bookings essential—Ph: 624 1246.

AFS Exchange Host Family wanted for a student from Turkey. He's an excellent student, calm, sporty and interested in mechanics. If you can host him, call Brenda on 818 5520.

School Holiday Programmes with Waitakere City Council - For information on the school holiday programmes run by Waitakere City Council go to <http://www.waitakere.govt.nz/waitdy/index.asp> and look under News and Events for Waitakere Today.

Women in Squash Programme - Get the girls and get fit! 6 weeks Group coaching for ONLY \$35.00!! (Squash rackets and balls supplied) New classes beginning in Term Two and we even have a Babysitter available!! To register phone Craigie at Titirangi Squash Club on 817 6394.

Learn to Swim at West Wave - April Holiday Programme. Two weeks for \$77.00 from 14 - 17 April and 20 - 24 April. Individual weeks are Week 1—\$44 and Week 2—\$55. Contact Swim School on 835 0767.

ARE YOUR KIDS WILD ABOUT ANIMALS? Animal Care Workshops this hols!

Students learn practical animal care and handling skills with a wonderful array of pets at the JPK Animal Centre - Parnell, Auckland. A hands-on workshop that will appeal to all young animal enthusiasts, future vets and zookeepers! Rabbits, chinchillas, mice, rats, fish, frogs, newts, turtles and lots more! Also covers careers with animals, first aid, grooming and other exciting topics. Comprehensive notes and certificate included. Two day workshop for 8-14yrs. 'Junior Petkeeper Safari' available for younger animal enthusiasts. Current school holiday schedule available now at www.hippo.co.nz For bookings and enquiries; contact Sally at Oracle Education - 09 376 2024 or email sally@oracle.ac.nz Don't forget to mention your school when you book!



Titirangi Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Monday 06 April 2009

Camp Adair 2009!

Camp From a Parent's Perspective

You'll have heard from the Y6 kids that camp was "awesome" and "fun", and from my point of view it was that and so much more.

From day one, the children discovered that they could only get through the activities with the help of their team mates. They would go on to learn that they could (safely!) jump off the top of an 18 meter pole, walk along an extremely high beam, fly through the air on the flying fox, get over/under obstacles (getting completely wet and dirty), go through the bush at night with no lights and a whole lot more...

The camp gave children the opportunity to challenge themselves independently and be responsible for themselves. It was a very rewarding experience to see one of the team achieve something that they thought they could not do, from staying away from home by themselves to climbing one more rung on the ladder. The children had to work co-operatively to achieve tasks, they had to communicate to get their ideas across and importantly, they supported each other when the challenge was too tough. Wow, what an experience for them and yes, I guess in short it was "awesome and lots of fun"!

- Jan Stankovich, Y6 Parent/Camp Helper



Photos from the Camp will be available later this week on the School Website

Visit us at: www.titirangi.school.nz Ph: (09) 8178346 Fax: (09) 8175300

Kia Kōwhiri

NEWSLETTER 06 APRIL 2009

*Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
Conspiring with him how to load and bless
With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eaves run;
To bend with apples the mossed cottage-trees,
And fill all fruit with ripeness to the core;
To swell the gourd, and plump the hazel shells
With a sweet kernel; to set budding more,
And still more, later flowers for the bees,
Until they think warm days will never cease,
For Summer has o'er-brimmed their clammy cell.*

From 'Ode to Autumn' by John Keats

Summer has gifted us with two weeks of glorious weather but the definite chill in the morning air is a reminder that autumn is here and winter lies ahead. Let's hope the weather lasts for the Easter break.

This is our last newsletter for Term 1 2009. Our next newsletter will be a digital one emailed on Monday 4th May. If you don't receive the newsletter please either call the office to request a paper copy or email sandieo@titirangi.school.nz.

School will restart for Term 2 on Monday 27 April. Have a safe and happy holiday.

FAMILY CONTRIBUTIONS

The Ministry of Education commissioned report discussed in our last newsletter highlighted how important family donations and fundraising are for schools. Without this 'top up' to our operational income we would make a substantial operating deficit unless we made adjustments to expenditure. Much of the operating expenditure is in fixed costs, salaries and wages and essential maintenance. The areas where cost cutting would inevitably occur are in teaching resources such as library books, readers and maths equipment, information technology and other areas such as sports, sports equipment and playgrounds. Family donations and fundraising are essential to avoid cutting back on these things that directly benefit the children.

The Board and staff would like to thank all those families who have paid their family donation this year,

or who have made arrangements to pay in instalments. We understand that many families are feeling the effects of tough economic times and for this reason the school is even more appreciative of those who have made the school donation a priority.

SENIOR PLAYGROUND DEVELOPMENT

Included in this year's budget is \$40,000 to start upgrading the Senior Adventure Playground. Background research has been done including collecting suggestions for playgrounds to visit and try out, as well as identifying the parts of the existing playground that can be retained. The next steps, starting at the beginning of next term will be to visit a selection of playgrounds with a group of children to 'test drive' them; then develop a plan to take to playground equipment providers for quotes.

NEWS ABOUT OUR SCHOOL HALL

As you know we have identified some structural defects in our hall. Temporary repairs have been made and we are working with the Ministry of Education and our Architects to develop a plan to address these issues. In the mean time we have decided that we will not use the hall for whole school or syndicate assemblies until permanent repairs have been completed.

DROP OFF ZONE

Contrary to the information from the contractors, disruption to our drop off zones has continued throughout the past week. The work will continue into this week as well. On Tuesday last week I met with two people from Waitakere City's Transport division and a representative from Titirangi Ratepayers Association to review a recent traffic engineers report about the round-about and our drop off zone. We met at the drop off zone so the council's officers could see first hand how it operates. Despite the large hole and areas blocked off, they commented on how well it worked with people pulling in and forward to drop children off then quickly clearing the zone to allow others in. It also highlighted that a lot of the problems that have been reported on the round-about are nothing to do with the school. There will be ongoing and regular visits from the council's traffic wardens to ensure that the system continues to work effectively.

YEAR 6 SCHOOL CAMP

On Wednesday last week I visited the Year 6 camp at YMCA Camp Adair in Hunua. My visit reinforced to me the value of this kind of outdoor experience which offers a range of activities designed to challenge the children and foster both independence and teamwork. They were put in

situations where they had to collaborate to solve problems as well as activities like the high ropes which gave individuals a chance to really push the boundaries of what they thought they could do. They experienced living together in a large group and taking responsibility for essential jobs as well as the value of getting a good night's sleep when you have a busy and challenging day ahead! Several people commented on how the levels of teamwork and cooperation developed over the week and the positive and happy atmosphere was very evident.

Many thanks and a huge WELL DONE to the Year 6 teaching team as well as the camp parents for their care and dedication in providing this valuable experience for the children

EXCERPTS FROM THE CAMP DIARIES

THE PAMPER POLE

"What were the personal challenges for you in this activity?"

I felt really scared about jumping off the pamper pole. Even though I was in a harness and strapped onto a rope, I was still scared I'd fall off.

"How did you cope with/overcome these challenges?"

My friends encouraged me and told me I was doing really well.

"How did you feel before, during & after the activity?"

I felt silly for being scared and maybe I could of done it. It was still quite fun. I was still glad I had climbed higher than I have ever climbed before.

By Emma J - P.

SUPER FOX

I had never seen one so high! I have seen flying foxes before, but this flying fox was as tall as a giant! Looking at it for a few seconds, I finally realised my group was gathering in a circle. Just in time for how we were going to do this. I was so excited! Then, the girl instructor broke in "Hi, I'm Nesa and this here is Tim. This is the Super Fox. You can get your harnesses on now....."

By Marie E.

WALKING SCHOOL BUS

Don't forget there is coffee for WSB parents on Tuesday at the Hardware Cafe, 9.00am. Also, the next new parent to sign up for the Huia Rd WSB will receive a **discounted** family pass (2 adults, 2 children) to the movies.... (Only Huia rd - as it is a new route this year). There will be end of term goodies for all the WSB kids too!

Thanks, Amanda.

MELBOURNE FIRES

Room 8 would like to thank everyone who helped raise funds for the 'Melbourne Fires'. By purchasing the Smoozies, we managed to raise \$389.00. Thank you also to the parents in Room 8 who helped with the organising.

MOTHERS DAY RAFFLE

On the first Monday back after the Easter holidays there will be a Mothers Day Raffle run by the student council to raise money for Gangaram, our sponsored child.

The tickets will be on sale all week and drawn on Friday morning. Ticket selling will be outside Room 6 every morning from 8.30 until the bell rings. Tickets will cost \$1.00 for one ticket and \$2.00 for three tickets.

PARENT EXPERTISE NEEDED

Room eleven is planning to plant raised vegetable gardens at the beginning of term two. If you have any expertise in this area and are willing to help us please see Sue Fitzgerald or email suef@titirangi.school.nz

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

Thank you to everyone for returning either books or payments promptly. Year 6 families will have had their books later because of school camp. We will take this into account so that you have time to look through and see if you would like to purchase the books. We will need to have books returned as soon as possible after the school holidays and aim for 100% return, to keep our VIP status. Thank you.