



Titirangi Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Term 1, 08 February, 2010

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Tuesday 09 February
12.30 - 2.00. Kapa Haka

Wednesday 10 February
Meet the Teacher sessions.

Thursday 11 February
9.00 - 10.30. Syndicate 6/5 (Yrs 6 & 5) Bullying Talks.

Friday 12 February
11.00 - 12.30. Syndicates 4/3 (Yrs 4 & 3) Bullying Talks.

Monday 15 February
Room 9 to Waterwise.
8.00 - 2.00. Dental screening van in school.

Tuesday 16 February
8.00 - 2.00. Dental screening van in school.
9.00 - 10.30. Syndicates 2/ (Yrs 2 & 1) Bullying Talks.

Wednesday 17 February
8.00 - 2.00. Dental screening van in school.
5.30 - 6.30 pm. Year 6 Parent Camp meeting.

Thursday 18 February
8.00 - 2.00. Dental screening van in school.

Friday 19 February
8.00 - 2.00. Dental screening van in school.

WELCOME

TO TERM 1

2010!

- **TPS ERO Report 2010**
- **National Standards**
- **Meet The Teacher 2010 Timetable**
- **Interschool Swimming Trials**
- **Y5/6 Basketball**
- **Clubs & Activities For Your Child**

Newsletter

"A child educated only at school is an uneducated child"

George Santayana (1863 – 1952) Philosopher, poet, novelist

Welcome back to all our students and their families and a special welcome to all our new students.

I would also like to welcome two new teachers to our school community – Jessica Hartin who is Senior Teacher in Year 6 and Belinda Hitchman Senior Teacher in Year 5. It also great to welcome Vic Stevenson back after her maternity leave, Vic is teaching this year in Year 2.

The year has started smoothly and everyone seems to have settled into their new classes well.

STAFF LIST

Principal – Mr Gary Pearce

Associate Principal (Years 0 – 3) – Mrs Brigitte Helwes

Associate Principal (Years 4 – 6) – Mr Alan Jackson

Syndicate 1 (Year 1)

Room 1 - Ms Christen Anderson/Mrs Lisa Dever

Room 2 - Ms Mel McCorquindale (Senior Teacher)

Room 3 - Mrs Dianne Harris/Mrs Colleen Molloy

Room 23 - Mrs Tracey Parker

Room 24 - Mr Don Watson

Syndicate 2 (Year 2)

Room 4 - Mrs Cathy Mai

Room 5 - Mrs Sharyn Anderson (Senior Teacher)

Room 6 - Ms Vic Stevenson/Mrs Colleen Molloy

Syndicate 3 (Year 3)

Room 18 - Mrs Sue Fitzgerald

Room 19 - Ms Samantha Scarlett

Room 20 - Mrs Annette Turner (Senior Teacher)

Room 21 - Ms Rachel Clapp

Syndicate 4 (Year 4)

Room 15 - Ms Carolyn Guiver

Room 16 - Ms Stephanie Mills

Room 17 - Mrs Trish Harrison (Senior Teacher)

Syndicate 5 (Year 5)

Room 8 - Mr Scott Samson

Room 11 - Ms Belinda Hitchman (Senior Teacher)

Room 22 - Mrs Linda Geerlings

Syndicate 6 (Year 6)

Room 9 - Mr Alan Gordon

Room 10 - Mr Jonathan Lambert

Room 12 - Mrs Jessica Hartin (Senior Teacher)

Ms Carol Yates - GATE & LS (Senior Teacher)

NATIONAL STANDARDS

It would be hard to have missed the current debate over National Standards which came into effect this year.

The standards are intended to bring clarity about what students should achieve and by when. All schools will be expected to report achievement and progress to parents with reference to the standards.

Titirangi Primary School has been setting expectations based on national achievement data and measuring achievement against these expectations for a long time so this initiative will not mean a big change in practice for us. The Ministry have stated that they will not be introducing national testing; schools will use existing assessment tools to gather the information to evaluate progress against the standards. What will be changed is how this information is reported to parents in what have been termed 'plain language reports' which will tell you whether or not your child is achieving the relevant standards in Maths, Reading and Writing for their year level.

Our next steps are to map our current assessment tools against the standards and design the new reports. For this year we are planning to use our current Term 1 data report with some explanation of how the data contained relates to the standards. The end of year report will be completely redesigned to specifically report against the standards.

I will present some information about the National Standards at each of the Meet the Teacher sessions and will be happy to answer questions.

Information and useful links for parents can be found on our school website if you would like to find out more about what the standards will mean for you and your child.

MEET THE TEACHERS

Meet the Teacher Session – this Wednesday 10th

You are warmly invited to these sessions to hear about syndicate organisation, planned activities and programmes. There will be an opportunity to visit your child's classroom and meet their teacher individually.

The timetable for this is as follows

3.00 – 3.45 – Year 1 in Room 2

3.45 – 4.30 – Year 2 in Room 5

4.40 – 5.15 – Year 3 in Room 21

5.15 – 6.00 – Year 4 in Room 17

6.00 – 6.45 – Year 5 in Room 11

6.45 – 7.30 – Year 6 in Room 12

Y6 CAMP

The dates for Camp Adair are 29 March-April 1, at a cost of \$260, payable to the school office. Notices with all the relevant information and equipment list have been sent home in hard copy, and will also be available on the "Camp" section of our website (look under "What's Happening" in the sidebar menu.) Y6 parents are invited to attend our Parent Camp Information Evening on Wednesday, 17th February at 5.30 in the staffroom.

ERO

We have received the confirmed ERO report based on their evaluation of the school in November last year.

On the next page is the summary letter to the Parents and Community of Titirangi Primary School.

You can read the full report on our school website:

http://www.titirangi.school.nz/ERO_Reports_40.aspx

To the Parents and Community of Titirangi School

These are the findings of the Education Review Office's latest report on Titirangi School.

Titirangi School, in Waitakere City, caters for students in Years 1-6. Students benefit from the wide variety of learning, sporting, environmental and cultural programmes offered through the enriched curriculum. Since the 2007 ERO report, a new principal and associate principal have been appointed.

The board of trustees and staff have high expectations for student engagement and achievement. In reading, writing, and mathematics, the majority of students achieve above, or well above, national age-related expectations. The percentage of students who achieve at the very highest levels is higher than the average for similar schools and is above national averages.

Over the last three years the school has implemented many successful strategies to build a strong learning community. Of note is the very effective provision of strategies and information that enable parents to support their children's learning at home by engaging with them in conversations about their learning and achievement.

Effective monitoring systems, and the supportive school environment, enable students who are not achieving at expected levels to receive targeted support early in their schooling. The progress of these students is monitored closely to ensure that expected rates of progress are made and maintained. Several programmes provide gifted and talented students with opportunities to solve complex problems cooperatively and enable them to pursue their strengths and interests to a high level.

A capable senior leadership team, supported by the board of trustees, has prioritised ongoing improvements in the quality of teaching through comprehensive programmes of professional learning and development. These programmes support teachers to implement teaching approaches that align with national priorities and the school curriculum.

ERO recommends that the board and staff develop a sound plan for the future direction of the school as a learning community. ERO agrees with the senior leadership team that teachers should implement strategies to strengthen students' understanding of their achievement and ownership of their learning.

Future Action

ERO is confident that the board of trustees can govern the school in the interest of the students and the Crown and bring about the improvements outlined in this report. ERO is likely to carry out the next review in three years.

Review Coverage

ERO reviews do not cover every aspect of school performance and each ERO report may cover different issues. The aim is to provide information on aspects that are central to student achievement and useful to this school.

If you would like a copy of the full report, please contact the school or see the ERO website, www.ero.govt.nz.

Richard Thornton
National Manager Review Services
Northern Region



PTA PATCH

Meeting

Welcome back to our families and a big welcome to our new families. Our first meeting is on **Tuesday 16 February** at **7.00pm** and will be a **wine and cheese** evening. Please feel free to come along – to hear what's going on at school, raise an issue, or just see what the PTA is all about! Please help us keep up the good work!

If you are unable to attend the meeting but would like to offer support please email our secretary Louise Postlewaight at brentandlou@paradise.net.nz with your details.

Upcoming Event

There will be a **School Picnic** on the Bottom Field on **Friday 5 March 5pm to 7pm**. This is an opportunity to say hello to a new school year and goodbye to summer. There will be food (BBQ) and drinks for sale and organised games for children and adults.

Stationery

Thank you to all the families who supported our school by purchasing their stationery directly from us. A huge thanks to Karen Nash for organising the stationery and to all the volunteers who helped make this event a big success!

Friday Lunches

Our first Friday lunch will be on **Friday 19 February** and it will be a sausage sizzle. Please look out for the lunch order forms going home on Monday 15 February. For those of you who are new to our school, this is a fundraising initiative which we run fortnightly during the term. This means you get a day off from school lunches!

THE WALKING SCHOOL BUS

The Kereru Express is operating again this year. There will be a few new changes. We are hoping to present a prize at the end of the year for the student who uses the bus most frequently (and sensibly!) Bus tickets will be issued and clipped so we can keep track of this.

Routes up and running are Huia Rd (From 40 Huia Rd leaving at 8.30am), and Kohu Rd (from the corner of Kohu and Kopiko). There has also been an expression of interest for a bus to run from the corner of exhibition and Scenic Drive. If anyone is interested in starting and/ or co-ordinating this, please call Amanda on 817 9984.

Happy walking all – make the most of the summer, and not having to fight for a car park!

TERM DATES FOR 2010

Term 1
03 February - 01 April
Term 2
19 April - 02 July
Term 3
19 July - 24 September
Term 4
11 October - 16 December

ABSENTEE PARENT HELP

The time has come again to ask for help with processing the absences in the office. This is an important task but is not difficult and usually takes about half an hour. I would like to set up the roster soon and the more helpers we have better. If you feel you can spare one morning every few weeks please call the office. Thank you.

Community Notices

ORATIA CRAFT MARKET on Sunday 14 February from 10.00 - 2.00 at the settlers hall on West Coast Road. Lots of crafts, gifts, music, café and more.

LEARN MUSIC AT SCHOOL

We are most fortunate in being able to offer specialist music lessons at our school. Many parents and grandparents regret they were never given the opportunity to learn a musical instrument. Your child will be receiving an enrolment form for the "Music In Schools" Programme this week. Enrolments close on 12 February. Please make sure the form is returned to the office by this date so that your child does not miss out on developing their musical talent.

ORATIA UNITED SOCCER registrations will be held at Oratia Clubrooms at Parrs Park, Glen Eden on: Fridays 12th & 19th February 4pm to 8pm Saturday 13th February, 2pm to 5pm or register online @ www.oratiaunited.co.nz. Contact: Ngaire Atherton 8188486 or 0274657545

EUROTALK FRENCH .Ongoing Private Teaching by native speaker & teacher: BA. Sorbonne, Paris with 28 years experience in Europe & NZ. One to One or small groups, from preschoolers to adults. Regular or casual tuition, carefully tailored to your needs, to prepare that trip to France or get that job or invest in your children's future! Relaxed atmosphere combined with efficient & creative teaching in your own home! Includes games, role-play, conversation & much more! Willing to host a group or join one now? For more friendly info, call ARZHELA: 626 2244.

ART CLASSES, AT SCHOOL, AFTER SCHOOL. Fine Young Artists term one art classes start week commencing 8 February. If your child is passionate about art then enrol them in our inspirational art programme. For information and enrolments visit www.fineyoungartists.co.nz or ph: 631 5358.

At **Enrich Tutoring** we help your child to succeed in literacy: reading writing and spelling.

Our specialist tutors help take the struggle out of school ,extend your child's skills and help them study effectively and easily. Don't wait till it's too late, ring or e mail us today to enquire about a free assessment session Ph 827 8086, email sarah@enrichtutoring.co.nz or visit our website www.enrichtutoring.co.nz

We can't wait to help you!

TITIRANGI COMMUNITY HOUSE, 500 South Titirangi Road is offering an exciting 2010 drama course for children aged 7 to 11 Run by David Wray T.V. and Film acting teacher. The course is especially designed for children and gets them actively involved in drama, presentation, creative imaginative games and making video plays and productions. The students get to use the camera, design scenery, puppets, script as well as performance. Building up their confidence through new interactive games and play. They get to become actively involved in creating skits, presentations and plays, Gaining knowledge through a fun filled atmosphere.

For more information ring David on **818-3347**

TITIRANGI CUB PACK

Titirangi Cub Pack has vacancies for Cubs aged 7 ½ to 10 ½ yrs (boys and girls). Meet every Wednesday 6 – 7.30pm. Titirangi Scout Group Den, 209 Atkinson Rd (just below Titirangi Primary School) We have two camps a year (summer and winter) Come along and check us out. If you are interested, please telephone Trish 8376560 or Bronwyn 817 7583

PONSONBY KELSTON JUNIOR RUGBY REGISTRATIONS

Rugby for Under 6's – Under 13's - Saturday 27th February, 10am – 1pm and Thursday 4th March, 4pm – 6pm at Archibald Park, Archibald Rd, Kelston

For enquiries phone Pam – 817-2127 or email juniors@ponsonbyrugby.co.nz

Firstly thank-you to all the families who purchased their fruit & veg through Affordable Organix last year & over the holiday period. For those who missed the notices last year, Affordable Organix is donating 5% back to our school with every box that is purchased. It has been a bonus for the school to be "earning an income" over the holiday period - Thank-You.

What a great time of year for all our families to try a box of fresh organic fruit & veggies delivered to your door, with delicious summer produce such as watermelons, strawberries & sweetcorn. You'll find that for an average household, \$36 (delivered) is all you will need to spend on your weekly fruit & veg.

Call Affordable Organix now on 817-9318 & talk to Tania or Gerry about ordering a box

Sports Notices

Interschool Swimming

Wednesday, 17 March, 2010 10:00 am – 2:30 pm

Westwave Aquatic Centre, Henderson

Y4-6 Students now have the opportunity to trial for the Interschool Swim Team. Any students who would like to trial are to speak to Ms Guiver as soon as possible.

Parents please contact Alan Jackson if you have any particular skill, training or expertise in this area.



SENIOR SCHOOL BASKETBALL— Y5-6

We will be up and running with basketball once again this term for Y5 and Y6 students who want to get involved this Thursday (11th) from 3.10-4.00. Many thanks once more to Marty and Tim for offering their expertise. Permission slips will be sent home for any students who want to give it a try.

For further information please contact Alan Jackson at school or Tim Dougherty on 817-8947.

What's Available This Term At TPS?

We have a range of activities and groups that students can get involved with. See the table below for more information. Many of these groups will start in the next week or two.

Activity	Day/Time	Available to:	Contact/Organizer
Junior Choir	Friday 1.00 - 1.30	All (audition only)	Jonathan Lambert: jonathanl@titirangi.school.nz
Senior Choir	Thursday 1.00 - 1.30	Y5-6	
Senior Kapa Haka	Thursday 1.00-2.00	Y4-6	Brigette Helwes: bridgetteh@titirangi.school.nz
Junior Kapa Haka	Tuesday 12.30-1.00	Y1-3	Melanie McCorquindale: melaniem@titirangi.school.nz
Junior Ukulele	Thursday 12.40-1.00	Y1-3	Alan Jackson: alanj@titirangi.school.nz
Senior Ukulele	Tuesday 1.00-2.00	Y4-6	Alan Jackson: alanj@titirangi.school.nz
Rock Band	Tuesday 12.40 - 1.05	Y5/Y6 (auditions soon)	Scott Samson: scotts@titirangi.school.nz
Hip Hop Dance	Wednesday 12.40 - 1.05	All	Rachel Clapp: rachelc@titirangi.school.nz
Envirogroup	Friday 12.30 - 1.00	All	Brigette Helwes: bridgetteh@titirangi.school.nz
Netball	Registration/ trials late Term 1 (Details TBC)	(boys & girls)	Details to be confirmed
Basketball	Thursday 3.15-4.00	Y5 & 6	Alan Jackson: alanj@titirangi.school.nz
Interschool Swim Team	Trials this week	Y4-6	Alan Jackson: alanj@titirangi.school.nz

Watch out for more activities coming soon!