



Titirangi Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Term 1, 22 March, 2010

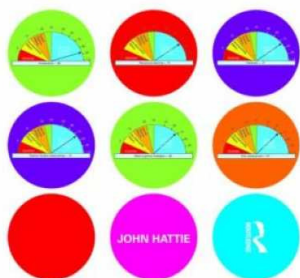
"If you put fences around people you get sheep"

- Ron Heifetz: Senior Lecturer in Public Leadership Harvard University

Visible Learning Part 2

In the last newsletter I introduced some of the material from Professor John Hattie's synthesis of research into factors that influence student learning.

In this newsletter I want to introduce the findings relating to Formative Assessment and Feedback.



Assessment of student learning has two major purposes: to evaluate a student's learning at a point in time usually by assigning a mark or grade to a test or piece of work e.g. as with a traditional exam (summative assessment) or to assess progress to inform next teaching and learning steps (formative assessment). Of these two, formative assessment is by far the most effective in influencing achievement by asking and answering the questions 'how am I doing?' and "where to next?".

Teachers are making formative evaluations of student learning continuously through every day interactions in the classroom as well as with formal assessments. This process is more effective when it is shared openly with students as feedback (how am I doing?) and feed forward (where to next?) It is even more powerful when students are actively involved in the process through self evaluation and peer evaluation and when they discuss their next learning steps with the teacher and with peers. Hattie's synthesis identified these processes of formative assessment and feedback as being in the top ten out of over one hundred and thirty effects.

Titirangi Primary School has incorporated these processes in classroom practice for a number of years and we are continuously working to strengthen them. An important part of this is helping children to develop a degree of assessment literacy and the skills to self evaluate and give meaningful feedback to each other. As they do this they are also developing in a meaningful way, the Key Competencies of self management, relating to others, thinking, participating and contributing, which are important parts of the revised National Curriculum

DIARY UPDATES

There are currently no amendments to the school diary. See the Term 1 fridge list for our current dates and event information.

- **Interschool Swimming 2010**
- **Term 2 Cross Country**
- **New Entrant Parent Meeting Info**
- **Y6 Camp**
- **Tackling Nits**
- **Easter Raffle**
- **Parent Tutor Reading Programme**
- **Dances with Weeds**

Newsletter

INTERSCHOOL SWIMMING

Congratulations to our 2010 Senior School swim team on an outstanding performance at the Western Zone Interschool Event last week. The children showed spirit, determination, confidence and skill at the highest level, working with true teamwork to achieve a hard-fought 2nd place overall!

The attitude and sportsmanship of the team was really inspirational to watch, as was the sense of excitement that built to a nail-biting final race.

Our thanks go first and foremost to the kids who worked so hard to make the team a success, and to all those who put themselves forward for the team trials earlier in the term. Thanks also to the parents and family members who were able to come along and show their support, also to Ms Guiver and Toni Keefe who coached the team in preparation for the event. Go Titirangi!

INTERSCHOOL CROSS-COUNTRY

Our School Cross Country and the Interschool Cross Country are next on the sporting calendar in Term 2 for students in Y4-6. All students will participate at their own level in the school event, but we are also interested in hearing from any parents who would be keen to be involved in helping with the training for the interschool team next term. So, if there are any "Iron Men" or "Iron Ladies" out there who may be able to spare some time and expertise in working with our athletes, please contact: alanj@titirangi.school.nz for more information on how you can get involved.

NEW ENTRANT PARENT MEETING

On Thursday 25th March in the staffroom at 9.00 am.

All parents of new entrant children have been sent an invitation but if you are interested please feel welcome to attend. Brigette and I will take you through information about the school but more importantly will give you a good insight into the learning programme for the first two years at school and answer any questions you may have.

YEAR 6 CAMP

In the last week of the term the Year 6 children will be at Camp Adair in Hunua. This is an important part of the Year 6 out door education programme and is always remembered by our senior students as a highlight of their final year at TPS. The camp activities are carefully designed to create opportunities for everyone to challenge and extend themselves. It is always great to see the growth in confidence that comes from this.

Camp Adair Reminders:

As included on the student equipment list, students are required to bring 2 packets of biscuits to camp These are collected in and then redistributed at break times. Please send these in to the class teacher in the week before camp. Please be advised that no other snacks/foods/lollies should be sent to Camp, and are not allowed in cabins!

Please aim to limit packing to a single bag/case. We will be seeking permission use the RSA car park as a drop-off point for you to walk your child down to school if you would prefer

to avoid the chaos of baggage drop-off at the school gate, which can be a major problem!. Students will assemble with their bags outside the office area on the day by 8.30 at the latest (in the event of rain, bags will be collected on the verandah area near the office). We will need to be punctual, as the bus should be fully loaded and ready to leave by 9.30. On the date of our return, you may pick your child up at the normal school time.

NITS!!

We seem to have a real problem with nits at the moment. I'm sure you are aware that everyone needs to get onto this, check their children and treat them otherwise we continue the cycle of treatment and re-infection. This is extremely frustrating let alone expensive for families who do not want their children constantly carrying head lice.

The upcoming holidays provide an ideal opportunity for a KING HIT on HEADLICE.

If every family commits to checks and treatment during the holidays we could start next term nit free at Titirangi Primary School.

It would also be a good idea for all children to bring their hats home and get them washed before they are put away for the winter.

REMINDERS

Children waiting after school

A reminder that all children waiting after 3.15 pm need to wait outside the school office, and in particular, older children are not to go to the playground outside Rooms 23 & 24. This playground is only for our New Entrant Year 1 children.

Could we also ask that parents and family waiting outside classes to pick children up after school are mindful of noise. The end of the day is a busy time with packing up, homework and notices being given out etc. and is difficult for everyone if there are distractions because of activity and noise right outside. Many thanks for your help with this.

EASTER RAFFLE

The student council have organised an Easter Raffle as their first fundraising event of the year. The money raised will be sent to our sponsored child in India, Gangaram. Tickets will be on sale from Tuesday 23 March for the two weeks before the end of term on Thursday the first of April. Tickets will sell for one for \$1.00 or three for \$2.00 and the councillors will set up their sales table outside Room 6 each morning. The prizes will be on display in the office foyer.

PARENT TUTOR READING PROGRAMME

We are still seeking volunteers to assist in our Parent Tutor Reading Programme on Monday, Thursday and Friday. This involves working with four individual children, giving them extra reading practice on one morning a week from 9.00 –10.00. It is very rewarding to tutors and the children grow in confidence in their reading. A helpful DVD is available for guidance. If you are keen to help, or to find out more, please contact Brigette Helwes.

DANCES WITH WEEDS

Thank you to all the families and helpers who came along yesterday to "dance with the weeds" to the dulcet tones of local young Environmental songstress, Bella Berman. Two enormous patches of ginger were cleared. All helpers were rewarded with free sausages, cooked to perfection by our PTA. Our school stock of worm tea was sold out but is always available for sale at the office at \$2.00 per bottle. Thank you also to Don Morrison, who was the chief organiser of this community event. He is, this year, working on a weed eradication and bush restoration project, while he is released from teaching in the classroom, after winning a fellowship to pursue his passions.

THE SPECTACULAR RELAY

The four relay racers stood in quiet anticipation waiting for the race to begin. All that was going through their minds was how they were going to win the race. Suddenly there was a big bang from the clappers and the crowd began to cheer as loud as roaring lions. The race had begun!

The first swimmer was Nick, whose long arms helped him motor along; he sped through the water as fast as a Harley Davidson. Within seconds he reached out and slapped the wall. Next, Anton took off like a bungee jumper diving off the sky tower. He glided through the water like a swift, smooth stingray. Luckily his goggles didn't come off that time.

As soon as Anton hit the wall, Jacob dived off as well as Michael Phelps. He powered through the water with the team shouting, "legs Jacob, legs!" He ended the length with a good lead. Finally it was all up to Cole. He shot through the water like a torpedo being shot out from a submarine. I didn't know Cole could swim so fast! As he finished the race in first place, well ahead of Kaurilands, our team leapt to their feet and cheered wildly. What an outstanding performance from our excellent swim team!

Dylan Bennett, Cole Brann and Nick Hayward



PTA PATCH

Friday Lunches

Our next lunch will be on **Friday 26 March** and it will be Sushi. Please look out for the lunch order forms going home today. For our new families this is a fundraising initiative which we run fortnightly during the term where you don't have to provide lunch for your child. The **deadline** for ordering Sushi will be **9.30am Thursday 25 March. THIS DEADLINE WILL BE STRICTLY ADHERED TO.** The office will remind classes on Thursday morning to bring in orders that may have been forgotten in school bags. We are looking for four helpers to distribute the Sushi on Friday between 10.30 and 12.30. If you can help contact Katie Hutchinson on angieshania@gmail.com. Thank you.

School Bus concession ticket

You can buy a ticket from the bus driver for \$7 and then pay \$9 for 10 rides. So, to start the ticket costs \$16 and then \$9 thereafter for bus ride top ups.

Entertainment Books

Look out for the Entertainment Books which will be coming soon. These are great value and are a good fundraiser for our school. The books will be sent home with your eldest child so that you can look through them before deciding to buy. Not all schools get this opportunity so this is good for us. Please take a moment to look through.



Kelly Sports
SOUTH WAITAKERE

We are kicking off term two with a bang. Kelly Sports is introducing more games and sports.

Athletics
Hockey
Touch rugby
Soccer

We have also arranged to have a NEW ZEALAND Black stick played to take our hockey segment. This is a wonderful opportunity for children to significantly improve their fundamental skills of:

striking
running
passing
leaping
kicking

Enroll by the 22/04/2010 to take advantage of our discounted early bird rate.

(Program available for year 1-4 only)

For an enrolment form please contact Shaun Barnett on:

Cell 0212025444

Email shaun@kellysports.co.nz



SPORTS NOTICES

Titirangi School Flippaball Results

Year 5/6 Kingis 21st March

Fast exciting 1st game v Glen Eden resulting in a loss 5-0. Titirangi dominated the first half but strong defence from Glen Eden thwarted their goal scoring.

The Kingis second game was a friendly against Oratia 4- 8 Goals scored by Anton 3, and Jordan 1. Great passing, strong defence. Thanks to Mathew for playing both games. It was great for the team to have strong competition to keep the Kingis from scoring more goals.

Year 5/6 Sharks 14h March

The Sharks played a tough game against Woodlands resulting in a loss. Good to see some good passing and defence.

21st March

The Sharks played a closely fought battle against Summerland. We saw confidence grow in the game and saw some excellent passing.

Year 3/4 Barracudas 14th March

Barracudas 12 Woodlands Park B 0

Goals scored Josh P 6, Samuel 3 and Callum 3. Fantastic team work.

21st March

Barracudas 6 Marlins 4

Close and exciting game between the two Titirangi school teams.

Goals scored Josh P 2, Callum 2, Samuel 1 and Isabelle B 1.

Year 3/4 Marlins 14th Mar

An exciting game from the Marlins this week with their first win 5-3 against Edmonton. Good defence and passing as well as some great goal scoring by James, Jordy and Josh.

21st March

With one player less on the team, the Marlins played an intense game against their fellow Titirangi team, in the end losing to the Barracudas 6 – 4. Some brilliant defense in the goal.

NETBALL

We still have a few places available for any Year3 or Year 4 players who wish to play Saturday netball this year. Please contact Jan Rundle at titiranginetball@gmail.com or phone 817 5699 if you are interested.

Community Notices

"FOR BRIGHT CHILDREN WHO AREN'T LEARNING"

For individual tuition specializing in Dyslexia, spelling, reading and comprehension from children through to adults. Phone Zannie Danks Davis on 818-8167.

Fly into the **Titirangi library** these April school holidays to listen to stories about fierce and fiery dragons. Get ready to go on a dragon hunt and enter our fun competitions.

Storytimes will take place on Wednesday 7th and Wednesday 14th of April at 10.30am. Stories are suitable for children of 4 to 8 years.

Have fun at Snowplanet these April School holidays!

Snowplanet, offering a winter wonderland experience just 20 minutes north of the Bridge, is a wonderful school holiday destination. The very popular kid's school holiday programmes comes with a 2 hour ski or snowboard group lesson (beginners to advanced) each day, rental equipment, a graduation meal on the last day, a snow academy achievement booklet and a huge amount of fun!

For enquiries or bookings contact Snowplanet on 09 427 0044 extension 725 or email groups@snowplanet.co.nz. Visit Snowplanet's website www.snowplanet.co.nz

Continued

Community Notices Continued...

Don't miss the excitement of our school holiday activities. We provide a stimulating, fun and safe programme for children 5 to 14 years. Activities and outings include: robotics with LEGO, a Tip-Top factory visit, a Tiritiri Island wildlife tour, pizza-making and much more. Weekdays from 6-16 April. **Only weeks to go – book early.** Call Parnell Trust 379 2095 x9724, email ptc@parnell.org.nz or visit www.parnell.org.nz

Music Lessons at Titirangi Violin Studio with Brigid Ursula Bisley – B.Mus, LTCL

I am an experienced professional musician teaching violin and piano. My goal is to inspire in young children a love of music and enjoyment of music making with others, and build solid technique and fundamental musical skills including singing, musical memory development and rhythm. I also teach music theory and composition. I have vacancies for all ages: preschoolers to adults. For enquiries, please contact me on 8172930/email: brigidbisley@hotmail.com

CHILDRENS ART CLASSES

The Corban Estate Arts Centre in Henderson offers art classes to children from 5 – 14 years that are both educational and fun.

CHILDREN'S EASTER HOLIDAY PROGRAMME -. Choose from; drawing cartoons, painting and mixed media, pinhole cameras, t-shirt making, screen printing and pottery.

CHILDREN'S TERM 2 ART CLASSES - After-school classes and Weekend classes. Choose from: portraits, painting, mixed media, sculpture and pottery.

For further information on classes and for bookings www.ceac.org.nz or ph 8384455

Kids for Drama. Separate classes for ages 5 – 19. Practical, fun classes that build confidence. First week obligation free, parents welcome. Check out 222.kids4drama.co.nz or e-mail: admin@kids4drama.co.nz or phone: 6272274.

Brainwave. A talk on Baby & Early Childhood Brain Development hosted by Titirangi Plunket. Thursday 25 March at Titirangi Presbyterian Church, 234 Atkinson Road from 7.00 – 9.00 pm. This is a FREE community event. The speaker is Norma Hayward. Please contact her to register a place on 813 3030 or richnorm@slingshot.co.nz.

Titirangi Community House School Holiday Programme. Starting on 06 April – 16 April. A great programme is offered. Visit www.titirangihouse.co.nz or phone Debbie or Bernie on 8177448 for more information.

Healthy Family Meals Made Easy' Cookbook

Get 100 healthy, family recipes and support our school. Buy a copy of the cookbook **before 9th April** for only \$24.90 and the team at Healthy Food Guide will donate \$5.00 to our school. To order: Go online to www.healthyfood.co.nz; or phone Debbie on 0800 360 0582; or post a cheque for \$24.90 to Healthy Food Guide, Freepost 193051, P O Box 4177, Ponsonby, Auckland 1144. Remember to include your postal address and school name for the donation.

School Productions / Talent Quests / Performances : Remember to call on us next time you are planning a production or a performance such as a talent quest. We can run the entire project for you on a commission basis or simply come in and polish up your performance before showing it to the public. We tailor make packages to suit your needs and budgets. To contact us call 6272274 or email our Principal, Stephen Dallow at stephen@kids4drama.co.nz



Classes held at: New Lynn Community Centre
Thursday 6pm – 7pm
For more information contact Zel.
Ph 813 3726 text 0274 522 183
Email zelly@orcon.net.nz

TITIRANGI FESTIVAL OF MUSIC



Make sure to diary Titirangi Festival of Music Thursday March 25th to Sunday March 28th. With Concerts, street performance and workshops. It will again feature 'Village night' Friday 26th, which includes a free music stage with African drummers, a brass band and more, plus stilt walkers and fire performers! the night will have 4 stages operating around the village, there will something for everyone.

Come and support this established community event.

Full programme visit www.titirangifestival.com, Visit Lopdell House booking office or phone 9506359

SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS for Tall Poppies, Bright Sparks, High Flyers, Rising Stars, Creative Thinkers, Odd Bods...and all Gifted and Talented students 8-15 years old. Wednesday 7th to Friday 9th April at Selwyn College, Kohimarama, Auckland. Topics include: Super Sleuths, Medieval Mayhem, Maths Wizardry, Art Lab, Design, Philosophy, Toybox Technology, Beginning Classics, Cartoon Idols, Strategy Games, Advanced Word Skills, Brush Up Your Shakespeare, Predict Catastrophe, Human Calculators...and more besides! Full details are at www.holidayseminars.co.nz/next_seminar, email info@holidayseminars.co.nz, tel 09 585 0111 & 021 389448. Organised by Jean Hendy-Harris for Holiday Seminars Charitable Trust.

The holiday's are almost here and Kidactive has pulled together the coolest holiday programmes around. Try something new and get active with Kidactive's adrenaline packed range of sports camps, Dance, Horse Riding courses, funky art projects and awesome hobbies. Check out our bright yellow booklets for course information will be finding their way to your classrooms this week or go straight to the source and book, www.kidactive.co.nz. Kidactive; a world of fun activities.

April School Holidays: BIG! How big is 'BIG'? We all know space is big, but what exactly does THAT mean?

Come along to Stardome this April to find out what we mean by the word 'BIG' when we talk about space! Come and see Big, our planetarium show that takes a quirky and imaginative look at the size and scale of our universe. With a light-hearted storytelling style, clay-animated characters and a surrounding musical score, this show brings a really big subject down to Earth. Book your place early by calling 624 1246, or contact us should you have any questions. **Two sessions daily!** 10.00am to 11.30am 1.00pm to 2.30pm

Dates: April 6th to 9th April 12th to 16th **Price:** \$10/child \$7/adult