



Titirangi Primary School

www.titirangi.school.nz

Kia Kōwhiri

NEWSLETTER

4 May 2009



What's Happening

Tuesday, May 5

9.15-10.15. Room 21 to Library Lites .
3.00-8.30 pm. Parent Teacher Interviews.

Wednesday 06 May

Young Leaders Day
1.40 - 2.40. Room 9 to Library Lites.

Thursday 07 May

11.00 - 12.00. Room 17 to Library Lites.
3.00 - 6.30 pm. Parent Teacher Interviews.

Friday 08 May

9.00 - 10.30. Syndicate 2 at Graham Dodd workshop.
9.15 - 10.15. Room 15 to Library Lites.
11.00 - 12.30. Syndicate 1 at Graham Dodd workshop.

Monday 11 May

1.40 - 2.40. Room 10 to Library Lites

Tuesday 12 May

9.00 - 10.30. New Parents Information Session.
9.15 - 10.15. Room 21 to Library Lites.
Rooms 18/19 to Lopdell House.
7.00 - 8.30 pm. New Parent Information Session.

7.00 pm. PTA meeting in the Staffroom.

Wednesday 13 May

9.00 - 12.30. Kool Kids Values Show.

Thursday 14 May

Syndicate 3 on Volcano trip to Auckland Museum.

9.15 - 10.15. Room 12 to Library Lites
11.00 - 12.00. Room 10 to Library Lites.

Friday 15 May

9.15 - 10.15. Room 11 to Library Lites.
10.00 - 12.45. School Cross Country Y4-6.

**TEACHER ONLY DAY ON
MONDAY MAY 18**
School closed for instruction

● NEWSLETTER 04 MAY 2009

Humour is by far the most significant behaviour of the human brain ... it shows how perceptions set up in one way can suddenly be reconfigured in another way. This is the essence of creativity.. Edward de Bono – 1933 ...

Welcome back everyone to the new term and also to our first digital newsletter. As you can see this format offers us a lot more flexibility than the traditional paper one. We have an email contact for well over 90% of families but if you want to add another address e.g. a work address or a grandparent who may be interested in what's happening at school just email sandiego@titirangi.school.nz

The hot topic 'out there' is of course swine flu. The authorities are doing a great job in keeping everyone informed as well as putting out good advice as to what to do if you become sick or suspect you have been exposed to a flu virus. School is an ideal environment for the transmission of winter bugs so we are taking this issue seriously and taking appropriate steps. These are also timely as irrespective of the current situation we are moving into the winter cold and flu period.

- All teachers are reminding the children about the importance of hand washing, 'sneeze etiquette' and nose blowing – tissues are provided with a separate bag in the classroom for disposal
- We are putting sanitising hand soap into the toilet areas alongside our regular liquid soap
- We have placed a link to information for parents from the Ministry of Health on our website
- While we are nowhere near needing it at this point the school has a pandemic action plan which aligns with stages of the national pandemic plan
- We are also taking steps to protect the staff from possible infection.
- Our cleaning contractors use a sanitising cleaner on toilet cisterns, taps benches and door handles as part of the daily cleaning of the school
- I have arranged with the cleaning contractors to provide extra cleaning services e.g. complete surface sanitising of desks and tables etc. should this be recommended by health authorities

How can you help?

- The most important thing is to keep your child at home if they are sick and to keep them there until they are fully recovered. This also applies to tummy bugs which can be incredibly infectious.
- Notify the school if you think you or any of your family has been exposed to influenza (as well as any other notifiable illness such as measles, mumps, rheumatic fever)
- Ensure we have current contact details including emergency contacts – phone the office or email sandiego@titirangi.school.nz or allisona@titirangi.school.nz if you want to check. In the near future a paper form will also be sent home with all children for you to update details. The ability to communicate quickly and efficiently with all families is a vital part of the school's pandemic plan.
- Keep yourselves well informed about preventative measures and what to do if there is illness in the family. Check the 'Preparing your household for flu pandemic' link on the Ministry of Health's information.

The Parent Donation and Ways To Pay



Q: What can you get for the price of one and a third of these every week?

A: A quality education for your child...

If you have already paid or made arrangements to pay this year, then we'd like to give you a sincere thank you for your contribution.

We are committed to providing a rich and varied curriculum for our children. In order to achieve this, we depend upon the support of our parents in the form of the parent donation. We believe this represents an essential investment in the future of the children that we teach.

Without this 'top up' to our operational income we would make a substantial operating deficit unless there were adjustments to expenditure. The areas where cost cutting would inevitably occur are in teaching resources such as:

- library books
- readers
- maths equipment
- information technology
- other areas such as sports, sports equipment and playgrounds.

Family donations are essential to avoid cutting back on these things that enrich the curriculum and directly benefit the children.

Did you know?

YOU CAN CLAIM BACK ONE THIRD OF YOUR PARENT DONATION AS A TAX REBATE
You can include this in your tax return, or simply download the IRD rebate form (a copy of this is available from the IRD and can also be downloaded from our school website.)

Payment Options:

1 child: \$195 2 children: \$295 3 children: \$395
\$80 per additional child (above 3)

The School Office accepts cash, Eftpos, Mastercard, Visa and cheques (made payable to Titirangi Primary School). Please mark any payments with your eldest child's initial, surname and room number. Automatic Payments / Internet Banking: If you would prefer the convenience of internet banking or scheduling a series of payments via automatic payment, school account details are given below. It is important that you include the word "donation", together with your eldest child's initial and surname, as shown below.

Titirangi Primary School (ASB, Titirangi) Bank Account Number:

12-3100-0084161-00

Ref: Donation A Student.

Please mark any payments with your eldest child's initial, surname and room number.

• OTHER NEWS

TEACHER ONLY DAY

A reminder that school will be closed for instruction on Monday, May 18. Teachers will be joining staff from four other schools for a day of professional development.

OUR SCHOOL HALL

This week we received a report from consultants contracted by the Ministry of Education. They have identified a number of problems mostly associated with the roof and guttering which has resulted in on going water damage to framing and joinery. The recommendations add up to a major remodelling of the hall which will keep it out of action for the foreseeable future. The Board of Trustees property subcommittee will be meeting with our architects this week to review options to use this situation as a major opportunity to upgrade our hall.

TERM 1 REPORTS AND PARENT –TEACHER CONFERENCES

These reports were introduced last year and were generally favourably received. As a result of some of the feedback we have added a general comment to this year's report. They are intended to provide parents with a snapshot of achievement using standardised tests as well as providing a focus for the parent teacher conference.

The data will also be used by teachers as an early point for planning and to track student progress.

I acknowledge that the time for the conferences is short so if there is something requiring more time to discuss; you could arrange a further meeting with the teacher.

Term 2 Syndicate newsletters are on the way to you. These will provide you details of class programmes and any trips or visits planned for this term.

• ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

Thank you to everyone who has returned either payments or books back to school. We now have just under 40 books to account for. Please can you return your outstanding books or payments as soon as possible so that we can finalise the account. Don't forget that you can share tickets if you want to "go halves" Thank you for your support.

• PHOTOLIFE STUDIOS

We have some class photos that are still outstanding. Please can you return these to the school office, along with the portrait photos as soon as possible. Thank you.

• SENIOR SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

Our students are currently in training for our cross country event, which is scheduled for Friday, May 15 at Crum Park (Rain Date is 19 May). Our selections for the Interschool Event (Friday, 29 May) will be based on the results. We hope that you are able to come along!

• ADVANCED CHESS GROUP THIS TERM

Our 20 highest-scoring students from the 2008 chess lessons have now been selected for the Advanced Chess group, again run by Viv Smith. As in previous years, we also plan to run an intermediate level for less experienced players in Term 3 (although Viv will in fact be retiring this term, and so we are currently trying to arrange a new chess coach of a similarly high calibre!)

Capable chess players who have not yet been in any of the classes but would like to try out will also be given an opportunity to take part in lunchtime trials next term. Details for these classes will be published as soon as arrangements have been finalised.

• ANZAC DAY 2009

Many thanks to our Choirmaster, Jonathan Lambert, and the students of our School Choir, who represented TPS at the recent Titirangi Anzac Day Memorial Service with singing that we can all be proud of!

• INFORMATION SKILLS AND ICAS AUSTRALASIAN TEST

Our assessment procedures are reviewed each year to ensure that we are able to identify the learning needs of our students. This year, we have begun streamlining our formal assessments. This is in order to limit both their number and frequency to those tests that we feel give us the best information. As a consequence, we will not be running either the Information Skills or optional ICAS Australasian tests that have taken place in previous years. This will enable us to focus our assessment analyses on those that we feel are essential. This currently includes Reading/Vocabulary/Maths/Listening PATs, PROBE Reading, GLOSS Maths, PRETOS Spelling and ASTTLE Writing, which already offer us all the formative and summative assessment data needed in order to inform teachers, parents and students about the next steps in their learning.

• RAINBOW'S END TICKET SALES

Wondering what to do on the Teacher Only Day on May 18th? The PTA are selling tickets to Rainbow's End for that day only at \$28 each, a discount of \$6 off the normal price. Order forms are available in the office and on the PTA website, and are due in by Tuesday, 12 May.

After you have submitted your order and payment, you will receive a receipt to confirm that your name will be on a list at the ticket booth at Rainbow's End, which will allow you admission. Hope to see you there!

Sports Notices

• Titirangi School Netball Results for Saturday 2 May 09

Year 6 Titirangi Kereru v Henderson South:

The Kereru played a great game against Henderson Sth unfortunately going down by 17-13. All the girls played extremely hard and worked well together as a team. Player of the Day went to Sammie R for her fabulous positional play and determination.

Year 6 Titirangi Keas v Flanshaw Firebirds:

The Kea girls (and supporters) braved the cold and the rain and played an awesome game! There was excellent defence and although the score was 12-2 to the Firebirds, the Keas can hold their heads high and pat themselves on the back! Player of the day was Emma J-P for her defence work in the circle and for turning the ball around so many times. Well done girls!

Year 5 Titirangi Kakapos v Whenuapai Red:

20-0 to the Kakapos! A fantastic result and start to the season. Outstanding team play in the rain! Player of the day was Alison S. Congratulations Kakapos!

Year 5 Titirangi Moas:

The Titirangi Moas fought bravely against very stiff opposition. Our player of the day was Caitlin T. who scored the first goal of our season. Great effort girls!

Year 4 Titirangi Takahes v Fruitvale Red

We won by default against Fruitvale, but were able to have a "friendly" game where we won 3 -nil. All our players demonstrated some fantastic passing skills and excellent work at being in the right places to catch the ball. Leyna scored one goal and player of the day was Seraphina who scored the other two goals. Many thanks to the parents and supporters for coming out on such a cold and wet morning!

Year 4 Titirangi Fantails v Kaurilands Lightning:

The Fantails played well to win their first game 10-0! Imogen H. was our player of the day with some great goals scored. Keep up the good work Fantails!

Year 3 Titirangi Tuis:

A great first game of the season! All of the girls played a great game. Georgia Al. was player of the day with some awesome defence work and great intercepts. Both goals scored by Ruby Bell. Well done the Tui girls!

Year 3 Titirangi Pukekos v Flanshaw Oracles:

A tough start to the season for the Pukekos going down to the Oracles, but the team played extremely well and fought hard! Good going girls!

Year 3 Titirangi Kiwis v Green Bay:

A draw for our first game 1-1. All the girls played well with Abby scoring our goal and our player of the day was Ella. Great play Kiwis!

Year 2 Titirangi Honey Bee's v Holy Cross Violets:

This week's game was a 1-1 draw. For their first time on the courts ever, the team played extremely well and they all remembered their positions. Player of the day was Meaghan for passing the ball so well! Well done Honey Bee's!

Community Notices

David Wray's Drama Classes have vacancies for children in this term's classes. Held at Titirangi Community House. After school on Mondays or Thursdays. From 3.30pm to 5.00pm.

Ages from 7 to 11.

Children gain confidence, enjoy creative games and perform.

The term's emphasis is on video and film acting.

Making KTV (kid's time television) programmes.

For details and bookings phone DAVID WRAY on 818-3347.

"YOUR CHILD CAN LEARN PIANO/KEYBOARD OR GUITAR AT SCHOOL – Our students have the opportunity to benefit from specialist instrumental instruction in one to one lessons here at school. For more information please contact the Music Education Centre on 0800 89 39 39."

KUNG FU & TAI-CHI

Professional martial arts instruction. Confidence class for 5 yrs and above. Located in Lynfield, Blockhouse Bay, New Lynn, Te Atatu and Titirangi. Contact via Ph: 817 2229 or www.kungfu.org.nz

STARDOME OBSERVATORY

Dome Theatre brochures are available from the school office detailing all the shows and activities available. Term activities, weekend shows and school holiday programmes. See www.stardome.org.nz

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