

# Thorndon School Newsletter

1/2008

[www.thorndon.school.nz](http://www.thorndon.school.nz)  
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14 February 2008  
[principal@thorndon.school.nz](mailto:principal@thorndon.school.nz)

*Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end.*

Seneca

## Action List

- |   |                          |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Have you sent in your email address for the newsletter? | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do you know your child's swimming day?      | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Are you coming to the school picnic?                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Does your child have an appropriate sunhat? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have you paid your activity fee?                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Have you paid your school donation?         | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> |   | <input type="checkbox"/> |

## Dear Parents

Kia ora, Talofa lava, Kia orana, Namaste, Hola, Magandang hapon po, Annyong, Fakaalofa atu ki a mutolu oti.

Welcome to the new school year! Much of what is in this newsletter is almost exactly the same as what was in the first newsletter of 2007 as we try to make sure that everyone is up to date with everything they need to know at this time of the year.

We are now a week into the new term and it has been a very smooth start. The children have come back to school thoroughly refreshed and seemingly ready to get stuck into everything that has been planned.

This will be a busy term, with a number of Festival activities, a school camp, assessment tasks and the interruption of an early Easter and it will not be long before everyone is gasping for breath. We will shortly begin a comprehensive round of assessment using a range of testing resources which will give us some very good current information about where children are at and informing planning for classes, year groups and individuals.

I know that this is only the first newsletter of the year but I am going to start by mentioning the school donation, activity fee and other payments we have asked for. This money, particularly the donation, is an extremely important part of the school's operations and helps to fund some of our core activities as well as making sure we are able to offer some extra programmes. Last year was, for Thorndon, a very good year in terms of the percentage of parents who paid so I hope that a few early reminders will put us on track for a similar result this year.

Bill Sutton

## School Picnic

We are beginning the year, as we usually do, with a picnic day involving the whole school. This year we are going to **Khandallah Park** on **Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup> of February**.

We will travel by train, leaving **Wellington Station at 9:30am**, returning from **Khandallah Station at 2:05** getting everyone back to school by 3:00pm.

**Please make sure that children are at school on time.**

Your children will need to bring the following:

- Sunhats (either a brimmed hat or Legionnaires hat) – no hat, no picnic
- Morning tea and lunch
- A large bottle of water (please, no fizzy drinks)
- Togs and Towel – named please.
- Good walking shoes and appropriate clothing.

**No-one will need any money.**

You are most welcome to join us at the Park for the day or for lunch. If you would like to travel on the train with us please talk to your child's classroom teacher as there will be limited spaces available and we will need to provide accurate numbers.

## THORNDON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

### **New Children**

We have enrolled 23 new pupils this year, and, with the enrolment forms we already hold, we are effectively full though the senior school still has room for more pupils should any arrive.

We would like to welcome these new children and their families to the Thorndon School community.

They are:

Skye Solomon	Y1	R8 – Harakeke
Liardet Anderson	Y1	R8 – Harakeke
Mia Freeman	Y1	R8 – Harakeke
Fynn Robinson	Y1	R8 – Harakeke
Maya Jackson	Y1	R8 – Harakeke
Sebastian MacAulay	Y1	R8 – Harakeke
Jamie Lockwood	Y1	R8 – Harakeke
Duke Smith	Y2	R10 – Tawhai
Chloe Ioane	Y2	R10 – Tawhai
Isabella Falconer	Y2	R10 – Tawhai
Brandon Suh	Y2	R10 - Tawhai
Hannah Hall	Y3	R3 – Karaka
Dallas Ioane	Y3	R4 – Taupata
Kobe Taatiti	Y3	R4 - Taupata
Daniel Alexander	Y5	R1 – Kowhai
Matthew Valler	Y5	R1 – Kowhai
Olivia Yeo	Y5	R2 - Rimu
Taylor Mauriohooho	Y6	R2 – Rimu
Jacob Alexander	Y6	R2 – Rimu
Jonathan Rogers	Y7	R5 – Koromiko
Aimee Rudkin	Y7	R6 – Manuka
Andrew Seula	Y7	R7 – Rata
Kristine Lim	Y7	R7 - Rata

We look forward to everything that these new enrolments and their families will bring to the school.

### **Open Day**

Saturday 23 February 2008 – 10am to 4pm.

Royal New Zealand Police College.

Police dogs	Bryan & Bobby (TV3)
Armed Offenders Squad	Forensic Science Techniques
Electronic Crime Investigation	Police Museum
Police Pipe Band	Vintage bikes and cars
ICT	Police Dive Squad

### **New Staff**

We have two new staff members to welcome this year.

**Jane Stocker** has joined us as a teacher in the senior school, taking a Year 7/8 class in Room 6, taking the place of Melanie Stinka. Jane, like Jay Smith at the start of last year, has returned to New Zealand after several years teaching in the UK and we look forward to working with her.

**Sue Holman** will be working in Room 10 this term releasing Krista Huber for Reading Recovery while Madeleine Sefton is away on maternity leave.

We are in the process of appointing a teacher aide to replace Penny Baggott who has had to return to the UK and I hope to have this finalised by tomorrow. Other than that, the staff is very much as it was last year.

### **Parent Help**

Like all schools we are reliant on parent assistance for a number of activities, especially extra-curricular and out of school hours activities.

This year we would like to be able to get parent assistance with the following activities.

Cricket – Milo Cup competition. We would like to be able to get a coach/manager for a team to participate in this competition.

Waterpolo – this is a competition that takes place in Terms 1 and 4, usually on a Monday evening at Kilbirnie Pool. We would like someone to act as a coach/manager for a group to participate in this competition.

Rugby – there are a number of rugby competitions through the year, ranging from Rippa Rugby involving children from Year 3 up to tackle rugby competitions for older children. There is also a touch competition after school, and again, we are looking for coach/managers.

Netball – during the middle terms we enter a number of teams in a Saturday morning competition and we always need parents able to coach, manage and help with umpiring. Coaching and umpiring courses are available.

If you think you might be able to help with one of these please contact Theresa Bowen at school or on her email – [theresa@thorndon.school.nz](mailto:theresa@thorndon.school.nz)

**Meet the Teacher**

As you will see in the calendar, we have our Meet the Teacher evening quite early this term. The evening will take the same form as it has for the past few years, with a meeting in the hall at 7:00 at which we will introduce the whole staff and talk briefly about priorities and plans for the year, followed by meetings in each of the classrooms so the teachers can talk a little about their plans and programmes.

I need to stress that this is simply an introductory meeting and teachers will not be discussing individual children. At this stage of the year they are still gathering information and the children have not been here long enough for there to be any meaningful basis for discussion on progress and achievement. The opportunity for this will come later in the year. You can of course contact teachers at other times if you have particular concerns you wish to discuss.

**Sun Hats**

The school has a policy of insisting that children wear hats when they are outside between 10:00am and 3:00pm, and the response this year has been very good.

We require children to wear a hat with a brim –not simply a cap. Children who do not have suitable hats will not be able to take part in PE/sports activities or leave the school with their class when there is a trip, and we will be enforcing this strictly.

Please make sure that your child has a suitable hat at school, preferably one that they can leave in their tote tray. It would also be very helpful if they were named.

**Healthy Eating**

Part of our responsibility is to promote healthy eating and we have made efforts to encourage this over the past few years.

This year we are trying to take this a little further, banning soft drinks and junk food in the school. A number of children, particularly seniors, have been calling in to the supermarket on their way to school and buying soft drinks, chippies and hot chips which they are eating before class. We do not plan to allow this any longer and have told the children this already. Their response has been prompt and positive.

Your support will help reinforce the message.

**Term 1 Calendar**

Feb 20	School Picnic
Feb 20	Meet the Teacher evening.
Feb 21	Camp Meeting
Feb 25	Group to Festival performance
Feb 26	BoT Meeting
Feb 29	Year 5-8 to Festival performance.
Mar 3	Senior School on camp.
Mar 4	Year 5/6 – Ripa Rugby Tournament
Mar 6	Year 1-4 to Festival performance.
Mar 19	School swimming sports
Mar 21	Good Friday – school closed
Mar 24	Easter Monday – school closed
Mar 25	Easter Tuesday – school closed
Apr 8	Years 4-6 Soccer Tournament
Apr 15	Young Leaders' Day
Apr 15	BoT Meeting
Apr 18	Term ends – 3:00pm
May 5	Term 2 begins

The term is already reasonably full and there will be more activities added as we move along. In addition to what is on this calendar, senior school pupils attend tech classes at Mt Cook School every Friday morning and go to the Central Library every fortnight.

**Lost Property**

Every year we end up with a colossal amount of lost property, and because almost none of it is named, most of it ends up going to organisations like The Salvation Army.

Some of the items are quite expensive and it seems a terrible waste but without names it is impossible to make sure that items get back to their owner. Children often either do not recognise things when classes are taken to have a look at lost property or are too embarrassed to collect it. If everything is named we would be able to return most of this lost property.

Just writing your child's name on the label with a vivid marker is effective and would make it possible for us to reduce the number of bags of unclaimed clothing we have to get rid of every year.

We would be extremely grateful for your co-operation with this.

## THORNDON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

### **Staff List**

The full staff list for 2007 is:

Bill Sutton	Principal		<a href="mailto:principal@thorndon.school.nz">principal@thorndon.school.nz</a>
Alistair du Chatenier	Deputy Principal	Room 3 – Karaka	<a href="mailto:alistair@thorndon.school.nz">alistair@thorndon.school.nz</a>
Diana Evans	Assistant Principal	Room 1 – Kowhai	<a href="mailto:diana@thorndon.school.nz">diana@thorndon.school.nz</a>
Rebecca Brown	Senior Teacher	Room 7 - Rata	<a href="mailto:rebecca@thorndon.school.nz">rebecca@thorndon.school.nz</a>
Beth Huntington	Senior Teacher	Room 8 – Harakeke	<a href="mailto:beth@thorndon.school.nz">beth@thorndon.school.nz</a>
Theresa Bowen	Teacher	Room 2 - Tarata	<a href="mailto:natasha@thorndon.school.nz">natasha@thorndon.school.nz</a>
Adele Connor-Wills	Teacher	Room 4 - Taupata	<a href="mailto:theresa@thorndon.school.nz">theresa@thorndon.school.nz</a>
Jay Smith	Teacher	Room 5 – Koromiko	<a href="mailto:adele@thorndon.school.nz">adele@thorndon.school.nz</a>
Jane Stocker	Teacher	Room 6 – Manuka	<a href="mailto:jay@thorndon.school.nz">jay@thorndon.school.nz</a>
Zeeta Andrew	Teacher	Room 9 - Rimu	<a href="mailto:jane@thorndon.school.nz">jane@thorndon.school.nz</a>
Krista Huber	Teacher	Room 10 - Tawhai	<a href="mailto:zeeta@thorndon.school.nz">zeeta@thorndon.school.nz</a>
	Reading Recovery		<a href="mailto:krista@thorndon.school.nz">krista@thorndon.school.nz</a>
Christine Scott	Kimi Ora Liaison Teacher		
Sue Holman	Part time teacher	Room 10 - Tawhai	<a href="mailto:madeleine@thorndon.school.nz">madeleine@thorndon.school.nz</a>
Andrew Pennell	Part time teacher		<a href="mailto:andrew@thorndon.school.nz">andrew@thorndon.school.nz</a>
Natasha Jackson	Part time teacher		
Leris Everitt	Resource Teacher: Literacy		<a href="mailto:leris@thorndon.school.nz">leris@thorndon.school.nz</a>
Hela Isaac	Office Manager		<a href="mailto:office@thorndon.school.nz">office@thorndon.school.nz</a>
Nadine Humphrys	Accounts Manager		<a href="mailto:accounts@thorndon.school.nz">accounts@thorndon.school.nz</a>
Jenny Kaye Potaka	Library Assistant		<a href="mailto:library@thorndon.school.nz">library@thorndon.school.nz</a>
Susie Harcourt	Teacher Aide		
	Teacher Aide		
John Dinnison	Caretaker/groundsman (part-time)		
Alice Bell	ASC Senior Supervisor		<a href="mailto:asc@thorndon.school.nz">asc@thorndon.school.nz</a>
Jude Hancock	ASC Senior Supervisor		

The school is organised into three teams, the junior school, the middle school and the senior school.

Rooms 3,4,8, 9 and 10 make up the junior school led by Alistair du Chatenier.

Rooms 1 and 2 make up the middle school led by Diana Evans.

The senior school is comprised of Rooms 5, 6 and 7, led by Rebecca Brown.

### **Fundraising**

A little advance notice. We will be selling Entertainment Books this year and once again we need your assistance.

The school gets 20% of the sale price for each book and the school has become one of the more successful sellers in Wellington.

Now would be a good time to get commitments from friends, family and work colleagues.

We are aiming to sell one book for each child in the school, a total of about 240 books.

### **Email Newsletter**

This newsletter is going home with each child today but from next week we will again begin sending a link to the website to those people who wish to get their newsletter this way.

We will rebuild the email list so please make sure you return your email address to us before next Thursday.

The more people who take this option the easier it is for us to get the newsletter out to you.

**Arrival Times**

We need to remind everyone that the school is open for pupils from 8:00 in the morning.

Please do not send them earlier than this. We have already had a number of children here at or even before 7:30am. At this time of the morning there are very few staff here, rooms are not open and there is no sort of supervision available.

It is also important that everyone realises that children who are not attending After School Care or who are not involved in organised after school activities such as sports practice, should be collected or should leave school by 3:30pm.

**Absences**

If your child is going to be away from school can you please make sure that you phone in before 9:30am to let us know.

Registers are marked between 9:00 and 9:30 and a list of absences is sent to the office. If there are any unexplained absences office staff will call parents to find out if the absence is genuine.

You can avoid these phone calls by making sure we know about the absences.

**Swimming**

Swimming is an integral part of our PE programme and each class is timetabled for one visit to the pool each week. We would love to go more often but the times available don't allow this.

All children are expected to take part in the swimming programme unless there is a medical reason for them not swimming. Please make sure that they bring their togs on the days their class goes to the pool.

The days for each class are below. Please make sure that your children have their swimming gear with them on these days no matter what the weather.

Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
Waterpolo	Room 5	Room 1		
	Room 8	Room 2	Room 9	Room 4
		Lunch		
Room 6		Room 10	Room 3	Room 7

**School Lunches**

There will be some changes to the availability of lunches this year.

As from next week Subway can be ordered on Mondays just as they were last year. On Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays children will be able to, order lunches from Wholly Bagels.

The system will be the same as it is for Subway with children filling out a form and putting it into an envelope provided by Wholly Bagels. **No change will be given.** These envelopes are to be put in the box on the counter **before 9:00am.**

Menus will be available next week and will be on display in the office.

There are 6 options available from Wholly Bagels.

<b>Mega Moo</b> A wholemeal sandwich with roast beef, fresh lettuce, tomato and mayonnaise. Plus fresh seasonal fruit.	<b>\$3:00</b>
<b>Mini Muncher</b> Mini bagel with bacon, cheese, tomato and mayonnaise. Plus yoghurt.	<b>\$3:50</b>
<b>Big Bite Baguette</b> A sesame baguette with lettuce, tomato, alfalfa and hummus. Plus a yoghurt or a Mother Earth muesli slice.	<b>\$4:00</b>
<b>Wonder Wrap</b> A wrap with ham, lettuce, tomato and sundried tomato cream cheese. Plus a yoghurt or a Mother Earth muesli slice.	<b>\$4:50</b>
<b>Power Pita</b> Pita bread filled with chicken salad, lettuce, cheese and mayonnaise. Plus a muesli slice.	<b>\$5:00</b>
<b>Wholly Awesome</b> A Wholly Bagels bagel with butter. Plus yoghurt.	<b>\$3:00</b>

Staff have tried these lunches and we were really impressed.

Children will not be permitted to go out of the school grounds to buy lunches.

**Library Timetable**

Classes visit the school library on the following days.

Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri
Room 7	Room 6	Room 8	Room 4	Room 3
Room 5				Room 2
Room 1				Room 10
Room 9				

### **Sports Squad**

Last year was the first for our sports squad and it proved very successful. The squad is for selected Year 7/8 children who take part in a range of sports related and leadership activities. These children have to demonstrate commitment and consistency throughout the year if they are to stay in the group, and this commitment and consistency will have to apply to all areas of school life.

The group is limited to about 12 children and they are selected on the basis of nominations from other children, parents, teachers and their own applications.

We are looking at squad membership at the moment and parents are invited to nominate any children they feel would benefit from the group.

Each year is a new start, so those children who were in last year's group are not assured of being selected in this year's group but must apply again.

Nominations can be emailed to class teachers or to [natasha@thorndon.school.nz](mailto:natasha@thorndon.school.nz) or directly to my email address.

### **MogMusic**

Private tuition available for this term.

Piano beginners	5-8 years
Recorder beginners	7-12 years
Guitar beginners	8-12 years

Tuition available in guitar and piano for adult beginners.

All lessons held at MogMusic studio in Brooklyn.

Ph Moggie Grayson – 384 8213

### **Library**

Jenny-Kaye Potaka, our library assistant, has completed a stocktake of the library and it appears that there is a huge number of books that were issued last year which have not been returned.

These books, unless we get them back, will have to be replaced meaning that we will have less money to spend on new stock.

Could everyone please check to see if they have any school library books at home. We would be grateful if any that are found could be returned as soon as possible.

### **Karori Junior Hockey Club** Registration Day

Monday 18 February 2008  
3.15pm to 6pm

Karori Normal School hall  
All year 1 to 8 children welcome

For more information contact:

Karori Hockey Club  
Leigh Perry  
Tel: 476-7506  
[perryclan@xtra.co.nz](mailto:perryclan@xtra.co.nz)

### **ARTY PARTY**

Give your child a BIRTHDAY party WITH a difference

A celebration of art and craft led by a professional artist

For kids of all ages

All materials supplied

Also suitable for theme parties

For more information contact Galit Maxwell:

Phone - 479 8591

Cell - 027 640 8614

Email - [galia212@hotmail.com](mailto:galia212@hotmail.com)

### **Orchestra**

Join the KapiMana Training Orchestra now to hone your ensemble playing skills and have fun at the same time! Any age, any instrument, grades 2 and upwards.

Friday night rehearsals followed by supper, at Tawa Community Centre.

Call 232-1231 or email [info@musiclearning.co.nz](mailto:info@musiclearning.co.nz) for enrolment information."

**Western Suburbs Junior Rugby - Junior Rugby Registrations for 2008**

**When:** Monday, 25th February, 6pm-8pm  
 Saturday, 1st March, 12pm-2pm  
 Monday, 3rd March, 6pm-8pm

**Where:** Wests Club Rooms  
 Ian Galloway Park, Wilton (refer to Web site below for directions)

**Cost:** \$60 1 child, \$95 for 2 or more (includes cost of Jersey, team photos)  
 Free Junior Rugby Ball and Wests Beanie for every player registering in 2008

**Season:** Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May → Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> August

**Who Can Join:** Boys & Girls aged 4-13 are welcome  
 Ages 4-7: 7-aside Non-Tackle "Rippa Rugby", no scrums/lineouts/rucks/mauls  
 Ages 8-9: 10-aside Tackle rugby, non contest scrums/lineouts  
 Ages 10-13: 15-aside Tackle rugby, gradual introduction of contested lineouts/scrums

**Grading:** Strict 4-6kg maximum weight bands applied for each grade

<http://www.wests-junior-rugby.org.nz>

**Junior Soccer Registrations – BNU AFC**

Who	Children aged 5-13
When	Wednesday 20 Feb
What time	6:00pm – 8:00pm
Where	Brooklyn School Washington Ave.
Enquiries	Gerald Ranson – 388 7982

**Drama Classes**

After School Drama Classes for 8 – 18 year olds are available in Central Wellington.

**1<sup>st</sup> Gear Productions.**

Teachers Sarah Delahunty and Dayle Lee Jones have over 25 years Stage and Screen experience.

Find out more by contacting Sarah at [sarahdelahunty@xtra.co.nz](mailto:sarahdelahunty@xtra.co.nz) or Dayle Lee at [info@muntfm.co.nz](mailto:info@muntfm.co.nz)

**Email Newsletter**

Please put me on the email list for the newsletter.

Name  Child's Name

Email address