

# Thorndon School Newsletter

25/2008

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11 September 2008  
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There are always three speeches for every one you actually gave. The one you practised, the one you gave, and the one you wish you had given.

Dale Carnegie

## Action List

Do we have up to date address details?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you sent in your school donation?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do we have your mobile phone number?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you sent in a scratchy for the fair?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Would you like to get the newsletter by email link?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Have you donated a book to the library?	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Dear Parents

Kia ora tatou.

The end, almost, of another week, and classes are beginning to bring their inquiry units on China to an end. The topic is huge and, while the Olympics were the starting point, children have learned and discovered a great deal more about China than the games and their associated headlines. I am looking forward to sharing the junior school's Chinese Lunch in the last week of term and I am tempted to invite myself to Room 7's Yum Cha next week.

I hope that children have been talking with you about what they have learned about China and about some of the activities they have been involved in.

There are a couple of changed dates in the calendar this week with the Knoche Cup competition against Brooklyn now to be held in the last week of term. This is being held at school on the afternoon of September 25<sup>th</sup> and we would love to see parents here supporting their children. There is also a change of date for the Central Cluster Speech Competition which is now being held at 7:00pm on Wednesday of next week, September 17<sup>th</sup>, at Connolly Hall next to Sacred Heart School in Guilford Terrace. We do not yet know who will represent us, but again, I hope we have support on the night. We have a history of placing in this event so there is a lot for this year's speakers to live up to.

It is that time of term again where we start getting a mass of information about holiday programmes. I will put this into the newsletter for your information but I would like to make it clear that we are not endorsing any of these programmes. The YMCA is running a holiday programme from the school hall these holidays and this too is a commercial operation which has no connection with the school. Forms for enrolment in this programme should be available from the school office tomorrow.

Bill Sutton

### **Holiday Programme (1)**

#### **Creative Writing Workshops**

Katherine Mansfield Birthplace

#### **Janice Marriot**

Will work with 10-12 year old students to develop their ideas and skills in creative writing.

Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September  
9:30 – 12:00 or 1:30 – 4:00  
\$25

Space is limited so reservations are essential.

Ph/fax: 473 7268

Email: [kmbirthplace@xtra.co.nz](mailto:kmbirthplace@xtra.co.nz)

### **Holiday Programme (2)**

School Holiday Computer Course for ages 6 – 16. A new course, "Learn to Program in QBasic" has now been added to others on game creation, animations, web design, graphics, filmmaking, video editing and how to build a computer.

Centres in both Wellington City and Lower Hutt.

Further information from Ed Brown on 499 2211 or by way of the website [www.grandtraining.co.nz](http://www.grandtraining.co.nz)

## THORNDON SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

### **Book Week**

We have had a successful Book Week and it culminates tomorrow with everyone invited to dress up as their favourite book character. This is always a lot of fun.

We still have a display of books in the foyer in the hope that these will be bought by parents or other visitors to the school and donated to the library. Any donated books have a book plate inserted with the name of the child whose family has made the donation. So far four books have been donated to the library.

### **Cooking**

A couple of weeks ago I mentioned that we would like to get some more extension and enrichment activities under way and we have had an almost immediate response. On Tuesday Anita Harrison, one of our parents, took the first of what will be a fortnightly cooking session working with a group of middle school children. I know it was successful because I sampled the product and all of us in the office are looking forward to the next session.

Another parent, Roisin King, has put us in touch with Maria Pia whose restaurant is one of the school's neighbours, and she is coming in next week to talk about how she might be able to help.

Next term we are going to have a little focus on class gardens and we are hopeful that we will find somewhere in the school for each class to be able to do some planting. I am sure that there will be some keen gardeners among the parent community and perhaps some of you might give some thought to offering a little time to your child's class to help with their garden next term.

### **School Uniforms**

A number of our Year 8 girls will be going on to Wellington Girls College next year and the Parent Support Group runs a "Pre-Loved" Uniform Shop.

The next sales are Tuesday 23 September and Tuesday 2 December and run from 4:30 – 6:30. There will also be a sale on January 23 between 3:30 and 5:30.

Sales are held at the WGC Student office and are cash or cheque only.

Enquiries to Trish Chapman on 475 5511

### **Term 3 Calendar**

Sep 8	Book Week begins.
Sep 15	Room 7 to City Gallery
Sep 16	Inter Zone Swimming
Sep 17	Central Cluster Speech Competition.
Sep 17	Science Technology Roadshow.
Sep 18	Science Technology Roadshow.
Sep 22	Jump Rope for Heart
Sep 23	Hearing and Vision testing – Y 7, Y0/1
Sep 24	Wellington Girls College Market Day
Sep 24	Room 1 and 2 Parent Evening.
Sep 25	Knoche Cup competition against Brooklyn
Sep 26	Term Ends.

Oct 13	Term 4 Begins.
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### **Holiday Programme (3)**

#### **The Bubble Dome**

#### **Computer Holiday Courses**

Samuel Marsden College

Sept 30 – Oct 2

3D computer modelling and animation  
Computer Games Design, Special Effects and Graphics

St Catherine's College

Sept 30 – Oct 2

Graphics, Fashion Design and Wearable Arts Course.

Photo Shoots and the Art of Makeovers, Fashion Drawing and Design, Wearable Arts.

We have a number of brochures available if anyone is interested.

### **Trout Fishing**

#### **Capital Trout Centre**

Landfill Road, Ohiro Bay

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September

A free fly fishing experience for children up to 11.

Free licences  
Available from Stirling Sports.

