

Thorndon School Newsletter

2/2009

www.thorndon.school.nz
office@thorndon.school.nz

12 February 2009
principal@thorndon.school.nz

Summer afternoon; to me those have always been the two most beautiful words in the English language.

Henry James.

Action List

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Do we have 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"/> |
| Are you sending in a nomination for an extension group? | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |

Dear Parents

Kia ora

The term is almost in full swing now though our extension and enrichment programmes and Andrew Pennell's classroom release for teachers will not begin until next Monday, allowing teachers a full and uninterrupted week to get to know their children and establish a few routines.

Last week I had something in the newsletter about extension and enrichment and I invited nominations from parents for three groups in particular – the Young Leaders, the Sports Squad and the Future Problem Solving group. I said that the Sports Squad was for Year 7/8 but didn't say anything about year groups or ages for the other two activities. Both these programmes work with some external input and are aimed Year 5 up which will disappoint those parents of younger children who have sent in nominations. Given the interest however we are looking at developing similar programmes for younger children and will let you know when these begin. We have had one parent volunteer to continue to take a cooking group once a fortnight and would love to hear from others who might have a particular skill or interest which children might enjoy.

Thank you to everyone who has sent in their email address for the newsletter. There has been a great response and today we only have to print off 80 odd copies to send home. The middle school team – Room 8 (Meta Beyers) and Room 10 (Jane Stocker) have asked parents for email addresses so that they can contact them quickly and easily and I have added these addresses to our newsletter list. Please keep sending these contact details in. The more people we can get onto the email list for the newsletter the faster and easier it becomes to get it out. Because we just send a link to the newsletter on the website you do not need to worry about a large document clogging up your inbox.

Bill Sutton

School Picnic

Don't forget that next Wednesday we are planning to take the children out to Kaitoke for the school picnic.

Children will need to be here on time ready to get on the bus as soon after 9:00 as we can manage and will need the usual:

- Sunhats **(no hat no picnic!)**;
- Togs and Towels;
- Morning Tea and Lunch;
- A drink (no soft drinks please);
- A Jacket and/or jersey;
- Good walking shoes.

Parent assistance would be most welcome and we have already had some volunteers. Just let your child's class teacher know that you would like to come.

We will be hoping for better weather!

Meet the Teacher

We are scheduled to have a very informal meeting next Friday at about 5:00.

Usually this is for parents and not children but this year as I mentioned last week, we will have a barbecue at which staff will be introduced and children can show their parents around.

We see this as very much a time to introduce yourself but not as a time to discuss classroom progress. That will come later.

Sausages and drinks will be on sale.

It would help if you could return – asap – the slip at the end of the newsletter so we know how many to expect and what the catering needs to be.

Hockey



**KARORI
Junior
Hockey**

Join a team at Karori Junior Hockey Club

Teams for all Primary School aged boys and girls

www.karorihockey.wellington.net.nz



Registration Day
Monday 23 February

3-4pm or 6-7pm

at

Karori Normal School Hall



For more information contact:
julie.cooper@paradise.net.nz

New Children

We have had one more child start since last week.

He is

Pio Lupo	Y7	R9 - Koromiko
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Pio's three older brothers have all attended Thorndon over the past few years so he will have a good idea of what to expect. And so, I guess, will we.

Coin Trail

Everyone is horrified by the devastation caused by the bush fires across the Tasman more particularly because of the class bond we have with Australia.

While we don't yet have a complete Young Leaders group we have some children who would like to organise a coin trail to raise money for the relief effort.

Children are asked to bring a gold coin **next Friday** and add it to the trail, with the total to be donated to a relief fund.

Tennis

Free Tennis Coaching - World Record Attempt.

Capital Coaching Ltd is attempting a world record for the highest number of consecutive tennis coaching lessons.

The Event provides tennis coaching to anyone who is interested for a gold coin donation. All donations/proceeds will be given to the Event's official charity, the NZ Cancer Society. The Event will be held on Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th of February 2009 at Thorndon Tennis and Squash Club, 4 Katherine Ave, Thorndon. There will be spot prizes, sausage sizzles, a **Babolat** racquet up for grabs and heaps more!

For further information please contact Andy Wheeler at Capital Coaching Limited, 4 Katherine Ave, Thorndon: Phone 027 4599321 or email: andywheels@hotmail.com
worldrecord@thorndonclub.co.nz

CAPITAL COACHING
ATTEMPTS
THE WORLD RECORD FOR
HIGHEST NUMBER OF CONSECUTIVE TENNIS COACHING LESSONS

WHEN
ANYTIME BETWEEN 7AM 14 FEBRUARY AND 12PM 15 FEBRUARY 2009

WHERE
THORNDON TENNIS AND SQUASH CLUB, 4 KATHERINE AVE, THORNDON

COST
GOLD COIN ENTRY — ALL PROCEEDS TO GO TO THE CANCER SOCIETY

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:
CAPITAL COACHING LTD, 4 KATHERINE AVE, THORNDON, WELLINGTON
PHONE 027 4599 321 EMAIL: andywheels@hotmail.com
OR worldrecord@thorndonclub.co.nz

OFFICIAL CHARITY: THE NEW ZEALAND CANCER SOCIETY
Take care today to be SunSmart! Take care to slip, slop, slap, and wrap!

Activity Fees

Each term we ask parents for an activity fee to cover the various activities we will be involved in. This saves us having to keep asking you for little odd amounts through the term.

For this term the amounts have been set at:

Senior School	(Y7/8)	Rs 9, 11	\$35
Middle School	(Y5/6)	Rs 8, 10	\$25
Junior School	(Y1-4)	Rs 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	\$20

The main activities this money pays for are:

- School Picnic
- Dowse Gallery (senior school)
- Capital E Arts Festival
- Mathletics (middle and senior school)

In addition to this there are some other amounts of money due for things like swimming, photocopying, and, for Year 7/8 technology.

We will get invoices out for all these in the next couple of weeks.

Extra-curricular activities

I mentioned last week that we are looking for help from parents with a number of extra-curricular activities, especially for some of our sports teams.

We have had to cancel our involvement in a cricket tournament later this term because we have been unable to find any volunteers to manage and coach the team.

We realise that donating time to the school is difficult for most parents because of work commitments and, in the current economic and employment climate, it is possibly even more difficult than usual. It is equally difficult for the school as releasing teachers means employing relievers, and no assistance with transport means using buses or taxis for smaller groups.

I am not sure what the solution is but hope we can find one. These activities are an important part of school life and children learn a great deal from participating in them.

If anyone has any bright ideas, or even some reflections on extra curricular activities in general I would love to hear them.

Term 1 Calendar

Feb 14	Round the Bays
Feb 18	School Picnic – Kaitoke
Feb 20	Meet the Teacher
Feb 23	PAT Testing
Feb 24	BoT Meeting – 6:00 staff room.
Feb 25	R 11 (Y7/8) to Dowse Gallery
Feb 26	R 9 (Y7/8)
Mar 4	World Maths Day
Mar 11	Year 1 – 3 to Capital E Arts Festival
Mar 17	Year 4 – 8 to Capital E Arts Festival
Mar 17	Central Zone Cricket
Mar 18	School Swimming Sports
Mar 23	30 Year 5/6 children to Westpac Sports
Apr 3	Curriculum Evening.
Apr 7	BoT Meeting – 6:00 staff room
Apr 7	Central Zone Swimming
Apr 8	Kids Lit Quiz
Apr 8	Term ends – 3:00pm
Apr 9	Teacher only day
Apr 27	Term 2 begins

Music Lessons

Home Ground Music School.

Experienced, enthusiastic tutors that come to your house! All practising, professional musicians experienced with beginners.

Guitar, Vocals, Piano, Saxophone, Drums, Bass.

\$175 for 5 half hour lessons, during holidays or term time at hours to suit you.

(Also after school at studio by arrangement.)

Enquiries to:- homegroundmusic@gmail.com

027 470 6769

Te Reo Lessons

Last year we were able to offer Maori Language lessons after school, and Philippa Thompson, the tutor who took these classes is available again this year. She has Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons available.

Lessons last for 1½ hours and the charge last year was \$120 per term.

If you are interested please send me an email with the name of your child and the days and times that would work best for you and we will see what we can organise.

Permission Slip

Thorndon School has a wonderful location which allows us to make use of a wide range of facilities and activities that occur in the Central City area. Our children can – and do – walk to Te Papa, the public library, The City Gallery, the Waterfront, Oriental Bay, Parliament amongst other places. We are able to take advantage of events spontaneously where other schools further away might miss out. Most parents are generally happy with this and it is a feature of the school. These ‘excursions’ take place as class or group outings with a teacher or responsible adult though there are times when small groups of Year 7/8 children may leave the grounds for a specific purpose. Our practice is to ask parents to return a slip early in the year if they are not happy for their child to leave the school grounds without specific written permission from the parent. The slip is below and if we do not get it back we will assume that you are happy for your child to be able to take advantage of these - occasional - opportunities.

Permission Slip

My child is not to leave the school ground for any reason without specific written permission from his or her parents.

Child _____

Room

Signed _____

Meet the Teacher

Yes, we will be coming to the Meet the Teacher barbecue on Friday 20 February.

Name _____

Child _____

Room

Room

Room

Email Newsletter

Please put me on the email list for the newsletter.

Name

Child's Name

Email address