

Thorndon School Newsletter

5/2009

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5 March 2009
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Many continentals think life is a game; the English think cricket is a game.

George Mikes

Action List

Do we have all your contact details?

Have you sent in your donation?

Have you paid your activity fee?

Have you diared our curriculum evening on April 1?

Dear Parents

Kia ora

I have either been tied up in meetings for most of the day or out at Teachers College so this newsletter has come together too late for it to get out during the school day but I guess that later is better than not at all!

Having the Prime Minister at school yesterday was a little like having a rock star here! There were kids trampling each other in desperate attempts to get autographs on anything. The visit was a great success and the PM and the Minister of Education spent a great deal longer here than had been planned. The pupils demonstrating and working on the Mathsletics programme were great; focused, accurate and articulate and there was some wonderful interaction going on. Both Anne Tolley, the Minister of Education, and John Key made sure they spoke with every child.

Yesterday, in a new departure, 60 girls went off to a soccer tournament for girls only. The reports I have had back have all been enthusiastically positive and I have been told by one staff member that it was much easier without any boys – which can't be true!! It was clearly a great success, There will be a report from some of the girls as well as some photos in next week's newsletter. There has been some talk since about starting a school team (girls) to take part in a Saturday competition. More on this as information comes in.

Bill Sutton



Contacts

The response to this request has been wonderful thank you. There are still some to come but we are feeling reasonably confident about being able to contact people if we need to.

The newsletter email list keeps growing and we are getting closer all the time to our goal of being completely digital.

Meet the Teacher

Thank you to everyone who came along last Friday. It was a very pleasant evening and, while we might want to refine it a little for next year, it seemed to work well.

Perhaps next time we will organise some parents to man the barbecue and the drinks stall.

Sports Squad

I have mentioned some of our extension and enrichment programmes several times already and there are three in particular which are highly sought after. Considerable thought went into the selections and the initial groups are:



Aidan Hallet
 Renata Mahuika
 Chris Andrews
 Amira El Orfi
 Anna Caudwell
 August Gould
 Logan Jeffries
 Jan Earle
 Jessica Just
 Dominick Baguioro
 Brittany Antipas
 Alex Gooch

The Sports Squad has started off with a visit to see the Black Caps practice this afternoon. Let's hope the practice pays off for Friday!

Young Leaders

The initial group of Young Leaders is:
 Asia Brownlie
 Olive Brown
 Victoria Hunter
 Georgina Lomax-Sawyers
 Isaac Paku
 Anna Caudwell
 Noah McGarvey
 Taine McKenzie
 Sian Williams-Jones

These children, plus a wider group will attend the Halogen Foundation's Young Leaders Day later this term.

Future Problem Solving

Hannah Saul
 Olive Brown
 Victoria Hunter
 Gillean Miller
 Daniel Davis
 Gabriella Shea
 Rowan Sinclair
 Emma Montague-Cripps
 Sian Williams-Jones

Congratulations to all these children.

Term 1 Calendar

Mar 11	Year 1 – 3 to Capital E Arts Festival
Mar 11	A group from the Dept of Education in Singapore visit the school.
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
Mar 23	Trainee teachers start in the school.
Apr 1	Curriculum Information Evening.
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

New Children

We have had two children start since last week's newsletter.

They are:

Allegra Symonds	Y1	Ruma Nikau
Scarlett Fraser	Y1	Ruma Nikau

Scarlett and Allegra are just embarking on their school careers and we welcome both girls and their families.

To All Thorndon Residents

Many of you will have received a letter from the Wellington City Council recently outlining options for managing Thorndon's heritage values and seeking feedback. The WCC is holding a **public meeting on Wednesday 11 March from 6:30-8pm at Thorndon School Hall (next to Thorndon Pool)** to outline the options, answer questions and hear your views. If Thorndon Residents do not speak up, it is more likely than not that the WCC will make **all** of Thorndon a Heritage Area as this is the predominant view they are hearing. The Thorndon Residents Association strongly urges you to attend this meeting and, if you are unable to attend, to email your views to the WCC Council Officers working on this project - Jeremy Blake (jeremy.blake@wcc.govt.nz) or Janna Murray (janna.murray@wcc.govt.nz). Please let the WCC know if you intend to attend this meeting by contacting Rekha Jatav in the City Planning Team by this Friday (6 March) either by phone (8013389) or by email (rekha.jatav@wcc.govt.nz).

School Banking

Each child will be bringing home a letter and a pack today explaining the School Banking programme being offered by ASB.

The system is very simple for the school to operate with a box for children to drop their banking into and someone collecting it each week.

There is a small number of children who already do banking through the National Bank and this will continue.

Te Reo Lessons

The Te Reo lessons have started on Mondays and Tuesdays after school and the lessons are an hour, not the hour and a half originally advertised.

Juniors go from 3:00 to 4:00 and seniors from 4:00 to 5:00.

There is still space for children to join. Please let us know if you would like your child to take part.

Trout Fishing

Give your child a fly fishing experience

Capital Trout Centre
Landfill Road, Ohiro Bay

Sunday 8th March

Free Licenses available from:
Steve's Fishing Shop, Ghuznee St or
Hamills Wellington, Hutt Road

Newtown Movie School

One week holiday programme
20 – 24 April
Children 8 – 13 years

Children will produce a short film over the course of the week.

Enrolment forms available from the school office.

Sax in the City



The Central Band of the RNZAF

Thursday 12th March
Wellington Town Hall
\$18:00 adults, \$5:00 children

Banking

Our new account number is:
12-3140-0336925-00

In order to help us make a smooth transition we would appreciate it if you could update our banking details before 13 March 2009, roughly a fortnight away.



Entertainment Book

We have already had quite a number of books ordered and paid for by people taking advantage of the coupons available for early ordering.

Keep these orders coming.

Internet Safety

The forms I mentioned last week did not get home but they will come home today.

Please try to get these back to school on Monday.

Discovery Learning

Thank you to those parents who have already sent "stuff" in or who have volunteered their time to come in and take an activity or teach a skill.

We would very much like to get hand drills, hammers, nails and screws, saws, screw drivers etc and wonder if there are any parents who might have contacts which would enable us to get these things at reduced rates. We would also like a woodwork bench or two if we can get them.

We are also in need of parents to take cooking (more cooking as we already have one parent coming in each fortnight), knitting perhaps, sewing, stitching, weaving – the possibilities are limitless. If you can help please contact the office or your child's teacher.