

Thorndon School Newsletter

24/2009

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Action List

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Have you sent in any scratchies? | <input type="checkbox"/> | Don't forget school banking tomorrow | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have you paid your donation? | <input type="checkbox"/> | Can you sell some seeds? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have you checked the books in the foyer? | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do we have your child's immunisation details? | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Dear Parents

Kia ora.

I have had a little in the newsletter over past weeks about the National Standards and the concern that people working in the education sector have felt. There has been considerable relief at the Minister's announcement that the collection and publication of data by the Ministry is to be delayed until 2012. While there are still major concerns about the policy the delay of what has become the most contentious issue frees up everyone's heads and allows us all to begin considering ways in which we can make the standards work for us. The most pressing piece of work will be to connect the standards to the new curriculum and this may not be particularly easy. Schools need to get both things right so that student learning is not compromised. The standards are due to be released in October and, while I wouldn't say schools are actively looking forward to this they feel greater ease about it and are ready to begin the work needed to make the initiative work for them as well as they possibly can.

The weather feels pretty spring like at the moment and with spring we often get a lot of sniffles and snuffles. There has been fantastic co-operation this year with children staying home when they are ill – thank you all for this. The Ministry of Health seems to be anticipating a second and perhaps a third wave of flu and I mentioned the measles last week so we hope that this higher level of caution stays in place. We are gradually getting the immunisation information we have asked for and I have left the tear off slip at the end of this newsletter in the hope that we will get some more this week.

The term is rushing past and there is still a lot to be completed. Next week four of our children will compete in the New Central Cluster Speech Competition, an event in which we have enjoyed a great deal of success over a number of years. The junior school is busy working away on their noho marae which takes place in the second to last week while our Artist in Residence is working with a group of children who will perform for the school and for parents in the last week of term.

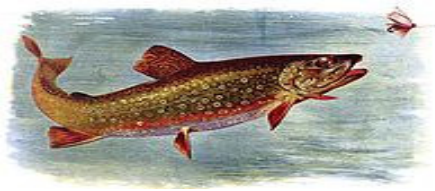
And just to finish up, a fervent hope that Wellington will retain the shield this weekend, if only because I am not sure that I can stand the inevitable crowing that will come from one or two Wellington principals who come from Canterbury. The one point margins of last week's two big games did not make for comfortable viewing.

Bill Sutton



Fly Fishing

Take your child Trout Fishing.



Capital Trout Centre

Landfill Road, Ohiro Bay

Sunday 6 September

For children aged up to 11 years.

Free licences available from:

Steve's Fishing Shop, Ghuznee St;
Hamills Wellington, Hutt Road, Thorndon;
Hutt Valley Hunting and Fishing, Cuba St, Petone.

For further information contact Strato Cotsilinis on
472 7827 (day) 477 9951 (evg)

Baby Sitting

You need a babysitter??

My name is Kate and I am looking for a family to sit for.

I am available after school, nights and also during the holidays.

I have loads of experience with children and am currently working as a teacher aide at Thorndon School.

I would love to hear from you.

021 1251 214

DISCO

The kids' event of the year.
THE THORNDON SCHOOL DISCO
Friday 4th September.

The times are:

Year 1-4: 6:30 - 7:30

Year 5-6: 7:30 - 8:30

Year 7-8: 8:00 - 10:00

There will be drinks and snacks available on the night. We will have cool disco gear and glow gear to sell too. Tickets will be \$5 each and will be for sale from Monday. The Young Leaders will collect money for the tickets every morning next week. So get in early!

The Young Leaders will develop some ideas for spending any profit the disco makes.

Board of Trustees Report

The Board of Trustees met on 18 August, where the first task was to give a warm welcome to new parent representatives Jo Cribb and James Turner. Following introductions Bill highlighted points to note in his report – the present high roll and closure to non-zoned children, National Curriculum progress, National Standards update (delay until 2012 of the collection and publication of the data), and draft results of the Student Engagement survey. In addition we discussed the committed and excellent present crop of teacher trainees working in our classrooms this term, and the wide range of professional development being undertaken by the permanent staff.

Preparation of a business case to the Ministry to secure Thorndon School's acquisition of the Kimi Ora site continues to take shape, and new trustees Jo and James were quick to offer their help. Other matters discussed involved our finances – Thorndon Fair status report (please let Carleen Needham or Carol Weston know if you can help!), exciting Art Auction ideas, and an update on school donations. Finally, after a lot of work, the treasurer confirmed that the children could have a further 30 mini-laptops, and these computers have been ordered for immediate delivery. A successful meeting!

Mandy

Things we Want

We are on the lookout for people this week. We don't need them immediately but if we get the information out early people can think about whether they can help or whether they know someone who might fill the bill.

Next year we are going to need someone with a young baby who can come in to help with the *Roots of Empathy* programme which is drawing to a close this year.

We are hugely grateful to Rosalie Hill and Liam, the mother and son who have come in to the classroom every month since the beginning of this year. We are convinced of the worth of the programme and want to continue with it next year so we will need a new bab. It is nice to be able to have a school connection as we have had this year with Rosalie having taught here for a number of years.

The baby would ideally be born in December so would be about 3 months old at the start of the programme next year. The commitment is to come in to school to work with the RoE coordinator running the programme – Natasha Jackson – every 3 – 4 weeks. If you know of anyone who is having a baby and might be prepared to help in 2010 perhaps you could contact Tash – natasha@thorndon.school.nz . Tash will also be happy to answer any questions anyone might have about the programme.

We are also looking for people qualified as either an *STMS* or as a *TC* both of which are qualifications related to traffic management.

The Thorndon Fair is a bigger event each year and as it grows so do the requirements we have to meet for the council. This year we will need to have a *STMS* on site for the two hour set up period at the start of the day and again for the take down at the end of the day.

We will also have to have a *TC* on site all day and ideally would like to have 2 or 3 people who could share this position.

While we can employ suitably qualified people through the Traffic Management company who will set up and manage the road closure, we are trying to minimise costs and maximise profit and having some volunteers from the wider school community would save us quite a lot of money. If you have friends or relatives whose arms could be gently twisted we would be very grateful.

These people will manage the marshals we have to have at the fair entrances throughout the day.

Term 3 Calendar

It is slightly scary to see how this calendar has shrunk, showing us just how quickly the term is moving.

Sep 2	Central Zone Speech Competition
Sep 2	Y 1/2 to Wellington Girls
Sep 3	Y 1/2 to Wellington Girls
Sep 4	School Disco
Sep 4	Seeds and money due back.
Sep 8	Winter Sports Festival – Y5/6
Sep 10	Maori Pasifika Parent evening
Sep 15	Winter Sports Festival – Y7/8
Sep 17	Noho Marae – Junior school
Sep 21	Artist in Schools Drama Performance this week.
Sep 22	Jump Rope
Sep 23	Science Roadshow – Y7/8
Sep 24	Science Roadshow – Y5/6
Sep 25	Term ends

Library Week

The display of books in the foyer has created such a lot of interest that we have decided to leave it there for another week. Not a day goes past without a bevy of children examining the books and talking about their favourites.

The number of books donated is into double figures so we have a really good contribution to the library and these books will get on to the shelves this term.

Seed Sales

I have been astonished at the level of interest and activity generated by the opportunity to sell seeds and the sales seem to be going very well.

We would like to get it all done and dusted by September 4, the end of next week, so there is just over a week to go to sell as many seeds as we can. Once this is done we can start to focus much more closely on the Art Auction which is coming up on November 6 and on the fair a month later.

We have a fairly ambitious programme of fund-raising activities in the second half of this year and we will need everyone's help to make everything successful.

Don't forget the scratchies when you do your grocery shopping!

Discovery Time

During discovery time in the junior school some of the children have been experimenting with bubbles and the little gems which follow stem from this.

**Bubbles, bubbles,
Floating in the sky.
Bubbles pink, yellow, green,
Floating into the sky.**

Jamie Lockwood

**Bubbles, bubbles,
I like bubbles,
Bubbles are my favourite thing of all.**

Lily Hart

**Bubbles, bubbles
I like bubbles,
And you.**

Eleanor Mazey

**Big, beautiful bubbles, blowing, brightly,
By the breezy beach.**

Sophie

**Bubbles are clear,
Bubbles are soft,
Bubbles are like a big round box.
They float in the air like a big red balloon,
And they bounce like kangaroos.**

Milly Ware

**Boys blowing big, beautiful bubbles
By beaches, having a great time at the beach
side.**

Florence Smith

**Bubbles, bubbles everywhere.
In the class and in the air.
See them float up high,
In the sky.
Bubbles, bubbles fly so high.**

Milly Ware

**Beautiful bubbles blow by the bridge.
Big bubbles blowing by the beautiful beach.
Big blue bubbles blow by the bus.**

Kate Silcock

**Softly floating bubbles,
Dancing like ballerinas.**

Sarah Hale



Immunisations

Child's name Room No

There is a long list of possible immunisations here. If your child has not been immunised a negative response would be just as useful as getting the list below filled out.

HPV	Hep B	MeNZBTM	Tetanus	Polio	Measles	Pertussis	Diphtheria	Mumps	Rubella	HIB