

Thorndon School Newsletter

26/2009

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

10 September 2009
principal@thorndon.school.nz

Chess is the only game greater than its players

Action List

- | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Have you sent in any scratchies? | <input type="checkbox"/> | Don't forget school banking tomorrow | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Can you help with Art for the Art Auction? | <input type="checkbox"/> | Have you returned your seeds or money? | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Have you got the Jump Rope sponsorship forms? | <input type="checkbox"/> | Do we have your child's immunisation details? | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Dear Parents

Kia ora.

We have two weeks of the term left and it will be no time at all before we are counting down to the Art Auction first, the Fair second and then Christmas. In and among and around all this is the teaching and learning that is the core business of the school and planning is beginning for next term now. We are still working at developing a local curriculum and in the new term we will have a few more consultation and information meetings to keep you up to date. Things are starting to take shape in our heads and we will shortly begin to get this into some useful format. Our current thinking is to create a web-based document of some sort because our local curriculum will be, or should be, dynamic. Having something web-based allows for quick response to new information, new ideas and new approaches. It is not as quick or easy to incorporate changes into a print based document. The work that stems from the new curriculum is as exciting as anything else that has happened in education in the past 15 years and the new directions are really exciting.

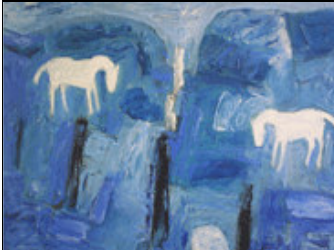
Bill Sutton

Jump Rope for Heart.

Each year we take part in Jump Rope for Heart, a programme offered by the Heart Foundation which promotes skipping as a worthwhile activity for fitness. Skipping is incorporated into class PE programmes and children skip for pleasure in their playtimes. Like the tyres, this is an old-fashioned play activity which allows children to develop their own rules and games. In order to secure the support and resources from the Heart Foundation we are expected to do a little fund-raising and every child will bring home a sponsor form and envelope tomorrow. We would like these to be returned by the last day of term, after we have had the jump off on September 22.

Arrival Times

Please note that the school opens at **8:00am**. As the weather gets warmer so do arrivals get earlier with some children arriving between 7:00 and 7:30.



Art Auction

We are starting to make progress with offers of some high quality art but we do not have enough of it yet.

I am sure there must be people in your networks who have art they could donate or who know artists, either established or emerging, who might be interested in putting work up for auction, sharing the proceeds with the school.

Scratchies

In the office area you will see a small Xmas tree with a number of Scratch and Win Tickets on it. We try to get together about 30 of these trees with about 30 tickets on each for the fair. They are very popular prizes for the Quick Fire Raffle.

If each family was able to send in a \$1:00 ticket each week up till November 6 we would have more than enough.

We will run a little competition to see which class does the best on a per head basis. There will be no class baskets to collect for this year as we will do these scratchies instead. Easier all round.

Building dynamic leaders for tomorrow

Youth today face a number of important choices at home, at school, and socially as they navigate a rapidly changing world.

With so many influences giving direction to young people, cultivating the qualities of inner strength and compassion will be essential for tomorrow's leaders. We provide tools to nurture the growth of these qualities, so that our society will have powerful leaders dedicated to building a brighter future. The Art of Living Foundation empowers young people to move from being influenced by their environment, to having an influence on their environment. We work to ensure that tomorrow's voices for peace and unity are stronger than those of violence and self-centeredness.

We have programs for youth of all ages that are fun and challenging, with a special emphasis on nurturing human values common to all cultures, religions and traditions such as; non-violence, compassion, caring for the planet, enthusiasm for life and an attitude of service toward others.

For more details and registration **please contact, Meena Satishkumar,** meena.satishkumar@artofliving.org.nz or call 04 232 1329/021 517 041.

<http://www.artoflivingyouth.org/>

Art Excel: 8-12yr olds

Dates: 29 Sep - 02 Oct 09

Timing: 8:30am - 4pm

Venue: Wellington Girls College, Thorndon

Muka Prints

Muka prints will again be in town on the 28th and 29th of November at Capital E in Civic Square. This exhibition is a wonderful way for children to begin their own art collections.



The original lithographs exhibited are by prominent New Zealand, European and Asian artists and children can buy them for \$60 each.

Adults are not allowed in to the exhibition so children must make their selection on the basis of what they like. Names

are covered so adults cannot prepare children to buy a particular artist.

With people of the standing of Dick Frizzell, Nigel Brown, Gretchen Albrecht and Michael Tuffery among earlier exhibitors the works are of very high quality.

This is well worth checking out.

Disco

Last Friday we held what was a very successful disco. I managed to be there in the early part of the evening and the excitement was palpable. The noise was also almost palpable!

Thank you to the staff and the Young Leaders Group who worked extremely hard to make the evening a success. The last staff got away at about 10:45 after the clean up which makes it a very long day and evening.

It was also very successful as a little fund raiser, making a little over \$1000. We will canvas the ideas of the children, the Young Leaders and the Sports Squad in particular to see what they think we should get with this money. Something we can use in the playground would seem to be a good idea.



Nits

Just a quick report that a number of children have nits so it would pay to check and treat.

This is a perennial problem in schools and one which is extremely frustrating for parents but one which it seems impossible to eradicate.

Successes

A few weeks ago some of our children competed in the Wellington Chess Championships, and one of our teams came 2nd to a team from Raroa Intermediate. We thought that this meant that they would not go on to the national championships but Alistair learned last night that both 1st and 2nd place getters will be going on to the nationals. This is a wonderful result and is at least partly due to all the time Alistair has put into the chess club over the years. The boys owe him a vote of thanks.

Congratulations to Logan Jeffries, Aidan Hallett, Taine Mackenzie, and Noah McGarvey.



Planning and Organisation

As I mentioned last week we are beginning to think about school organisation for next year and gathering information about how many children there will be. The nature of our school community means that there is always an element of guess and hope when we are doing this so the more firm information we can get early in the process the easier life is.

If you know of a child who will be coming to the school next year can you please let us know? We already have quite a few enrolment forms but past history tells us that there are other children out there that we don't know about. It is also very useful to know about children who are not or may not be returning next year.

Holiday Programme

A reminder that the senior supervisors from the After School Care programme are putting together a plan and will offer a programme limited to 20 children which will be entirely self managing. Children will be enrolled on a first come, first served basis. If you want to take advantage of this opportunity you should talk with Jess from the After School Care programme.

Term 3 Calendar

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
Sep 22	Jump Rope
Sep 23	Science Roadshow – Y7/8
Sep 24	Science Roadshow – Y5/6
Sep 24	Vision and Hearing Testing
Sep 25	Term ends

Initial Term 4 Calendar

Oct 12	Term begins
Oct 12	Minister launches new EOTC resource.
Oct 16	New parents evening
Oct 20	BoT meeting
Oct 26	Labour Day – school closed
Oct 27	Art and profiles due in for Art Auction
Oct 28	School Athletics
Nov 2	Art Week begins – Monday to Thursday
Nov 4	Gardasil vaccination – Y8 girls
Nov 6	Art Auction
Nov 11	New Central Cluster Cultural Festival
Nov 12	BP Technology Challenge
Nov 13	Central Zone Athletics
Nov 26	Y 5/6 overnight (to be confirmed)
Nov 28	Muka Prints exhibition
Nov 29	Muka Prints exhibition
Nov 30	Written Reports posted
Dec 6	The Fair
Dec 8	BoT meeting
Dec 10	School Tabloids
Dec 15	Parent Helper Morning Tea
Dec 16	Y 8 Farewell Dinner
Dec 18	Term ends 12:00.

There may be a teacher only day to allow us to work on the development of the local curriculum next term, possibly in conjunction with the staff planning day on Nov 21. I will let everyone know as soon as this has been decided.

Seed Sales

This has been much more successful than we had imagined it would be with over \$2000 raised. This is a long way from the \$7000 we would have made had all the seeds been sold but given the low key approach that was taken it is magnificent. I am sure that we would be able to double it next year if we really got stuck into it!

The next part of the battle is to get all the unsold seeds returned to school. We will get charged for these at the end of the programme so it is important that we get everything back next week please.

Congratulations everyone. All of you who bought seeds will be looking forward to the fruits and flowers that will result.

Children's Writing

We have a couple of pieces of writing this week and will try to get something into the newsletter more consistently.

Motor Bikes

Sleek and shiny,
Big not tiny.
Always macho,
Better than nachos.
Cool and fast,
A blast from the past.
Loud as a lion,
Of steel and iron.
Even to girls,
It's more precious than pearls.
Mans true best friend,
It will take him to the end.

I like,
Motor Bikes.

Datu and Jeremiah



THE DISCO

- D**azzling lights
- I**ncredible prizes
- S**tunning outfits
- C**razy dance moves and
- O**ver-excited children

On Friday 4th September the Thorndon School Disco was up and running. Finger lights, fibre optic lights, flashing necklaces, and glowing bunny ears were selling at incredible speed. Amazingly cheap food and drinks (eg. 2 chocolates for 50c) were also being sold throughout the night. Sparkling neon lights filled the room with excitement. Taine was the D.J for the wonderful event. He gave out prizes like M'n'Ms and Maltesers for the best dancers. Everyone had an entertaining experience, and a fantastic time.

Eliza Muldrock and Julia McGrath

Kelly Sport Netball Summer Series.

Madeleine Sefton, a parent and also a relieving teacher here, is interested in coaching a mixed Year 3/4 netball team and taking part in the Kelly Sport Netball Summer Series.

Every Friday afternoon (3:45 – 4:45) during Terms 4 and 1 at Cardinal McKeefry School in Wilton. Madeleine is happy to help with transporting children to and fro if needed and we have another parent also able to help with transport. Kelly Sport charges \$42 per child and Madeleine will need responses **ASAP** so that we can get teams entered.

Madeleine is also helping with a netball clinic being held at Ngaio School on Sunday 20 September from 1 – 4. Free of charge but it would help if you could register with Madeleine so that they can plan for the right number of children.

mattandmadeleine@paradise.net.nz

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