

Thorndon School Newsletter

28/2009

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office@thorndon.school.nz

24 September 2009
principal@thorndon.school.nz

Spring is nature's way of saying, "Let's party!"

Robin Williams

Action List

Have you sent in scratchies?

Don't forget school banking tomorrow

Can you help with Art for the Art Auction?

Do you want to come to a KOS meeting?

Are you saving books for the fair?

Do we have your child's immunisation details?

Dear Parents

Kia ora.

This is the last newsletter of what has been a very busy term and when I look back I am amazed at the range of activities we have been involved in. It hasn't stopped yet either with a drama performance this afternoon that I hope at least some parents have been able to get to. Unfortunately I was unable to go as I am chairing a conflicting meeting which cannot be deferred. I am relying on the show being videoed. Next term is already looking very busy in both curriculum activities and in the extra-curricular activities that are so much a part of the life of a school. Some of these extra-curricular activities are hardy annuals like the fair which others are new ventures like the Art Auction. There are some brand new curriculum related activities too, like the National Standards which we will get by the end of October. It is unlikely that we will be reporting against these standards this year as there is too little time for staff to become familiar with them before our reports are written.

Our Year 5/6 classes are planning an overnight stay as part of our EOTC programme and we have our Art Week to look forward to. School Photos will be taken next term and you will see the date in the calendar.

Planning for the fair will start to take off next term and you can all expect to get a phone call asking for your help. The fair is a massive organisational exercise and we are dependent on parents getting behind it so please try to commit some time and energy to helping on the day or in the lead up. We are still hoping for more art works so please pass the word. We have some posters and flyers which we will distribute at the start of next term in the hope that you will be able to put them on display somewhere. We will also be asking for people to help on the night. Keep November 6 free, this should be a fun night.

We were supposed to be hosting the Minister for the launch of a new EOTC resource on our first day back. Unfortunately she is no longer available on that day so this may happen a little later.

The term has flown past and I am sure the holidays will do the same. We hope all our children refresh themselves over the next two weeks, aren't afflicted by a resurgent swine flu, are able to enjoy some spring sunshine and return to school buzzing with enthusiasm – just like the staff, most of whom will be attending courses, seminars and conferences at various times during the holidays.

Bill Sutton

Scratchies

As I said last week, we are running a small competition to see which class can bring in the most (per head) scratchies for the fair.

The winning class will get a pizza lunch close to the time of the fair.

At the moment Room 5 is in the lead! A \$1:00 scratch and win ticket each time you do the grocery shopping would do the trick.

Reminders

From the start of next term we will begin collecting your unwanted, pre-loved books.

Please try to get all outstanding accounts brought up to date tomorrow.

There are still a few boxes of seeds or money to be returned. Tomorrow please!

There are return slips attached to the newsletter about Maori classes, Chinese classes, immunisations and a question about Keeping Ourselves Safe.

Apology

Last week we had a couple of pieces of writing on Gumboot Stew by some of our junior pupils. One of these pieces was by Frances. I attributed it to Frances Hey, who is in fact the mother of one of our other pupils. It was in fact by Frances Upton, a Year 1 pupil.

My apologies to both Franceses!

I have put the piece in the newsletter again, this time with the right name.

My stew is...

In my stew there are snakes and dark chocolate and flies and slugs and mud and salami.

Frances Upton, Room 1



New Children

The roll continues to creep up and we have four new children and their families to welcome this week. They are:

Agneta Simanu	Y 1	Room 2 - Harakeke
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Max Wilson	Y 1	Room 2 - Harakeke
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Phoebe Gardner	Y4	Room 5 - Taupata
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Hope Gardner	Y6	Room 10 - Manuka
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Agneta and Max are just beginning their school lives while Phoebe and Hope have recently moved into the area from the Gold Coast. All of them have started just in time for the holidays after a quick introduction to the school this week. There could be worse ways to organise life.

Welcome to all four children and their families.

Term 3 Calendar

Sep 24	Science Roadshow – Y5/6
Sep 24	Artist in Schools Drama Performance
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 19	STAR and PA Testing.
Oct 20	BoT meeting
Oct 22	Keeping Ourselves Safe Meeting (tentative)
Oct 26	Labour Day – school closed
Oct 27	Art and artist 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 4	School Photos.
Nov 6	Art Auction
Nov 11	New Central Cluster Cultural Festival
Nov 12	BP Technology Challenge
Nov 13	Central Zone Athletics
Nov 20	Teacher only day (tentative)
Nov 26	Y 5/6 overnight
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.

Chess

Over this coming weekend our chess team of Logan Jeffries, Aidan Hallett, Noah McGarvey and Taine McKenzie are competing in the national chess championships in Palmerston North.

We have enjoyed considerable success in chess at a local level over the past few years but this takes us to a new level.

I am sure you will join us in wishing the boys the very best of luck for the competition in the weekend.

Planning and Organisation

Please don't forget to let us know if you are aware of a child who will be coming to the school next year. Past history tells us that there are children out there intending to attend Thorndon 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.

The roll will be pretty tight again next year and the earlier we learn about changes the easier it becomes to make decisions about how many classes we have, how the school will be structured and who will be placed in what room.

Information

There are a number of return slips at the end of this newsletter, left in for the past few weeks. It would be very helpful to have these back by the end of the first week of the new term.

Even better would be to have the answers emailed to the office.

Fly Fishing

Capital Trout Centre

**Landfill Road, Ohiro Bay
Sunday 18 October**

Cooking Classes

There are some details here about some cooking classes for adults and children, and we have a number of brochures in the office for anyone interested.

**MARIA PIA'S
CREATIVE ECOFOOD**

**Education, Culture and Dining
with Chef Maria Pia De Razza Klein**

Renowned Italian chef and co-founder of the eponymous Wellington eatery, Maria Pia De Razza-Klein now offers a variety of affordable cooking courses for adults and children as well as private group dinners from her new premises in Brooklyn, Wellington.



Private and corporate clients may choose from the course calendar or request special cookery topics for courses and dinners. Topics include: regional Italian meals, vegetarian & vegan, baking sweets & savouries, fresh pasta & gnocchi, Italian master classes, celebration of seasonal ingredients, Christmas lunches and dinners (December).

Gift vouchers for individuals, couples and groups.

Contact Maria Pia for the current course calendar.

Maria Pia's Creative Ecofood
71 Washington Avenue
Brooklyn, Wellington
Tel. (04) 970 1446
Mob. 021 0294 3170
pia@paradise.net.nz



— COOKING LESSONS FOR CHILDREN & TEENAGERS —

Interactive, hands-on lessons for groups of 6 or more children with emphasis on taste education, understanding and choosing ingredients; preparing quick, delicious and healthy meals; organic gardening (from Sept. 09). Caregivers are also welcome to attend; group lessons for families and friends; special rates for school groups. Lesson fee includes an afternoon snack.

Assaggio (2-hour "taster" introductory lesson) \$35		
Package of 4 lessons \$130		
Age 9 – 11	Mon – Tues	3.45 – 5.45pm
Age 12 – 14	Wed – Fri	4.00 – 5.30pm
Age 15 – 18	Thurs	3.45 – 5.45pm
Mixed age group	Sat	3.00 – 5.00pm

— COOKING LESSONS FOR ADULTS —

Interactive, hands-on cooking lessons for groups of 6 or more adults. Maria Pia is entirely flexible in allowing you to decide the focus and topic of the lesson. Lesson fee includes a welcome drink and a shared meal. Also available for corporate groups, this offers an alternative and highly convivial approach to team building and Christmas functions.

Assaggio (taster) - 3 hour lunch or dinner lesson \$60		
Package of 4 lessons (voucher - valid for 3 months) \$220		
Lunch session	Sat – Sun	11am – 2pm
Dinner session	Fri	6.30 – 9.30pm
Dinner session	Sat – Sun	5.00 – 8.00pm
Private Group lunches & dinners (6 – 30 people)		

— PRIVATE GROUP LUNCHESES & DINNERS —

Maria Pia's Creative Ecofood provides a unique alternative to restaurant dining. Maria Pia will prepare a meal catering to your preferences and any special dietary requirements (e.g. gluten free, vegetarian, vegan etc.)

Group dinners are available both with and without a cooking demonstration.

- Lunches from \$40
- Dinners from \$55

Wearable Arts

I liked to make a costume it was a good experience and it was quite fun but it was hard but when it was done I thought it really made up to it but Meta thought it was really good.

My costume was the tin man from the wizard of Oz he was very funny & hard to make.

I felt really happy because I thought I was going to win. When I first went into my costume I felt really warm and comfortable but sharp.

On stage I felt really good because I almost tripped over and I could have got lots of attention and I might have even got lots of video-cameras recording me, but there were no video-cameras recording me except for the ones that the mum and dads were holding.

I felt really good when I WON the ticket & I almost fainted. We went to the wearable arts the next day.

I felt really good going to the adult's wearable arts it was scary at first and I was the only one from Thorndon School but its ok I'm not trying to show-off. The show was awesome and the costumes were very detailed. There was this lady at the end that was lifted up by wire and she had a sailor's hat.

JEDI

Safety Inquiry

Next term all our classes will be working on a Safety Inquiry. Each syndicate and class will be looking at safety from slightly different angles but each will be building in some elements of the Keeping Ourselves Safe units we do from time to time.

The KOS programme looks at safety from a number of perspectives but in particular focuses on giving children the tools to be able to recognise what is not safe in terms of interactions with other people and gives them a bank of resources to help them manage uncomfortable or unsafe situations.

As part of the Keeping Ourselves Safe programme we usually hold a parent evening, and, though KOS will only be a part of a wider inquiry unit, we will do the same this year *if there is sufficient demand*. We will hold this on the evening of Thursday October 22 if enough parents are interested.

Can you please email us at office@thorndon.school.nz if you would like to come to an information evening or email your child's teacher.

Te Reo Classes.

Yes, I would be interested in my child being involved in after school classes in Te Reo.

Child's name

Room No

Year Level

Preferred Day(s) _____

Chinese Classes.

Yes, I would be interested in my child being involved in after school classes in Chinese.

Child's name

Room No

Year Level

Preferred Day(s) _____

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