

Thorndon School Newsletter

9/2010

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The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn

Alvin Toffler

Action List

Do we have your email address for the newsletter?

Is your child one of the 6 without an internet agreement?

Have you ordered or sold an entertainment book?

Have you made a donation? Paid your activity fees?

Dear Parents

Here we are, the last day of term already, a term full of assessment, activity, learning and, I hope, a great deal of fun.

Last night staff spent several hours looking at and discussing the national standards in Reading, Writing and Maths. We still have a lot more to discuss and come to grips with and will continue this work in the new term. The new guidelines require schools to report in writing to parents twice a year and we spent some time talking about how we would do this. As you know, we plan to hold our student led conferences early next term and there was considerable discussion about whether we should include the written standards report at this stage. We eventually decided that the student led conference was not the right time or place so we will send out a written progress report specifically against the standards in June. Mid year seems a much more logical time to do this. The assessment information we have from the testing we have done this term will still be a part of the 3 way conferencing. Our reporting timetable for the 2010 year is shown below.

Term 2 – Weeks 2 - 5	Student-led Conferences/Three-way Conferences. A written summary of the conference will be provided.
Term 2 – June 30	Written National Standards progress reports sent home
Term 3 – Weeks 8 -10	Student-led Conferences/Three-way Conferences A written summary of the conference will be provided.
Term 4 – Week 9	Written summative reports sent home. These will report on the whole curriculum as well as the standards.

While the term has been short I think that everyone – staff and pupils – is ready for some time away to recharge before we move into the autumn and winter terms. Some of us have more to look forward to than others these holidays. While many of the staff are taking courses during the break Rebecca Nicholls is getting married so next term we will be welcoming back two newly-weds, Rebecca of course and Jane Stocker who got married last weekend. I am sure you will join with us in wishing both Rebecca and Jane all the very best.

We hope all the children enjoy the holidays and that we have a full muster at the start of the new term ready to head into a new set of learning activities.

Bill Sutton

Conference Times

We are using the same system for booking conference times as we used last year and from Wednesday of next week you will be able to go online to book a time.

The site you go to is www.schoolinterviews.co.nz When you get to the home page you enter a code. If your child is in Rooms 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 use the code ZSRDN. If your child is in Rooms 8, 9, 10, 11 use the code MSDR6.

Room 2 will not be holding conferences at this stage of the year but will be in Term 3.

Internet Agreements

We now have only 6 children yet to return signed Internet agreements, 5 from Room 4 and 2 from Room 6. Please try to return them at the start of next term!

<http://www.thorndon.school.nz/documents/JuniorInternetAgreement.pdf> for Years 1 - 4
<http://www.thorndon.school.nz/documents/SeniorInternetAgreement.pdf> for Years 5 - 8.

Term 2 Calendar

There has been some more chopping and changing in the calendar as we try to make sure that all staff are available for particular activities.

Apr 19	Term 2 begins
Apr 21	Parent Evening – National Standards
Apr 26	Year 7/8 Camp all this week.
Apr 26	3 way conferences begin.
Apr 27	Y 4/5/6 Football tournament
May 4	Y 7/8 Football tournament
May 4	Room 8 to City Gallery
May 4	BoT Meeting
May 5	School Cross Country
May 5	Maori/Pasifika parent evening
May 7	New Parents evening
May 18	Central Zone Cross Country
May 24	Young Leaders Conference
May 25	Central Zone Cross Country
Jun 7	Queens Birthday – school closed
Jun 15	Inter-zone Cross Country
Jul 2	Term ends

Holiday Programme

Wellington Circus Trust is offering some great circus courses during the April school holidays: [102IKC Kids Circus Intensive 3-5pm 12-16 April](#)

This course is for beginners and kids who have been training with Capital E Kids Circus. The course helps children develop their circus skills and confidence over a 1-week intensive course. The class is ideal for kids who enjoy circus aerials and acrobatics and who want to build confidence and have heaps of fun.

Some juggling, hula hoop, rollabola and unicycle will be included but the primary development focus will be acrobatics and aerials. The cost of this course is \$125 or \$110 if paid by 6 April. Other courses are available for adults... so your entire family can run off and join the circus!

If you have any questions about courses or how to enroll please contact Alice at Wellington Circus Trust info@circus.org.nz. There are other great courses available during the April Circus Intensive week and they can all be viewed at www.circus.org.nz

Waterpolo

The first half of the Waterpolo season has finished and will begin again in Term 4.

The Year 5/6 team pictured below finished the season with a win. Congratulations.

The Year 7/8 team weren't so fortunate but they were competitive throughout the last game of their season and we look forward to more success in Term 4.

Thank you to George Wiles who coaches and manages the Year 5/6 team and to Stu Gardiner who manages the senior team.

Stadium Sports

On Monday 22 March Room 8 went to the Westpac Stadium and we did a lot of fun sports. We did badminton, cycling, AFL Football, and netball.

It was really windy and it was raining. The sport I enjoyed most was cycling because we got to ride on this big track. It was the most fun I have had on a school trip.

The track was made of wood and it was really bumpy but really fun. It was really scary when we rode up a see saw and back down.

Oliver Stanish and Samuel Hey



The Taonga Project

In March Room 8 had a special project with Whaea Kahu and Whaea Chrissie from Te Papa. We brainstormed what taonga means. It means treasure. Then we all brought our taonga to school. There were necklaces, medals and special gifts. Five taonga from our class were chosen to go on display in a special case at Te Papa's Discovery Centre.

My treasure was one of the one's chosen. It is a blue moonstone necklace. We wrote profile sheets and told the story of our taonga. Some of them were very emotional. In return Te Papa gave us three books, "The Kuia and the Spider", "How Maui Found his Mother" and "Treasures".

Hannah Hall



Our Taonga



Active Schools

As part of their involvement with the Healthy Heroes initiative Rooms 5, 6 and 7 have been walking regularly and are at the stage when they can get to the top of Tinakori Hill and back between the start of school and morning tea quite comfortably. They are learning a bit about the local environment through this and Room 5 have clearly found some places they enjoy.



Milo Cricket

On Tuesday the Thorndon School 1st XI cricket team played Clyde Quay at Rongotai College. Thorndon came away with a very close victory.

Batting first, Clyde Quay made a commendable 161 runs in their 30 overs. Arvalan Sathiyandra had our best bowling figures with 3 wickets off his 5 overs, for a miserly 6 runs. Shaun Corfield also took 2 wickets in his 5 overs. Overall our fielding was enthusiastic with two great catches being taken.

When batting, Thorndon managed to make the 162 runs we needed to win the game, with an over to spare. The highlight of the batting was a magnificent unbeaten 85 runs scored by Taine Mackenzie. Connall Deacon and Arvalan both supported Taine well and made 12 runs each. Extras (wides, no balls and byes) also scored well!

A close game that was enjoyed by all.

Our thanks to Joanne Carr who gave up her morning to transport and supervise the boys playing in the Milo Cup. Joanna sent in some very positive comments about the group, particularly the way the older boys supported the younger team members. Congratulations to them all.



Holiday Programme

THE GOOD KARMA PROJECT



Free kids art workshops

Kids are invited to join in the creativity at this free art workshop! There will be story-telling about the forgotten children of Burma who inspired the Good Karma Project exhibition, followed by a workshop run by a New Zealand artist where the children can create their own masterpiece.

This is an opportunity for kiwi kids to hear about the lives of those less fortunate than themselves, and create a work of art based on what they have learnt.

Creative kids, in a creative space!

Summer Netball

We are the Thorndon Thunder Birds and we are a Year 4 and 5 netball team. Last Friday we had a netball match and it was the finals. We versed the Cashmere Chipmunks and the final score was 14 – 2. We lost but we tried our best. We had fun playing this season. We practised every Thursday lunch time and we got better and better. Our team worked well together and we had a great coach.

By Mia, Mairi and Max

Billeting

Bailey Road School in Auckland is looking for billets for a group of 15 Year 7/8 pupils on the night of 18 June.

The school is a Decile 3 school in Penrose and the children are all from the school's Gifted and Talented group. They would be looking to be billeted in pairs.

If you think you could help could you please send me an email – bill@thorndon.school.nz



**Thorndon School
Board of Trustees Election
Declaration of Parent Election Results**

Parent representatives votes:

Cribb, Jo	80
Hancock, Mandy	67
Hickey, Andrew	61
Leuga, Luaipou	59
Turner, James	71
Weston, Carol	59

I hereby declare the following duly elected:

Jo Cribb
Mandy Hancock
Andrew Hickey
James Turner
Carol Weston (by lot)

**Board of Trustees Election
Declaration of Staff Election Results**

At the close of nominations, as there was only one valid nomination received, I hereby declare

Rebecca Brown duly elected.

Hela Isaac

RETURNING OFFICER