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Newslink No 12,

6<sup>th</sup> May 2010

Nga mihi nui ki nga whanau o to tatou kura

## **Ladies' Movie Night**

### **THIS Wednesday**

**!!! Please support this Home & School Activity !!!**

This annual fundraiser is proving to be an entertaining night out! Why not get a group of friends together to share a glass of wine or an ice-cream before enjoying the movie – “A Single Man”? You will find another flier in your eldest child’s schoolbag today. Please return the tear off with payment to the blue Home & School box in the foyer.

Funds raised support a range of school activities and benefit all children. This year, fundraising will be directed towards upgrading the playgrounds.

#### **3-way Learning Conferences**

Over 90% of our children met with their families and teachers to talk about their learning this week. These Conferences are beneficial because they place the child and his or her learning at the very heart of what home and school are working in partnership to achieve. This is clearly expressed in our school vision – “Inspiring Future Stars”. Being a future star is about preparing learners to fulfil their aspirations and potential as individuals and as contributing members of society.

We know that when children talk about their learning, they become more aware, more involved and more responsible through identifying what they can do well, what they find challenging and setting goals for next learning steps and how to overcome difficulties. For this reason we strongly encourage all children to have this opportunity.

We also know that when home and school work in such a partnership, children see that their learning is valued. Parents and teachers develop a stronger relationship focused on learning and goals are more likely to be achieved.

I have asked teachers to make contact with families whose children have not yet been involved in a learning conference. If you have not heard from us in the near future, please email your child’s teacher directly to arrange a mutually convenient time. Email address links can be found on the school website [www.khandallah.school.nz](http://www.khandallah.school.nz) under the “contact us” button.

#### **Whānau Hui**

An opportunity to meet with whānau to talk about aspirations and achievement of tamariki Māori, our school curriculum goals and priorities, te reo me tikanga Māori and biculturalism has been arranged for Monday, 17 May in the staffroom. Following a suggestion from one whanau, our hui will start at 6:00pm and include kai. Whanau (including tamariki) are very welcome.

Please respond with numbers of adults and tamariki attending to the office by Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> May. We look forward to your contributions and feedback.

#### **Whole school afternoon activities**

I understand there has been comment amongst parents about our decision to gather all children in the hall on Monday afternoon while teachers attended a paid union meeting and Tuesday afternoon during

the first 45 minutes of learning conferences. Two teachers, two teacher aides and I worked with the children to practise waiata for the official welcome of our ERO visitors. We also enjoyed watching and singing along to our Skoolstars DVD which we made as part of our “*Celebrating Diversity through Music*” unit in Term 3 last year.

In previous years, we asked parents to collect children at 2:00pm. While many parents were happy to do this, others found leaving work early and making other arrangements extremely difficult. It is also difficult from a health and safety perspective to manage staggered departure times for those who are unable to be dismissed at the earlier time.

By organising in such a way, we were able to keep our 360 children at school until the normal dismissal time, thus minimising the inconvenience for parents.

### **New Parent Information Meeting**

Sixteen prospective parents attended the information meeting yesterday. This is the second such session. Judging from feedback received, this appears to be a positive strategy for introducing parents to our school. Thank you to everyone who helped “Spread the word!”

### **Parent Representatives**

We are still without parent representatives for Rooms 9, 13 & 14. I strongly encourage families with children in these rooms to consider putting themselves forward for this important role. It is only when we have sound communication links that we can truly operate collectively for the good of our children. Please email Rebecca – [themorders@clear.net.nz](mailto:themorders@clear.net.nz)

### **Electronic Newsletters**

Electronic newsletters will continue to be sent to the school email address of children in Rooms 6, 13, 14, 15 and 16. This weeks system will be extended to families with children in Room 10.

### **“Kiwisport” Funding**

Funding is available to help children participate in organised sport beyond school. Those who would like help to pay some or all of the season’s subscriptions are invited to email, [principal@khandallah.school.nz](mailto:principal@khandallah.school.nz), in confidence. Please include your child’s name, the sport your child wishes to play, the subscription rate for the season and a list of any other sports and activities the child is involved in.

### **Swimming Pool Submission**

You may have seen recent coverage, in the local papers, about Wellington City Council (WCC) reducing its funding allocation to support schools to maintain their pools. The Khandallah School Board of Trustees is planning a submission on the WCC Draft Annual Plan and it is easy for you to have your say too!

The WCC 2010/11 Draft Annual Plan includes recreation grants of \$500,000 to help upgrade existing school pools where this will increase public access to learn to swim programmes. The original Council proposal was to allocate \$2.065 million over two years for this purpose.

Khandallah School faces significant challenges in maintaining our school pool and we don’t want to lose it! The pool currently caters for swimming lessons both through school swimming and EasySwim Swim School. We are writing a submission asking Council to reinstate the original \$2.065million funding allocation.

You can have your say too. The easiest way is to make an online submission at:  
<http://www.wellington.govt.nz/haveyoursay/publicinput/community-facilities.php>

Please let Council know:

- That the Khandallah School pool is important and why.
- That you would like Council to allocate more funding to help schools keep their pools operable.

**Submissions close Monday, 10 May so if you want to make a submission get online now!**

## Thanks

- All families attending learning conferences this week.
- Parents supporting children and learning by assisting within and around the school.

## Coming Events

10 May	Home & School Meeting, 7:00pm, staffroom
12 May	Assembly, Rooms 5 & 15 Ladies' Movie Night ... join us ... you deserve it!
17 May	Whānau Hui, staffroom, 6:00pm
19 May	Junior School Cross Country, 11:45am Middle / Senior School Cross Country, 1:30pm
20 May	<b>Board of Trustees Meeting</b>
24 May	Young Leaders' Day
31 May	ERO visit
2 July	End of Term 2

## Special Acknowledgement

The current Board of Trustees met for the final time last Thursday. Four elected parent representatives, one co-opted member and the staff representative have completed their three year term. We acknowledge the many valuable contributions of **Bill Courtney**, chairperson; **Fiona Whyte**, Health & Safety; **Conrad Healy**, Information Communication Technology; **Andrew Croad**, finance; **Gary Anaru**, property and **Mark Leggett**, Deputy Principal.

The current board has demonstrated a commitment to governance, consulted widely, established a clear strategic direction based on key principles, created a new-look charter and made its mandatory reports more accessible by issuing "user friendly" versions. A systematic approach to policy review, property and financial management has also been initiated. The Board keeps students and their learning at the heart of their decision-making. Decisions are based on a wide range of information including student achievement data, research and best practice.

A considerable amount of work has been progressed in the two years since I took up the exciting role of principal of our school. Relationships between the board and principal have been enhanced through three key values – trust, 2-way accountability and support – established early in our working relationship and exhibited by all members.

The Board also consists of three parent representatives elected in September 2009 – **Catherine Cooper**, **Peter Boniface** and **Steve Ware**. These members continue their term until September 2011 and will provide continuity and valuable support for new members.

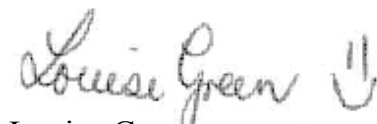
On behalf of all students and staff I would like to thank board members for the significant personal time and energy dedicated to governing our school and for the expertise so willingly shared and their constructive and collaborative way of working.

On a personal level I would like to sincerely thank **Bill Courtney**, Chairman, who has worked tirelessly in the best interests of the students, staff and school as a whole. Under his guidance, the board has been effective and successful.

## Finally,

This Sunday is Mothers' Day! I hope all our precious mums have a wonderful day and that they are well and truly spoilt by their children! You deserve it!

Arohanui



Louise Green  
Principal



## Message from our Board of Trustees

Over the last 18 months the Board has re-written the school charter. This has involved lots of input from the community, over three parent engagement evenings and workshops with staff. The new Charter reflects the work done at these sessions, particularly in the school values, the graduate profile (which we have used to define a “future star”) and the feedback on what makes our school unique. The charter is published on the school website [www.khandallah.school.nz](http://www.khandallah.school.nz) and copies are available in the office. Here are some highlights:

After much discussion and some very good suggestions from parents we decided to adopt the school’s existing and well known motto “Inspiring Future Stars” as our Vision. What is a “future star”? Key themes emerged from community input on what a Khandallah School graduate should be like should be like.

“Future Stars” are:

- \* Ready for the future, inspired, prepared, confident and resilient.
- \* Good citizens, valuing community, respecting other people and cultures as well as the environment.”

### *Our school values are:*

- “People...valuing people and treating each other and ourselves with respect, honesty and integrity;
- Passion...enjoyment, energy, drive and a commitment to life-long learning;
- Success for all...all students can learn and achieve to their full potential;
- Community...recognizing and utilizing the contribution of all of our people;
- Excellence...valuing achievement and encouraging high expectations;
- Innovation... encouraging creativity, curiosity and critical and reflective thinking;
- Cultural diversity...valuing the multi-cultural nature of our school and the special place of Tikanga Māori and Te Reo Māori;
- Ecological sustainability...respecting and protecting the world we live in and particularly the special environment in and around our school.”

Our Mission Statement describes what we are here to do: “To work together to inspire and nurture learning”.

The Khandallah School Charter also defines a set of principles or beliefs about what is important in maintaining high standards of education and these underpin the development of the Strategic Plan contained in the Charter.

The Charter also includes an overview of the 2010 Annual Plan and will be reviewed each year.

## **Board of Trustee Elections**

### **Voting closes 12 noon tomorrow**

<b>2010</b>	<b>SCHOOL TRUSTEES ELECTIONS</b>	<b>7 May,</b>	<b>Voting day</b>
		<b>13 May,</b>	<b>Votes counted</b>
		<b>14 May,</b>	<b>New Board takes office</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>Strong leaders make strong schools</b>	<b>20 May,</b>	<b>First meeting of new Board</b>

## Community Notices

### ST BENEDICT'S SCHOOL "WAKE UP YOUR WARDROBE"



**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2010 at 7.15pm**  
**at the Khandallah Town Hall**  
**11 Ganges Road, Khandallah**

**Tickets \$30.00 per person – or why not get a group of friends together**  
**Tables of 8 available for \$25.00 per person**

If you have heard of Trinny & Susannah and thought how useful it would be to gain some personal styling tips of your own, then St Benedict's School "Wake Up Your Wardrobe" fundraiser night is just for you.

Lisa O'Neill is a well known stylist and guest speaker, who educates and inspires women to love the way they look and how to look the way that they want!

Fun, informative and informal, Lisa covers body shapes, colour, clothing styles, and many other tips to help you with your own style sense.

Tickets can be purchased from the following places in the Khandallah Village – Rosa Cafe, or Harveys Khandallah, or by phoning Catherine Rundle on 479-1416.

#### **STAR DANCE ACADEMY WELLINGTON**

A wide range of dance styles for youth.... Hip-hop, Jive, Disco, Fun Dances, Jazz, Dance Games, Cha Cha, Salsa, Bachata, Merengue, Team Work, Confidence, FUN!

**Newtown Hall** - Corner of Daniell and Constable Street, Newtown.

**Wednesdays** - Juniors (5-7yrs)/ Intermediates (8-9yrs) = 3.30 - 4.30pm

**Wednesdays** - Seniors (10-15yrs) = 4 - 5.15pm

**Fees:** Juniors/Intermediates =\$60 a term/Seniors =\$70 a term (9 weeks)

**Contact:** [stardancewellington@gmail.com](mailto:stardancewellington@gmail.com) for information or visit [www.stardanceacademy.co.nz](http://www.stardanceacademy.co.nz)

**DREAM IT DANCE IT DO IT**

#### **Breathing Space Workshop**

Understanding Your Anger - A workshop for Parents

7pm-10pm, Wednesday 26th May

Do you ever feel like your anger is in control of you?

This workshop will help you to understand your anger and develop strategies so you are in control of your anger more of the time.

To register e-mail [helen@breathingspacenz.com](mailto:helen@breathingspacenz.com)

Or visit our website for further information [www.breathingspacenz.com](http://www.breathingspacenz.com)

## **Artsight's Term 2 After School Art Classes**

Artsight's Term 2 After School Art Classes begin this week. We offer a range of fun and inspiring Art classes for 5-10 years and 10+. All classes are taught by a registered Visual Arts teacher in a spacious and light art studio at Toi Poneke Arts Centre, Wellington. For enquiries and to book check out our website: [www.artsight.co.nz](http://www.artsight.co.nz) or contact Fiona 04 3862908, 021786629, email [fiona@artsight.co.nz](mailto:fiona@artsight.co.nz)