

Newslink No 20,

1<sup>st</sup> July 2010

Nga mihi nui ki nga whanau o to tatou kura

## Welcome to the final newsletter of Term 2

The term has been an eventful one on all fronts! As well as the triennial visit from the Education Review Office which looked at our effectiveness in promoting student achievement and progress, there has been a constant stream of events. Let's recap!



### ***Akoranga - Learning:-***

- Individual Assessment Portfolios have been updated and will be sent home tomorrow.
- 3-way Learning Conferences have taken place.
- Successful team performance at Inter-zone Cross Country.
- Our Young Leaders, Student Leaders and Green Team Members have been “active”.
- Students participating in Computing, Science, Spelling, Writing ICAS competitions.
- Emergency procedures for Fire, Earthquake and Evacuating have been practised.
- “Let's Wonder” unit has seen students investigating the Material World (Science). Assessment activities have enabled us to gauge learning and identify next steps.

### ***Akoranga - Teaching:-***

- Classroom observations (Reading/Writing) have taken place in every classroom.
- Feedback to teachers has included a focus on student involvement in the learning process and formative assessment practice.
- Leadership Team Development has continued with educational consultant, Paul Tegg.
- Teachers have attended a range of courses on Numeracy, ICT, National Standards, English for Speakers of Other Languages, Thinking, Key Competencies, Library, Gifted and Talented Education and Reading Comprehension as well as meeting weekly for professional learning directly related to our school's strategic goals.

### ***Kaimahi - Staff:-***

- Jane Furnish, librarian/resource manager joined us and already we see changes!
- Judy Cosgriff (support staff) identified as a “workplace leader” for her expertise.
- A number of significant events have taken place – engagements, graduations, new grandchildren and bereavements.
- Interviews for and appointment of Room 14 teacher have occurred.

### ***Poari - Board of Trustees:-***

- Elections have resulted in one parent representative being returned, three new parent representatives and one staff representative taking up office for the next three years.

### **Rawa - Property:-**

- Drainage problems and dysfunctional heating in Rooms 7-12 have been repaired.
- Swimming Pool submission prepared and spoken to at Wellington City Council meeting. Committee set up to progress investigations for upgrading our facility.

### **Whanau – School Family:-**

- New parent information session, Ladies Movie Night, two Whanau Hui, Mid-Winter Discos, class social functions, 40 Hour Famine, Sausage Sizzle, Hero Day, Support Staff Day and range of fundraising activities have taken place.

### **Emergency Evacuation**

Knowing your role  
saves lives



### **Whole School Evacuation Practice**

Planning and preparation paid off as we carried out a whole-school evacuation for the first time. While there is no compulsion to carry out such an exercise, it is good practice. Everyone knowing what is expected of them in the case of an actual emergency is vital. It is also important that parents feel confident that the school has sound procedures in place.

We look forward to receiving your feedback forms so that your views can be considered alongside those of staff and students during the review process. We intend holding another evacuation, probably early next year, to practice an outdoor evacuation.

In the meantime, I would like to thank all parents for your overwhelming support of this practice. You were extremely patient, positive and constructive in approach. By 2:55pm (normal bell time) we had evacuated the vast majority of our 360 students with only 27 remaining to be collected. By 3:15pm this number had reduced to just 3 students.

### **Whānau Hui**

Eleven members of the whānau attended the second hui earlier this week. This was an exciting meeting as whānau worked on ways to support teachers to promote Te Ao Māori during Term 3.

### **Reporting to Parents Survey**

Thank you to the 34 families who have completed the Survey to date. This represents about 14% of our population and while not a large response, it will give us an indication of parents' views. These views will be considered by teachers as we review our reporting system, in relation to legislative requirements.

The survey will remain open for another 10 days. Access from the homepage of our school website or using this link: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ReportingtoParentsSurvey>

The families providing their name when completing the survey by this week's deadline have been included in the draw for a \$10 Warehouse Gift Card. Congratulations to the **Pettit Family** (Thomas is in Room 15) who are the lucky winners.

## **School Holidays**

After such a busy term, and with a number struggling with illness, teachers are looking forward to a good rest during the non-contact time the holidays provide. Teaching is an extremely rewarding profession, however, by the end of term it is important for them to relax and refresh themselves ready for the children's return in the new term. It is also important that teachers use the non-contact time to plan and prepare for the term ahead.

## **Call Back Day**

On the last day of the school holidays, teachers will return for a professional learning workshop related to the National Standards. There is a lot to learn but we are hopeful that we can make good progress now that the Literacy and Numeracy Lead Teachers, ***Karen Grant, Kevin Pegg*** and I have attended workshops.

No doubt, you will have heard that the Auckland Primary Principals Association is advising schools not to attend further training workshops on the standards because "the standards are flawed and the training is confusing". This view has also been publicly stated by Canterbury, Northland, Rotorua, Manawatu and Invercargill principals associations.

After attending three workshops, we agree that the training is confusing. We still have many questions to which there appear no answers. However, we will apply our professional knowledge to make sense of the expectations regarding Reading and Mathematics standards for ourselves during this time. We will tackle writing with the help of the Assessment to Learn facilitators later in the term.

One important aspect of the standards is that teachers will make "overall teacher judgements" based on multiple sources of evidence – norm referenced assessment tools, knowledge of the subject, knowledge of the learning process, observations and interaction with learners and their daily work. While this might sound simple, in reality this is not the case. The norm referenced tools do not easily relate to the standards, the terminology is subjective and an enormous amount of professional dialogue is required to ensure consistent interpretation. An evening workshop will be held during term 3 to inform and engage parents with the standards.

## **Regional Cross Country**

On Tuesday the 29th of June four Khandallah School students travelled to Waikanae to represent the Wellington region at the Regional cross-country competition. In a race that was both long and difficult they represented our school with pride and distinction.

### ***Results:***

***Year 4 Girls: Lokyee Szeto 2nd, Francie O'Connor 29th***

***Year 5 Girls: Caitlin Douglass 12th***

***Year 6 Boys: Sean Beresford 27th***

These are all outstanding results and every one of these students should be extremely proud of their efforts and dedication. Well done!

***Kevin Pegg, co-ordinator***

## **Thanks**

- ☺ Students and staff for your great attitude and contribution to Evacuation Day.
- ☺ Sue Varney and her team of helpers organizing the Mid-Winter Disco last Friday.
- ☺ All sports coaches for the time and energy you give to our students.
- ☺ Everyone paying school donations. We value your support.
- ☺ Parents supporting Cross Country runners this week.

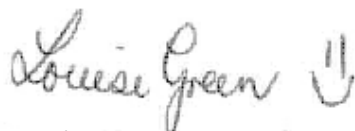
## Coming Events

- 2 July White Out! Celebrating success for Khandallah School and the All Whites!  
End of Term 2
- 19 July Term 3 begins  
Home & School Meeting, 7:00pm, Staffroom
- 25 July Board of Trustees Planning Day
- 30 July Home & School, Board of Trustees and Staff Mid-Winter Gathering
- 3 Aug ICAS competition – English
- 4 Aug Board of Trustees Meeting, 7:00pm, Staffroom

### *Finally,*

The contribution of everyone involved in delivering our vision of “*Inspiring Future Stars*” during this term is greatly appreciated. We are particularly grateful to Leah Reid for her professionalism and flexibility as she relieved for Margaret Johnston who was given leave to spend time with her aging parents and Jane Hatley during times of bereavement and illness ensuring stability for the youngest members of our school family. We are delighted Leah will return later in the year to start up the new classroom as numbers grow.

Arohanui



Louise Green  
Principal

## FIFA World Cup 2010

An awesome result for the All Whites with three draws in their three pool games! While this result did not see them progress to the next round, they can be extremely proud of their historic success. The All White World Cup story began years ago with vision and determination and has built momentum through persistence and team work by all concerned. I am sure their success will result in a higher profile for the game within the New Zealand sporting psyche. Fantastic!



## White Out!

### Football Fever

All classes are going to participate in a fun football tournament on Friday on the top courts. We know it's going to happen because there's a big sun arriving! Classes will play two games each and we would like the children to be **dressed in white**. This is in support of our fantastic football team who had a dream run at the World Cup and this will mean a very relaxed end to Term 2.

**Safe, happy and relaxing holidays to all!**

## Community Notices

### Calling all Future Silver Ferns.

Next Term we are planning to run a Fun Ferns program. This will run on a Tuesday lunchtimes for approximately 8 weeks next term, on the Netball courts at school. Fun Ferns is a fun netball programme introducing and developing basic ball, movement and game skills.

This program has been run at the school for the past couple of years and been hugely successful.

This will be run for all current year 3 girls to give them some ideas and skills for when they can play netball in year 4.

If you have any queries, or you are keen to come along to help please contact Ruth Humble on 479 3861 or Katrina Magee 4794159

### Onslow Gymnastics

"Is your child always up side down? Then gymnastics is the answer. Onslow Gymnastics has recreational and competitive classes for girls starting from 5 years of age. For class times, venues, enrolments and enquiries, please check out our website [www.onslowgymnastics.org.nz](http://www.onslowgymnastics.org.nz) OR Ph Briony Anaru 479 6694, email [admin@onslowgymnastics.org.nz](mailto:admin@onslowgymnastics.org.nz)"

**ZEALANDIA** (formerly Karori Sanctuary) is running a number of special educational activities for children and their families over the July school holidays. For the first time ever, they are running a nightly Kids Night Walk with hot chocolate, stories and a visit to the glow worm grotto. Booking is essential. Call 04 920 9200 or book online at [www.visitzealandia.com](http://www.visitzealandia.com). Also, on Saturday 10 July, there is a Kiwi Fun Day with displays, demonstrations and hands-on activities from 10am-2pm. ZEALANDIA is on Waiapu Road, first left after the Karori Tunnel.

### Khandallah Presbyterian Church

Looking for something to do on a cold, wet, boring Sunday afternoon? Come to the Khandallah Presbyterian Church hall for fun, family movies. The next movie is to be on 4th July at 2pm and will be "cloudy with a chance of meatballs". It remains a gold coin donation entry and lollies and drinks will be available in the hall.

### Die Fledermaus

Johann Strauss' Masterpiece of Comic Opera. This touring production, performed in English, is traditionally staged, with full sets and splendid costumes, by the producers of *The Tales of Hoffmann* (2007), *Iolanthe* (2008) and *The Yeomen of the Guard* (2009). Direction is by Dr David Skinner, and the cast of 43 singers is supported by an orchestra of 31 players conducted by musical director Hugh McMillan.

Wellington Thurs 19 – Sat 21 August. Wellington Opera House – Book at Westpac St James Theatre, Courtenay Place. Ticketek 04 384 3840 or [www.ticketek.co.nz](http://www.ticketek.co.nz)

Performances are at 7:30pm, with additional 2:00pm Saturday matinees at Wellington, Kapiti and Palmerston North venues.

### Bubble Dome

Have you ever wondered how computer games and 3D movies like Shrek are made? Learn the latest in 3D Animation and Games Design on a Bubble Dome School Holiday workshop this July at Scots College (6-8 July) and Samuel Marsden Collegiate (13-15 July). Other courses in Science, Inventions & Technology and Afterschool Animation at selected venues. For students aged 6 to 16 years. Tel: 0800 GET BUBBLE (438-282) or Email: [info@bubbledome.co.nz](mailto:info@bubbledome.co.nz) or Visit: [www.bubbledome.co.nz](http://www.bubbledome.co.nz)