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Newslink No 10,

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!!! Newsflash !!!

**Because of the important messages in this week's newsletter,
a paper copy is being distributed to all families.**

3-way Learning Conferences Tuesday 4th May & Thursday 6th May On-line booking now available

This year we are offering parents direct control over the booking process for 3-way Learning Conferences by using an on-line booking system.

For those *with internet* access, the process is simple, time preferences allocated on a "first in, first served" basis. An email is sent to you confirming the day/time of your conference.

For those *without internet* access, you can either call into our ICT Suite between 8:30 and 9:00am or 2:55 and 3:15pm to access the website yourself. Annette Colls will be there to help. Alternatively, phone the office and we will schedule your conference on your behalf.

Please go to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz. Enter school code **3FL8H** and follow prompts.

We would love *every* child in Rooms 3-16, and *at least* one parent/caregiver/whanau member, to attend as these conferences are an essential part of our "*reporting to parents*" programme. Room 1 parents will be invited to a learning conference after the child's entry assessments have been carried out.

More detail about your child's assessment portfolio which will come home tomorrow and 3-way Learning Conferences appear later in this newsletter. Please read to ensure you understand the purpose, expectations and process.

Board of Trustee Elections

To date 3 nominations for 4 parent representative positions

Nominations close tomorrow at noon

2010	SCHOOL TRUSTEES ELECTIONS	23 April,	Nominations close
		28 April,	Voting papers distributed
		7 May,	Voting day
		13 May,	Votes counted
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Strong leaders make strong schools	14 May,	New Board takes office

Nga mihi nui ki nga whanau o to tatou kura

Nau mai, haere mai! Greetings and a warm welcome to the new term! We extend a very warm Khandallah welcome to all new members of our school family.

What's ahead in Term 2?

The term is shaping up to be an eventful one. In classrooms, we will continue the "Being Prepared" unit for the first few weeks with a whole-school emergency evacuation drill scheduled for the end of term. More details as the term progresses. Science will provide the rich learning context for the remainder of the term. During the "I wonder..." theme, children will explore the "material" world and the properties of matter!

Cross country training for all, and swimming/water safety skill development for the middle/senior school will keep us fit and active as we build up for inter-school events.

Also on the agenda are the Board of Trustees parent and staff elections, community consultation on reporting processes and with Māori whānau as well as a visit from the Education Review Office. The review will focus on "*How effectively is student learning promoted in our school?*" ERO will talk with students, staff, board members and parents to determine how our school's *culture, governance, leadership* and *teaching* promote learning and how our *parents and whānau* engage with us to promote learning.

Individual Assessment Portfolios

On that note, you will have an opportunity to engage with your child when they bring home their individual portfolios tomorrow. In these you will find the results of formal Term 1 assessments including handwriting, spelling, reading graph (Years 1-3) or asTTle Reading results (Years 4-6), writing sample summary with next steps; Numeracy Project Assessment summary and basic facts as well as individual goals based on key competencies. Achievement results in reading, writing and numeracy based on nationally referenced assessments.

We encourage you to spend time with your child sharing and talking about their learning. Talk about what your child has learnt; what is going well; what is difficult or still needs to be worked on. These questions keep the focus on the learning process itself.

Please return the portfolio to school by Wednesday, 28th April as it will be used during the 3-way conference as a basis for discussion about their learning.

National Standards

As indicated during the parent information evening at the beginning of the year, we are not reporting your child's progress against the national standards at this time. Our teachers have not yet received professional development with the standards. We need time for this to happen; time to consult with you and review our assessment and reporting practices and time to carefully consider changes against the principles outlined in our school charter.

What are 3-way Learning Conferences?

The 3-way conference provides a wonderful opportunity for student, parents and teacher to discuss the child's learning. This form of communicating about achievement is motivational as children feel a real sense of responsibility for their own learning and pride in their success. 3-way Conferences also strengthen home/school partnerships.

Conferences will focus on literacy, numeracy and key competencies - the skills we develop which influence the way we learn, live, work and contribute as active members of society. Students play a central role as they share where they are achieving well and what they are working on next.

At the end of the conference, a summary sheet will be completed which clearly outlines one priority learning goal which the child, family and school can work on together.

“Kiwisport” Funding

Annually we receive funding to:

1. Increase the numbers of children participating in organised sport;
2. Increase the availability and accessibility of sport opportunities; and
3. Support children in developing skills to help them participate effectively in sport.

We use some of the funding to provide “Grasshopper” Tennis Coaching for all children. The remainder will be used to fund one other opportunity for children to learn skills and participate in sport during 2010.

Some funding is available to help children participate in organised sport. Parents who would like help to pay some/all of the fees can email me, principal@khandallah.school.nz, in confidence, with the name of their child(ren), the sport in which they wish to participate, the fee for the season and a list of other sports and after school activities in which the child(ren) are involved.

Swimming

Assessments have been completed by Easyswim instructors and groups are being formulated ready for lessons to begin next week. *ALL* students are expected to participate unless there are *justifiable* circumstances. These should be conveyed to the class teacher. If your child is ill on a swimming day, a note of explanation written by the parent should be sent to the teacher. Catch up lessons will be provided.

Swimming caps are required for all swimmers. We have awesome gold caps with red logos available from the office at just \$7 each. These have been sponsored by EasySwim.

Please send payment immediately for lessons and cap (if required) in a sealed envelope with your child’s name and room number clearly marked. Envelopes should be placed in the red box in the foyer. Thank you.

Book Amnesty

Please return any readers, library books or school resources discovered during your holiday “spring clean”. Thank you.

Electronic Newsletters

Electronic newsletters will continue to be sent to families with children in Rooms 13, 15 and 16. The system will be extended to families with children in Room 14 this week.

Board of Trustees Meeting

Agenda items include Achievement Data; 2010 Charter; Personnel and Health & Safety Policy approval.

Internet Problems

Problems with our broadband connection and internet provider over the holidays have meant that many emails have been delayed finding their way into our inboxes! We apologise to parents who have not received replies and ask that you resend these if you have not had a reply by early next week.

Crossing Clark Street

Parents sometimes ask why they cannot cross their children over Clark Street from the school side of Clark Street. A full explanation will be provided in next week's newsletter.

Thanks

- Students and staff returning to school with energy and enthusiasm this week!
- Everyone paying middle/senior school swimming activity fees.
- Children picking up broken glass around slides.
- Children helping and supporting others who are hurt.

Coming Events

23 Apr	Assessment Portfolios sent home
28 Apr	Assessment Portfolios returned
29 Apr	Board of Trustees Meeting , 7:00pm, staffroom
4 May	3-way learning conferences, 2:15-5:45pm – remember to book on-line
5 May	New/prospective parent information morning, 9:00am, staffroom
6 May	3-way learning conferences, 3:15-6:45pm – remember to book on-line
10 May	Home & School Meeting, 7:00pm, staffroom
12 May	Ladies' Movie Night
31 May	ERO visit



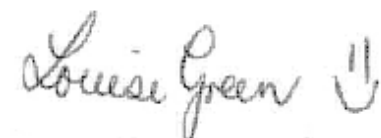
We are delighted to welcome **Mrs Jane Furnish** to our learning community. Jane is our new librarian/resource manager. She has qualifications in library studies and education. After working as a teacher aide in Northland School, Jane is eager to return to a librarian role in our school.

Finally,

We are aware that a small number of families are affected by the impact of the volcanic activity in Iceland which is creating havoc for air traffic movements over Europe. This must be very frustrating, and costly, for all concerned.

One of our students is “stranded” in the UK. He and his family have “embarked on a home schooling routine, focusing on writing, arithmetic, reading, and arts, with field trips to museums etc. in the afternoon”. What an experience – it proves there is a silver lining in every cloud!

Arohanui

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Louise Green" followed by a small downward-pointing arrow.

Louise Green
Principal

Community Notices

Kelly Sports at school for Term 2

Kelly Sports is starting in week 2 on **April 26th**. **Sports Beginnings** has just a few places left, **Autumn Antics** (after school) is a multisport programme, 2 sessions of 4 different sports; **Hockey, Football, Basketball** and **Ball Sports** - for children interested in sports (or just having fun) it allows them to try a wide variety of sports in a fun & challenging environment. As always, all Kelly Sports Programmes are aimed at having fun and encouraging all children to reach their full potential and develop a love of sport. The fliers are available through our website www.ksports.co.nz or contact the office for more information at rachel@kellysports.co.nz or on 04 972 7201.

Onslow Kindergarten Kitchen Tour 2010

Onslow Kindergarten is again organising a Tour of 10 Khandallah Kitchens, after the success of their 2008 Kitchen Tour. Ten new Khandallah Kitchens (not previously seen on the 2008 Kitchen Tour) will be open to the paying public on Sunday 2 May from 11am-3pm. Tickets \$25.00 available from: Mischief shoes, Lambton Quay; Rosa Café, Khandallah; Boxhill Fashions, Ngaio; Trends, Johnsonville Mall; Inky Pinky, Marsden Village Karori and via the sponsor, Kitchen Elements, Porirua. More information available at:

<http://www.kitchenelements.co.nz> <<http://www.kitchenelements.co.nz/>>