

# **NEWSLETTER – 14 March 2011**

**Kia Ora, Talofa, Kia Orana, Malo e lelei, Ni Sa Bula, Assalam Alaikum, Ni hao, Namaste, Buon Giorno, Mingalaba.**



## **Welcome!**

Hello everyone! With traumatic events happening around the world, please ensure we have your latest details. We have food, water and emergency supplies at school in the event of an emergency. We aim to keep your child safe!

## **Changes Around the School**

We hope you have noticed some positive changes around the school. We're coming to the end of having the whole school repainted. We have a fresh new look for 2011 and beyond, and we're not finished yet! The builders are currently in the process of remodelling our front entrance - there will be a new fence, entrance gate, mailbox and planting. We have had the student toilets in the main block upgraded, the playground equipment has been upgraded, and we are planning new seating in front of the main block, and planting and seating in the corner between the playground, hall and concrete area. Later in the year we plan to have the sports field smoothed and seeded to improve its quality - we are waiting for the rain to keep it watered! I hope you'll agree that the school is looking pretty good. We have had very little vandalism here in the last few years, please help us to keep it that way - if you notice anybody tagging our new paintwork or lurking where they shouldn't, please call the Police. We want to keep our school looking good for your children and your community.



## **Family Feast**

Thank you to all those families who came along to the Family Feast held on Wednesday 2 March. We had a great turnout. The weather during the first part of the day was terrible! We had wind and rain threatening to make it a very soggy evening, but by mid afternoon it had started to clear, and by the time people arrived it was a sunny summer evening which meant the children played outside for most of the evening!

Thank you to all those who brought food and family along, and thank you to those who helped with the clean up afterwards. This has become quite an event on the school calendar and people who could not make it were very disappointed. It is a great way for the families to meet the staff and for the staff to catch up with our community in an informal setting.

## **Fundraising for Year 6, 7 and 8 Camp**

Thank you for supporting the Year 6, 7 and 8 Camp fundraising efforts. The children and their families are selling chocolates for \$2.50 a bar. If you need chocolate, don't hesitate to buy a bar or two to help get the children to camp! If you have been collecting funds, then get them to Miss Smith as soon as you can as she is keeping track of the finances!



## **Special Thank You!**

A special thank you to several companies and people in our community who have donated funds and goods to help our senior camp happen in April. Because we have not asked firms or individuals if we can publish their names, we have chosen not to, but we are planning a special thank you event later in the year!

# “Kickstart” – New Entrant Programme

We know of several new entrants coming to our school soon. The “Kickstart” programme continues in 2011. This programme introduces your pre-schooler to school life. You are welcome to bring along your four year old every second *Thursday* from 9am to 11am – the next opportunity will be this Thursday 17 March. Please mention this to others you know of with children due to start school soon. This is a great way for your child to become familiar with school life. If you need to pick up enrolment packs for your new entrant, please see Margaret in the office.



## Inhalers At School

You may remember our note in the 26 November newsletter about inhalers at school. If your child has an inhaler at school, you will need to check expiry dates to make sure they are current. It is recommended policy that the children have their inhalers with them in their classrooms - this way they have easy and instant access to their medication. Perhaps you can make a booklet that your child keeps in their bag that they can fill out when they use their inhaler at school. This way you can keep tabs on how they are feeling during the school day and when they use their inhalers.

## Absentees

Please help us keep track of absent children. Children are required to attend school. If you don't advise us that your child will be away, we are required by the Ministry of Education to contact you on any of the numbers we have available. We have a cellphone that you can text your child's absence details to. We need to know your child's full name, room number and reason for absence. The number to text is 0277-480100. Please do not leave voice messages on this number, we can only receive texts. If you wish to telephone your child's absence details in to the school, call the school office on 04-3886070. All absences are kept on record as part of Ministry of Education policy. Children who are absent too often are referred to Truancy Services and then if necessary to CYFS. If your child is sick often, we may request a signed Medical Certificate. You need you to call us, not wait for us call you.



## Breakfast Co-op

Our Breakfast Co-op is running again this year. You can purchase quality food for your family for much less than the supermarket charges – milk, bread, cereals, and canned foods. Prices have gone up slightly on a few items this year, but they are still cheaper through us. Have a look at the order form that your child brings home each Monday.

Orders need to be to the school office on Tuesday mornings by 10am, and goods must be picked up from the foyer between 2.45pm and 3.00pm. Pay when your child brings in the order, or pay on pickup. If you wish to set up a regular weekly order to save filling out weekly orders please let us know.

## What's Coming Up

16 March	Eastern Zone Miniball Tournament.
24 March	Broadway South and Room 3 trip to Te Papa.
6 and 7 April	Year 6, 7 and 8 School Camp.



**Jeanette De La Mare**  
**PRINCIPAL**  
**MIRAMAR SOUTH SCHOOL**



### Community Notices

- Harbour City Hockey Club - Junior club caters for 5-13 year olds. Games on Saturdays in Terms 2 and 3. Registration between 2.00pm and 3.30pm at National Hockey Stadium in Newtown on 19 March. Phone Fiona on 3836947 for info.