

NEWSLETTER – 31 May 2010

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



Welcome!

I think winter has really started now! Please make sure your children are warmly dressed when they come to school. Help them to have a healthy breakfast before they leave home and a good lunch packed for their school day.

Absentees

We have a cellphone to 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. If you do not call us the Ministry of Education requires us to contact you. 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 can request a signed Medical Certificate.



Contact Details

Please make sure the contact details we have for you are up to date. We will try to contact you in need using the numbers you have given us. Some numbers we try to use are wrong, disconnected or reallocated to people who have never heard of the child concerned! When you are next in the school, please see Margaret and she can check we have the correct details on file. If your child becomes sick or injured while they are at school, we need to be able to contact you.

New Roof

You may have noticed the flash new blue roof on the main school block. The old roof had a few leaks that have now all been fixed with the installation of the new roof. The work was mainly done during the last school holidays. I hope you'll agree that the new roof and recently rebuilt deck make the school sparkle!

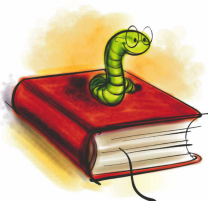


Student Achievement Target 2 2009 - Results

You will find attached to this newsletter Target 2 results. Outlined are the target, what steps we took to improve literacy in the target group, the outcomes and decisions about where to head in 2010.

Activity and Technology Fees

Please bring your Activity Donations and Technology Fees for 2010 to the office. The Activity Donation is \$60 for one child, or \$100 for two or more children attending our school for the whole year. If you cannot make full payment at the beginning of the year, then part payment can be made throughout the school year. This donation goes directly to support student learning. Technology Fees are \$20 per term for the Year 7 and 8 students. A big thank you to those who have already made payments. This is much appreciated.



Reading

As a parent you are probably helping your child with reading much more that you may realise! If your home contains books, magazines and catalogues and your child sees you reading then your child already has a head start in this area. Some tips:

- ☺ Remember that talking (in any language) about reading is very important, so if your child is sometimes reluctant to read aloud, discussing a book will also help to develop reading skills.
- ☺ Concentrate on enjoyment and grasping the meaning rather than getting every word right.
- ☺ Keep reading time relaxed, comfortable and pleasurable, in a quiet area.
- ☺ Look through the book, noticing interesting pictures and words, then read the opening together.
- ☺ Don't correct too quickly. If your child makes an error suggest having another go, searching the pictures for a clue, sounding out the first letter or reading on before you 'tell' the problem word.
- ☺ If your child is older and they read silently ask her/him to re-tell the part that has been read.
- ☺ Ask them to explain to you what happened in your first language.



Breakfast Cooperative

With the cold weather upon us you can buy breakfast supplies such as porridge, Weetbix, canned fruit, milk and bread through our Breakfast Cooperative each week. Please make use of this service each week during term time to buy food at heavily reduced prices! Order forms go home each Monday with your child and need to be back at the school office on Tuesday morning. Pick up and pay for orders on Thursday by 3.00pm. If you haven't used the Breakfast Coop yet, try using it this term. You'll see a difference in your food bill. This is a great chance to stock up on hot breakfast supplies for cold winter mornings.



Cross Country

The Eastern Zone Cross Country will hopefully be held on Tuesday 2 June at Martin Luckie Park. Your children have had notices sent home if they are involved. We will let you know if it is not going to go ahead. You can appreciate it will depend on the weather. Some of you parents have kindly indicated that you can come along as helpers.

"Kickstart" – New Entrant Programme

Please bring your four year olds to Miss Boyes "Kickstart" programme in Room 2 this term. This programme will introduce your pre-schooler to our school. The programme runs every *second Thursday* from 9am to 11am – the next opportunity is on Thursday 10 June. Please mention this to other parents you know of with children due to start school soon. This is a great way for the children to see what school will be like when they start as a new entrant.



Queen's Birthday Weekend

Please note that our school is closed over Queens Birthday on Friday 4 and Monday 7 June. If you child arrives at school on either of these days, nobody will be here. Have a good holiday break.

Miniball Results

Well done to our Miniball Team who represents our school each week. We had a win against Hataitai on 17 May. Players of the Day were Breahn Kimura and Lemau Atonio. We had a loss this week on 24 May against Holy Cross. Players of the Day for this match were Kaira Scheck and Jason Poihipi. Well done team. Keep up the hard work and thank you all for behaving so well when representing our school. A big thank you to the parents who come along and support our team each week.



What's Coming Up



2 June	Eastern Zone Cross Country - Martin Luckie Park.
4 June and 7 June	Queens Birthday holidays. DO NOT COME TO SCHOOL ON THESE DAYS!

Jeanette De La Mare
PRINCIPAL
MIRAMAR SOUTH SCHOOL

