

NEWSLETTER – 2 December 2011

Kia Ora tatou katoa, Talofa, Kia Orana, Malo e lelei, Ni Sa Bula, Assalam Alaikum, Nihao, Namaste, Buon Giorno, Mingalaba, He mihi mahana ki a koutou katoa!



From The Principal ...

We are coming to the end of the 2011 school year! The weather has finally decided that it will be summer, just in time for the holidays! Last Friday we sent all the children home with a copy of a letter from the Ministry of Education advising that no final decision about the merger will be made until after the election. All we can do now is wait. The school will be running as normal in 2012 at least. If you have friends who are thinking of enrolling their children at Miramar South School but are unsure about what may be happening here, encourage them to enrol with us still - a decision may be made to do nothing! Throughout this process, the children's learning has not and will not be disrupted. In fact it would seem from recent testing results, that things have been going extremely well. We will inform you more about this as we finish analysing the results. We still await receipt of our Education Review Office (ERO) report. We hope to have this next week. Once it is ready for publishing we will let you know how you can see the report. The verbal feedback was very positive so everybody should feel very proud of themselves.

Year 7 and 8 Formal at The Pines

Our celebration for the Year 7 and 8 students and families takes place at The Pines on Wednesday 7 December at 6pm. The cost is \$20 for the Year 7 and 8 students, and \$25 for any accompanying family or supporters. Please purchase your tickets now! Monday is the cut off day as we need to advise The Pines numbers for catering. Family members coming along need to be older than the Year 7 and 8 students. Tickets are available from Margaret at the school office.



Prizegiving

Don't forget our Prizegiving evening to be held in the hall on Wednesday 14 December at 7pm. Everyone is welcome, so please come as a community to celebrate the achievements of the children over the past year. You will be treated to wonderful performances by the children. (Thursday 15 December is our last day of school and we will finish at 1pm.)

Eastern Zone Rugby League

Miramar South School are the Eastern Zone Rugby League Champions! The team played Rugby League at Miramar Central School on Tuesday afternoons at 3.30pm. After beating Miramar North, Lyall Bay, Miramar Central and Holy Cross in the pool matches, we qualified first! On Tuesday we played Lyall Bay School in the final, winning 6-3. The team was then invited to a "Best of the Best" wider Wellington Region Rugby League Tournament that took place at Hutt Park on Wednesday. Seven of the best Rugby League Schools were invited. The team had two wins and one draw during pool play. This qualified us into the semi finals. Unfortunately we lost to Eastern Hutt in the semi and the dream was over. A big congratulations to the children involved. Well Done. You have done Miramar South School proud. Also, a big thank you to all of our supporters. It is great for the kids to have so much support!!!



Miramar South School Masterchef 2011

Last Friday we held our Masterchef challenge. The aim of the challenge was to create a delicious sandwich that not only looked and tasted good, but was a healthy and affordable option for parents. The Cool Kids Health Squad worked hard to make the event happen and we had a great turnout of parents and caregivers to support the class teams. Room 2 won the event with the healthiest sandwich - banana and strawberry (with a light dusting of chocolate sprinkles!). Well done Room 2, and well done to the other teams who provided tough competition.



Room 5's Cyber Safety Tips!

As part of our "Keeping Ourselves Safe" programme running throughout the school this term, Room 5 has come up with some Cyber Safety Tips that may be of use to families. Parents, please supervise your children when they use the internet!



- + Keep your page private.
- + Never meet in person someone who you have met on line.
- + Hop off the internet if someone is making you uncomfortable.
- + Never tell anyone your personal details i.e. address, phone numbers, never send pictures of yourself.
- + Ask permission before going into chat rooms.
- + Don't let yourself be cyber bullied.
- + Technology can be dis-inhibiting. Don't do anything you know you shouldn't do.
- + STOP and THINK!!



Samoan Parent Group Next Meeting

The Samoan Parent Group will be meeting next Friday 9 December at 5.30pm in the school hall. This evening is planned as a get together with the teaching staff, so come along, and please bring a plate of food to share on the night.

Final Breakfast Cooperative Order for 2011!

Your final Breakfast Cooperative orders will need to be picked up between 12.45pm and 1.00pm on Thursday 15 December. Please be here on time as the school day ends at **1.00pm** that day!



Term Dates For 2012

We have detailed below the term dates for the 2012 school year. Throughout these terms are various holidays which we have also listed for you.

Term 1	Tuesday 31 January	to	Thursday 5 April
Term 2	Monday 23 April	to	Friday 29 June
Term 3	Monday 16 July	to	Friday 28 September
Term 4	Monday 15 October	to	Tuesday 18 December

Public Holidays and Other Term Breaks

- Monday 6 February - Waitangi Day.
- Friday 6, Monday 9, Tuesday 10 April - Easter Break.
- Wednesday 25 April - ANZAC Day.
- Friday 1 June and Monday 4 June - Queens Birthday.
- Friday 10 August - Mid Term Break.
- Monday 22 October - Labour Day.



New Enrolments

If you or any newcomers that you know of are planning to enrol their children at Miramar South School, we will be having a Teacher Only Day on Monday 30 January - you can come into the school office and fill out forms or pick up enrolment packs to enrol your children. The first day the children attend school is Tuesday 31 January 2012.

What's Coming Up!

- 7 DecemberYear 7 and 8 Formal - 6-10pm at The Pines.
- 14 DecemberPrizegiving in the School Hall - 7pm.
- 15 DecemberLast Day of Term 4 and the 2011 school year! Finish 1pm.



Jeanette De La Mare
PRINCIPAL
MIRAMAR SOUTH SCHOOL



Community News

- + Scripture Union SupaKidz camp 9-20 January 2012. Funding help may be available for your child to attend. Telephone Raewyn Rowney or Hillary Hague on 04-3850485 or raewyn.rowney@scriptureunion.org.nz
- + Insulation Subsidies of up to 80%. Telephone Sustainability Trust on 0508-787824 or visit www.sustaintrust.org.nz