

NEWSLETTER – 7 November 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 ...

Welcome back to all our families for Term 4! I'm back in the chair as Principal after my Term 3 Sabbatical. Thank you to Miss Smith who looked after everyone while I was away, and to all the children who behaved so well! I have caught up with all the news and it sounds as though you all had a fun and eventful Term 3. We welcome three new students to our new entrant room - Yahye and Yonis Jama, and Elias Visesio-Skelton. We know of a lot of new entrants starting with us soon, which is really good for our school! Remember to pick up your enrolment packs from the office to get the ball rolling. We have a busy Term 4 planned as you will see as you read through this newsletter, so please mark your diaries!

Education Review Office "ERO" Visit

Thank you to the families and community members who came to our special welcome assembly for the ERO team who came last Monday. Our cultural group is going from strength to strength. It was wonderful to see so many of our school community here, and the ERO team certainly realised that we are all working together to improve our children's education! The ERO team have reported orally to the Board and that report was very positive, and so we look forward to receiving the written report and sharing it with you!

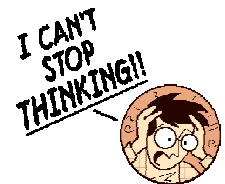


Merger Update

Still no news to report regarding the merger. We do know that reports have finally gone from the Ministry office to the Minister, Anne Tolley. We had sent our report and DVD to the Minister directly long ago! We will certainly let you know anything we hear as soon as we know anything!

Testing

End of year testing is underway this week so please ensure your children are at school on time, have pencils, and are early to bed! It is important that the children start the day refreshed and raring to go!



Year 7 and 8 Formal at The Pines

Our annual celebration for Year 7 and 8 students and families takes place 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. This is an alcohol free event! Family members coming along need to be older than Year 7 and 8s. Tickets are available from Margaret at the school office.

School Photos

School photos will be taken first thing on Wednesday 9 November. Packs for ordering were sent home last week for you to complete and enclose the correct money. The envelopes are collected at the office and handed straight to the company. We cannot give change at the school. Please also try to have your children at school on time as the photos will be taken first thing in the morning, and then some of the children will be heading off to the Eastern Zone Athletics in Newtown.



Prizegiving

School Prizegiving will be held in the hall on the evening of Wednesday 14 December at 7pm. Everyone is welcome! Thursday 15 December is our last day of school for the year and we will finish at 1pm.



Sunhats

The school has a policy that if your child is not wearing a sunhat at break times in the summer months then they are unable to play outside in the playground. Please ensure that your child has a suitable sunhat to wear at school. The hat must shade the face and eyes and the back of the neck. We have sunhats available for purchase from the school office for \$4.00.

Duffy \$5 Book Orders

Each child was issued with a Duffy \$5 book order form to take home earlier in the week. If you wish to order any of the books, please fill in the order form, attach your payment, and return to the school office. Please have your order forms and money to Margaret by 11 November. This is a really great way to buy some of the latest books for Christmas presents for a really reasonable price!



Contact Details

Please advise us if you have changed your address or telephone numbers. We may need to contact you during the day in case of an emergency. We often find that some families have moved house, or changed telephone numbers without letting us know. It is YOUR responsibility to keep these details up to date. If your child is feeling unwell and we cannot contact you, they wait at school feeling miserable. In case of an accident, we have no way of letting you know what has happened. Please see Margaret in the school office or telephone 3886070 to check what details we have for you. You could email us your details on miramaroffice@paradise.net.nz Thank you to those families who have recently brought in updated contact information - it saves us a lot of phoning around!

Measles

A message from Regional Public Health. There have been over 240 cases of measles in Auckland since May this year, and five confirmed cases in Wellington. Measles may spread to other areas. You can help stop the spread of measles by making sure you and your child/ren are fully immunised. You can ask your doctor about this if you are unsure. Useful websites if you need any information are Regional Public Health www.rph.org.nz or Ministry of Health <http://www.moh.govt.nz> or Immunisation Advisory Centre <http://www.immune.org.nz> or you can telephone the Immunisation Advisory Centre on 0800-466863.



Keeping Ourselves Safe Programme

This term sees us running the "Keeping Ourselves Safe" programme. This programme is about keeping our children safe and happy. This is a personal safety programme which aims to provide children and young people with skills to cope with situations that might involve abuse. This has been developed by Police and Teachers with a wide range of community groups. Miramar South teachers are looking forward to implementing this programme. Our children are our future and it is our job, as teachers and parents, to keep them safe. This week we sent home two booklets per family. Please check with your children to make sure your family has received these booklets. These will give you more information that you may find useful.

What's Coming Up!

9 November	School Photos - Be on time to school!
9 November	Eastern Zone Athletics.
7 December	Year 7 and 8 Formal - 6pm at The Pines.
14 December	Prizegiving 7pm.
15 December	Last Day of Term 4 and the 2011 School Year! Finish 1pm.

