

# NEWSLETTER – 7 October 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 ...

Happy last day of term everyone! What a busy and fun term it has been for us all. Sadly this is my final newsletter as I return to teaching Broadway North in Term 4. I enjoy teaching but I must say I have really loved being Principal for a term. It's been a highlight of my career. I'm very attached to our Miramar South community so I've been especially proud to lead the team. I can't praise the staff at Miramar South enough as they demonstrate a huge level of commitment to our children and ensure they're doing everything possible to support the children's learning. Jeanette is looking forward to coming back and has missed us so much, that she has spent a few days here this week. Sadly it means that **Stuart Crafts** will end his time at our school. He has contributed a lot to our team and he will be missed by the Broadway North students. Thanks very much Stuart for all your hard work and for fitting in so easily.



Rugby fever continues and some of our children have been to the airport to welcome their country's team to New Zealand. When **Leilani**, a senior girl arrived at school the other day I thought I must take a photo of her as it's always really nice to see children beaming with pride for their country! I'm not sure Leilani expected her photo to be put in the newsletter though!

## Education Review Office "ERO"

We have had notification that ERO will be coming to our school during the second week of Term 4 to review us. We welcome the ERO team and are looking forward to sharing our achievements and successes with them. The ERO team's aim will be to help our school improve the learning and achievement of our students and give our whole school community useful information that will assist us with ongoing improvement. We feel that all the hard work that our staff, parents and students have put into our school will be evident to the reviewers.

## Lotu Tamaiti

We at Miramar South wish all of our Samoan children and their families a very happy White Sunday - Lotu Tamaiti. We know that the children will look beautiful in their new white clothes and will love being treated first to their meal. All the best children for your performances and memory verses - we're confident you'll do well and make your parents and families proud. Ia manuia le aso pae'pae o tamaiti.



## Diwali

We have a few families who are going to be soon celebrating Diwali - the Festival of Lights. We hope the lights of Diwali will illuminate the year ahead for you and your whole family.

## Zoo Trip

Our whole school trip to the Zoo was a real highlight of the term. It was a stunning day weather wise as well as an extraordinary day for the children. Unfortunately we can't fit in all the photos we want to but there are many displayed in the classrooms, so make sure you take a look when you are visiting the school next time. A big thank you to all the family helpers who came along to help.

## Congratulations

I would like to congratulate and acknowledge the following students who were presented with Principal Awards at last week's assembly. These children were presented these awards for being motivated learners.

Room 2	Room 3	Room 5	Broadway South
Jorjah Kameta-Hiroki	Gabrielle Va'a	Taniela Pahulu	Ronee Dapitan

## Term Dates

Don't forget that today (Friday 7 October) is the last day of Term 3 for this year. We come back to school after Labour Weekend on **Tuesday 25 October** to begin Term 4. Have a wonderful holiday and hopefully the weather will be fine the whole way through!



## School Photos

School photos will be taken on Wednesday 9 November. Packs for ordering will be sent home in the first week of Term 4. We hope this gives you plenty of notice to think about ordering your photos.

## Duffy Books - Role Model Assembly

We had a past pupil return! Tuga Mativa from Rongotai College shared with us his experiences with reading at this week's Duffy Assembly. It was nice to welcome Tuga back and see how well he is doing now that he is older. It's great for our children to hear from a younger role model about the benefits of reading.

## Keeping Ourselves Safe Programme

Next term all classes at Miramar South School will be taking part in an intensive programme run in conjunction with the New Zealand Police. This programme is called "Keeping Ourselves Safe" and is about keeping our children safe and happy. This is a personal safety programme which aims to provide children and young people with the skills to cope with situations that might involve abuse. This programme was developed by Police and Teachers in consultation 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. We will be holding a **parent meeting on the first Wednesday of the term at 5.30pm** to inform you in more detail and answer any questions you may have about the programme.



## Moonlight Disco

What a spectacular night we all had last night! Our first ever Moonlight Disco was a huge success. The effort put into costumes and preparation by the children was really evident. Fabulous prizes were given out for fabulous outfits, fabulous dancing and fabulous luck! Thank you to **Ana Fidow** and **Miria Paraire** our Moonlight Disco Committee for organising the props, prizes and setup. Thank you to **John Evett** for putting up the lighting, **Christie Kahaki** for helping to run the awards table and set up the hall. Thank you to our Samoan Parents Group who organised the sausage sizzle. There are many more to thank but we just don't have enough room in the newsletter to name them all! A big THANK YOU to you all. Everybody has worked so hard to make this event happen, with obvious great results. In fact, it was so successful that we've decided to make it an annual school event. We will be displaying photos at the school showing just how much fun the children had!

## Rugby Honour and Involvement

Last week a group of our rugby children were selected by the Wellington Rugby Union to visit Te Whare Waka, and to have a Civic Square Rugby World Cup experience. They were chosen for their great ripper rugby performances throughout the year. On this trip they were presented with a taonga (treasure). The paddle is made from the same 1,000 year old wood that the paddles in Te Whare Waka are made from. This is a significant piece of Aotearoa heritage, therefore we've chosen to display it in our main entranceway. The photo attached shows **Priscilla Solo** and **Steven Va'a** receiving the taonga from Inoke Afeaki, an ex Tongan rugby captain.



As a school we've been caught up in Rugby World Cup fever, and sent two teams to Kilbirnie Park to compete in a Year 5 and 6 Ripper Rugby Tournament. Each team was given a country to represent - we represented Fiji and France! Our Fijian team won all their pool games with bonus points and qualified first in their pool. Our French team won 2 out of 3 games but still managed to qualify first in their pool. This put both teams in the semi-finals but then the rain came! Well done to the children who competed in this tournament. As always you made us proud.

## Cross Country Photos!

As promised in the last newsletter, we include some photos of our school cross country. Congratulations to all the children who competed.



## What's Coming Up!

6 October	Moonlight Disco.
7 October	Last Day of Term 3!
<b>25 October (Tuesday)</b>	<b>First Day of Term 4!</b>
9 November	School Photos.
7 December	Year 7 and 8 Formal at The Pines.
15 December	Last Day of Term 4 and the 2011 School Year!



Kaku noa na.

**Kyran Smith**  
**ACTING PRINCIPAL**  
**MIRAMAR SOUTH SCHOOL**