

Discovery School
"Educating for successful living"
"Te whakaako kia momoho ai, kia ora ai"

Term 1 Week 4

Thursday 25 February 2010

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Kia ora koutou

The Board of Trustees met on Monday evening, a summary of the key discussion points will be included in next week's newsletter.

We have BoT elections coming up in May. If you are interested in finding out more about how the board functions please feel free to attend board meetings or call our Board Chairperson, Claire Burke (2348891) or me (2347103). Our next board meeting will be held on Monday 22 March at 7.30pm in the staffroom.

The DSPTA met on Wednesday evening to plan the social and fundraising events for 2010. A list of 2010 fundraising targets will be published in next week's newsletter.

Parent/Teacher Goal Setting Meetings - Week 6

As you will be aware we are holding Parent/Teacher/Child goal-setting conferences in the sixth week of the term. All classes with the exception of Carl McManaway's class will be having their conferences on Tuesday 09 March and Wednesday 10 March. Mr McManaway's class will be having their conferences on Monday 08 March and Tuesday 09 March.

This year all bookings for conference times will be done using www.schoolinterviews.co.nz. To book a conference time you need to:

- Go to the website www.schoolinterviews.co.nz
- Enter the school code **DZ9CG**
- Follow the on-screen instructions to book a conference time with your child's teacher.

You will receive email confirmation of the conference time.

If you do not have access to the internet or have any problems with the process you can book a conference time by contacting the school office and a member of the office team will book a conference for you.

The main focus of these meetings will be to set goals with your child for the first half of the school year.

Child Safety

It is great to see the number of our children who bike to school each day. Please ensure that your child has a helmet and that they understand the road rules particularly those around using footpaths.

I have checked on the NZ Police website and "it is an offence to cycle on the footpath unless it is marked as a designated footpath and cycle way."

If your child is unable to ride safely on the road, unaccompanied by you, then you perhaps need to consider whether or not your child should be cycling to school alone. I have had a number of complaints from pedestrians who have had problems with children near the school.

DSPTA News

DSPTA Fundraiser - Family Photo Day

What a way to record how well you scrub up! Be quick to book a space to have your family photos with Positive Negatives photography (for more info see www.positivenegatives.co.nz).

Each booking is for 10 minutes and there is no charge. You get your proofs back to keep and orders will be back to you in time for Mothers Day! For further information please contact Bernee Koschak, 2341226.

- ☺ Date: Saturday 20 March 2010
- ☺ Venue: Discovery School Hall

Athletics Sports

We will be holding our athletics sports at Adventure Park on Tuesday 16 March. This is always a very enjoyable school event and parents are very welcome to attend. The postponement date will be Friday 19 March. A letter detailing arrangements is included with this newsletter for parents of children in Resolution, Discovery and Exploration Syndicates. Please read this carefully, complete the permission slip and return this slip to your child's class teacher.

Recent Newsletter Information

Recently, you will have received an envelope containing:

- ☺ An emergency contact information update form.
- ☺ A letter outlining and requesting the school donation.

Thank you to those of you who have already returned the emergency contact update form or paid your school donation.

If you have mislaid your emergency contact form please contact the school office, 2347103. Having up-to-date contact information is very important to ensure your child's safety.

Please also remember that a **Student Computer and Internet Use Agreement** was sent home with the first school newsletter of the year. This agreement must be signed and returned to your child's teacher before your child can have access to computer equipment including the internet and email at school.

If you would like to join the email distribution list for the school newsletter please complete the form at the end of this newsletter and return it to the school office, or send me an email asking to be added to the list; principal@discovery.school.nz.

**Numeracy Support - Parent Help Wanted
Wednesdays from 9.00am - 10.30am**

We need one more parent/caregiver to help us with our Parents Helping In Numeracy Knowledge (PHINK). This programme has helped a significant number of our children improve their achievement in maths.

You will need to be available on Wednesdays from 9.00am to 10.30am and would work with another parent helping a small group of children with numeracy knowledge. Full training will be given as will ongoing support from our Numeracy Leaders, Yvonne Thomson and Sarah Jenner.

If you can help, please leave your name and contact details at the school office (2347103) and Yvonne will contact you.

A thought to share with your children:

- "Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it." (William Ward)

2010 Term Dates

Please find below the term dates for 2010. These have been agreed between the primary schools in our local cluster.

- Term 1; Wed 03 Feb to Thurs 01 April
- Term 2; Mon 19 April to Fri 02 July
- Term 3; Mon 19 July to Fri 24 Sept
- Term 4; Mon 11 Oct to Thurs 16 Dec

Dates for your diary

Tues 16 March Athletics Sports
Fri 19 March Athletics Sports (Postponement Date)

Conrad Kelly
Principal

Community Notices:

Paremata Plimmerton Rugby Football Club Junior Registration - Girls & Boys, Grades start at Under 6 (for 4 and 5 year olds) right through to Under 13 grade for Year 8 players. Registration at the Paremata-Plimmerton Clubrooms @ Ngatitoo Domain, times:

- Thursday 25th February 5pm - 7pm
- Saturday 27th February 10am - 2pm
- Saturday 6th March 10am - 2pm

New Players please bring a copy of your passport or birth certificate when you come to register. Cost; \$40 for 1 child, \$60 for 2 children, \$70 for 3 or more. For further details please contact: Martin Highgate - 232 4883

Mana Music Centre - Flute and Clarinet Vacancies for Term 1 - Lessons only \$12 per Term. These classes are available to primary/intermediate children aged 9 years and older. Lessons are held on Wednesdays after school at Discovery School. We have clarinets and flutes available to hire for \$20 per term. For further information and enrolments please phone Sandra 235-9019.

Northern United Junior Rugby Registrations - all held at our clubrooms on Mungavin Avenue.

25th Feb 5-7pm - Two Hurricanes' players will be there available for signing autographs.

- 27th Feb 11am - 2pm
- 6th March 11am - 2pm
- 13th March 11am - 2pm
- 20th March 11am - 2pm

New coaches welcome and also new committee members

The Porirua Grand Traverse is being held this year on March 28th. This is an event which involves teams of 5 participating in a 2 km waka ama challenge, 8km bike ride and 2 km run. If you and your friends are interested in finding out more, please email Graham Findlater pgt@nuttyb.co.nz.

Wellington Barbarians Rugby Fundraiser - The team is organising a fundraiser at Postgate School Sunday 28 February from 9.00am onwards. Three boys from our school will be part of a 10 hour sponsored runathon. On the day there will be a Sausage Sizzle and ice blocks and drinks for sale. Four Hairdressers will be available to cut Boys and Mens hair for \$10 and \$15. Haircuts from 2.00pm onwards.

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I would like to receive an email copy of the Discovery School newsletter.

Name:

Email Address: