

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

**Term 2 Week 6**

**Thursday 27 May 2010**

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Kia ora koutou

On Monday evening the Board of Trustees met for its regular monthly meeting. Items for discussion included the ratification of the school's charter, our children's achievement in the Supplementary Tests of Reading Achievement (STAR) and the results of recent Progressive and Achievement Tests (PATs) in mathematics.

A copy of the Discovery School Charter May 2010 - May 2013 is available at the school office.

Please find below an overview and summary of the STAR testing. If you would like to know more about your child's achievement please contact your child's teacher. If you would like to know more about group achievement please do not hesitate to contact me.

I will report the results of our children's achievement in PAT mathematics in next week's newsletter.

**Cross-Country**

As you're probably aware, we held our school cross-country this morning, in between the showers. I was very proud of the effort put in by all our children, in challenging conditions. Thank you to those parents/caregivers who were able to come and support the children. Thanks also to Carl McManaway and Sarah Jenner for their great organisation of this event.

**Supplementary Tests of Achievement in Reading (STAR)  
Results March 2009**

In Term 1 our Year 3 to Year 8 children took part in Supplementary Tests of Achievement in Reading (STAR). This test is a norm-referenced, diagnostic reading assessment which is designed to help teachers to:

- identify those needing extra help
- group children by ability and needs
- diagnose areas of difficulty
- evaluate programmes.

The test is norm referenced and therefore also useful in helping us gauge the effectiveness of the programmes we have on offer at our school.

**Whole School (291 children)**

3% of students scored in the outstanding category (10 students) - Normal expectation 4%  
32% of students scored in the above average category (93 students) - Normal expectation 19%

57% of students scored in the average category (166 students) - Normal expectation 54%  
8% of students scored in the below average category (22 students) - Normal expectation 19%  
0% of students scored in the low category (0 students) - Normal expectation 4%  
*92% of students scored in the average to outstanding categories - Normal expectation 77%*

Particularly pleasing were the results for our older children in Years 6, 7 & 8, their results are as follows:

**Year 6, 7 and 8 Children (140 children)**

3% of Discovery Year 7 & 8 children scored in the outstanding category (4 children) - Normal expectation 4%  
36% of Discovery Year 7 & 8 children scored in the above average category (50 children) - Normal expectation 19%  
57% of Discovery Year 7 & 8 children scored in the average category (80 children) - Normal expectation 54%  
4% of Discovery Year 7 & 8 children scored in the below average category (6 children) - Normal expectation 19%  
0% of Discovery Year 7 & 8 children scored in the low category (0 children) - Normal expectation 4%  
*96% of Discovery Year 7 & 8 children scored in the average to outstanding categories - Normal expectation 77%*

**Discovery School Website Survey**

One of ICT objectives this year is to improve our school's website. Barri Dullabh has set up a survey on the website to help us gather information to help us decide how best to do this. It would be very helpful if as many of you as possible gave us feedback by completing the survey.

The survey can be found on the Discovery School Website: [www.discovery.school.nz](http://www.discovery.school.nz)

**Student Council Fund Raiser**

This term our Student Council have decided to fundraise for the Guide Dogs Organisation. On Friday **June 4th** we will hold **Sunglasses Day**; children can wear any type of sunglasses, and can even wear them during school assembly! A gold coin donation will be collected. (Lisa Tweedie)

**Discovery School Art Exhibition**

Your children are currently preparing very special artworks for our biennial Discovery School art exhibition. These precious creations will be displayed in our school hall for public viewing on Tuesday 29 June.

Artworks will be available for purchase both before and during an evening of musical entertainment, wine and other refreshments. This is a fundraising event for the DSPTA. Please put this date on your calendar and watch for more information regarding ticket sales in upcoming newsletters.

Please note that each child's piece of artwork will be for sale, with the proceeds going to DSPTA fundraising. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish your child **not** to participate in this fundraising activity.

**Sports News  
Basketball**

Our basketball team has had a very successful start to their season. Last week they played Papakowhai School, winning 24-21. Players of the day were: Ethan Pursglove and Luke Pittman.

**Netball**

Players of the Day from last Saturday's netball games were:

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| ☺ Discovery Fireballs      | Whole team for outstanding team effort |
| ☺ Discovery Cheeky Monkeys | Olivia Powell and Emma Turner          |
| ☺ Discovery Fizz           | Emma Burke                             |
| ☺ Discovery Dangers        | Ella Mitchell                          |
| ☺ Discovery Bulldogs       | Jasmin Inglis-Matchett                 |
| ☺ Discovery Stars          | Alix Bailey                            |

**Hockey**

Discovery School's hockey team lost their game 2-5 on Saturday; a closer game than the score indicates. Player of the day: Tegan Barns. If it is very wet on a Monday during the day then practice will be cancelled.

A number of our older children have 'graduated' to playing hockey for the Tawa Club. Their team played well to win 2-1 on Saturday having previously drawn two games and lost one. Thanks to Matthew Whiu for the update.

**Social Skills Programme**

The social skill for the period Monday 10 May to Friday 21 May will be; *"Using your Initiative."*

**Lunch Order Price Changes**

There have been a few changes to the prices of our lunch menu due to a price increase from our suppliers. Please find below the full lunch order menu and price list:

- |                                      |        |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| • Mince Pie (110 grams) *            | \$1.30 |
| • Mince and Cheese Pie               | \$1.50 |
| • Potato Top Pie                     | \$1.50 |
| • Pizza*                             | \$2.00 |
| • Sausage Roll (100 grams) *         | \$1.20 |
| • Fruit Juice                        | \$1.80 |
| • Calci-Yum Chocolate Milk           | \$1.50 |
| • Calci-Yum Strawberry Milk          | \$1.50 |
| • Small Chocolate Chip Cookie*       | 80c    |
| • Small Fudge Brownie Cookie*        | 80c    |
| • Large Gluten Free Choc Chip Cookie | \$2.80 |
| • Chocolate Muffin                   | \$1.20 |
| • Blueberry Muffin*                  | \$1.20 |
| • Chocolate Moosie *                 | \$1.20 |
| • Lime Moosie *                      | \$1.20 |

Please note the items with the \* carry the Heart Foundation's Tick of Approval,

**College Enrolment Information - 2011**

**Wellington Girls' College - School in Action Morning,**

Wellington Girls' College are holding an Open Morning at the college on Wednesday 16 June. There will be three sessions; 9.00am, 10.30am and 11.30am. Students who are interested in enrolling at Wellington Girls' College in 2011 and their parents/caregivers, are warmly invited to attend any of these sessions, which will begin with a formal presentation in the college hall from the principal, student leaders and current Year 9 students and conclude with a tour of the college.

**DSPTA - Entertainment Books**

Entertainment books were sent home recently, please return any unsold books or money to the school office as soon as possible. Any queries or extra books wanted please contact Cara, 2357553.

**Discovery's Got Talent**

Discovery's got talent has been a huge hit this term. We wish to thank ALL the contestants who gave it a go and came out to audition. There's a lot of talent in our school and on Friday, May 28th 2010 you can be witness to the grand finale! The top ten finalists are going to perform LIVE at this special show to showcase their talents. The guest panel of judges will be deciding on the winners of this years Discovery's Got Talent and announcing it at the end of the show. The show begins at 12:30. Everyone's welcome, so come join us for an afternoon of pure entertainment! (Sienna Packer, Michael Winton, Melissa Bailey)

**A thought to share with your children:**

- "A chip on the shoulder indicates that there is wood higher up." Jack Herbert (1835 - 1922)

**Dates for your diary**

- Fri 18 June Mid-Year Reports sent home
- Tues 22 Jun Parent/Teacher/Child Conferences
- Wed 23 Jun Parent/Teacher/Child Conferences
- Tues 29 Jun Art Exhibition

Conrad Kelly  
Principal

**Community Notices:**

**Discovery Kindergarten Fundraiser** - 2nd hand Book/Movie/Music Fair to be held on Saturday 29th May 10am-2pm. Donations required, please drop off outside the Kindy door. Queries to Nic 235 6683.