

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

Term 2 Week 8

Thursday 10 June 2010

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Kia ora koutou

Weather permitting we are hoping to be able to run the Year 1 and 2 cross-country and Year 7 and 8 hill course run tomorrow, Friday 11 June. These events will begin at 1.30pm. A decision as to whether or not to postpone the events will be made as soon as possible tomorrow. If a decision is made to postpone the events this information will be posted on the school's website, www.discovery.school.nz.

Last Friday our student council ran a Sunglasses Day to raise funds for the Guide Dogs Organisation. Over \$400 was raised for this very worthy cause. Congratulations to the council for their great work in organising this event and a huge thank you to everyone who supported the day.

Discovery School Art Exhibition

The Art Exhibition on Tuesday 29th June is looking to be another success! Children are completing beautiful paintings, artworks of paper mache, pastel, collage, crayon and dye, screen prints...and more. The coloured frames are on the way to compliment the artworks and make them a stunning feature on a wall in your home.

From 7.30pm - 9.00pm the evening includes time to view almost 400 original artworks by your children. There will be raffles, a lucky ticket prize and the chance to win an artwork from our local artist and Discovery School teacher, Rachel Berney. Wine and cheese, coffee and brownie will be available as you listen to live music by the Piano Man of Plimmerton.

Tickets are on sale from today.

A letter with details of the ticket sales accompanies this newsletter.

Mid-Year Reports

On Friday 18 June you will receive a written report regarding your child's progress. This report will be a summary of your child's achievements throughout the first half of the school year and will also include some next learning steps in literacy and numeracy.

Included with this report will be a page informing you of your child's achievement in relation to the National Standards in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. As you may be aware from the media we are implementing the standards at the same time as we are receiving training in how to implement them. This has

meant that teachers are required to make judgments against the standards with minimal training in how to do this. This has, as I'm sure you can imagine, proved difficult. Our teachers have been extremely professional in the manner in which they have approached this task.

Please note that children who started school as five-year olds this year will not receive a mid-year report in relation to the National Standards.

Also included with the report will be a short survey related to the how easy the reports were to understand. We would be very grateful if you could complete this survey for us and return it to the school office.

Parent/Teacher Goal Setting Meetings - Week 10

As you will be aware we are holding Parent/Teacher/Child conferences on Tuesday 22 June and Wednesday 23 June.

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 **NL5GA**
- 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 (2347103) and a member of the office team will book a conference for you.

The main focus areas of these conferences will be to review the goals set with your child for the first half of the school year, and discuss the mid-year report including national standards.

Please note that school will close at 2.00pm on Tuesday 22 June and Wednesday 23 June. This is because the parent/teacher conferences will begin at 2.30pm both these days. After School Care will operate as usual for those children who are booked into the programme, please contact Kelly Club, 0273212112 or kellyclub@xtra.co.nz for further booking information.

Book Club Orders

Book club order forms were sent home recently. Orders will close on Friday 18 June. Please ensure that your child's teacher's name is included on the order form, this will help us with distribution of the books.

Please also ensure that the correct money is included with the orders as they are not processed straight away.

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

Netball

Year 4 Netball - Players and Coaches Wanted

If any Year 4 children wish to play netball or if any parents wish to coach our Year 4s, please contact Cara, 235 7553.

DSPTA Fundraising

DSPTA - Nutrimetics lipstick fund raiser

Leaflets regarding the Nutrimetics lipstick fund raiser were sent home last week, please return your orders by Friday 18 June. If you require additional forms please contact the office, 2347103.

DSPTA Fundraising Lunch - Sausage Sizzle

This, Friday 11 June, we are having a DSPTA Sausage sizzle.

- Sausage in bread \$1.50.
- Money to class teachers before school please.



College Enrolment Information - 2011

Aotea College Open Evening

Aotea College are hosting an Open Evening next Tuesday 15 June at 6.30pm. Can parents and students be seated by 6.15pm so we can start promptly. If there are any questions please contact me, Lynlee Collard, 237 3166.

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.

Tawa College - Open Evening

Tawa College will be hosting an open evening on Thursday 24 June. If you have any queries about the open evening or enrolment at Tawa College please contact the college, 2328184.

Dates for your diary

- Fri 18 Jun Mid-Year Reports sent home
- Mon 21 Jun Board of Trustees Meeting (7.30pm)
- Tues 22 Jun Parent/Teacher/Child Conferences
- Wed 23 Jun Parent/Teacher/Child Conferences
- Tues 29 Jun Art Exhibition
- Fri 02 July Term 2 Ends
- Mon 19 July Term 3 Begins

Conrad Kelly
Principal

Community Notices: *When we have space available in the school newsletter we are happy to include community related notices or notices we feel may be of particular interest to our families. Please note that we include as many notices as we can however, we cannot guarantee that the notice will be placed and we take no responsibility for any services offered.*

The Porirua City Council Holiday Programme - The Porirua City Council Holiday Programme runs quality programmes for children aged 5-14 years at 5 convenient venues in the Porirua Basin and Churton Park. We are an OSCAR approved programme, so our policies and operation of the programme are of a very high standard and which also means that you may be eligible for a WINZ subsidy. Contact (04) 2371523 for bookings and information. The July programme will be running from 5-16 July 2010. Bookings open Monday 14 June.

Plimmerton School PTA Cyber Safety Presentation - Plimmerton School PTA is sponsoring a Cyber Safety presentation by Detective Senior Sergeant John van den Heuvel from the Police Cybercrime Unit on Wednesday, 16 June at 7.30 pm in Plimmerton School Hall. Entry is free however we would like people to register so that we know how many are attending. To register see our website www.plimmerton.school.nz/PTA or Tel: 233-8677.

Artful Kids Holiday Fun, Paekakariki and Raumati - Fine Arts Classes for 6-13 year olds All materials supplied. Runs 1st and 2nd Weeks, Starting July 5th. 9.30am till 12.30pm. \$25 a morning or \$100 for the week. Call Rachel on 04 905 82196, places limited to 12 per class.

Wellington School of Cricket (WSC) July Holiday Programmes

- Week one, 5th to 9th July Standard Holiday Programme (SHP) for children between the ages 6 to 10 years Intermediate Cricket Clinics (ICC) for children between the ages 11 to 14 Advance Skill Development Clinics (ASDC) for children over the ages 12. For more information and on line registration visit our website www.cricketwellington.co.nz or contact one of us Mana: Glenn Pocknall on 021 409 864 Hutt and Basin: Ivan Tissera on 021 894 338

A thought to share with your children:

- "The gem cannot be polished without friction, nor man perfected without trials." (Chinese Proverb)