

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

**Term 2 Week 9**

**Thursday 17 June 2010**

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Kia ora koutou

Last Friday we ran our Year 1 and 2 cross-country races. I was extremely impressed with the efforts of our younger runners, all of whom did their best and ran well.

Congratulations to the following place-getters:

**Year 1 Boys**

1st. Jarden Parata-French  
2nd. Arnold Koumphonphakdy  
3rd. Keenan Ellen

**Year 2 Boys**

1st. Tony Omelchuk  
2nd. Taoka Sciascia  
3rd. Anthony Kendrew  
3rd= Logan Watson

**Year 1 Girls**

1st. Lily Glastonbury  
2nd. Zyah Molen  
3rd. Nadia Burns

**Year 2 Girls**

1st. Nicole Hickling  
2nd. Phoebe Shing  
3rd. Abbie Watson

We have been unable to hold the Year 7 and 8 hill country run yet, because the amount of rain we've had recently has made the track too dangerous. This event has become a real tradition at Discovery School. We tried a few years ago to change the course because we felt it was too challenging, however, our Year 7 and 8s insisted that we still do it because, taking part in this race is part of 'what you do' when you're in Exploration Syndicate. The hill course is optional, however, we usually have over half the children choosing to take part.

We've decided to postpone the hill event until we have a spell of consistently good weather which allows the track to dry out sufficiently.

**Mid-Year Reports**

You will receive a written report regarding your child's progress tomorrow, Friday 18 June. 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 how easy the reports are to understand. We would be very grateful if you could complete this survey for us and return it to the school office by the end of the term.

**Discovery School Art Exhibition**

The Art Exhibition on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> 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 currently on sale. A letter with details of the ticket sales accompanied last week's newsletter. If you have misplaced this letter please contact the school office 2347103.

**Parent/Teacher Goal Setting Meetings - Week 10**

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

All bookings for conference times will be done using [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz). To book a conference time you need to:

- Go to the website [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz)
- Enter the school code **NL56A**
- 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.

*Please note access to the website for parents/caregivers will close at 3.00pm on Monday 21 June. If you wish to make or change a conference time after 3.00pm on Monday 21 June, please ring the school office, 2347103.*

The main focus areas of the 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. It is important that your child attends the conference with you. If there are any issues you would like to discuss with your child's teacher that you don't want your child to overhear he/she could leave the conference for a few minutes.

**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@extra.co.nz for further booking information.**

#### **Student Council News - Red Socks Day**

Friday 02 July (The last day of school this term). The Student Council is selling Red Socks, and Red Sock lapel badges:

- \$2 per pair (large only), and \$2 for a badge
- each morning before school, from the Hall, during the last week of term.

By purchasing these items, your child can help our Student Council support the work of the Peter Blake Trust which encourages leadership opportunities for young people, AND participate in Red Socks Day on Friday 02 July. This Day will also be for dressing up in red colours, including makeup/face paint. More information next week!

#### **Sports News Basketball**

The Discovery Basketball team lost 17-18 to Rangikura. Players of the day: Junior Teapaku and Conor Souness.

#### **Netball**

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

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| ☺ Discovery Fireballs      | Sarah Murray                                 |
| ☺ Discovery Cheeky Monkeys | Whole Team                                   |
| ☺ Discovery Fizz           | Whole Team                                   |
| ☺ Discovery Dangers        | Mekhala Vongla                               |
| ☺ Discovery Bulldogs       | Ruby Chappell, Tamara Wilson-Tasi, Amy Henry |
| ☺ Discovery Stars          | Ella Henderson                               |

#### **Hockey**

Discovery's hockey team lost to Toa last Saturday. Player of the day: Lachlan Semmens.

#### **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.

#### **Book Club Orders**

Book club order forms were sent home recently. Orders will close tomorrow, 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](http://www.discovery.school.nz)

#### **College Enrolment Information - 2011**

##### **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.

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

- "Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does."  
(William James)

#### **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:**

**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.

**Wellington School of Cricket (WSC) July Holiday Programmes** - Week one, 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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

**Holiday Programme @ Adventure School - 5 - 16 July 2010** Exciting field trips, fun activities and much more offered daily from 8 am - 5.45 pm The programme is OSCAR approved and registered with WINZ. For enquiries and bookings please ph. 234-6440 or e-mail [afterschool.funclub@extra.co.nz](mailto:afterschool.funclub@extra.co.nz). Everyone welcome ☺