

## Monday 10 November 2008

### Newsletter 35/08

Dear parents

#### Senior Athletic Sports

Our Senior Athletics Day will be this Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November, starting at 9.05am and finishing at 2.45pm. Our saving day will be Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November. This event is for all children who are 8, 9, 10 or 11 years as at 1<sup>st</sup> October.

Children will need their hats, drinks and sun block for their protection.

The children will move around in their age groups at approximately 30 minute intervals for the following activities:

- Long Jump
- High Jump
- Sprints
- Fun Activities A, B, C, D
- Softball Ball Throw

\* Please note that the sprint finals will start at 2.00pm.

At the conclusion of the morning session, please feel free to join your children for lunch at 1.30pm.

For this day to be a success, we will require parent help to assist teachers to run the events. If you can help please contact me at school. Thanks, **Grant Kibblewhite**.

#### Life Education

The Life Education mobile classroom is visiting our school Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November till Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November. **A parent and caregivers session is going to be held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November**, between 9-9.30, where you are welcome to look through the caravan and talk to Celia Thompson (Educator for the Life Education Trust).

**Please send \$4.00 per child** for those who have not paid the school activity fee to go towards the cost of the Life Education sessions.

**School Assembly** No school assembly this week because of the Senior Athletic Sports.

#### Junior Athletic Sports

The Junior Athletics (5-7 year olds) will be held on Wednesday November 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:15am to 12:30pm. If cancelled due to weather conditions, this event will be held on the first fine day the field is open and available following that.

Children will need to bring hats, drinks and sun block for their protection. Children will need to wear school uniform to school but may change into suitable sports clothing for the morning. At the conclusion of the morning the children will eat their lunch 'picnic style' on the grassy bank (weather permitting) and we hope parents will join us.

#### Our Children are Superstars!

Congratulations to **Chelsea Coleman-Te Hiko**, who rode in the North Island BMX Champs in Gisborne at Labour weekend, did extremely well, and is now ranked #2 in the North Island.

#### Touch Results

Botany Braves lost 5 - 14, Botany Tigers 4 v Tiny Bears 6, Botany Cougars 7 v Little Wikidz 2, Botany Bullets 9 v Baverstock 0, Botany Magic 5 v Eastern Terriers 3.

Congratulations also to the following children, who were selected yesterday to represent Eastern Junior Touch at the Counties Manukau Touch tournament to be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November at Weymouth Rugby Club:  
**Quinn Miller, Jack Bason, Cameron Jago, Amy Harrison, Chynna Davies, Corinna Rahm** for the U9 team and **Vicky Fan, Jayden Kean, Nathan Brown** and **Victoria Bassett** for the U11 team.

### Religious Education Programme (REP) Survey

Thank you to all the parents who responded to the REP survey last month. We had a large number of surveys returned and many took the time to write comments or suggestions. Here is a summary of the survey:

The Religious Education Programme should continue to be part of the programme offered at Botany Downs Primary School		
	No of responses	% of total
Agree	144	88.3
Disagree	19	11.7
Total	163	100.0

Many parents were happy with the REP offered at our school and felt it was important for all children at our school to have knowledge of the Christian religion and a teaching of basic morals and values (27 comments). The work of the volunteers was praised (4 comments) and some parents commented on the fact that their children enjoyed taking part in the programme (8 comments).

The concerns that were raised were that the programme should teach religion in its totality and should include aspects of other main stream religions (7 comments). Some parents felt that the time should be used for other curriculum areas such as Te Reo, physical education or music (4 comments). The Board of Trustees will be discussing the survey results and any implications at its next meeting.

### FROM THE PTA

#### FUN RUN/WALK - Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2008

You will note from the Flyer last week that a **Fun Run/Walk** is being held on **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December** (along the Cascades Walkway). The last time this event was held (in 2006) everyone who participated had a fantastic time, and we would like to encourage even more families to take part this time, no matter what age or ability! **REMEMBER** the emphasis is firmly on getting out, getting active and simply having a go – everyone will be a winner on the day! All children will receive a participation certificate after the event.

The walkway is located at the front of the school, across the crossing and down the access way. The start and finish will be on the reserve and the entire route is on a concrete footpath, so the children will not be crossing any roads during the event. Marshals will be positioned along the route, with mobile phones in case of an emergency. The options for the children (with adult escort if required) are a 2km Run or Walk, or a 4km Run or Walk. Please complete the registration form (sent home home today separate from this newsletter) and return to the school as soon as possible.

#### SAUSAGE SIZZLE & MUFTI DAY – Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November

Remember to wear your mufti (non-uniform) clothes tomorrow and enjoy your sausage and drink for lunch. The PTA is in need of **2 more helpers** for the **11am – 1pm** time. If you are able to help please phone Maree 537 6037.

#### ‘WIN A GROCERY GRAB’ RAFFLE

Thanks to those who have sold tickets, returned money and especially to those who have requested more tickets to sell! 5000 tickets have been printed and we are aiming to sell all of these by Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November. If you do not intend to sell your tickets, please return them to the school as soon as possible, however we do hope that every family will try hard to sell their allocated book. Imagine several trolleys full of FREE GROCERIES just in time for Christmas!

#### THINGS TO REMEMBER ...

- Kids Night Out at Chipmunks, Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December (6-8pm) – school families and your friends are all welcome. Watch for notice coming home next week.
- Due to popular request, the PTA will be offering Christmas Hams again this year – order form coming home next week.

#### Notices

East City BMX club is welcoming new members of all ages. People who are interested in coming and having a look or joining our club please contact Don or Sarah Clinch on 576 1433 or Kim and Paul on 537 1454 for more information.