

Monday 26 May 2008

Newsletter 15/08

Dear parents

Queen's Birthday

A reminder that there is *no school* next **Monday 2 June** as it is a public holiday.

Special Terrific Persons Awards

Congratulations to all the following children, who will receive their certificates at Wednesday afternoon's assembly (starts at 2.15pm): **Haseena Abdulla, Victoria Bassett, Christie Boniface, Kristy Bonnington, Elise Conway, Jordan Dudley-Smith, Caleb Groenestein, Dallas Harvey, Callum Li, Clayton McCullagh, Liam Salt, Kai Fei Tham, Emma Savory, Melisa Fung and Rose Zheng.**

THANK YOU PTA!!

A big thank you to our PTA, whose fundraising (last year's chocolate sales) gave us the \$17,000+ needed to build the just completed addition to the senior playground, which is a huge hit with the children.

PTA News

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS – We are pleased to be able to offer the 2008/09 Entertainment Book as a fundraiser again this year, and it really is the best book ever! Selling for \$65, **\$13 from the sale of every book** will be received by our school and will be used to purchase of **A SET OF SILENT READING BOOKS FOR EVERY CLASSROOM!** A book has been sent home to every family today. Please read the accompanying letter to understand how the fundraiser works, how to pay for your book, how to order extra copies etc. Take the time to look through the book to see all the valuable savings to be had at popular attractions, restaurants, activities etc. Families who have used them in the past tell us they very quickly re-coup the \$65 cost of the book and go on to enjoy significant savings from there. Remember to show the book around to relatives, friends and work colleagues also – get in quick, as extra books can be ordered for the next 2 weeks only.

We have some great **rewards for our top sellers.**

Our **top selling family** will receive **4 X SNOWPLANET FULL DAY CHILD/ADULT PASSES.**

Our **second top selling family** will receive **2 x PARADISE ICE SKATING CHILD/ADULT TICKETS.**

Our **third top selling family** will receive **2 x BERKELEY CINEMAS CHILD MOVIE PASSES.**

PLUS for every book sold, receive an entry into the draw for **2 x SNOWPLANET FULL DAY CHILD/ADULT PASSES.**

If you have any queries regarding this fundraiser, please phone Aroha Bishop (Ph: 537 4799) or Maree Biland (Ph: 537 6037).

Pool Keys

There are still a few pool keys to come back in. Please bring your key back this week, and collect your refund from Trish or Tania. You will be able to buy an additional 10 litres of fuel to keep your car on the road!!

Road Patrol

Another reminder for parents to **use our official crossing** please, whether coming over the road to collect children after school, or crossing back having collected them.

School Banking

A reminder that school banking for the children is every *Thursday morning* in our library.

Netball

Eastern Primary Schools' Netball Tournament.

Botany Downs School has entered 4 teams (2 Year 5 and 2 Year 6 teams) to compete in the Eastern Primary School's Netball Tournament.

The tournament will take place on the 3rd of June at the Howick Pakuranga Courts (Lloyd Elsmore). The tournament will start at 9:30 and should finish at 2:30 pm.

We are in need of one more umpire, and parent helpers who will assist in transporting the players to the courts and manage a team for the day.

Should you be able to help in any way please contact Mrs Nicolette van Heerden at school.

Howick/Pakuranga Netball

Botany Downs School has also entered two teams (Grade A and Grade B) to compete in the Howick/Pakuranga Netball competition.

The two teams will compete on a two weekly basis against local schools. The next match is scheduled for the 12th June at Wakaaranga Primary, during lunch time 12:45.

Please contact Mrs van Heerden should you be able to assist with transport to Wakaaranga Primary.

(Nicolette van Heerden Netball Organiser)

Please Check In

Staff members are very conscious of the importance of doing all we practically can to ensure that your children are safe here at school, in a happy and secure environment. However, we are a school surrounded by homes, with several entrances onto the grounds. While this is a lovely neighbourhood, we still need to ensure that all adults in the grounds are here for acceptable reasons.

Parents are reminded that it is school policy for *all visitors to our school* to check in to the office if at school during class times, that is between 8.55am and 3.00pm. Obviously, this does *not* apply to those dropping children off before school, or to all the mums and dads who come just before 3.00pm and wait outside rooms to collect their children.

If you need to come to school during school hours, including interval and lunch times, please call in to the office and *let us know* you are here, and *sign out* when you go. All children must be signed out if collected during the school day. Late arrivals to school must also sign in at the office.

Our Children are Superstars!!

Congratulations to Daniel Muir in Room 3, who gained *1st place* (5 Year olds division) in the Mountain Raiders BMX.

Our School Values

Our school values here at Botany Downs are to

Respect individuality

Foster independence

Encourage children to support each other socially, and in learning

Appreciate cultural diversity

Value family involvement

Encourage all to have respect for themselves, others, property and the environment

If you are up at school in the afternoons, don't be surprised to hear the bell ringing around 2.45pm. This signals our "Reflection Time", when teachers encourage their classes to gather quietly together and talk about school values, and the positive things that have happened, and what has been achieved, during the course of that day.

Have a good week everyone

Regards

Mr T