

Monday 5 May 2008

Newsletter 12/08

Dear parents

Welcome back everyone to the start of a busy second term. An especially big welcome to the new pupils joining us today.

A highlight will be the visit by the Education Review Office (ERO) in Week 7. ERO generally visit schools on a three year cycle, and their last review of our school was in mid 2005.

There are lots of other school events coming up in the next few weeks also. We have our dance evenings for each syndicate, the Juniors' trip to the Telstra centre, winter code sports events for the Seniors, ICAS competitions, a Positive Schools show on 19 June for the whole school, a PTA disco, and the District Musical Festival. Mid Year student reports will be coming home on the last day of term.

Staff professional development this term includes Inquiry Learning, Art, Computer skills, Numeracy, First Aid and Writing. We will also be continuing to look at the new NZ Curriculum...more on this soon.

School Banking

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

Winter Uniform

We begin the transition into winter uniforms from today. A few days grace are always allowed in case some parents have not yet purchased all the correct items for winter.

A couple of reminders:

- White sneakers are not part of either our winter or summer uniforms. The correct footwear in winter is *plain black shoes* please.
- The uniform shop is situated in the hall, and opens every Thursday morning at 8.30am. I'd like to make a special mention of the mums who run our shop. We all appreciate your efforts and support.
- Some Thursdays it does get very busy indeed in the uniform shop. Please be patient, and remember the shop is staffed by parent volunteers very kindly giving up their own time to assist you and your children.

PTA News

The first PTA meeting of this term is **tonight**, starting at 7.30pm. All welcome.

Healthy Apple Fundraising – We have come to the end of our first cycle of fundraising with fresh export quality apples and due to demand we are pleased to announce that we will continue to offer pre-ordered apples each week, for as long as new season apples are available. If you didn't order previously, please consider doing so this time. Ask someone who ordered last time-they will tell you the apples were absolutely delicious! A separate notice has been sent home today, orders with payment need to be returned to school **by the end of this week** (Friday 9th). The next cycle runs for 4 weeks and costs \$18 – you will receive one 2kg bag of fresh, new season apples, each week for 4 weeks, to be collected every Thursday from the school hall. Any queries, please contact Maree - ph: 5376037 or email biland@xtra.co.nz.

2008/09 Entertainment Books – are coming! A separate notice explaining this fundraiser will be sent home next Monday. **Message for all you Dads and children ...** why not give Mum a Mothers Day Card she will use all year, buy her the brand new 2008/09 Entertainment Book/Card and she will receive valuable offers on everything she loves ...

dining, movies, travel and much more! Books will be sent home on Monday 26th May, however if you would like a book sooner, we are able to arrange this, please contact Aroha - ph: 5374799 or email bishops5@xtra.co.nz.

Drink, Donut & Mufti Day – Next *Friday 16th May*. A separate notice will come home next Monday. Drinks and donuts need to be ordered in advance, so please return orders with payment as quickly as possible. Drinks and donuts will be served for morning tea, and lunch orders will be available as usual on this day.

Coming Attractions

<i>Tonight</i>	PTA at 7.30pm in the library
<i>Tuesday 13 May</i>	BOT meeting starting at 7.30pm
<i>Thursday 15 May</i>	Choir having a combined schools practice at Point View School Class photos
<i>Friday 16 May</i>	Donut and Mufti Day

School Hours

A reminder that classes begin at 8.55am, and finish at 3.00pm. We ask that children be collected promptly after school, and no later than 3.15pm.

Unless special arrangements have been made, children should not arrive before 8.30am please, as teachers are busy in their classrooms and there is no-one to supervise them.

Values Programme

For the first half of this term we will be focusing on the school value “Responsibility”.

Traffic Safety

The safety of your children is paramount for us. In common with many urban schools, we do tend to have congestion at our school gate, with lots of children emerging from school onto a busy road.

Please note that:

- Children *and* parents crossing the road *must* use the road patrol crossing. Please wait behind the yellow lines until the monitors give the “Cross Now” signal
- Before school, cars using the drop off zone need to come as far into the zone as possible before stopping to let children alight
- Cars must not come into the drop off zone after school
- There is **no parking** on yellow lines
- The police have indicated that they will be patrolling and will give out tickets to anyone driving too quickly near the school, or to anyone incorrectly parked

Helping Your Child to Read

*Read to your child every day
vary the type of books read
When reading to your child, stop sometimes and ask
“What do you think might happen next?”
Talk to your child about books read by them, or to them, at school
visit the excellent local public library
Yes! Books still make excellent presents!*

Have a good week everyone

Regards

Mr T