

Monday 18 August 2008

Newsletter 25/08

Dear parents

BUILDING PROJECT COMPLETED!!

At last the new buildings are finished! We moved into the new staff room last Tuesday, and from **TOMORROW** the new office will hopefully be up and running.

There are many people to thank for their work over the last year or more since we first began planning to build a new administration complex and staff room.

I'd especially like to thank my fellow members of the Building Committee-**Mark Bason, Birgit Rahm** and **Graeme Brown**-our project manager **Paul Styles**, architects **John Rehm** and **Christine Drinnan**, and of course **Greg Chapman Builders** (especially Shane and Shayne), plus the many sub contractors involved at some time or other.

I'd also like to thank Trish and Tania in the office, who have coped so well with working in rather cramped and not always very comfortable surroundings in our temporary office for more than six months.

We had some hiccups early on, our plans having to change when it transpired that our old dental clinic was no longer up to adequate standards, and was to be demolished. This delayed getting started. The wet weather over the last two months also held us up at times.

But now all is finished! We have a very modern facility that is a wonderful addition to our school, and will hopefully serve Botany Downs well for many years to come.

OFFICIAL OPENING OF NEW BUILDINGS

Our administration block will be officially opened at 9.30am on **Friday 29 August** by the Prime Minister of New Zealand, Helen Clark. More details in next week's newsletter.

Working Bee:

Thank you to the small group of parents who turned up on the weekend to plant the new gardens outside the administration block. You've done a fabulous job!

Special Terrific Persons Awards

Congratulations to all the following children, who will receive their special certificates at **Wednesday** afternoon's assembly. Parents, assembly starts at **2.15pm**, and, as always, we'd *love* to see you: **Connor Brown, Carlina Champion, Chynna Davie, Daena Govender, Celeste Lane, Rogan Long, Sabastian Munro, Tom Osborne, Baltej Singh, Cameron Smith, Andrew Tan, Jayme Francis** and **Fraser Wood**.

PTA News

Have you turned your MERCURY ENERGY BILL into a BOOK?

Every month Mercury Energy sends out thousands of energy bills – that's an awful lot of paper! However, if you choose to **RECEIVE YOUR BILL ONLINE**, Mercury Energy will **DONATE A BOOK TO OUR SCHOOL!** It's really easy to do and there will be no more time-consuming paper bills to keep track of, just a simple monthly email alert which includes a full summary of your bill.

The **GREAT NEWS** is ... so far, we have received **43 FREE CHILDREN'S BOOKS** which is a brilliant start, but we'd love to receive **MORE!** There's **still time to register** for online bill and nominate our school. Tell friends and family to visit www.mercury.co.nz by **30 SEPTEMBER 2008** and nominate **BOTANY DOWNS SCHOOL** to receive a **FREE BOOK!**

Chocolates!

Our major fundraiser for the year starts tomorrow, with chocolates being issued to the eldest child in each family. Each family will be issues with two boxes of chocolates to sell. There are 20 bars in each box so \$80 is due back to the school. The money we raise will go towards the continuing purchase of ICT equipment to be used in classrooms.

We appreciate your support in making this fundraiser a great success.

Note: Please could you return your chocolate carry boxes to the school so we can reuse them. If you have any questions or are able to help with this fundraiser in any way please phone Gerry Boniface (ph 534 6149).

Playing Touch

The "Touch" season is approaching. If you would like your child to play summer Touch for the school, we will need more **COACHES**. Please consider offering your services, and contact **Bob Johnson** here at school.

Gymnastics

Best wishes to all those children taking part in the gymnastics competitions on Wednesday. Children awarded certificates who miss assembly because they are away will receive them the following week.

Middle School Cultural Evening

Thank you to all the parents who came to last week's Cultural Evening. What a great night! Congratulations to all the children and teachers involved.

New Pupils

Welcome to the following, new pupils at our school: *Lang Coxen, Annelle Rodney, Ngawaea Te Moananui and Mikayla Meredith*

From the Children

A Visit from All Black Star Joe Rokocoko

On

Thursday 14 August

Yesterday while I was singing the national anthem something special was happening. I sat down and looked around. Everyone was pointing at something. I was like, "whats happening?" I looked back and I saw JOSEVATA ROKOCOKO, the All Black winger. I stopped and stared. I looked back.

I was so excited. "That's Joe, that's actually Joe the rugby player". My heart stopped. I said, "Liaim tell me I'm not dreaming". Liaim said, "You're not dreaming, Sean you're not dreaming". I was so excited that Mr K told me to calm down! Tom McCartney and Joe Rokocoko made a speech and presented awards to the ripper rugby team. After assembly I actually hi-fived Joe. Now my hand is forbidden to be touched! It's sacred!!!.

By: Sean Moli (Room 15)

From tomorrow we will be running things from our new office.

To find us, please use the main entrance facing the car park, not the "back door" facing the netball courts.

Have a good week everyone

Regards

Mr T