

Monday 8 September 2008

Newsletter 28/08

Dear parents

School Cross Country Results

Year 0/1 Boys: 1st *Luke Holmes* 2nd *Conner Rae* 3rd *Kyle Jonson*
Year 0/1 Girls: 1st *Rogan Long* 2nd *Georgia Manning* 3rd *Courtney Behm*
Year 2 Boys: 1st *Samuel White* 2nd *Quinn Malone* 3rd *Joshua Tillson*
Year 2 Girls: 1st *Taryn Douglas* 2nd = *Georgia Gibson* and *Nicola Elia*
Year 3 Boys: 1st *Cameron Jago* 2nd *Brad Elliott* 3rd *Denzil O'Shannessey*
Year 3 Girls: 1st *Ellery Martin* 2nd *Chelsea Coleman-TeHiko* 3rd *Hannah Allen*
Year 4 Boys: 1st *Nathan Brown* 2nd *Mloni Mlangeni* 3rd *Mitchell Douglas*
Year 4 Girls: 1st *Siobhan Bishop* 2nd *Hayley Anderson* 3rd *Nicole Meyer*
Year 5 Boys: 1st *Sam Coles* 2nd *Mitchell Graham* 3rd *Bailey Phipps*
Year 5 Girls: 1st *Victoria Bassett* 2nd *Eden O'Shannessey* 3rd *Courtney Jonson*
Year 6 Boys: 1st *Sam Kinley* 2nd *Cory Woodford* 3rd *Christopher Sinclair*
Year 6 Girls: 1st *Zoe Hack* 2nd *Winona Saptoe* 3rd *Versheena Bhana*

(Elizabeth Thomas & Grant Kibblewhite)

CHOCOLATES FUNDRAISER

Thank you to everyone who has sold their chocolates and returned the money already – Great Effort!! It is helpful if you can send notes or cheques as it is easier than handling large amounts of coin. Please keep the money coming in - remember you have to send your money back to go in the lucky draw to win a bike. Congratulations to **Benjamin Manning** (Room 17) who won the second bike at last Wednesday's assembly. We no longer need you to return your empty carry boxes to the school as we have enough. Thanks to those of you who did return your boxes to be reused. Feel free to put your empty carry boxes in your recycling bin at home from now on. We do still have more chocolate available for those who are able to sell it easily. Remember we issue more chocolate on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. Thanks for your support. Any queries please phone **Gerry Boniface** on 534-6149.

THERE'S STILL TIME TO JOIN OUR FAMILY ICE SKATING NIGHT!!

Wow, what a great response we've had to our family Ice Skating Night being held at Paradise Ice Skating this Thursday 11th September, 6.30pm – 8pm ... the PTA would like to thank you for your support! We still have **spaces available**, so if you have forgotten to register or have decided you would now like to come, please send your registration form and payment back ASAP! Registration forms are available from the office or download the Term 3 PTA Newsletter (<http://www.botanydowns.school.nz/community.asp>) which has a registration form at the bottom.

For those joining us, **tickets will be issued on the night**. Collect your tickets from our registration desk which will be set up just inside the main entrance. It's going to be a great night ... see you there!

Special Terrific Persons Awards

Congratulations to all the following children, who will receive their special certificates at **Wednesday** afternoon's assembly. It's been great to see so many parents coming along to our school assemblies. They start at **2.15pm.**, and we really appreciate it if parents can attend:

Cameron Signal, Jayde Rosseau, Grace Adams, Jordan Dheda, Joanne Gee, Max Haddon, Chantelle Hieatt, Llewellyn Jonker, Alysha Keegan, Joshua McGowan, Mloni Mlangeni, Bryan Mosheim, Cameron Mosheim, Georgia Spring, Tessa Stewart, Gabrielle Tai, Troy Tapsell and Joshua Tillson.

New Pupil

Welcome to **Natalie Lowe**, new to our school.

Our Children are Superstars!

Congratulations to **Vicki Mosheim** (Room 20), who gained Distinction with 80% in her recent RAD Grade 3 ballet examination.

Well done **Daniel Muir**, player of the year for Bucklands Beach Affiliated Football Club 6th Grade Soccer, Silver Otters. His team was undefeated.

Playground Support Programmes

From time to time parents ask for more information about the ways we keep our playground safe for everybody.

Our school has established an environment in which children should feel safe, secure and happy through an effective school-wide Behaviour Management Programme called “**Chances.**” The plan specifies the behaviour we expect from our students and has clear guidelines and consequences for those in the minority who choose not to accept them. The programme allows misbehaving pupils to pass through seven stages ranging from a simple apology (Chance One) to suspension (Chance Seven). It fulfils all Ministry of Education requirements for the suspension process if needed. The **Chances Programme** is cyclic and runs for a period of five weeks. At the end of this time, the slate is wiped clean. All children who are on a Chances 2 level begin afresh. Also at the end of the five week cycle, children not in the Chances Book are offered a one hour “Happy Hour”, a free choice supervised activity period.

Chances Programme works in with our **Peer Mediation Programme**. This involves selected children being given mediation skills by a trained adult mediator to take ownership of less serious issues that arise in the playground. Peer mediators wear identifying tunics. They do not become involved in anything other than minor incidents.

The **Chances Book** is a record of children who have offended in the playground. It records the date, offence, time and the duty teacher. From this book we are able to build up a very accurate picture of incidents. It also allows the school to see where our problem areas are, and when most of the offending is occurring. This in turn means we are better able to supervise our playground, and if necessary implement new activities for the children during their breaks.

Children respond very well to this programme. Teachers and children have a clear understanding of what constitutes acceptable playground behaviour. “Acceptable playground behaviour” is discussed within each class, so that children are clear in their own minds what they can and can’t do. This really boils down to one simple word-“respect”. Respect for other children and other people’s property.

To support the Chances Programme and the Peer Mediators, there are always at least three staff on duty at playtimes and lunchtimes. These staff members are clearly identifiable for the children by a brightly coloured jacket and also carry a simple first aid kit to deal with minor scrapes immediately. In addition the school runs a **Values Programme** focussing the children on the basic values of: Courtesy and Manners, Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, Consideration, Cooperation, Determination and Tolerance. Two values are focussed on per term throughout the school.

(Sandra Johnston, Deputy Principal)

School Hours

Please remember that school starts at 8.55am, and children are not expected at school until **8.30am**. As our road patrol is not on duty until shortly before 8.30am, parents please ensure your children know that they must be very careful if trying to cross the road before the patrol starts operating. It is a busy road at that time of the morning.

Recently we have had children still waiting to be picked up at 4.15pm! This is not fair on office staff who stay on to look after them. All children **must be picked up by 3.15pm** please, unless part of the after school care programme.

From the Children

Our Cutting the Ribbon Ceremony

We were waiting for the Prime Minister, Helen Clark. We were as quiet as a creeping cricket! Then she walks in.....Wooooooow! I can’t believe what I am seeing. It’s her. It’s actually **Helen Clark**, our Prime Minister. Mr T gave a speech about the building and thanked the people who helped. THEN...Yay, it’s her time to shine. Excitement ran through my body. She spoke, then we stood and sang Mate Mahi Ka Ora, and walked outside to watch the Prime Minister cut the bright, beautiful red ribbon. SNIP! Whoooo...Yippeee...we all clap.

Cory Woodford Room 12