

**Wednesday 4 February 2009**

## **Newsletter 01/09**

Dear parents

**Welcome** all of you to the new school year at Botany Downs, with a very special welcome to the new children joining our community today. We hope your school days with us will be very happy and rewarding ones.

Our school newsletters come home at the start of *every* school week, with the eldest or only child. Newsletters are easily our most important way of communicating with you, so please look out for them.

Newsletters are also posted on our school website ([www.botanydowns.school.nz](http://www.botanydowns.school.nz))

## **Staff**

Three new teachers are starting today. **Samantha du Plessis** will be in Room 11, **Carolyn Henderson** in Room 15, and **Sharlet Naidoo** in Room 6. Welcome to all of you!

## **School Uniform**

It is essential that all children wear our official summer school uniform please, including *black flat sandals*. Sneakers are **not** permitted. Please name all clothing.

*Sun Safety:* All children must wear our *school sunhat* whenever they are outside. While classes do have sunscreen lotion, parents are welcome to pop a small tube of sunscreen in their child's bag.

We realise that not all children will have an official school hat at this stage, so, for those children yet to purchase one, any appropriate sunhat will do for the next few days. Everyone in school hats by 16<sup>th</sup> February please.

## **Swimming Pool**

Our swimming programme starts tomorrow, and as swimming is part of our curriculum *all children* need to bring their togs. Teachers will let your children know which their class swimming days are.

It is a school expectation that, unless there is a genuine reason for not taking part, all children will participate in swimming. A note is required if your child is not swimming. Thank you.

## **School Hours**

Our 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.

## **PTA**

The first PTA meeting of the year is this coming Monday (9<sup>th</sup> February). 7.30pm in the staff room.  
ALL WELCOME!

## **School Assemblies**

Our assemblies are a time for the whole school to get together and to celebrate our achievements. Parents are *very welcome* to attend. Our weekly assemblies are held in the hall at **2.15pm** on Wednesdays. Our first assembly will be next week (Wednesday 11 February).

## School Stationery

Stationery is being sold in packs from **today**. Children should bring the **correct** amount of money, or a cheque made out to Botany Downs Primary School, in a clearly labelled envelope, and give it to their class teacher. We have eftpos facilities in the office. A reminder that this year all packs are \$33.

Every effort has been made by class teachers to keep prices down, as we are aware that this is a particularly expensive time of the year for everyone.

## Waitangi Day

No school this Friday as it is Waitangi Day.

## Book Club Orders

Scholastic Book Club orders close on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February.

## Bought Lunches

These will resume on **Monday 9 February**. The menu choices are on our website. Please note that there are no bought lunches on Tuesdays.

## School Donations

The BOT has set the school donations at **\$180 per child** for the year. There will be a discount of **\$30** if donations are paid by the end of term 1 (reducing the amount to \$150 per child). Eftpos and credit card facilities are available at the school office.

## Important Dates This Term

<i>Friday 6 February</i>	WAITANGI DAY (school is closed)
<i>Monday 9 February</i>	PTA 7.30pm
<i>Friday 27 February</i>	Junior School Aqua Fun Day
<i>Tuesday 3 March</i>	Senior School Swimming Sports
<i>Friday 6 March</i>	Middle School Swimming Carnival
<i>Wednesday 11 March</i>	Parent Interviews 3.20pm-5.00pm
<i>Thursday 12 March</i>	Parent Interviews 3.30pm-8.00pm
<i>Tuesday 17 March</i>	Inter School Swimming Sports
<i>Friday 20 March</i>	Zoo Adventure!
<i>Monday 6 April</i>	Literacy Week begins
<i>Thursday 9 April</i>	Last Day of Term 1

Have a great start to the school year everyone.

Kind regards

Bruce Trezise  
Principal