

Monday 9 February 2009

Newsletter 02/09

Dear parents

Parent Interviews

Our interviews are set down for **Wednesday 11 March (3.20pm-5.00pm)** and **Thursday 12 March (3.20pm-8.00pm)**. A separate notice will come home giving further information about parent interviews in a couple of weeks, but in the meantime you might like to make a note of the dates.

Music Lessons

Yes, we are once again offering private music lessons through our school. If you are interested in your children learning an instrument, please leave your name at the office or contact our music teacher directly.

For piano, keyboards, recorder and violin: Ring **Jinny Jo** (ph 021 205 5506 or 270 0664)

School Donations

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, the Board of Trustees has set our school donation at \$180 per child for the year. This is reduced to **\$150** if paid before the end of the first term.

School donations are always a hot topic. Many of you will have seen the article on this in last Saturday's Herald (front page). Please note that at this school children or parents are not penalised if school donations aren't paid.

However, the donation we request from every family continues to be one of the lowest in the Howick Pakuranga district-and very modest for a decile 10 school-and it helps us to keep it low if as many people contribute as possible. And of course the money raised from donations is spent for the benefit of all children.

Donations may be paid by instalment if you wish, or by automatic deductions (speak to Tania in the office about this). We have Eftpos and credit card facilities at school for those who wish to pay in this manner.

Thank you to all who have already made a contribution.

Bought Lunches

Bought lunches started today, and are available every school day **except Tuesdays**. A reminder that lunch options and prices are listed on our website.

Stationery

Most children now have their stationery packs, although we know some packs were short of a couple of items. We're working on this!

I'd like to say a big "THANK YOU" to the staff and parents who so kindly helped staff issue packs last week. We really appreciate your efforts. ☺ ☺

School Road Patrol Crossing/Car Parking

Now that we are back into the swing of things we wish to remind everyone about the school crossing.

The crossing is for **everyone** to use, including parents, so ***please use the crossing!*** Last week we had instances of parents ignoring the road patrol and crossing the road wherever they wanted.

A reminder that **everyone** must stand behind the line until the children holding the signs have checked that the road is safe and have called "Cross Now". Please do **not** attempt to cross the road at any time when the children have their arms up. This either means they have opened the signs and are checking the way is safe or they are about to close the signs. The road patrol is there for your safety, and all are expected to use the official crossing.

A reminder that there is no car parking on any yellow lines. Parking officers from the Manukau Council are now patrolling all schools in the area, and issuing on the spot tickets to cars parked illegally near schools.

Our Children are Superstars!

Congratulations to **Victoria Bassett**, who competed in an interprovincial touch rugby competition in Hamilton over the weekend. Her Counties Manukau side was runner up in the Development Grade.

Year 6 Camp

Yes! The Y6 children are going on a week long camp at Camp Bentzon again this year, following the great success of last year's foray.

The camp is booked for **27th April-1st May**. Not the greatest timing in the world, as it is the first week of the second term, but the only opportunity offered to us.

The cost of the camp will be around \$210 (five days), so parents may like to start putting some money aside for this.

PTA NEWS

PTA MEETING TONIGHT, Monday 9th February (not 10th, as per PTA notice sent home last week). We'd love to welcome some new members to the PTA this year, so please consider joining us at our first meeting – 7.30pm, in the staffroom.

GARAGE SALE DONATIONS

Next week, we will let you know the date of our Garage Sale, in the meantime please keep collecting good quality, second-hand items which you would be happy to donate to the school for this event. We will also be needing help on the day. Stay tuned for more details!

Coming Attractions

<i>TONIGHT!</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 3.20pm-8.00pm
<i>Tuesday 17 March</i>	Inter School Swimming Sports
<i>Friday 20 March</i>	The Great Zoo Adventure! WATCH THIS SPACE!
<i>Monday 6 April</i>	Literacy Week begins
	Children's writing books come home
<i>Thursday 9 April</i>	Last Day of Term 1
<i>Monday 27 April</i>	Term 2 begins

Have a good week everyone

Mr T