

Monday 16 March 2009

Newsletter 07/09

Dear parents

Parent Interviews

Thank you to all who were able to come to our parent interviews last week. We had an excellent turnout.

Special Terrific Persons Awards

Congratulations to all the following children, who will receive their special certificates at **Wednesday** afternoon's assembly. Assemblies start at **2.15pm.**, and we appreciate it if parents can attend. The children really look forward to seeing you: ***Sterling Bartlett, Joel Biland, Logan Carr, Chelsea Coleman-TeHiko, Michael Craggs, Megan de Kock, Ashley Fenning, Ethan Fenning, Jessica Gibson, Jennifer Kong, Jessica Lane, Michael Li, Natalie Lowe, Kim Morris, Mark Moselen, Ethan Prince, Jessica Robinson and Liam Salt.***

Board of Trustees

The Board is meeting this week on Wednesday, 7.30pm in the staff room. Parents are very welcome to attend Board meetings. A reminder that your Board members are:

Richard Swears (Chairperson)
Tony Parker
Patrick Kanon
Bruce Trezise

Birgit Rahm
Debbie Muir
Elizabeth Thomas

Values

At present we are emphasizing the value of "Respect". The following children have been selected by their teachers because they are demonstrating our current Value. They will be congratulated at this week's assembly and their names will be added to our Botany Downs Values Tree in the corridor: Caitlyn Lochore, Chase Taylor, Mloni Mlangeni, Ben Parker, Natalie Lowe, Sarah Swears, Victor Li, Alexia Brown, Aaron Nguyen, Braden Du Plessis, Grace Adams, Gabriel Weon, Victoria Hardey, Mitchell Allen.

Zoo Trip

Thank you to the many parents who offered support on our major excursion to the Auckland Zoo this week. When first planning this whole-school occasion, staff wondered whether we would have enough parents offering assistance. In the end, at some levels we had more parents than we need!

Every parent who offered to help out on this trip should receive today a note acknowledging that offer, and letting you know whether you are taking a group. *Please ring the school office as soon as you can if you offered help but have not heard what is happening on Friday.* A reminder that parents who are "official helpers" on the day will not be able to bring pre-schoolers.

Please note that the outing will be cancelled if the weather is bad, as there is no shelter at the zoo for the children.

All children, staff and parents need to bring their own lunch and a drink. Bought lunches will **not** be available at school on Friday 20 March.

Because all classes and staff are going to the zoo, it will **not be possible** to look after children at school.

Camp Meeting

Year 6 parents, don't forget we are having an information meeting about the Y6 camp in the library tomorrow night, starting at 7.00pm.

Coming Attractions at Botany Downs School

<i>Tuesday 17 March</i>	Inter School Swimming Sports Y6 Camp-Parents' Meeting 7.00pm
<i>Wednesday 18 March</i>	BOT Meeting 7.30pm

Friday 20 March The Great Zoo Adventure!
Saturday 21 March **GARAGE SALE**
Indian Dance Group

Ms Lala, teacher in Year 3, room 19 would like to start an Indian dance group which would be open for all children interested from Year 2 upwards. Parent help will determine if this will go ahead or not. If you would like to help or would like more details, please contact Ms Lala either between 8.30 - 8.45am or phone the school.

Library News:

If your child has a school library book in need of repair, could they please be return it to school for the necessary repairs, as the library has the correct materials.

Buddy Walk

The Auckland Down Syndrome Association is organising their 4th annual Buddy Walk at Tahaki Reserve, 250 Mt Eden Road, Mt. Eden on Sunday 22 March. Registration opens at 9.00am, walk begins at 10.00am.

Buddy Walk is a 3.5 km walk followed by a carnival with clowns, rides, spot prizes, silent auction, raffles, celebrities, stalls, music, entertainment and more.

Cost: \$25 for a family of 4, additional children \$5 – under 5's free.

Individual registrations \$10 or for groups of 10 or more people \$7 pp.

For more information, please call Christel van Baalen on 636 0351 or 021 1362537 or go to our website

www.buddywalknz.org.

GARAGE SALE ... THIS SATURDAY!

Saturday 21st March, 7.30am start

KEEP THE DONATIONS COMING THIS WEEK

Thanks to everyone who has helped with receiving and sorting goods and to everyone who has donated goods so far. We have been impressed with the fantastic response! We are looking forward to a successful sale, and **the more we have to sell, the more money we will raise** for our school. If you haven't already done so, please have a good look at home for any **quality, second-hand goods** which you are happy to donate – **books, clothing, linen & Manchester, CD's, DVD's, kitchen & household goods, appliances, electronics, sports equipment etc** – WE WANT IT ALL!

Have you remembered to **ask friends, family & neighbours** if they have goods they wish to donate also? **Room 1** (the classroom at the front of the school, next to the office entrance) is open **between 8.30-9.30am and 2.30-3.30pm** every day this week. If you have larger items which need collecting, please contact Greg Clark 5335646 (evenings).

CAKE/BAKING DONATIONS THIS FRIDAY

A plate has been sent home to all families today. We ask that you return your plate with your **item of baking** (cake, muffin, loaf, homemade sweets etc) **to the hall this Friday morning (20th March)**. (Please remind your children that after they have dropped their baking, they need to quickly make their way to class to avoid any delays in departure for the zoo). Baking needs to be carefully **covered with gladwrap** and **labelled with name/type of baking**. Baking will be available for sale to the public, at our garage sale the next day. Any queries, please phone Gerry Boniface 5346149.

MORE HELPERS NEEDED FOR SET-UP AND SECURITY

We urgently need **more volunteers to help with setting up** on Friday 20th March. Even if you can spare an hour or two, we'd appreciate it. Please phone Greg Clark 5335646 (evenings) if you haven't offered previously, and can now assist. Also if you are able to help act as '**security**' on the day (ie: wear a high visibility vest, stand on doors and wander around/through crowds) we would like to hear from you. Please phone Kath Bason 5338097 (evenings) if you can help with this specific job.

SAUSAGE SIZZLE SPONSOR

Our **THANKS** and appreciation to parent **DAVE SLESSOR**, from **Total Focus Property**, who is very kindly **donating all the sausages** for our Sausage Sizzle on the day. **We really appreciate your support!**

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK FUNDRAISER

Advance notice that the PTA are again offering the 2009/10 Entertainment Book as a fundraiser this year. We are pleased to be able to receive the books earlier this year, within a couple of weeks of their release in March! More details will be sent home soon, but in the meantime you may wish to let family and friends know that they will be able to purchase their books from Botany Downs Primary again this year.

Have a terrific week
Sandra Johnston