

Monday 9 March 2009

Newsletter 06/09

Dear parents

Big Things are Happening Here!

It's a very busy time here at school. Please note that:

- Parent interviews are this Wednesday and Thursday. If you would like to have an interview with your child's teacher, but have not received an interview time, please either speak to the teacher, or ring the school office, as soon as possible.
- Zoo trip. A separate notice is coming home today regarding our whole school zoo trip on Friday 20 March.
- PTA Garage Sale. Please read all the information at the bottom of this newsletter. This is a big fundraiser for our school and we *need your support*.

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 really appreciate it if parents can attend. The children love to see you: **Connor Brown, Po-Wei Chen, Jack Cowan, Emily Driver, Jackson Driver, Georgia Manning, Emily McGowan, Joshua McGowan, Yasmine Mustafa, Huda Sahib, Briana Sharp, Benjamin Smith, Georgia Spring, Samuel White, Yulia Pechorina** and **India Yarrow**.

Bike Safety and Bike Licences

From Year 4 above the children have the opportunity to apply for a licence to ride their bicycle to school. We go through the expectations with the children and they take the bike notice home. If the parents are happy that their child meets all the requirements they sign the permission slip and send it back. The children are then able to ride to school but must obey the rules. If the child is younger than Year 4 they can only ride to school with a parent supervising. Once again they must obey the rules, no riding in the school grounds. We would appreciate it if you let us know whether your child is riding to school.

Thanks, Sandra Johnston

Scholastic Book Club: Scholastic Issue 2. Last day for ordering is Wednesday 18 March.

Values

At present we are emphasizing the value of "Courtesy". 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: **Tiffany Human, Lucas Lee, Chynna Davie, Amy Savory, Ashley Fenning, Jordan Tane, Kishore Sriravindrarah, Ryan Sargent, Nicola Elia, Yvette Redondo, Ronin Tainui, Jessica Gao, Lauren Price, Tia Warwick.**

From this week, classes will be focusing on the value of showing respect (for self and others).

Our Children are Superstars!

Congratulations to athletes **Bradley Robinson** and **Ellery Martin**. Bradley won two gold medals at the Counties Manukau Championships on 21 February (held at Massey Park Papakura), and Ellery won a silver and bronze. Well done both of you!

Volunteers Urgently Needed for the Senior School

We are looking for parents, grandparents, or any adults to help in the senior area of the school. This would be mainly listening to children read. If you are able to assist please give the school a ring and leave your name and number. Your help would be gratefully appreciated.

Thank you, Sandra Johnston

Botany Downs School Wiki Space www.botanydowns.wikispaces.com

The school has set up a wiki space that offers relevant and interactive websites for the children to use at school and at home. A wiki is an online website that can be added to by several people. This wiki is still under construction as we are learning how to best use it.

If you have any queries, or suggestions for improvement, please email principal@botanydowns.school.nz or lyndall@botanydowns.school.nz. We encourage you to have a look at the wiki with your child.

Coming Attractions at Botany Downs School

<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 Y6 Camp-Parents' Meeting 7.00pm
<i>Wednesday 18 March</i>	BOT Meeting 7.30pm
<i>Friday 20 March</i>	The Great Zoo Adventure!

From your PTA

PTA GARAGE SALE 12 days to go!!

Our giant fundraising garage sale is less than 2 weeks away - **Saturday 21st March, 7.30am start.**

SEND IN YOUR DONATED GOODS NOW!

We would now like to receive all your quality, second-hand goods for our sale. **Clothing, books, toys, CD's, DVD's, kitchen utensils, appliances, electronics, sports equipment, furniture, furnishings** etc – all gratefully accepted – please ensure items are clean and undamaged, thank you!

Items can be dropped off over the next 2 weeks at Room 1 (the empty classroom next to the main office entrance) **each week day** during **8.30-9.30am** and **2.30-3.30pm**, or next Saturday (14th March) between 8.00-10.30am. Please note that the day before the sale is the day of the school zoo trip, and naturally will be busy with buses etc, so it would be best for all goods to be bought to school **prior to** this day.

ADVERTISING FLIERS – PLEASE DISTRIBUTE

Six flyers have been sent home today, with the eldest child of each family. Please could you place these in neighbours letterboxes (or if your neighbours are families of our school, then drop them in a different letterbox). These flyers will help to advertise our sale and invite them to donate any unwanted goods they may have.

CAKE STALL

We are also holding a cake stall on the day of our sale and will be asking each family to donate an item of baking. Next Monday, a notice and plate will be sent home with more information. Baking will need to be brought to school on the morning the day before the sale (**Friday 20th March**). Because this is the day of the school zoo trip, please ask your child to just leave their baking at the hall and make their way to class as quickly as possible.

PLASTIC BAGS

We need more plastic shopping bags. Please bring these to Room 1 or leave at the office.

MORE HELPERS NEEDED ON FRIDAY 20th MARCH

We need more people to help with setting up on Friday 20th. If you can assist, even for just a couple of hours, please phone Greg Clark (533 5646).