

**Monday 30 March 2009**

**Newsletter 09/09**

Dear parents

### **Swimming**

The swimming season has now finished, so those togs can stay home please.

*Pool keys* need to be returned to the school office. Don't forget to collect your refund!

A big thank you to our caretaker, **Bob Johnson**, for his maintenance of the pool over the season, and to all those parent volunteers who helped keep the pool running for community use during the holidays and at weekends. A special mention too of BOT member **Birgit Rahm** who has done so much-yet again-to help keep things ticking along.

### **Special Terrific Persons Awards**

Congratulations to the following children, who will receive their certificates at Wednesday afternoon's assembly (2.15pm start, all parents welcome as always): **Lara Sedak, Jack Bason, Luke Kirk, Dylan October, Rose Zheng, Abbie Godkin-Wilson, Ryan O'Loughlin, Slade Coxen, Chynna Davie, Kiana Hania, Jessy-Leigh Harvett, Bryan Mosheim, Caela Adams, Jacob Sprague, Ivan Redondo.**

### **School Hours**

A reminder that 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.

### **The End of Term is Approaching!**

Yes, it's hard to believe, but the first term has flown past already. We close at the end of next week on **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April**, and return for the start of term 2 on Monday 27 April.

### **Values Programme**

For the second half of this term we have been focusing on the school value "Respect". The following children have been selected by their teachers to be congratulated at assembly on Wednesday: **Carlina Barnett Slade, Yu Jing Wang, Corey Thorpe, Johnathan Leung, Sloane Perkins, Jayden Holmes, Rachael Swears, Zaid Mustafa, Olivia Park, Yena Kim, Siobhan Bishop, Vincent Liu, Ruth Taylor, Isabella White.**

### **School Donations**

As mentioned in previous newsletters, 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. Only two weeks to go if you would like your discount!

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

As the money raised from donations is spent for the benefit of all children, we do encourage all parents to contribute.

### **Activity Fee**

A reminder that some families still need to pay for the Zoo trip \$14.00 and for Bringwonder (book week 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> April ) \$3.00 to cover the cost of the story teller.

### **Parent Interviews**

Thank you to those parents who have emailed me and given their thoughts. It's not too late to give me feedback-just email [principal@botanydowns.school.nz](mailto:principal@botanydowns.school.nz)

## Traffic Safety

The safety of your children is paramount for us. In common with many urban schools, we do tend to have congestion at our school gate, with lots of children emerging from school onto a busy road.

Please note that:

- Children *and* parents crossing the road *must* use the road patrol crossing. Please wait behind the yellow lines until the monitors give the “Cross Now” signal
- Before school, cars using the drop off zone need to come as far into the zone as possible before stopping to let children alight
- Cars must not come into the drop off zone after school
- There is **no parking** on yellow lines
- The police have indicated that they will be patrolling and will give out tickets to anyone driving too quickly near the school, or to anyone incorrectly parked

## PTA NEWS

### Entertainment Book Fundraiser

A copy of the 2009/10 Entertainment Book was sent home to each family last week. Selling for \$65, **\$13 from every book sold is kept by our school**. DID YOU REALISE that at just \$65, you only have to **use 2-3 vouchers and it's paid for itself** – and from there you will go on to enjoy significant savings each time you use a voucher or the gold card.

Remember to ask **friends, family, neighbours, co-workers** etc if they have seen the “great new Entertainment Book” – a huge number of people purchase the book now, and we would like them to purchase their books through us. Let them look through your copy and send orders/payment back to us before the 9<sup>th</sup> April.

Thank you for your support with this fundraiser. If you require any further details, contact **Aroha Bishop** on **537-4799** or email **bishops5@xtra.co.nz**.

### Iceblock & Mufti Day

Wear mufti (ie: non-uniform clothes) and enjoy an ice block for morning tea this **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April**. A separate notice has been sent home today, please return **orders with payment by Thursday**. A reminder that the **correct change** is necessary.

### Calendar Dates

Mark these dates on your calendar, more information will come home closer to the time ...

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> August** – **Family Ice Skating** night at Paradise Ice Skating (6.30pm – 8pm)

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November** – **Botany Twilight Fair** at school (5pm – 8pm)

## Helping Your Child to Read

*Read to your child every day  
vary the type of books read  
When reading to your child, stop sometimes and ask  
“What do you think might happen next?”  
Talk to your child about books read by them, or to them, at school  
visit the excellent local public library  
Yes! Books still make excellent presents!*

Have a good week everyone

Regards

Mr T