

Monday 4 May 2009

Newsletter 12/09

Dear parents

PTA Meeting

Our PTA is meeting tonight in the staff room, at 7.30pm. ALL WELCOME!

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): *Nicholas Barker, Oliver Caldwell, Cameron Clark, Leo Gao, Victoria Hardey, Ethan Harvett, Chantelle Hieatt, Peita Houkamau, Ellery Martin, Luann Pretorius, Erika Whiteley, Oliver Beautelement and Sophie Bell.*

Year 6 Camp

Welcome back to the Year 6 children who have just returned from a fabulous week at camp, on Kawau Island. While on camp the children were very busy, undertaking activities which included abseiling, sailing, kayaking, orienteering, swimming and tramping. The children also had an opportunity to learn a little about our history, hiking to the old copper mine, and touring Mansion House.

A big thank you to the teachers who organised and ran the camp (*Lyndal Lowans, Amanda Foot and Grant Kibblewhite*), to the camp managers Peter and Erin, and to all the parents who accompanied the group.

Values Programme

Our current "Value" is *Showing Responsibility*. The following children have been selected by their teachers to be congratulated at assembly on Wednesday: *Carol Lee, Kishan, Ronin Tainui, Simon Payne, Huda Mahadi, Iris Wu, Vyharia Sriravindrarajah, Daniel Weon, Brad Elliott, Josh Ellwood.*

Our Children are Superstars

Congratulations to *Chelsea Coleman-Te Hiko* who did really well at the BMX Nationals in Whangarei. She is now ranked No 5 in New Zealand for 9 year old girls!

(Parents, we like to celebrate the children's achievements, in any field. If your child has done well at something, just email Mr T at principal@botanydowns.school.nz, giving the details. The item will be included if there is room. *Mr T*)

Maths Evening for Parents

On Wednesday of next week we are holding a Maths evening for parents. Please come along if you would like to find out a little more about how we teach Maths at this school. In the school library, 7.00pm start.

Coming Attractions

<i>Tonight</i>	PTA at 7.30pm in the staff room
<i>Tuesday 12 May</i>	Donut & Mufti Day
<i>Wednesday 13 May</i>	Maths Evening for parents. 7.00pm in the library
<i>Thursday 14 May</i>	Choir at combined rehearsal 9.30am-12.00pm
<i>Wednesday 20 May</i>	BOT Meeting at 7.00pm
<i>Thursday 28 May</i>	Happy Hour
<i>Friday 3 July</i>	Last day of Term 2

New Pupils

Welcome to all the following new pupils at Botany Downs: *Emily Beach, Jerry & Randy Jiang, Bradley Topham, Nicholas Barker, Rubin Whitely, Talia Rumbold, Tyla Hallows, Olivia Rhodes, Kyra Rutherford, Shloka Parikh, Peita Houkamau, Samuel Warren, Brooke Parlane, Daniel Huang, Aryaman Kailani, Jessica Scott and Yedam Kim.*

Scholastic Book Order

The final day for Issue 3 Scholastic orders is this Friday (8 May).

Calling All Five Year Olds!

Don't forget to make sure that Trish in the office knows if you have a child who is turning five and starting school this year at Botany Downs.

From the PTA

CHOCOLATE FUNDRAISING

One of our major fundraisers for the year begins tomorrow, with **each family** being issued with **2 boxes of chocolates** to sell to family and friends over coming weeks. As mentioned previously, we have pre-paid for stocks before a price increase from our suppliers and as a result are able to still sell at **\$2 per bar** (while many other organisations are selling for \$2.50) – we feel this will work in our favour by making the bars easier to sell. We have some **great prizes**, including a lucky draw each week for 4 weeks for **\$150 Botany Town Centre Vouchers**, as well as extra prizes for our top sellers.

The **project** (using profits from this year's fundraiser) will be decided on at our PTA Meeting tonight, and will be **announced in next week's newsletter**. Meanwhile, a notice with more details will be sent home with the chocolates tomorrow. If you have any further queries please contact Gerry Boniface (5346149). Thank you in advance for your support with this fundraiser.

DONUT, DRINK & MUFTI DAY

Next **Tuesday 12th May**, come dressed in mufti (non-uniform clothes) and enjoy a donut and drink for morning tea. A separate notice and order form has been sent home today. Please **return with payment by Friday this week (8th)** as donuts need to be pre-ordered. Any queries, please contact Maree Biland (5376037).

\$\$\$ FOR SCHOOLS AT THE 'PROSPECT OF HOWICK'

For the months of **May, June, July and August**, if you dine at **GBS Restaurant** the total amount spent will be turned into points for our school (distributed by pro-rata according to the size of the school). Mondays and Tuesdays earn double points. Our school has registered to take part in this promotion, so enjoy a meal (or two!) at the Prospect of Howick over the coming months and help increase our chances of winning prize money to put towards resources for our school. Watch for a separate notice coming home soon.

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