

Monday 15 June 2009

Newsletter 18/09

Dear parents

Contact Details

If your contact details have changed please let the school office know. It is essential we have up to date contact details for every child.

Swine Flu

As you will be aware, the situation is changing rapidly. Please read the separate notice coming home today carefully.

Special Terrific Persons Awards

Congratulations to all the following children, who will receive their special certificates at **Wednesday** afternoon's assembly. Parents are invited to come along to our school assemblies starting at **2.15pm**: *Akshay Edekar, Emma Savory, Kody Jelavich-Taumata, Mason Jury, Lang Coxen, Emily Taylor, Daniel Huang, Jake Clements, Mitchell Graham, Jacky Jiang, Ben Appleyard, Georgia Hardman, Andy Ryoo, Katherine Fung, Joshua Zhu, Amanda Sua.*

Values Programme

The following children have been selected by their teachers to be congratulated at assembly on Wednesday: *Lucas Lee, Sarah Swears, Larissa Melville, Miyako Hutton, Georgia Tane, Nicola Elia, Amelia Kousary, Seth Gibson, Luke Kirk, Ethan Harvett, Shulamite Lin, Siobhan Bishop*

Our Children are Superstars!

Congratulations to **Trent Davis**. Trent competed in the All Star Cheer & Dance Nationals last weekend at the Bruce Mason Centre with his Eastern Suburbs based team Junior Star Elite, and the team came second. There were Teams present from all over New Zealand competing in the annual competition. There are nine members in the team and Trent is the only Stunt Leader in the Team. *Well done Trent!*

Reporting to Parents

Student progress reports will be coming home on the last day of term. Early in term 3 we will be holding parent interviews. Interview request forms will come home next Monday 22 June.

Coming Attractions

<i>Wednesday 17 June</i>	Soccer Fun Morning Y4, Y5, Y6 classes (weather permitting) BOT Meeting 7.00pm
<i>Monday 22 June</i>	Parent interview request forms coming home
<i>Tuesday 23 June</i>	ICAS Writing/Spelling Sausage sizzle & mufti day
<i>Thursday 25 June</i>	Senior Dance Evening
<i>Monday 29 June</i>	Maths books coming home Writers' Quiz
<i>Tuesday 30 June</i>	Choir Dress Rehearsal 9.30am-12.30pm
<i>Wednesday 1 July</i>	Music Festival First Performance
<i>Thursday 2 July</i>	Music Festival Second Performance
<i>Friday 3 July</i>	Student reports coming home Term 2 finishes
<i>Monday 20 July</i>	Term 3 begins

Yummy Stickers

The apple bag promotion is now underway with bags of Yummy Apples now sporting the 'cut out' label that is worth 10 points. We continue to collect Yummy Fruit stickers in our classes and this term's inter-class competition will conclude on Friday the 26th of June. Make sure any stickers you have at home are sent to school on a plastic container lid for your class chart. (Miss Cotman - Yummy Sticker Co-ordinator)

New Pupils

Welcome to *Kaley Rawlinson, Toni Gibson, Rohnan McMillan* and *Archie Manning*

Music Festival

Our choir has been practising hard for the Music Festival, coming up soon.

There are two performances, on Wednesday 1st July and Thursday 2nd July. Tickets are available from the school office (\$5 each). Last year we sold out, so it would be a good idea to organise your tickets soon.

School Banking

A reminder that banking is held on Thursday mornings 8.30am-9.00am in the library. Banking staff will also be available for opening and discussing new accounts.

From the PTA

Sausage Sizzle/Mufti

Wear mufti (ie: non-uniform clothes) and enjoy a sausage (or two) and drink for lunch next **Tuesday 23rd June**. A separate notice/order form has been sent home today. Please return all orders with payment **by the end of this week**.

GBS Bar & Restaurant "Dollars for Schools" Promotion

Remember, every time you dine at the GBS Bar & Restaurant (Picton Street, Howick) during the months of May, June, July and up until 20 August, the total amount you spend is converted into points and credited to our school. Three cash prizes (\$3000, \$1000 & \$500) are up for grabs so please support this promotion and remember to let the restaurant know to credit your points to our school. **Double points Mondays and Tuesdays!!**

CHOCOLATES

Our chocolates fundraiser has now come to an end. Thanks so much for your support of this major fundraiser!! Well done!

However, there are still many families with outstanding money or chocolates. We will be sending notes home this week to chase outstanding money. Please forward this back to school URGENTLY. The amount owing for the initial two boxes issued is \$88. We would appreciate this matter being sorted out as soon as possible.

If you have any queries regarding chocolates please contact *Gerry Boniface* on 534 6149.

Home Based Care

For home based care for children, please contact Shonalee Matthews ph 537 1490. See the notice board in the office foyer for more details.

Have a good week everyone

Regards

Mr T

15 June 2009

Dear parents

Influenza A (H1N1): Swine Flu

PLEASE KEEP YOUR CHILDREN AT HOME IF THEY ARE UNWELL

We have received a letter from the Director of Public Health, outlining advice to schools about prevention measures to contain the spread of swine flu. The following statement is taken directly from the letter.

“The Ministry of Health is preparing for the possibility of escalation...If a school or early childhood service was directed to close it would happen very fast...”

In Australia, the number of cases is doubling every two days. With the amount of trans-Tasman travel, the Ministry believes that it is inevitable that it will spread in New Zealand. The government has invoked special regulations to prevent the spread of the virus by ordering people into quarantine. This will also allow Ministry of Education officials to close schools if there is an outbreak.

We have been advised to suggest to parents and caregivers that **you need to plan how you would care for your children if schools had to close.**

I am keeping our Board of Trustees informed, and we will be discussing the issue and revisiting our Pandemic Plan at Wednesday night's BOT meeting.

I wish to assure you that:

- Hand washing facilities and paper towels are available throughout the school
- We are asking everyone at school to wash their hands carefully before eating
- Teachers are demonstrating correct hand washing in classrooms
- We are asking everyone to cover their mouths when sneezing or coughing
- We will contact the Ministry of Health immediately if we have even a minor concern about any escalation of flu in the school
- We will seek direction from the Ministry of Health before we take any action and their instructions will be sent through to all families
- We will keep you fully informed and parents will be contacted should our situation change

Please note:

1. We want you to **keep your children at home if they are unwell.** Often a day or two away from school will help them to become well again quickly.
2. If children are unwell at school parents will be rung and asked to come and collect them.
3. It is **essential** that we have up to date contact details for every child in the school.
4. While it is unlikely, it is possible that we may have to close the school at very short notice. Please consider how you will cope in your home should this happen.

For more information you can go to: moh.govt.nz/influenza-a-h1n1 and Pandemic Planning at www.minedu.gvt.nz