

Monday 14 December 2009

Newsletter 40/09

Dear parents

School Prize Giving

Thursday 17 December

Years 1-3 starting at 9.30am

Years 4-6 starting at 1.00pm

*Please turn off your cell phones before coming into the hall
No stiletto heels in the hall please*

We are looking forward to having you join us

School Assembly

Our last weekly school assembly is **TOMORROW** at 2.15pm, not on Wednesday.

Last Day

The school year finishes at **12.00pm** on this **Friday 18 December**.

Please collect your children promptly at 12.00pm. There will be no-one at school to supervise children on Friday afternoon as the school will be closed.

The bus will be here to pick up children at 12.10pm.

The 2010 school year begins on **Tuesday 2 February**.

Uniform Shop Hours:

The uniform shop will be closed this Thursday because of prize giving.

It will be open on 28 January from 10am until 11.00am, and again on Tuesday 2 February from 8.30am until 9.30am.

Staff News

We are sorry to be losing two staff members at the end of this week. **Mandy Reeves**, one of our teacher aides, is off to train to be a teacher, and **Tracey Hazleman**, who joined us midyear when we opened up Room 1, is off across the ditch to Australia. Thanks both of you for your great efforts. *We are going to miss you.*

Our English as a Second Language teacher, **Lynette Williams**, is going on a year's maternity leave.

Mrs Elliott is returning as our reading recovery teacher after the holidays.

Next year we will welcome two new teachers to our school, **Gareth Hayward**, who will be teaching a Year 3 class in Room 16, and **Keiko Giovanni**, who will be teaching a Year 1 class in Room 1.

Student Reports

A reminder that your child's report will be coming home on Wednesday.

Term Certificates

Congratulations to the following children, recipients of our very special "Term Certificates". These are awarded one per class, and will be given out at **tomorrow's** assembly (2.15pm). Parents, you are invited to attend. We would love to see you.

Carlina Barnett Slade, Megan de Kock, Leo Gao, Asha Glynan, Daena Govender, Mitchell Graham, Daniel Huang, Janice Jiang, Daniel Kanon, Regan O'Neill, Beth Osborne, Blake Padmore, Olivia Park, Josh Pearce, Lauren Price, Rachel Prow, Thomas Speed, Raychel Tapsell, India Yarrow and Katherine Fung.

Values

Acknowledged at tomorrow's assembly will be **Nathan Leggatt, Jordan Kanon, Clive Clark, Mia Ivill, Sarah Harper, Devarnya Govender.**

Farewell Year 6

This is the last week at Botany Downs Primary for a large group of delightful Year 6 children. Best wishes to all of you as you head off in many different directions. We're going to miss every one of you.

Stationery

Once again we will be selling stationery through the school. Stationery packs will be available on the *very first day*. We have been able to hold the prices at last year's levels, and all will be \$33 each (including cost of bag and Kluwell homework book). Children should bring either the correct money, or a cheque made out to Botany Downs Primary School. Parents may pay by eftpos of course.

Inter School Athletic Sports

On Monday 23rd November the school athletics team took part in the inter-schools event at Howick Domain. The team did very well with the following children gaining places in their event finals:

Nathan Clark	1 st 9 Year boys 60m Championship Sprint
	1 st 9 Year boys 80m Championship Sprint
Elise Conway	1 st 8 Year girls 60m Championship Sprint
	1 st 9 Year girls and under 800m Championship
Ellery Martin	1 st 8 Year girls Long Jump
Bailey Phipps	1 st 11 Year boys 80m Age Sprints
	1 st 11 Year boys 100 Age Sprints
Ellery Martin	2 nd 8 Year girls 60m Championship Sprints
Elise Conway	2 nd 8 Year girls 80m Championship Sprints

2nd place Girls 9 Year and under Championship Relay (Elise Conway, Haseena Abdulla, Ellery Martin, Chelsea Coleman-Ti Hiko)

Josh Tillson	3 rd 8 Year Boys 60m Championship Sprints
Jayden Pomerantz	3 rd 11 Year Boys Softball Throw
Taryn Douglas	3 rd 8 Year Girls 80m Age Sprints
Emily Chan	3 rd 11 Year Girls 80m Age Sprints

3rd Place Boys 9 and under Championship Relay (Jayden Kean, Brad Elliot, Josh Tillson, Cameron Jago)

*Congratulations to all the final place getters.
Mr Kibblewhite*

Our Children are Superstars!

Congratulations to **Tia Warwick**, who sat the N.Z modern school of music grade one theory exam recently and passed with honours.

Thank you to all who have volunteered to open and close the pool daily throughout the season. We still need a volunteer to mow the lawns in the pool area as necessary. If you have any queries please contact Birgit Rahm on 535 3552 or 021 104 0951, birgit@orcon.net.nz.

Start of 2010: School Office Hours

The office will be **closed** from 12.30pm on Friday 18 December 2009 until Tuesday 26 January 2010.

The office will be **open** on Wednesday 27 January, Thursday 28 January and Friday 29 January 2010, 9.00am to 1.00pm.

It will then **reopen** on Tuesday 2 February 2010 at 8.00am, the first day of the new school year.

From the Children in Room 12

The fluffy, white clouds are detailing the sky like decorations on a Christmas tree, while the shining, glimmering sun tries to shine even brighter. The sun is the best Christmas light in the world. There is a spine-chilling breeze, that invisibly, and as fast as light, powers Santa's sleigh. It rides through the green tinsel belonging to a humungous tree outside. The green grass sways in the wind, to and fro, waiting for their presents to arrive. Christmas is close and nature is preparing itself for Santa's visit.

Caitlin Harrison

Today I see the Pohutukawa trees waking up from their long, tiring hibernation. They are stretching out their beautiful limbs to feel the warmth from the sun's rays. The little red flowers are so excited about Christmas and are running out of patience. They are scared they might wither away before they receive their presents from Father Christmas.

Lucas Lee

The endless day rolls on like an extremely congested traffic jam, slowly and carefully picking only the right times for the seconds, minutes, hours to tick on. I wish that I could have a 'time turner' and travel to never-coming tomorrow to get away from never-ending today.

Briana Price

From the PTA

CHRISTMAS HAMS delivered this Wednesday!

For those who have ordered, please be available to collect your hams from the school hall from 2.45pm this Wednesday 16th. It is **essential** that you collect on this day as we do not have facilities to refrigerate hams which are not collected. Any queries, please contact Gerry Boniface – 534 6149.

Twilight Fair

We made a fantastic **\$15,700** from our recent Twilight Fair. What a wonderful total. Thanks again to everyone for your amazing efforts!

THANKS FROM THE PTA

As the year draws to a close, the PTA would like to thank you all - our children and our parents – your generosity, your willingness to help, your enthusiasm and support for all the activities and events we plan, make a real difference! We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and look forward to another exciting year ahead in 2010.

Thank you for all your support everyone.

Have a great holiday break.

Mr T