

**Monday 15 February 2010**

**Newsletter 03/10**

Dear parents

**Meet the Teacher Afternoons**

A reminder that this week you have the opportunity to meet your child's teacher informally in the class rooms, on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons, from 3:30pm until 5pm.

Please note that these are not parent interviews as such, and formal assessment results will not be available. This is just an opportunity for you to see your child's learning environment and chat with the teacher.

If you have more detailed concerns about your child, please make an appointment to speak confidentially with the teacher at a later date, or wait until our formal parent interviews, coming up on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March.

**Peer Mediation**

Botany Downs Primary is a Cool School. This means that we run a Peer Mediation program. Peer Mediation is a program set by the Peace Foundation. It teaches children the skills needed to mediate and problem solve. Teachers encourage 'Cool School' skills in the classroom and a group of dedicated Year 6's are trained to be mediators in the playground. Currently I am training the new Peer Mediators. We will see them out and about later in the term.

*Peer Mediator Coordinator  
Amanda Foot*

**Scholastic Book Orders**

Final day for ordering from Issue 1 is tomorrow.

**Special Terrific Persons Awards**

*Congratulations* to all the following children, who will receive their special certificates at this Friday morning's assembly, starting at 9.10am. Parents, we would love to see you! This week's assembly is being organised and run by Room 19: *Joel Biland, Tanna Clegg, Shirley Gao, Luke Holmes, Archie Manning, Pauline Pechorin, Stacey Prince, Connor Rae, Mollie Salt, Georgia Spring, Cassie Vickers, Thomas Speed, Brogan Jowers-Wilding and Iris Wu.*

**School Banking**

This starts on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>, in the library before classes.

**Having Trouble Contacting Us?**

We are having some significant on-going issues with our entire phone network at present. These are yet to be resolved. Our apologies if you have been having any difficulty contacting us. Carrier pigeons are being trained even as I write!

**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: *Akshay Edekar, Georgia Gibson, James Slessor, Ryan Sargent, Mikayla Franckeiss, Danielle Blackwell, Stacey Prince, Jake Clements, Anna Simpson, Samuel Chen.*

## Yummy Stickers

Botany Downs School collects Yummy fruit stickers every year to redeem in September for sports equipment. Yummy Stickers can be found on apples and stone fruit. Every class has a sheet to put the stickers on and there is a competition each term to see which class can collect the most. Good Luck!

## From the PTA

### PTA Meeting & Minutes –

What a **great turnout** we had for our first meeting of the year, welcome back to existing PTA Members and a warm welcome to the new parents who joined us – we look forward to seeing you again and others who may be interested at our next meeting on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March (7.30pm, in the staffroom). If you are not interested/able to attend meetings, but would like to have the **minutes** emailed to you after each meeting, please forward your name and email address to our secretary, Lynnaire Kean – [jdлкеan@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jdлкеan@xtra.co.nz)

### Ice block & Mufti Day –

Our first fundraising Mufti Day will be held next **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**. A separate order form has been sent home today, please complete and return to school by the end of the week. On this day, children are able to wear mufti (i.e.: non-uniform clothes) and enjoy an ice block (served at morning tea time). Any queries, please phone Gerry Boniface – 5346149.

### Fundraising Ideas –

If you have any fundraising ideas which you are keen for the PTA to consider for 2010, please feel free to bring your ideas to a meeting or contact our chairperson with details - Maree Biland, ph: 537 6037 or email: [biland@xtra.co.nz](mailto:biland@xtra.co.nz).

### Important Dates This Term

<i>Wednesday 17 February</i>	Cricket team in tournament Meet the Teacher Afternoon BOT 7.00pm
<i>Thursday 18 February</i>	Meet the Teacher Afternoon
<i>Wednesday 24-26 Feb</i>	Several staff away at ICT Conference (ICT = Information & Communication Technology)
<i>Monday 1 March</i>	PTA 7.30pm
<i>Tuesday 2 March</i>	Year 4-6 Swimming Sports Religious Education starts
<i>Tuesday 9 March</i>	Skylab at school for Y1-2
<i>Wednesday 10 March</i>	Y3-4 classes going to Stardome
<i>Friday 12 March</i>	Y5-6 classes going to Stardome Year 1-3 Aqua Fun afternoon
<i>Tuesday 16 March</i>	Inter School Swimming Sports
<i>Wednesday 17 March</i>	Parent Interviews 3.20pm-5.00pm
<i>Thursday 18 March</i>	Parent Interviews 3.20pm-8.00pm
<i>Thursday 1 April</i>	Last Day of Term 1

Have a good week everyone

Regards

Mr T

### Community Notices

HOWICK PLUNKET BABY FAIR

Saturday 6th March

10am - 12 noon

Howick Recreation Centre

(further details: [www.howickplunket.org.nz](http://www.howickplunket.org.nz))