



OWHIRO BAY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

www.owhiro.school.nz

Issue No. 8

23 March 2011

Important Dates to Remember

◆ Swimming starts for Rooms 1 & 3	21 March
◆ 2011 Capital E National Arts Festival—Rooms 1 & 3	24 March
◆ Southern Zone Cross Country	29 March
◆ Parentlink Sausage Sizzle	1 April
◆ Three Way Conferences	5 & 6 April
◆ Bike & Road Safety—Constable Duncan visits	6, 7 & 13 April
◆ Last Day of Term 1 2.00 pm	15 April
◆ Beginning of Term 2—8.55 am	2 May

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Kia ora, Nameste, Shalom, Talofa, Konichiwa, Guten Tag, ni Hao, Kia orana, Vanakkan, Hello, Hi

A very special thanks from the students, staff and myself for the wonderful people who helped organize, prepare, serve, came along and cleaned up after the hangi. What an amazing event this was because of our wonderful community.

At school we encourage our students to eat healthy foods and to regularly drink water throughout the school day to help fuel their bodies for learning. This is why eating of snack foods such as lollies, biscuits, cakes and drinking soft drinks is actively discouraged at school, except on special occasions such as the recent Market Day event. Drinking of water is encouraged as an alternative to cordials and soft drinks, and the importance of keeping children hydrated highlighted - both for their general health and to aid their learning. In a recent health publication it noted that sometimes the solution to children showing signs of being tired, irritable, lacking concentration or feeling sick may be as simple as drinking some water. With the human body composed of 55 – 75% water, and this proportion being higher in children, it is important for adults to check children's access to water and remind them to drink this regularly throughout the day. The Ministry of Health's Food and Nutrition Guidelines for Healthy Children Aged 2 -12 Years states that "children should be reminded to drink because as little as three percent of body water could result in exhaustion and dehydration or, less dramatically, cause a child to become tired and less effective during activity". Please can you help your child to bring their named water bottle to school each day, encourage them to drink regularly outside school hours too and remind them why water is important to their well being.

Just a reminder of the 'Working Bee' coming up early next term - please return the slip (found later in this newsletter) or contact George directly to let him know what you can help with. This is a wonderful opportunity to help the school while getting to know some further people in our supportive community.

Also a reminder to diary your 'Three Way Conference Learning Conversation' time. This will have come home to you this week on a confirmation slip, so please check your child's bag if you have not received the confirmation slip and home preparation sheet. We are looking forward to these meetings that focus on your child/ren's learning and ways to support this.

Have a lovely week.

Ka kite 
Karen

Thanks

To the two parents that returned their Swimming Questionnaire to give us feedback regarding Rooms 5, 6 & 7 swimming at Kilbirnie in 2011.

To each and everyone who helped organize and prepare for or served, helped out the evening before, on Friday and or cleaned up on Saturday morning.

To everyone who came along to join us at the hangi community event.

To the parent who has returned their "Working Bee" helper notice.



SWIMMING

Swimming has begun for Rooms 1 and 3 children and a reminder to bring their named togs and towels each Monday and Wednesday. Please also name underwear and garments your child is wearing as it helps identify items in the changing sheds.

Buses depart school for the Aquatic Centre at 9.25 am to enable children to be ready for 10.00 am lessons.

As in past years, for Rooms 5, 6 & 7 parents/caregivers, please find attached, a feedback sheet for you to let us know how your child/you found the swimming programme provided by Kilbirnie Aquatic Centre in 2011. Rooms 1 and 3 parent/caregiver feedback will be sought at the end of your child's lessons.

Safety in the Sun

During Terms 1 and 4, wearing of sunhats is compulsory in the playground until the end of Term 1.

We also encourage the use of sunglasses and sunblock during these summer months.

Principal/Parent Cuppa & Chat

Please remember Karen is available on Monday mornings at 9.00 am for a cuppa and a chat.

If there is anything you would like to discuss/chat about or wish to have clarified, please join her then or feel free to speak to Wendy and make an appointment to come and see Karen at another time if the Monday does not suit you.

NEEDED URGENTLY PLEASE

Boys and girls trousers (size 5, 6 & 7) and tops for when we need a change of clothes. Please drop off in Room 5. Thanks.



Help!

Are you interested in coaching a Netball Team for the school with the Motu Kairangi Netball Club? Please call in at the school office for an information pack.



STUDENT COUNCIL & STARSHIP FOUNDATION COLLECTION OF OLD CELLPHONES

A reminder to ask your friends, family, neighbours, workmates to send their old mobile phones along to school so we can convert them into valuable educational resources for our school such as interactive whiteboards, computers, camcorders, books and sports gear and at the same time raising funds for Starship's National Air Ambulance Service.

Once collected we can swap them from a list of available products. Each reward has a set value (number of phones) that can be swapped (with as few as 50 phones).

A marked collection box can be found in the foyer—opposite the school office.
Please place those unused mobile phones in this box.



THE 2011 CAPITAL E NATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL

Rooms 1 and 3

As part of the Capital E National Arts Festival, Rooms 1 and 3 will travel by bus to the following performances **tomorrow, Thursday 24 March:**

10.00 am Grimace at Downstage
1.15 pm Boats at Capital E



Buses depart Owhiro Bay School at 9.15 am and return at 2.05 pm

As seats are limited at these performances, no further parent/caregiver help is required thank you.

Please note that the cost of these performances come from Term 1 trip money that you are asked for each term.

VIRTUES

The focus this week is "Purposefulness—"Whakatara-ng" which is having clear focus and goals. If you concentrate your mind and efforts something good will happen as a result. Some people let things happen. Purposefulness people make things happen.

Next week the focus is "Patience" or "Manawa-roa".

If you are interested in finding out more about The Virtues Programme developed by Linda Kavelin Popov try looking up www.virtuesproject.com

PARENTLINK SAUSAGE SIZZLE

A reminder that on the first Friday of every month Parent Link will run a sausage sizzle at lunch time. The next Sausage Sizzle is next **Friday 1st April** – children can have one sausage wrapped in bread with yummy tomato sauce for just \$2. Profits will go towards a **new computer cow** – to allow more children access to ICT.

If you can spare an hour or so to help at a sausage sizzle – any first Friday of every month – please contact Rachel 383 955 or e-mail rachandchris@xtra.co.nz She is setting up a roster and would appreciate all offers of help.

A NOTE FOR ROOMS 1 AND 3 STUDENTS

Please bring your library cards to school tomorrow (Thursday 24 March) as we may visit the public library on our trip to the Arts Festival if it is wet.



2011 HANGI

What another great night! Perfect weather perfect kai and perfect company! All thanks to the wonderful help and donations we have had from our community.

Thanks to Island Bay New World for the donation of bread, thanks to Steve Drummond, Jo Grey and The Green Man Pub who donated the vegetables. To George Theodorou for the loan of his digger and truck and to Grant Reid for the loan of a pole splitter.

Thanks to Cletus, Terry, Jumbo, George & Grant who donated their time on the Thursday evening to prepare the pit and then again on Friday, to Eno & Dion who helped at the pit on Friday. Thanks also to Eno and George who cleaned the grounds on Saturday morning, top-soiled and packed the baskets and sacks away.

To Dion for receiving quotes and purchasing the meat again this year for us, to the wonderful “stuffing makers” - Jenn, Alison, Helen and Anna, to Yesim for purchasing all the consumables and iceblocks, to Parentlink who organized the raffles, to Helen, Keryn, Donna, Karen, Klare, Jie, Rachel, Vicki and our wonderful Year 6 students who prepared the vegetables, our parcel wrappers, Sue, Sharon, Solomon, Helen, Anne, to Donna, Yvonne, Syvie, Ishani, Jo, Rachel and Lily who delivered flyers, to Kirsten who collected tickets and distributed iceblocks, to Anna who cut the whole 90 metres of tinfoil for parcels, to Warren, Grant, Karen who shifted the rubbish bags into the skip on Friday night.

If we have omitted to mention your name, please accept our apologies, our school was a hive of activity during the lead up to and on the evening of the hangi. We really do appreciate the busy hands and warm hearts who donated their time and help to this event.

Thank you all for your support

THREE WAY CONFERENCE – LEARNING CONVERSATION MEETING 5 and 6 April

At Owhiro Bay School our goal is for parents/caregivers and teachers to work closely together with children to help them to learn and achieve. Research clearly shows that students who are successful in their learning have families who are proactively working with their child and the school to support learning. We continue to encourage you to talk with your child and their teacher about their goals, next learning steps and progress. ‘The Three Way Conference - Learning Conversation Meeting’ is one of the opportunities to do this.

All parents/caregivers should have received their confirmation of meeting time for either Tuesday 5 or Wednesday 6 April. It is important that all parents/caregivers attend these scheduled conferences. Each meeting lasts 15 minutes. The school will provide supervised activities in the library for siblings while you and your child are at these meetings, and will ring a bell to indicate the end of the conference.

Owhiro Bay school uses a variety of assessments to help teachers know where your child is achieving and to guide their next learning steps. Some of these are standardized or have been standardized for NZ children. At your meeting reference will be made to these along with discussion of their reading, writing and mathematics next learning steps.

Following the conference a written report comes home to you on Wednesday 11 May. These reports record the new goals/next learning steps and ways of supporting these at home as discussed at the ‘Three Way Conference – Learning Conversation Meeting’.

A note from Whaea Lisa

Kupu Hou (new word for the week)

Waka = canoe

Pronunciation : wah ka

HELP WANTED – WORKING BEE - HELP NEEDED

Hi Caregivers + Parents + Pupils + Community,

At Owhiro Bay School we're looking to organise a working bee on **Saturday 7th** & **Sunday 8th May 2011**.



The biggest project is to replace the bark in the junior playground but at the same time we want to do a general tidy up around the school.

We have a variety of jobs to tackle and we need people with specialised skills, as well as those willing to grab a shovel, wheelbarrow or gardening fork – there will be a way that you can help!..

- ◆ **General helpers** – Replace bark in junior playground, trim trees along fence line, clean guttering, hose down buildings, general clean & tidy, remove concrete path.
- ◆ **Gardeners** – Tidy and improve existing gardens.
- ◆ **Plumbers** – Replace two hand basins, guttering repairs, fix toilet overflows.
- ◆ **Builders** – General repairs & maintenance to make the school safer.
- ◆ **Painters** - General repairs & maintenance to keep the school looking sharp!
- ◆ **Electricians** – Install & replace exterior sensor lighting and other minor works.
- ◆ **Engineers** – Help to design/draw future projects for consideration eg: volley wall.
- ◆ **Cooks** – BBQ sizzle. To help fuel the kind considerate people who have pitched in and given their time and their skills for our children.
- ◆ **Gophers** – Just help fill the gaps, to make the day easier for all!

Should you want any further information please feel free to contact George Theodorou 021-760 847 or 383-8407 or georgetheodorou@clear.net.nz

If you are able to help out with any of the work & another day suits better than the weekend working bee, please contact George direct or make note on slip below.

If you could complete the form & return to school offering your services it would be greatly appreciated!

Name/s -

.....

Home Phone -.....

Mobile Phone -..... e-mail -.....

Service & skills you are offering:

.....

Any equipment or resources you may have available or access to, e.g. Tip truck, trailer, chain saw, concrete breaker, sky hook, garden hoses, wheel barrows, anything you may consider helpful.

.....

Other preferred day(s) to offer my services are.....

.....

On behalf of the students of Owhiro Bay School Board of Trustees, teachers/staff & community we thank you in advance.

**ROOMS 5, 6 & 7
SWIMMING QUESTIONNAIRE 2011**

In line with Owhiro Bay School long-term plans our students are taught swimming one year and water safety the following year.

At the end of each alternate year, we survey children, teachers and parents/caregivers to help us improve on swimming programme for the future.

Please can you give us some feedback to let us know how the 2011 swimming programme as provided by Kilbirnie Aquatic Centre went for your child/ren. We appreciate the time you take to fill this in. Your ideas and suggestions are appreciated as they help us to improve what we do to enable your child/ren to further learn and develop their skills.

What did you or your child/ren find successful when swimming this year?

Have you any suggestions for improvement for the next time we go swimming (2013)?

Does your child/ren have swimming lessons outside of the swimming programme provided through school?

Any other comments/feedback on 2011 swimming and organization?

Please return this form to school by Friday 25 March.



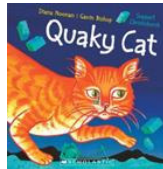
COMMUNITY NOTICES

Every effort is made to present accurate information.
The Board of Trustees does not accept responsibility for any inaccuracies.
The Board is unable to accept responsibility for guaranteeing the goods or services advertised.

PARENTS INC. Offers TOOLBOX PARENTING COURSE For parents/carers of 6-12 years olds

Venue: Island Bay Community Centre
Dates: Six Mondays from May 16
Time: 7.30 to 9.30 pm approximately
Cost: Couple \$90.00, Single \$67.50 (subsidy available)

Register online www.theparentingplace.com or phone Liz 3835.114



QUAKY CAT AND SCHOLASTIC SUPPORT THE PEOPLE OF CHRISTCHURCH

Following the major Canterbury earthquake of September 2010, *Quaky Cat* brought comfort and much-needed funds to Canterbury children and their families. No-one involved with the book's production could ever have envisaged that, less than six months later, Christchurch would be struck again, this time by an even more devastating earthquake.

15,000 copies of the book were gifted by Scholastic to year 1 and 2 children in the Christchurch region at the end of 2010, and 50% of Scholastic's proceeds from sales of *Quaky Cat* are being donated to Christchurch charities.

So far, \$50,000 has been raised for the author's and illustrator's chosen charities, the Christchurch Women's Refuge and Te Tai Tamariki.

This fundraising is now in a new phase supported by the Scholastic international community. Scholastic will be donating funds from worldwide sales of *Quaky Cat* to the Christchurch Mayoral Earthquake Appeal administered by the New Zealand Red Cross. The author and illustrator royalties will continue to be donated to their chosen Christchurch charities.

Through *Quaky Cat*, we can all support the children and families affected by the devastating Christchurch earthquakes.

School Holiday Computer Classes

Educational and enjoyable. One day to one week holiday computer classes for ages 5 to 15. Create 3D games, web design, animations, art and graphics, video editing, programming, PowerPoint, Excel, Word, Access or build and upgrade computers. For further information call Ed Brown on 499 2211 or www.grandtraining.co.nz.