



OWHIRO BAY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 1

3 February 2010

Important Dates To Remember

• Walk to School Day	11 February
• Meet the Teacher Class Meetings	16 February
• First Parentlink Meeting 2.00 pm in the staffroom	17 February
• Board of Trustees Meeting 7.00 pm	23 February
• School Picnic (postponement date 26 February)	25 February
• School Hangi (date to be advised)	March
• Mulching Day with WCC	30 March

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

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

Welcome back to the start of the school year everyone. It is such a joy to see our wonderful students and staff back in the school again... and looking so refreshed and re-energised for the new year! The excitement and enthusiasm throughout the school today was fantastic. We hope that you have all had a great start to 2010 and are ready for another great year of learning at Owhiro Bay School. We certainly are and can't wait to see some of the amazing developments your child(ren) will make over the next 11 months as we work together with you to support their growth.

We acknowledge that there is so much learning that occurs in all of our lives... much of which is outside or beyond the school day and school programmes. As teachers we work to connect new learning with prior experiences so that students can make links and build on their existing skills, capabilities and knowledge. We endeavour to provide authentic learning connections with our students' world eg: local beach, while also providing for their individual and diverse learning needs. After our 'Teacher Only Day's' we wanted to share some underlying ideas about learning with both students and you as we set out on our learning journey's in 2010.

What do we know about learning?

Learning is...

- Intellectual, social, emotional and cultural
- Diverse and different for each individual
- Takes time
- Is linear **and** erratic
- Happens by design **and** chance
- Happens in school **and** homes, workplaces, clubs, communities, societies
- Active and conscious rather than passive
- Natural and universal ...we all do it and we often take it for granted
- Goes on throughout life – regardless!
- Is about change

From Stoll, L, Fink, D. Earl, L (2003) *It's About Learning (and it's about time)*

So, one of the great things that we can all do for our children is to keep on talking with them and asking them about their learning. You might like to think about some of the following questions as a guide to chatting with your child(ren) about the amazing things that are learning each and every day – both at school, at home and in the many other aspects of their lives eg: sports, family gatherings.

Some questions that might help in learning conversations are:-

- What great question did you ask today? What did you find out from this?
- What was a goal you had for today? How do you know that you reached it?
- How did you do that (eg: a reading activity, a mathematics problem, a piece of artwork, helped someone out)? How else could you have done that?
- What do you need to figure out another way to do this?
- Who did that a different way?
- What was hard about doing that?
- What could you do when you were stuck on that?
- How could you help someone else do that?
- What else would have made that easier for you?
- How could it have been taught better? What would help you to do this better?
- How could you make that harder for yourself?



Have a great week everyone. We look forward to talking with you and having a great year together.

Ka kite
Karen

WELCOME

To Angela Peng, Culhane Clark, Thomas Robinson, and Finley Schumacher-Sundberg who joined children in Room 5 today, to Cameron Ruka-Karauti who joined children in Room 4 and to Alex Conti-Leslie who joined Room 1. Welcome also to their families to our school community

To KIDSCO After School Care programme that is now operating in the school from 3.00—6.00 pm daily. For further details, please look at their website www.kidsco.co.nz or contact the office for their flyer.

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 morning does not suit you.



TIMING

A reminder that school starts at 8.55 am each morning and ends at 3.00 pm daily. Breaks are from 10.40—11.10 am for the playtime and 12.40-1.30 pm for lunch. Please help us to make sure your child/ren arrive at school no earlier than 8.30 am as teachers are preparing the day prior to this and the school can not provide supervision for students outside the hours of 8.30 am and 3.30 pm. All students go home at 3.00 pm. Harakeke (Room 5) students are collected from their classroom. All other students within the school grounds in the junior adventure playground until their parent/caregivers or adult collecting them arrive.

If they wish to play in the school grounds, it is important that they go home first so that parents/caregivers know where they are.

EMAILING NEWSLETTERS

In an effort to reduce paper and cost, from Week Three (Wednesday `17 February), we will be emailing newsletters to parents/caregivers who have provided their contact address.. If you have changed or yet to provide us with your email address, please do so before next Tuesday. Thank you.

THANKS

To George Theodorou for removing the old kitchen joinery from the hall kitchen at the end of 2009. We really appreciated your help George.

To Steve Kelly and Sandy McNaught for donating their time to install the new kitchen in time for KIDSCO to begin After School Care programmes today.

To Andrew Ioannou for the urgent repair job yesterday to the ballustrade outside Room 5 which was damaged over the holidays. Thanks Andrew for looking after the health and safety of our children.

To the parent that notified the school of the corrosion to the safety barrier outside the school. WCC have undertaken to repair this barrier to ensure the safety of our children.

SAFETY IN THE SUN

During Terms 1 and 4, wearing of sunhats is compulsory in the playground, so please check your child has a **named** hat to wear at school. We also encourage the use of sunglasses and sunblock during these summer months.

We are currently looking for 3–4 people to help erect the shade cloths on Thursday 11 February. If you can help please contact Wendy.



NAMING PUPIL'S PROPERTY

Please ensure your child's clothing, stationery and school equipment are named as it makes it easier to return to them if lost. Any unclaimed, unnamed items may be found in the lost property box located in the corridor opposite the lunchroom.

There is a lost property box in the corridor (opposite the lunchroom) which is emptied at the end of each term. We encourage students and parents to check for items that belong to them but any unclaimed, items are donated to children less fortunate than ours.

ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL

A reminder that parents/caregivers are asked to contact the school each day that child/ren are away. Any unexplained absences are followed up by a call from school. As there can be a delay in connecting with parents/caregivers or emergency contacts, for your child's safety **we urge you to let us know if they are going to be late or absent.** If you leave a message on the school answerphone regarding your child missing the roll count at 9.00 am, please leave the reason for your child's absence, for example whether they are going to be late, are sick/have a medical appointment or other reason. The electronic register requires this to be entered. If the reason is unknown, e.g., "away", "not coming in today" (as per any answerphone message received), this is entered in the electronic register as "reason unknown" and after 20 days the system classifies the student as truant for those days.

Also, all schools are classed as a business by telephone providers which means a 20c cost to the school each time a call is made. Please help us use our finances for the child(ren's) learning programmes by remembering to contact us each time your child is absent. Thanks.

If your child is late please make sure they come into the school via the office so that the electronic roll can be adjusted to ensure your child's attendance is accurately recorded.

If you are taking your child for any appointments during the course of the school day, please let your child's teacher know and also sign the "student release book" in reception before taking your child from the school grounds. This is very important for Health and Safety requirements too.

SAFETY—ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURES FROM SCHOOL

We ask all students and adults coming to school from south of the carpark to enter the school through the gate to the courts, and those coming from the north to enter through the main gate. This is to stop any foot traffic in the bigger/busier car park area and prevent possible accidents from occurring.

As there is now kindergarten and school staff requiring use of the school care park we ask parents and caregivers to please park outside the school. Thanks to Jo Grey and Board members working with Wellington City Council, you may have noticed they have recently put in some angle parks alongside the tennis courts to provide a number of extra parking spaces.

PARENT LINK

The first Parentlink Meeting for 2010 will be held on Wednesday 17th February at 2.00 pm in the staffroom. Please join us!

HELP!

Next Thursday (11 February) we require some willing adult helpers to remove equipment from the garage to enable us to access the shade cloths and furniture required for use.

If you are able to donate an hour of your time to help us with this at 9.00 am on Thursday 11 February, please contact Wendy in the office.

Thanks.



BIKES AND WHEELS AT SCHOOL

The school encourages students to use their wheels to come to school. Bikes, scooters and skateboards can be stored in the bike stands that have been relocated to the fence line beside the garage.

Please note that when students enter the school grounds they need to walk bikes to the stands and walk to outside gates as they leave. This is to ensure the safety of pedestrians entering and leaving the school as well as those on bikes. Thanks for reinforcing this with your own children and other students in the school that you see with bikes.

MEET THE TEACHER/CLASS MEETINGS

We hope your child/ren settle well into their new classes. Please have a chat with your child's teacher early on if you have any concerns about your child's school work or life at school. Even if it appears to be something quite small, we encourage you to do this to prevent it becoming a larger issue.

There is a parent evening on Tuesday 16th February to hear more about your child's day and school work/expectations for 2010. Meetings will be 30 minutes per class.

Times for each class are:

- 5.30 pm Harakeke (Room 5) and Pohutukawa (Room 3)
- 6.00 pm Taupata (Room 4) and Karo (Room 1)
- 6.30 pm Tawa (Room 6)

Please diary this date now and record the times for your child(ren)'s class. This short meeting will give you a good idea of how things work for your child/ren this year and the expectations of your child's teacher. If you need to wait between meetings you are most welcome to have a cup of coffee/tea in the staffroom.

SCHOOL PICNIC

THURSDAY 25TH FEBRUARY

(postponement date 26th February)

At the beginning of each school year, the whole school walks to a local venue for this special event. This year we intend walking along the coast to Red Rock's Visitors Centre and the shoreline there.

Further details in next weeks newsletter but please put this date in your diary and let your child's teacher know if you can join us for this event.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is on Tuesday 23 February at 7.00 pm. Please note that minutes of these meetings are available to read in a folder in the foyer in the office.

A NOTE FROM ROOM 6

Can Room 6 please have more plastic shopping bags and small sized art shirts (shirts with buttons or old t-shirts or skivvies) for 6 -7 year olds.

Thanks from Rowena.

VIRTUES

Just a reminder that we continue to use "The Virtues Programme" to promote the virtues which already exist in our students. At Owhiro Bay School, this is integrated into our curriculum behaviour management practices, the language we use at school and daily classroom life. The strategies we use are:

- To speak the language of the virtues
- To recognize the use and teachable moments
- To set clear boundaries
- To respect, acknowledge and celebrate the virtues as they are practiced in our school—by both students and adults

The focus for this week and next week is "Enthusiasm" or "Kai-ngakau". This is the virtue of being inspired, excited, cheerful, happy and keen to give 100% to everything you do. It is looking forward to something and is very catching. When you are enthusiastic you have a positive attitude and other people like being around you. It also makes life enjoyable. It involves showing enthusiasm to others by celebrating with them when something wonderful happens. Often enthusiasm can be recognized as it shines through a smile.

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

A NOTE FROM WHAEA LISA AND WHAEA KAHU

Kupu Hou (new word for the week)

**Haere mai, nau mai =
Welcome**

Pronunciation : Ha-ear-re my, now my

NUDE FOOD—TUESDAYS

As part of the on-going care for our environment we encourage student to reduce plastic and paper wrapping by bringing lunches and snacks in re-useable containers.

Every Tuesday is a "Nude Food" day at Owhiro Bay School as we encourage our students and community to move towards reducing waste and sustainable practices.

Homework/Home Learning

When you come along to your child/ren's "Meet the Teacher" meetings on Tuesday 16 February, you will find out more about your child's homework/home learning. Our class newsletters are called "Learning Links" — these come home to you each term. The Term 1 "Learning Link" will be shared and a copy provided for you at the meeting.

While we recognize that many people have strong views regarding homework/home learning, at Owhiro Bay School we give students this for the following purposes:

- ◇ To foster parent and caregiver involvement in student learning by keeping them in touch with what students are learning at school. Learning Links and home learning activities aim to provide opportunities for sharing and discussions about learning.
- ◇ To assist children progressively to develop independent study routines and the effective management of their own time.

Parents/caregivers are encouraged to share "Learning Link" and home activities with their children but NOT to do this for them. If there is any difficulty or issue with home learning activities for you or your child, we encourage you to talk directly with your child's class teacher or alternatively with one of the Deputy Principals or Principal.

Regular home learning and reading is part of our school policy. We expect children to read every day and that students will spend approximately the following amount of time on their home learning each evening:

New Entrant/Year 2	10 minutes
Year 3 and 4 students	15 minutes
Year 5 and 6 students	20 minutes + reading time.

CONSUMABLES/TRIPS AND PERFORMANCES IN SCHOOL 2010

Each term your child requires \$10.00 (or \$40.00 per year) to pay for their class school trips, performers who are organized to come to school, or who the children visit outside of the school. Despite rising costs for transport, performers and trips, the term trip/performance costs we request remain the same as for past years. Also we ask for \$5.00 per term (or \$20.00 per year if you prefer) for consumables such as photocopying, jovis, whiteboard pens, cellotape. Money for trips/performances and consumables pay directly for these performers/trips or equipment for your child.

We encourage parents/caregivers to pay these to enable all our students to benefit from a number of extra educational experiences and visits from performers or trips outside the school.

Please note: When your child enters school you sign a form that gives permission to attend all these visits/performers and visitors to the school. Should you wish your child not to attend any visit or performance, it is up to you as parents/caregivers to notify the school and seek a refund if required. Visits and performers are advertised through the newsletter in advance.

DONATIONS

Donations also remain the same as in the last few years—\$40.00 per term (or \$160.00 for the year), per child. These donations are important in supporting the school to address the shortfall in government funding. They provide essential learning equipment and opportunities for your child(ren) and are tax deductible. Receipts will be issued.

Invoice/Statements for the above will come home with your child in the next 2-3 weeks, however you are welcome to forward these before this. Please note you can pay these directly into the school account. Details are on the paperwork coming home to you.

TE KETE ROUTOU CLASSES : 2010

Te Kete Rourou classes will be running again this year. Please fill in and return the permission slip below and return to school as soon as possible if you wish your child/ren to attend these classes in 2010.

Details on the start date and confirmation of the day and time for Junior (Teina) classes, Senior (Tuakana) classes and whole school Kapa Haka will come home in next weeks newsletter.

TE KETE ROUROU—MAORI ENRICHMENT CLASSES 2010 WITH WHAEA LISA AND WHAEA KAHU

If you would like your child(ren) to join these classes, please sign and return this slip to school as soon as possible.

I/we request that : _____ Room No. _____
_____ Room No. _____
_____ Room No. _____

join Te Kete Rourou Maori Enrichment classes in 2010

Signed: _____

Staffing and Organisation for 2010

As we begin the year with five classes Shelley Berry is training for Reading Recovery and the remainder of the day she is working with other classes for classroom release until the roll increases and we begin our sixth classroom. Jocelyn will continue to take music. Unfortunately Vivien is not now returning to teach at Owhiro Bay School in 2010. She has decided to share her wonderful skills in secondary schools this year. We will miss the fantastic work she did with band, percussion, school singing and music soiree. However, we know that many young adults in Wellington schools will benefit from her teaching.

The following is out beginning of year staff organization:

Fulltime

Karen Hardie	-	Principal
Deanne Daysh	-	Harakeke (R5) year 0/1 teacher, Deputy Principal (juniors)
Abby Radford	-	Taupata (R4) year 2 teacher
Rowena Johnstone	-	Tawa (R6) Year 3 teacher
Colin Thompson	-	Karo (R1) Year 4/5 teacher
Therese Young	-	Pohutukawa (R3) Year 5/6 teacher, Deputy Principal (seniors)
Shelley Berry	-	Karaka (R7) Reading Recovery and release teacher

Warren Rankin	-	Resource Teacher of Learning and Behaviour
Ruth Jones	-	Resource Teacher of Learning and Behaviour

Jocelyn Oldcorn	-	Music Teacher (part-time)
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Support Staff

Wendy Davenport	-	Office Manager
Joanne Leggett	-	Accounts Manager
Faith Governor	-	Teacher Aide

Lisa Reweti	-	Maori Enrichment
Kahu Tuamata	-	Maori Enrichment

Bizhong Fu	-	Cleaning staff
Baolling Yang	-	Cleaning staff

Professional Garden Services

Lawns, rubbish, grounds, maintenance

KIDSCO

After School Care and Holiday Programme



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.*

PRIVATE PIANO LESSONS WITH VIVIEN REID

Please note that Vivien is unable to take private piano lessons this year. A reminder that the Wellington Music Centre provides excellent value group music lessons at Evans Bay Intermediate School for 5-13 year olds.

Children can learn violin, viola, cello, harp. Guitar, ukulele, flute, clarinet, saxophone, recorder, percussion, keyboard, trumpet, trombone or pre-instrumental. Lessons are only \$100/year for the first child and \$70.00 each for additional children.

Enrolment day is 13 February from 9.30—11.30 am. Please note that you need to enrol on that day as classes fill up quickly. Highly recommended.

SELF-ESTEEM ENHANCEMENT COURSE FOR ADULTS

Dates: Tuesday 16 February - 23 March 2010 (6 sessions)

Venue: 88 The Parade, Island Bay.

Times: 7-10pm

Contact: Ishani Noble ph: 3838-555

PENGUINS INLINE HOCKEY OPEN DAY

Penguins Inline Hockey Open Day (ice hockey on roller blades)- Sunday February 14 from 2 - 5pm Kilbirnie Rec Centre to find out more Phone Claire 934 1344 or visit our website www.penguinshockey.co.nz

ISLAND BAY GIRLS' BRIGADE

Island Bay Girls' Brigade welcome new girls to join now for a balanced, exciting, learning based programme with crafts, games, music, camps and outings.

Trained leaders and girls meet at Island Bay Presbyterian Church.

WEDNESDAYS 3.30 to 5.30pm for 5 to 8year olds.

MONDAYS 6.30 to 8.30pm for 9 year olds to teens.

Contact: Brenda Watkin Ph 934-9293 or 021 137 8062 or watkin@paradise.net.nz
or Dorothy Ashton 970-5912 Website: www.girlsbrigade.org.nz

SEWERAGE AND WASTEWATER

HEAVY RAINFALL DISCHARGES—INTRODUCTION

The Moa Point Wastewater Treatment Plant occasionally discharges a mixture of fully and partially treated sewage through its ocean outfall pipe into Cook Strait—approximately 1.8 kilometres from shore.

This only happens during heavy rainfalls when sometimes the amount of sewage coming to the plant exceeds the capacity for the secondary stage of the treatment process.

Environmental Effects

In 2003, Wellington City Council commissioned the Cawthron Institute to investigate the potential environmental effects of these occasional mixed discharges. The study concluded that these discharges posed minimal risk to public health, shellfish gathering and recreational activities:

- ◇ Do not swim near urban areas for **48 hours after heavy rains**, due to the potential health effects of contaminated urban stormwater.
- ◇ Do not gather shellfish for consumption at any time from coastal locations near urban areas.

