



11 July 2011

Our newsletter is published on our website each fortnight or you can email Chris Day at info@willowbank.school.nz if you would like the newsletter emailed directly to you.

End of Term

This is the last newsletter for term 2, it has been a fantastic but very long term and I think children and staff alike are ready for a well-deserved break. The flu seems to have taken its toll on many people over the last few weeks; we have had a number of staff and children away sick.

The school office will be open during the holidays on the 28th and 29th July for enrolments and inquiries.

Reminder: School finishes this Friday 15th July at 3pm.

Term 3 starts on Monday 1st August at 8.55am and finishes on Friday 7th October.

On behalf of the staff and children, thank you for your support this term.

Choir

Last Wednesday and Thursday nights our choir was involved in the Somerville Music festival. This festival included the combined choirs of Somerville Intermediate, Point View, Botany Downs and Willowbank Schools and an instrumental section.

The children were magnificent; learning over eight songs, three in different languages and parts and participating perfectly each night.

Thank you to our choirmasters Miss Annelies Naus and Mrs Clara Iqbal for their dedication and expertise in the training of our choir.

Congratulations to all of our children involved in the music festival.

You will have an opportunity to hear our choir again next term at an assembly and during the 10th Year celebrations in term 4.

WoW Factor!

Wow - the auditions have been fantastic and we have seen some great talent. Those acts that have received golden tickets are through to the next round and we will advise in term three of the times. We will also run a workshop for the golden ticket holders - this will be a workshop about performance and stage presence. We will advise in term three of the date and time. We are looking

forward to the next round which is the heats in front of a live audience.

Our WoW wall on the side of the ESOL classroom looks amazing. Thank you to Donovan Goldman of New Way Signs Ltd for designing and erecting the display. Keep an eye on the WoW van – we will be adding handprints to this as we raise the money necessary to purchase the van. If you would like to become a WoW sponsor please email Pamela Kirtlanwow@willowbank.school.nz

Family Maths – Growing Thinking Minds

Next term we will be running '*Family Maths*'. The Family Maths programme is a series of six evening courses where you will be introduced to enjoyable, practical maths activities that enhance and maintain the mathematical skills your child has learnt in the classroom. All activities have a problem-solving element and encourage children (and parents) to use a range of thinking skills. You will learn activities for improving the mathematical achievement of your children. If you would like to participate in this programme please complete the enrolment form and return it to school by Wednesday.



Yellowlocal

Yellow Local® have 50 Apple iPads to give away to schools! You can help us win a fantastic iPad by registering with Yellowlocal at <http://auckland.yellowlocal.co.nz/schools-resources> Put East Tamaki in the area box and then Willowbank School. We need to have at least 1000 entries – please ask your family and friends to register too. Thanks in anticipation!

Red Socks – Supporting the Sir Peter Blake Trust

Our awhina captains will continue to sell the Red Socks in Kakapo awhina this week. Socks cost \$3.00 and the funds raised go directly to the Sir Peter Blake Trust. Remember to wear your Red Socks this Friday.

Brett Lee

I hope you are able to make the evening meeting with Brett Lee on Thursday 28th July. Brett is a leading expert on cyber safety, after working for the Australian police as an undercover internet detective. I have heard Brett's presentation and as both a parent and an educator it made me realise how little I really knew of how to best keep my children safe. This is a must see presentation for ALL PARENTS. Please see the attached flyer.

Mufti Day Pyjamas or Red and Black for Canterbury!

This Friday is Mufti Day – Wear pyjamas or red and black in support of Canterbury. Please bring a gold coin donation for mufti.

Board of Trustees Meeting

Our next Board of Trustee meeting is this Tuesday at 5.30pm. Visitors are welcome.

PTA

Our PTA ran a fantastic disco on Friday night. There was lots of loud music, flashing lights and sticky treats to munch on. Thank you to Raju and his team of helpers for organising such a fun, safe night out for our children.

Thanks also to our wonderful Awhina captains who helped out at both discos, especially Sam Pike for being such a great DJ!

Our next PTA meeting is this Wednesday evening at 7pm. Come along and join us or become a 'Friend of the PTA' (if you are keen to help out but unable to attend meetings).

Walking School Bus – We Need Your Support

Do you walk your children home from school? Are you able to help with our Walking School Bus? We **desperately** need parent support for this fantastic initiative. You get to walk home once or twice a week with a great bunch of kids whilst helping us minimize the traffic flow along Middlefield Drive. Our 'Walking School Buses' usually take between 10 and 20 minutes to organize and walk children to their designated meeting point.

It would be incredibly sad if we have to stop the buses due to lack of parent help.

We also need a parent to take on the coordinator role.

Please see the flyer on our website for further details.

If you are able to help with the Walking School Bus please pop in and have a chat with me or email on info@willowbank.school.nz. Thank you in anticipation.

Student Led Conferences

We look forward to our student led conferences on the 14th July. During the conference your child will share discuss their progress and achievement against the goals set in term 1, their achievements in term 2 and their new learning goals for the remainder of the school year. At the conference you will receive a written report outlining these achievements, learning goals and the support you can give your child to further enhance their learning.

To book your conference please visit:

<http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz>

Event code: V8TRG

- Enter your name, your email address and your student's name(s)
- Select your child's year and Teacher
- Then select an available time that suits you

If you have trouble making the booking online, please contact Chris or Carla on 2711077 Ext 5 and she will be able to do it for you.

*Children in Room 4 will have their student led conferences in week 1 of term 3 as Annelies Naus will be absent on the planned day. Bookings for these conferences can be made on the school interview website.

REMINDER: SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 12.30PM ON THURSDAY 14TH JULY FOR THE STUDENT LED CONFERENCES.

Community Notices

AUCKLAND REGIONAL DENTAL SERVICE

Our services are provided **FREE** to all pre-school, primary and intermediate school children.

For details of the nearest School Dental Clinic open during the holiday period please contact **0800 TALK TEETH** or **0800 825 583**

A list of clinics currently open is also available on our website: www.ards.co.nz

Clean Healthy Teeth Make a Happy Smile

Attachments on our website:

- Skids' Holiday sessions and booking information
- All Stars Music classes including guitar
- Carwash at TJs Ti Rakau Drive

Have a fantastic fun filled and safe holiday!

Best wishes,

Deidre Alderson

Principal