
WILLOWBANK SCHOOL: TERM 2, WEEK 9, 2011

On behalf of the staff and our school community we would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new children and their families.

LEARNERS' NEWS



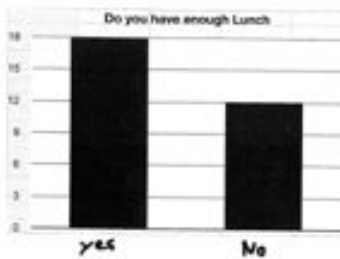
Congratulations Room 5

Room 5 recently entered a story writing competition through Barfoot and Thompson and the class has been selected as one of the eight winners. Every child in room 5 contributed to the class' short story, *Never Judge A Book By Its Cover*. The judges said that the story had all the right elements – good characters, a positive message and an interesting scene. They also said it provided a good read for children of all ages. Over the coming months room 5 will turn their winning story idea into a real book with the help of children's author Paula Green. Rugby star Kevin Mealamu will be contributing the illustrations for the book. Once published, copies of the book will be sold, with every cent raised going directly to the Starship Foundation.

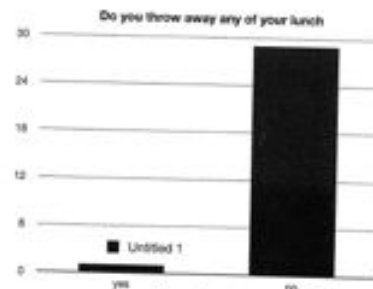
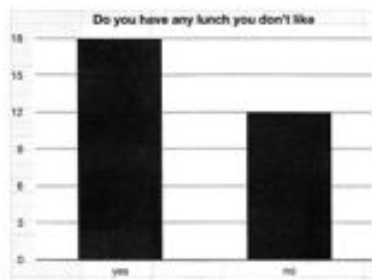
Lunches – A Survey by James from Room 4

A survey has been done about student lunches. The results show that a lot of students are not liking their lunches. Please ask your children if they are happy with their lunches. If they are not happy this could result in unnecessary snacking.

LUNCHES



My conclusion is that quite a few haven't got enough lunch and even more don't like their lunch so to solve this, kids need to ask for different and more food.



Presented by : James C.



Student Led Conferences

"Not only is the student the best person to tell their parents what they have learnt, but if we believe that students build their knowledge by communicating what they know, then providing an opportunity for the students to tell their family what they know can significantly assist with that learning." Absolum, M. (2008)

What is a student led conference?

It is a conversation between the student, parents and teacher that is focused on recent learning. Willowbank manages the organisation for conferences, but students lead the conversation. The conference gives students an opportunity to develop and extend their ability to talk about their learning; deepen their relationship with their parents around their school learning; shape their ability to clarify what they are learning and assess their progress; reflect on their next learning steps through setting goals and writing an action plan for achievement.

For parents the student led conference is an opportunity to actively support their child in his or her learning; understand more fully what the child is learning and the progress they are making; help the child set goals; be aware of how much the child is taking responsibility for his or her own learning and; understand better how learning and teaching happens 'these days'.

The conference is a powerful opportunity to build partnerships between home and school. It is a reflection on recent learning where parents', students and teachers are present to celebrate success, identify next learning goals and plan for actions to achieve these goals. Students have worked with their teachers this term and set their next learning goals. These goals will be shared through the mid year report which will be given to parents at the student led conference.

Student led conference information

*When: Thursday 14th July**

Time: 1pm – 8pm (last interview time 7:50pm)

Please note that school will close at 12.30pm on this day. *If you are unable to collect your child at 12:30pm, please contact Claire at SKIDS to arrange afterschool care. The number for SKIDS is 021 702490.*

To book your conference please visit:

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

Event code: V8TRG

If you have trouble making the booking online, please contact Chris on 271 1077 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.*

OTHER WILLOWBANK NEWS

Before and After School

While school is open from 8:00am, ideally children should not be dropped off at school before 8:30am as the awning spaces and classroom doors are not open until then. If you do drop your child off before 8:30am, please be aware that they are unsupervised. SKIDS are available to provide before school care. Their contact details are willowbank@skids.co.nz or 9484203.

Children need to be collected from school before 3:30pm. Every day we have a growing number of children left waiting out the front of the school for collection – often well past 3:30pm. Children are not under adult supervision out the front therefore their safety is at risk. We will be contacting parents of children who are repeatedly collected late.

Again, SKIDS are able to provide afterschool care if you are unable to collect your children before 3:30pm. Please contact SKIDS to make arrangements for their care either at willowbank@skids.co.nz or Ph 9484203.

Walking School Bus



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 organise 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 leadership role of coordinator. Helen Faamoe, Walking and Cycling Coordinator, from Auckland Transport will provide support for the Walking School Bus. She would like to meet with parents who are interested during school time to explain what the roles involve and how she will support them (see flyer attached at the bottom of this newsletter). The safety of our children is paramount and this can only be achieved through a strong home / school relationship. If you are interested please contact Carla Hart: chart@willowbank.school.nz

The routes are:

Yellow: from school along the school side of Middlefield Drive to Kilkenny Drive and across Kilkenny Drive. Adult supervisor stops here.

Blue: from school across the Middlefield Drive pedestrian crossing turning right. Turn left at the round-about into Rialto Court. Turn right walking around the footpath around the loop road. Adult supervision stops here.

Green: from school across the Middlefield Drive pedestrian crossing turning left. Turn right into Gracechurch Drive. Right into Chapel Road crossing at the traffic lights. Adult supervision stops here.

Drop Off Zone

Please remember that the drop off zone is not a place to park. When using the drop off zone in the morning, please drive in, stop, let children out safely (ideally onto the footpath) and then continue to drive out the exit gate. In the afternoon parents with parking permits are able to wait in their car for their child/children to come out. If you need to park to put your child into their car seat please park on the road, walk in and collect your child and then walk them out to your car. This ensures that all children are kept safe and keeps Middlefield Drive free of traffic jams. Thanks in anticipation of your support.

Middlefield / Gracechurch and Children Crossing

On Friday afternoon a young Willowbank child was hit by a car after he had used the Gracechurch crossing. He was crossing an unpatrolled road to walk up to where his mother was waiting. A car stopped and waved him across the road, which was fine on one side however, the other side of the road wasn't clear and a car hit him. Please may we ask that you go over crossing the road safely with your child/ren so they check that their way is clear before stepping out. If you are driving, please do not encourage children to walk in front of your car. If you are unsure of whether your child/ren is able to cross safely alone, you can wait for them on the other side of the crossing and then walk them to the car. In case you're wondering, the child who was hit visited the A 'n E and is fine, he is back at school today.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE SAFETY OF OUR CHILDREN IS PARAMOUNT!

Allergies

We have a number of children at Willowbank who have life threatening allergies when they come into contact with certain foods. Please may we ask that you do not send nutella, peanut butter or egg filled sandwiches/rolls to school?

Library Display

Jocelyn Gardner is creating a display for the school library around the theme of citizenship. The display will represent our multi cultural school community. If you have a traditional costume, mask or other artifact that the library could borrow for this display, please name the item and send it to school via your child. Jocelyn promises to take good care of these items and will return them when she removes the display later this year.



School Donations & Activity Fees

Just a reminder to those parents who still haven't paid the school donation or activity fee for 2011. Reminder notices will be going home this week.

The requested school donation for the full year is :

1 child	\$210.00
2 or more children	\$320.00

If you choose not to pay the requested donation, then there is a compulsory activity fee of \$110.00 per child.

Paper From Homes: Help Your School. Help The Environment!

Paper From Homes is an exciting fundraising partnership between school and Fullcircle Recycling. We have three recycling bins situated next door to the office ready to take your used paper (including newspapers, junk mail, magazines, books, and flattened cardboard boxes). Over the last few months we have earned an average of \$70.00 a month. Please think about supporting the school and your children when you are recycling your paper. We appreciate your help.

Absences

Please remember to telephone the school and leave a message on the answer phone if your child is going to be absent from school. Please telephone us on 271 1077 and press 1 to report the absence. Your message should include your child's name, room number and a brief explanation for their absence.

Key Dates for your Diary

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 29 June | Howick Intermediate Open Night |
| 1 July | Team 5 Assembly (2.10pm) |
| 4, 7, 8 July | WOW Factor Auditions |
| 6 & 7 July | Choir Festival 7:30pm at Somerville Intermediate |
| 8 July | Red Socks Day (Awhina Captains will be selling red socks all week) |
| 12 July | Book quiz team at Baverstock to compete against other local schools |
| 12 July | Board of Trustees Meeting
7pm in the staffroom. |
| 14 July | Student led conferences and mid year reports home.
Remember: school closes at 12:30pm. |
| 15 July | Pyjama mufti day and last day of Term 2 |
| 28 July | Brett Lee – embracing a cyber world parent evening (Somerville Intermediate, 7-8pm) |



PTA NEWS

Disco

Why did the chicken cross the road? He was going to the Willowbank disco of course!

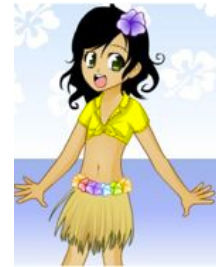
Remember...

What: Tropical themed disco

When: Friday 8th July

Time: 5.30pm – 6.45pm (Year 0-3), 7pm – 8.15pm (Year 4-6)

\$2 entry. There will also be pizza, drinks, lollies and other goodies for sale.



WOW Factor Update "143 DAYS TO GO"

We've had a terrific response with registrations from 123 acts involving 220 children who want to showcase their talent and compete for the WOW Factor title. Auditions are being held 4-8th July during the day and your child will have received an audition slip with their date and time. We encourage you to talk to your child about this process as not everyone will be selected to go on to the heats.

The WOW Factor is also a fundraising project to enable the purchase of a minivan for the school. Our target is \$40000 and this will be achieved by funding from corporate sponsors, charity grants, voting for contestants, an auction and donations from families. We have received expressions of interest from families of entrants who are happy to donate goods and services and these families are being contacted to arrange their donation. If you or your business is able to assist with a donation to our fundraising project please get in touch with Pamela Kirtlan pkirtlan@xtra.co.nz or 021 714 006. All donations will be gratefully accepted and you will receive personal acknowledgement with any donations over \$500 being acknowledged on our website and sponsors board which will be located at the front of the school.

Good luck to all contestants and keep practicing for your chance to be a Willowbank School WOW Factor winner.

*Wishing you a wonderful fortnight,
Lisa Bonniface, Leigh Steel and the Willowbank Staff*

COMMUNITY NOTICES

SKIDS HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

Our July 2011 SKIDS holiday programme is now open for enrolments. The flyer can be found at www.skids.co.nz/willowbank or parents can contact SKIDS at willowbank@skids.co.nz or on 9484203.

PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

FREE Community Event

7.00pm Thursday 28th July 2011
Somerville Intermediate School Hall

LINESS

**INTERNET SAFETY & EDUCATION
for Families**

A MUST SEE event, this 60 minute powerful, unique and engaging presentation by former undercover Internet Detective, Brett Lee addresses Internet Safety & Cyberbullying. For Parents and families, Brett explores where children are going online, what children are doing online and the dangers of sharing personal information with certain people over the internet.

**If you have children -
This presentation is NOT TO BE MISSED
& IS FREE**

Kelly Sports at Willowbank Primary School

Kelly Sports offers sports programmes at Willowbank Primary straight after school on Friday from 3.10pm to 4.10pm. Our Programmes are targeted at year 1 - 4 children who are keen to try out a variety of sports. Kelly Sports encourages kids to have fun, build confidence and to develop key sporting skills. Player of the Day ribbons awarded every session. Please contact Lyn Flavell on 09-2922-224 or pat@kellysports.co.nz for an enrolment form or check out our website www.kellysports.co.nz

- * Helen O'Grady Children's Drama Academy has classes for students aged 5 to 17 years, in your area.
- * We are aimed at developing ongoing confidence, self-esteem and skills in verbal communication.
- * Our programme is exciting, motivational and great fun.
- * All our teachers are trained teachers with specialist training in the Helen O'Grady Drama System.
- * Enrolling now for Term 3; phone Debbie Napier, on 836 0233 for further details.

**Walking School Bus
Development Workshop**

All WSB volunteers, supporters and interested parents are invited to a workshop near you!

This workshop is an opportunity to celebrate walking school buses and Volunteer Awareness Month this Term

- ✓ Come join us for a Coffee Break and Muffin
- ✓ Collect a range of new resources for your WSB's
- ✓ Water Walking box, Health and Safety and more

Your WSB will benefit with a range of goodies that you can use

Workshop Date 1
Botany Library Gallery Room
Wednesday 29th June, 2011.
9.30am-1.00pm
Botany Town Centre
Chapel Road
Manukau

An opportunity to meet other WSB volunteers

Workshop Date 2
Performing Arts Green Room
Wednesday 6th July 2011
9.30am-1.00pm
Mangere Arts Centre
Cnr Bader Drive and Orly Avenue
Mangere

Feel free to bring along younger children. Big posters and felts will be provided for them.
** Please RSVP for coloring **
By Wednesday 22 June

Helen Faarooq
Walking and Cycling Co-ordinator
DDI 261-8963
Mob 021-512-407