



**22<sup>nd</sup> November 2010**

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

### **Congratulations!**

Last week our lovely deputy principal, Jane Danielson was appointed principal of Hingaia, newest Auckland school, starting April 2011. Although we are going to miss her immensely, we are so very proud of her accomplishments and excited about the journey she is about to embark on.

Jane will continue to work at Willowbank until the end of term 1 2011. We wish Jane much success for this new venture.

### **Leaving Staff**

At the end of this term we say farewell to Miss Megan Cameron, who is returning to Tauranga and Mrs Martha Strayton who is retiring from teaching aiding. We wish both Megan and Martha much success in their future endeavours.

### **Taking a Long Holiday....**

You may have heard that James O'Brien is taking a break next year. James will be heading to Canada for 6 months towards the end of term 1, 2011. We know he'll have a brilliant time (may need to warn the Canadians he's coming!).

### **Reminder:**

If you are taking a holiday prior to the end of the school year it is important that you complete an absence form for your child/ren. Due to education regulations concerning the number of days children are expected to attend school, holidays longer than 5 school days must be discussed with me.

### **It's a Busy Term**

Over the coming weeks we have several major events involving our school community...

### **Reporting to Parents**

### **Community Evening**

**This Tuesday**

**23<sup>rd</sup> November 7pm**

**This is an important meeting for all parents.**

**We will be discussing assessment strategies used in each class to enhance learning at Willowbank School, our end of year reports on student achievement and the student led 3 way conferences at the end of the year. We will also discuss the implementation of National Standards.**

**We look forward to seeing you this Tuesday, 7pm in the hall.**

### **End of Year Reports**

This year your child's report will be sent home on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December, the day before the 3 way conferences. This report is a brief description of your child's learning over the year. At the 3 way conference your child and your child's teacher will discuss aspects of the report and next learning goals. It is very important that you attend the 3 way conference. You are able to book on line now by going to

[www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz) Our event code is 3HKV3

We look forward to seeing you at our 3 way conferences.

Reminder: School closes on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 12.30pm for the 3 way conferences. SKiDs will be open from this time.

### **2010 Prize-giving / Awards Ceremony**

Our prize-giving this year is on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> December.

Our prize giving is a very prestigious occasion where we recognise and celebrate the achievements of our students. Teachers

will, later in this term, make contact with the parents and caregivers of the children in their classes who are to receive an award. Only three children from each class will receive one of three top awards, these are awarded for *Discovering their Potential* (Outstanding Effort), *Developing their Learning* (Outstanding Achievement) or *Nurturing their Relationships* (Outstanding Citizenship and Sportsmanship). We also present our most prestigious school honours at the senior prize giving. These are presented to the top Year 6 students.

We look forward to your company at our awards ceremony.

### **Market Day and Carols Evening**

Our Market Day is only a few weeks away and many of the children have now placed their product advertisements on to our Market Day wiki. You are able to access this site by going to

<http://marketday2010.wikispaces.com/>

This is a very exciting event and one that celebrates the completion of the Enterprise learning journey of the children.

We will keep you informed of the products (all made by the children) available at the Market Day through both our wiki and our facebook page.

### **Book Fair**

Due to popular demand and our partnership with Scholastic Books, there will be a Scholastic Book Fair available in the library during the Market Day.

They will be offering a deal of buy one book get one free.

### **Important information:**

Market Day and Carols Evening

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> December

Time: Market Day 5 – 6pm, Carols evening 6.15pm – 7.15pm

What: The children will be selling items relating to their Enterprise inquiry studies.

The traditional carols evening will follow the Market Day.

### **Further Up Coming Events**

23.11 Interschool athletics – Howick Domain

24.11 Kiwi Awhina assessments

29.11 ASB Get Wise programme starts

30.11 Year 6's to Rainbows End

1.12 Reports Home

2.12 3 Way Conferences (school closes at 12.30)

### **Interschool Athletics**

Congratulations to all our children who will be representing our school at the interschool's competition on 25<sup>th</sup> November at the Howick Domain.

### **ASB GetWise Programme**

Next week our children will be involved in the ASB Getwise programme.

The Getwise programme is a financial literacy programme aimed at equipping students with a vital set of financial literacy skills to set them up for future financial success.

### **Toys At School**

I have noticed a number of children are bringing Bey Blades to school. Although our policy is that children should not bring toys to school I am willing to make an exception here. However it is important that bay blades are kept in bags and children are responsible both for their behaviours and for the safe keeping of their toy. If the blades do however become a problem then we will ask that they be taken home.

### **Sickness**

Last week I managed to pick up the tummy bug that is going around. I now have extra, extra sympathy for children being affected by it!

We are unfortunately sending children home on a daily basis with this tummy bug.

Please may I ask that if your child seems unwell in the morning or even the night before with stomach pains or vomiting that they are kept at home.

We are taking extra precautions here to break the cycle but it is important that children (and adults) feeling ill are isolated from others.

Thank you.

### **Hats**

Reminder please: Children are expected to wear a hat when outside. Please ensure your child has their school hat at school each day.

### **Paper Recycling**

This week we are starting a new initiative for recycling paper. Please see the 'Paper from Homes Initiative' on line attachment.

### **PTA Fundraisers**

#### **Chocolates**

We still have chocolates to sell before Christmas so we have decided to run a competition between classes. Each class will have 3 boxes of chocolates to sell. Each bar of chocolate sold will earn the seller an entry in to Ipod touch or the Shoot and Share camera.

The class that sells the most will win a mufti day accompanied by an iceblock at lunchtime.

We are hoping that you will be willing and able to help us.

Children will be given 4 chocolate bars in a numbered plastic bag. Please help your child to sell the 4 bars and return the money (\$10.00) to school as soon as possible.

Children who have already sold boxes of chocolates this term will get 5 entries in the prize draw.

We are very grateful for your support, however if you are unable to help us this time, please send a note to your child's teacher. Thank you in anticipation.

### **Sunblock**

As we head into summer it is really important that the children have sun protection. You can now buy sunblock from the school.

#### **Price:**

Roll-on - \$6.00

Tube: \$7.50

The Sunblock is SPF 30+ low irritant and PABA Free.

Money for sunblock can be sent to school in an envelope, stating your child's name, room

number and the amount required.

### **Community Notice Board**

#### **The Gifted Education Centre**

Open Day for One Day School  
For all interested families, children and teachers.

**When:** Saturday 22 January 20 11

**Where:** Owairaka Primary School,  
113 Richardson Rd, Mt Albert

**Cost:** \$30.00 per child

9.30am-12pm 6-8yr olds

1pm-3.30pm 9-12yr olds

**Bookings essential:**

Phone: 845 4176

or

[head.office@giftededucation.org.nz](mailto:head.office@giftededucation.org.nz)

#### **Attachments on our website:**

Weet-bix tryathlon

Auckland Boys and Girls Choir – Christmas concert.

SPCA holiday programme

Auckland Museum – Our School Holiday Programme at a Glance

Paper From Homes Initiative

We look forward to seeing you tomorrow night at our Assessment community evening and at the 3 way conferences on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December.

Deidre Alderson

Principal