

30th March 2009

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our new children and their families.

We also welcome six first year B.ed students (trainee teachers) on their first one-week practicum today.

Welcome to Ms Vicki Handa and Ms Fotu Pule'anga who are in Room 23 with Miss Bell, Ms Erum Panju and Ms Jonnevie Munoz with Room 2 and Miss Varcoe, Ms Ashleigh Keogh and Ms Tali Mamea in Room 22 with Mrs Agnew.



End Of Term

This is the last newsletter before the end of the term and I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has given up some of their time to support one or more of the out of school activities our children have been involved in this term.

Whether it was the Year 6 camp to Lakewood Lodge or the Year 5 Marae trip, the junior classes Friendship day or one of the many sports groups, your support is invaluable to us. We look forward to seeing you again throughout the year.



Farewell Assembly

Next week is Lesley Pether's last week with us before she takes up her new role as Principal of Maraetei School in the new term. We will be holding a farewell assembly on Wednesday 8 April at 2pm and would love to see you there.



The Office Foyer

Visitors to the school do not need to sign in to enter the grounds after 2.45pm so please may I ask you not to use the office foyer between then and 3.20pm unless you need to speak with Michelle or one of the senior leadership team. Unfortunately the foyer gets very busy around this time and as the acoustic are not great the noise can be very distracting. The side gate by the staff room and the top gate are open at this time for you to enter the grounds. Thank you.



3 Way Conferences

So far, so good! Thank you for booking your 3 Way Conference online. Please may I ask that if you have not yet done so, that you book before Thursday morning?

The conferences are an important part of our reporting process. During the conference your child will have an opportunity to share their learning with you and discuss their 'where to next' learning goals.

To ensure that everyone has the opportunity to have their 10 minutes with the class teacher please may I ask you to ensure that you arrive at your child's 3 Conference a few minutes before your allocated time. A bell will sound at the end of each 10-minute conference. If you are having any difficulty booking your child's 3 Conference please contact Frances Fraser in the office.

If you have lost the code you can go onto the school website – www.willowbankschool.co.nz and click on "Reporting" there is a link and the code needed to book your meeting.

If your child attends one of our specialist classes and you would like to meet with the teacher please may I ask you to either book a time on the online booking system or contact the school.

PTA



PTA Chocolates

This week we start our first big PTA fundraiser. On Friday each eldest or only child from each family will bring home two boxes of chocolates to sell on Friday. A letter detailing all the information about the chocolate fundraiser will be sent home on Wednesday. We really appreciate your support in this major fundraiser - Chocolate for Easter!!



PTA Disco – come along and have some fun!

Please see the attached flyer.

Our Next PTA Meeting

Our next PTA meeting is on Tuesday 7th April at 7.30pm. Our PTA work hard to support the fundraising ventures of the school but we need your support to continue this great

work! Come along to the meeting to find out how you can become involved.



Morning Walking School Bus

We would love to have "Before School Walking School Buses"! Are you able to help?? Please contact

Angela on 021874227 for further information.

Lunchtime and extra curricular activities for children in term 2

Each term our children are offered a range of sports and arts activities that they are able to participate in during lunch times. Inter-schools sports activities are offered to children from Year 5 and Year 6. The teacher in charge of each sporting activity selects teams. Next term the following activities will be offered:

J-Rock Dance competition

Soccer

Gymnastics

Rugby

Hockey

Netball

Choir

Kapa Haka

Science Club (Year 1-4)

Science competition (Year 5 and 6)

Peer Mediators

Chess

Willowgreens

Ahwina Captains

Information about the day and time of these extra curricular activities are advertised to the children through our daily notices which are e-mailed to the classrooms each morning. An overview of activities will be available to you on our website from the beginning of term 2. Please note that some activities have limited attendance numbers.



Just a reminder that our last day of term is Wednesday 8th April. School will close at the normal time of 3pm.

Term 2 starts on Monday 27th April 2009 at 8.55am.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

April holiday fun-filled activities. We provide a stimulating, fun and safe programme for your children 5 to 14 years. Activities and outings include story telling, rollerblading, chocolate making and a pet-keeping course. Weekdays from 14 to 24 April, based at ACG College, Parnell. **Register for a brochure**, call Parnell Trust on 379 2095 x9724 or email pfc@parnell.org.nz

On behalf of BLIA and Fo Guang Shan temple, we would like to invite you and your students to join us for this community event. On Sunday the 5th of April is the Buddha's Birthday. The temple will be having a Buddha's day and we welcome everyone to join in the commemoration of this day with us. There is a children's wonderland where there are many different activities/games for children to play as well as other activities such as face painting and colouring competitions. There is not a religious content event, we would like to invite the public to take a tour of this beautiful temple and it is simply a fun community activity or a family day out. If you are interested you may bath the Buddha (in Chinese tradition, it is to chase away the bad luck and invites in the good luck). We hope to see you there.

On behalf of the staff, I would like to wish you all a very happy Easter and an enjoyable school holiday.

Deidre Alderson
Principal

