



Worser Bay School

NEWS

Friday 14 August 2009

Greetings Kia ora nāmas'te Sawadee Zdravstvuyte Chao
Kia orana Talofa Zdravo Willkommen Hej Ni Hao Fáilte



Tēnā koutou e te whanau o Whetukairangi

This week, Kath Delpont and I presented what we have been doing around this place over the last year and a half to a group of secondary classroom specialists at Victoria University. Kath shared student work, teacher planning and school processes around student input.

The feedback was overwhelmingly positive and it was so exciting to have secondary and primary teachers speaking the same language around the key competencies and enterprising attributes. Already, we can feel the gaps closing as we discuss the possibilities that the new curriculum offers schools.

Many secondary schools are making changes to timetables and planning to allow greater integration of subjects and stronger connections to be made for the students, more similar to the primary model. Things are moving. These secondary teachers not only fully supported what we are doing, they also agreed that they had an obligation to build upon the great work around competencies and student centric teaching and learning programmes being developed in many primary schools throughout NZ. The conversation throughout primary, intermediate and secondary schools in the Eastern Suburbs has already started.

The next Parent Evening will focus on key competencies/enterprise.

Next week during SLCs, you will have another opportunity to see these competencies and attributes in full swing. Enjoy the experience!

Noho mai rā.

ACTION AT A GLANCE

- **Student-Led Conferences - Week of 17 August – Check out guidelines on page 2.**
- **Worser Bay School Website**
Go to www.worserbay.school.nz and check it out on a regular basis. Remember, you will find our daily notices there as well!
- **Diary Wednesday 21 October for our Term 4 Parent Information Evening now!**

As you know, we have been focusing on how we work in co-operative groups in class. Look at the transfer of our skills into the playground! We are onto it!!

WORD FROM THE BOARD

My musing about the opportunities that next week's Student Led Conferences (SLCs) provide for our children to learn valuable life-long skills lives, led me to a bit more thinking about the other life-long skills our children have the good fortune to be learning. While we can have full confidence that what many of us no doubt regard as the educational basics (reading, writing and 'rithmetic) are being very effectively focused on, our children also have the tremendous fortune to be right at the forefront of the focus in the new curriculum on Education for Enterprise (E4E).

E4E is "...a teaching and learning process directed towards developing in young people the skills, competencies, understandings and attributes which equip them to be innovative, and to identify, create, initiate, and successfully manage personal, community, business, and work opportunities, including working for themselves."

The key competencies (Thinking; Managing Self; Relating to Others; Participating and Contributing; and Using Language, Symbols and Texts) are underpinned by 15 attributes that characterise 'enterprising students'. While more information on these and E4E can be found on the web (see www.education-for-enterprise.tki.org.nz or try the definitions tab on www.etime.co.nz) they are the exact attributes that employers today are, and employers of the future will be, looking for.

While we cannot know what the world our children will live in as adults will be like, the most important thing we can do as parents is equip them to cope with and thrive in a fast-paced changing world. It will be their ability to respond and adapt to change in their personal, professional and community lives that will be a primary driver of their ongoing happiness and success.

This is why I am delighted that our children are being exposed so early to developing the key competencies and enterprising attributes. It is also why Jude's comments that all levels of Eastern Suburbs schools and secondary schools more broadly are starting to move towards a model that is also supportive of this approach are so encouraging.

So, in attending the SLCs take the time to understand how your child is going with the basics. Perhaps even more importantly also take the time to understand what and how they are doing in becoming enterprising students.

Andrew Wilson
Board Member

from AUTAHI

This week has been Maths Week. Some maths groups have had a chance to do the daily challenge on the www.mathsweek.org.nz website. Maths week is from 9 -16 August but the site will still be accessible for some time after this date. Your child has an individual password that is linked to the school that they can use at home.

Our current maths programme is focused on multiplication and division strategies. Some strategies are solving multiplication, using repeated addition and division, and problem solving using sharing. If your child is working at Stage 6 of the Numeracy project they are using a range of strategies from which they choose the most efficient strategy.

You will learn more about your child's strategy stage at their Student Led Conference. You can use this stage to access appropriate family maths activities on www.nzmaths.co.nz that link to their maths learning at school.

"This week Autahi has been writing a letter to the wolf in the "Three Little Pigs" to hear his side of story. Also, in writing, we've been learning to use punctuation. For maths we have found a website that could help your children learn geometry, numbers and more. There are also a few games. Win enough maths points then go to the "Auctions" section, then bid on calculators. (The website is above.) In our classroom there is a piece of paper with your user name and password."
by Caitlyn and Josef

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

The Principal's Awards this week focus on "excellence in all book presentation" and "encouraging others in a group".

Tautoru

Presentation: Patrick, Wil G and Joe
Encouraging others: Kate M

Autahi

Presentation: Kirsty and Alexandra

Māhutonga

Presentation: Zoe and Kate
Encouraging others: Ben G, Sam D, Matt R

The Principal's Awards for next week will be awarded for "sharing my ideas confidently and clearly" and "using my own skills and abilities to get things done and achieve my goals".

NEXT WEEK'S SLCs - DO BE ON TIME!



To allow for these SLCs to keep to time teachers will be setting a stop watch for 10 minutes. When 10 minutes is up, they will stand up and this is the time to wrap things up. Don't be offended, everyone will get the 10 minute signal! No doubt we have all had the experience of being slotted in behind that one conference that just doesn't seem to end... and it is no fun as all times then get thrown out the window.

We are determined to stick to times, hence the few minute swap over between each SLC to allow teachers to transition into a new headspace for a new student and their parents, rather than the blur that can occur!

If you are 5 minutes late, the SLC will be 5 minutes long.

If you are 10 minutes late you will need to call the school to cancel and call or email Carolyn Anderson to make an appointment with your child's teacher for the following week/s.

Please support the school and community by sticking to 'the rules'.

TAUTORU News

Professor John Hattie says meaningful, specific feedback has one of the biggest impacts on students' performance and achievement.

In the lead up to SLCs, the teachers have been providing explicit feedback about work samples that the children have chosen for their portfolios. This enables them to understand their achievement in relation to a specific task. In the classroom, learning activities create opportunities for students to talk with their teachers and develop next learning steps. These conversations lead children to make more informed selections for their portfolios.

Think about a task at home... what kind of feedback do you give your child? You really want to engender a feeling of pride and joy in their achievement, yet at the same time offer support. There will be times when the feedback becomes feed-forward to ensure success the second time around. It is more important to offer feedback on the content and process of a task than it is to focus on the product - unless you have to eat it! Anyone who has baked at home with their child will know what we mean.

Here are some sentence starters we often use in the classroom. They might prompt rich conversations at home:

- "What are you doing?"
- "What are you learning?"
- "Can you tell me more about that?"
- "That's interesting... why did you choose that?"
- "How will you know you have improved next time around?"

The photo below shows the children exploring the properties of fabrics. This is one in a series of experiments to develop scientific investigation. They were checking to see how long each different fabric took to dry. The feedback discussion encouraged big idea thinking about where we source fabrics from, and understanding that the properties of fabrics suit each sample to particular purposes.



"We made cardboard cameras in the afternoon. We have been pretending to film each other. We take camera shots to take pictures and films of views and friends. Outside we tried not to wobble with the cameras. We are deciding where to stand for mid-shot, and other shots like long shots, wide shots, close ups, and extreme close ups." *by Anthony*

"On Thursday afternoon my sister Ocean came to school. She talked to each class about being in the V 48 hour film competition. For this she has to make a film in 2 nights and 2 days. Her favourite thing is writing it all down - the script. In her group there were 5 people, in others they have lots more." *by Kate M*

When Ocean came to talk to us she showed us a close up shot and she showed us a wide shot. She had a video camera set up on a tripod that was connected to the computer. The camera was showing the class. She showed us an over-the-shoulder shot when Sinead and Isabella had to pretend to talk to one another as Little Red Riding Hood and the Wolf, they were acting weird. We learnt a lot from her! *by Andre*

From the HOME AND SCHOOL STOP PRESS – Date Change for the School Fair – Sunday 1st November 2009

Unfortunately, best laid plans (and research) failed us this year, and having discovered clashes with two other local school events, we have decided to move the Fair one week forward. Please alter your diaries and book yourselves in for a great fundraising day!

There is an attachment that will come with the newsletter e-mail advising how you can start helping. Please read and give some serious thought as to how you and your family may contribute towards this fantastic fundraiser!

Thank you to our lovely volunteers who baked and helped tidy up after Wednesday's morning tea. It was great to see lots of parents, both new and existing, attend. If you were unable to make the morning tea, there will be another opportunity to catch up with other parents at the home and school dinner coming up at the end of this term – details to come!

The School Disco 6-8pm, Friday 21st August 2009 at the Salvation Army Hall.
HURRY Forms & Money into the office by Wednesday!

"UP!" Movie Afternoon - Join us on Sunday 13th September, 2.30 pm at the Reading Cinema, all tickets \$15.

Complete a form for tickets for both these events; forms are available from the office or attached to last week's newsletter e-mail.

If you would like to pay for either the movie or the disco by internet banking, please make sure that there is a clear reference on the transfer who the money is from and what it is for. We also need you to return the order form with your child's details and the reference used for the transfer. The Home and School account details are:

Worser Bay Home and School
Committee, National Bank Account
060513 0304691 00

Beth Simpson
bruce.simpson@xtra.co.nz
Nicola Lancaster
nic.lancaster@clear.net.nz

*Thanks to the wonderful bakers
for the delectable morning tea they
provided for our parents on
Wednesday morning (and for our
staff morning tea later!).*

DIARY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
17 Miniball Years 5 & 6	18	19 Miniball Years 3 & 4	20	21 School Disco 6-8pm Salvation Army Hall
Student Led Conferences (Monday - Thursday)				
24 Miniball Years 5 & 6	25	26 Miniball Years 3 & 4 Eastern Zones Hockey (P/D 2 Sept)	27	28

SPORT

Miniball

Spurs - Lost 21 -24 - Player of the day was Sam.
Celtics - Won 23-16 - Player of the day was Ben.
Both teams played their best game of the year so far!

Netball

Worser Bay won 5-4 against Berhampore

Eastern Zone Soccer - Competitive Grade

News from the Sports Field:

'The ball was going 100 miles an hour as it shot toward the goal. "Is it going to go in - or not?" We were in the final of the EZ Soccer Tournament against Miramar Central School. We were determined to win this game. We'd played hard to get to the final, playing against schools like Hataitai, Miramar North and Seatoun.

The ref blew the whistle pointing at the goal. Everyone cheered as we raced towards each other shouting with excitement. We won the final 4 - 0. We couldn't have had such a great day without the help and support of Hamish, Kerry, Carol and Lucy. Three cheers to all of them!

by Lewis, William and Fraser



Our competitive team on the left and both teams on the right.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

Support Your Tall Blacks

Tall Blacks v Boomers
Tuesday 25 August 2009, 7.30pm Tip Off.
TSB Arena, Queens Wharf
Adults from \$15, Children from \$10,
Family \$40.
Tickets available at www.ticketek.co.nz.

Wellington High Performance Aquatics are looking for the next generation of Champion Divers and are holding **Dare to Dive**, a talent identification event:

Dare to Dive

Wellington Aquatic Centre
63 Kilbirnie Crescent, Kilbirnie
Sunday 4 October - 3.30 - 4.30pm

We're looking for:

- * Boys & girls aged 9 - 12.
- * Gymnastics, trampolining, sports, tumbling, diving or similar background.
- * Availability & dedication to join an elite diving programme with high quality coaches.
- * Desire to compete for NZ.
- * No diving experience is necessary.

To register or for more information:

Contact Luvaine McDonald
email WHPA@clear.net.nz
phone 021 443 984

www.whpa.co.nz

Missing: An All Black's sleeveless fleece and a pair of trousers in a clear plastic bag went missing from the Tautoru cloakroom on Thursday, 30th July. Please could you check whether your child has accidentally brought these items home. There is a \$15 reward to the person who finds these clothes. Thanks.

WORSER BAY SCHOOL

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