



Worser Bay School NEWS

Friday 20 November 2009

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



Snippets from the afternoon tea yesterday... Saraswati is the Goddess of Knowledge, Music and the Arts. Her sister, Lakshmi, is the Goddess of Wealth. In the lead up to Diwali everyone prepares in anticipation of Lakshmi's arrival to bless their home. The little footsteps guide the way for Lakshmi. It is believed she can protect devotees from all kinds of misery and money-related sorrows. Some of these photos show aspects of Maria's host family planning the Rangoli design and oiling the wicks that will light each diya (lamp).

Note from Māhutonga

Having the opportunity to practise the skills we are learning in class is an important part of our learning. Some of the maths groups in Māhutonga have been learning about scale and enlargement. We have been looking at maps and the relationship between centimetres, metres and kilometres. We have been learning about decimals, how to use estimation to measure as well as how to measure accurately with our rulers. As we have been looking at myths and legends, we drew some of our own mythical monsters and then enlarged them on bottom court using a scale of 1cm : 1m. Here they are enlarging their beasts!



ACTION AT A GLANCE

- **Please note:** Payment of \$5 for tennis was due by Friday 13 November.
- **Diary:** Worser Bay School "Wrap 2009" - Tuesday 15th December.
- **Diary:** Year 6 Events - see page 2. Please send reply slip and money back by Friday 27th November.
- **Calendars:** Please place your orders by Friday 27th November - see page 4.
- **Do you have** packing boxes we could borrow to store our library books in?

Tēnā koutou e te whanau o te Whetukairangi

Ni hao

"Are we really relevant in Spain or France or Poland? We are a small country that, sure, they enjoy engaging with, but at the end of the day we are easily forgotten when the visit is over. That is actually not the case in Asia. We are part of their world." John Key
Philip Burdon, the chair of the Asia New Zealand Foundation quoted John Key in his piece "Talk of better times - it's up to us to learn" in last Sunday's paper.

Why? Our children will need to have the ability to live successfully and contribute to an increasingly different New Zealand from what we did. It is estimated that by 2026 almost 16% of New Zealanders will identify with an Asian ethnic group. It is essential that we have a focus on Asia in our schools as it's of enormous significance for our country's future, our children's future.

Initiated by Asia:NZ, the newly launched Business Education Partnership, encourages schools to increase the amount of Asia-related material included in the curriculum. A fabulous new publication "The New Zealand Curriculum and Asia Guide" has been produced to help us get cracking!

I'll leave a couple of copies in the foyer to browse through, if you are interested.

At the launch earlier in the week, I heard an interesting story about a couple in the UK who put themselves forward for a documentary. To cut this story short - everything in their apartment that had a connection to Asia was removed. They were left naked, in an empty apartment, apart from the stove. Why don't you try this little exercise at home!

Worser Bay has made a commitment, through our recently redeveloped strategic direction, to provide opportunities for our children to become Asia Aware. We are only just at the starting post and there is a long way to go.

Those of you who popped in for a coffee after school on Thursday heard about Maria's recent adventures in India. This is a great example of how Asia NZ is supporting NZ educators to increase their knowledge and understanding of Asian cultures.

So it's not a matter of could, it's a matter of must. If you are interested in finding out more please visit: <http://www.asianz.org.nz/our-work/action-asia-business/bep>.

Have a lovely weekend.

Jude

WORD FROM THE BOARD

As you'll see from this newsletter, planning is well underway for the Summerfest on 14 February 2010. So, why is this happening and how does it fit in?

One of the Board's key responsibilities is the financial well-being of the school. As a decile 10 school, Government funding assumes that our community is better placed to support our school than the communities of lower decile schools. For that reason, we receive less funding per student than schools in less well off areas, and (rightly or wrongly) this means it is necessary to bridge the gap between the funding we receive and the school's needs.

Voluntary Donations are vital and have historically provided about half of the school's fundraising. The balance of funds has to be raised through the wide range of events the Home and School runs throughout the year - with the highlight (and biggest and most critical earner by far) being the annual Fair.

In addition to purchasing key equipment to assist our children's learning, the Board has also been committed to supporting our teacher's professional development as evidence proves that this has a bigger impact on children's educational achievement than any other single initiative. To do this and continue to lift our game as a school, we worked with a number of parents earlier this year to ensure our fundraising efforts are as strong as they can be.

While being very mindful that any additional fundraising needs to complement the events that the Home and School drives, a number of possible options were identified. As a result, the Summerfest has taken shape through the efforts of a committed group of parents supported by Kirsty Chamberlain. You can also look forward next year to supporting and/or benefiting from some website-based fundraising activities.

If you would like to help in preparing for the Summerfest or can help on the day, please let Chris Dennehy know (see the Summerfest notice on page 4). Otherwise, make sure you snap up your tickets just as soon as you can, and, as we knock back a cold Tuatara Pilsner on a warm Summer's day, we can honestly say we'll be doing it for our kids – which is what it is all about!

Andrew Wilson
Board Member

Important Information for Year 6 Students

As the year draws to a close, we look forward to celebrating the time the Year Sixes have spent at Worsler Bay and wish them well for the future.

On Tuesday 15th December, we are having the Worsler Bay "Wrap 2009" which will include farewelling our Year Sixes.

On Wednesday 16th December, we will be having our Amazing Race. For this, we will need parent help for each team of 4 (about 8 parents). We need you - it's fun!! Please let us know asap.

On Thursday 17th December, we will be having the farewell Dinner for Year 6 students. Parents are invited to celebrate with us over wine and cheese.

The students are busy writing speeches and creating their page for the Year 6 book. This will be available for \$15 from the office.

Please complete the slip on page 4 and return to the office by Friday 27th Nov.



Hot off the press!
Assembly this morning...

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

The Principal's Awards for this week are for making good choices and excellence in book work.

Tautoru

Patrick, Chanel, Nargis, Aidan and Ben for making good choices.
Ellie and Leila for excellence in book work.

Autahi

Thomas and Finlay for making good choices.
Barney and Kirstie for excellence in book work.

Māhutonga

Freddie and Louise for making good choices.
Aimée and Kate for excellence in book work.

The Principal's Awards next week will be awarded for self-management and tolerance.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Library Reincarnation

In preparation for the library reincarnation, we are asking for all library books to be returned as soon as possible. We have stopped issuing, so no new books will have come home this week.

There is a big job ahead of stock-taking and packing books away. We may be asking for help with the move in future newsletters!

"Wrap 2009"

At the Worsler Bay "Wrap 2009", we will have great books available for you to view. If you would like to kindly donate a beautiful new book, we would love that! Over the past couple of years our Year 6s have often done this. It's a good way for us to remember them!



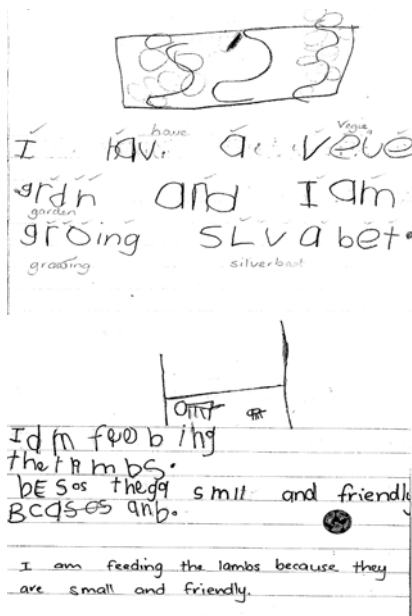
News from TAUTORU

Reports are coming home soon and there will be lots of info in them.... Celebrating achievement, informing next goals and progress with developing key competencies.

We are talking about writing goals this week. Some of our writers know that they have to add "interest words". This means using synonyms, adjectives, and extending the writing by giving the reader more information about the event.

Here are some examples from this week.

In the weekend I went to the School fair.
I was hanging out with Evie and Olivia. We got a sprite fizzy drink, we got to also hold a Guinea Pig,
I held the smallest one.
The fair was so big!
I got a Beautiful Hena done on my hand.
Evie won a prize for the best clown.
Oh and I forgot to tell you it was a circus fair. It was so FUN!
I got to pat a pony called kitkat
I LOVED IT SO MUCH!
19.11.09
By Bella.



AUTAHI News

The students in Autahi have been having a ball during Medieval Mayhem. It has been great to see students in all areas showing their leadership skills in different ways.

A range of scenarios promote co-operative group problem solving, discussion and creative thinking. Each week the students 'get into' their character's role, writing a diary entry from that character's point of view. We have been encouraging and supporting the students to use some of the vivid vocab words that you would have read about in last week's newsletter. Here are some examples of the Diary entries and some thoughts on the unit so far:

"Dear Diary, Today at dawn it was cold and gloomy. I felt brave - then I heard a crunch and a squeak so I went and looked for it. BOO!! Fifteen robbers jumped up at me. I shot one and then another and then another until I had no more arrows left. "Damn" I thought. I started to use my sword. I stabbed two more, then the leader, who was dressed in black and camouflaged. They looked like black spies. Shing! Shing! I slayed them all! All I saw was blood and guts, swords and all kinds of weapons and bones. All I could hear was nothing."

"In Medieval Mayhem we pretend to be our character and go on adventures. We are in a group of one healer, one entertainer, one knight and one blacksmith/craftsman. We get a scrapbook to write diary entries in and a map which we draw what happens on it. We have to roll a dice to find out what weather, what animals we would see, what type of place we are travelling through and what direction we would go in. I really enjoy it and I like doing it."

"In Medieval Mayhem it is really fun because we get to draw things onto our maps and put it into our diary entry. We also get to create monsters or animals to put into our story. For example, we hear scary rustling noises behind some bushes. At the start of the year I didn't even know what Medieval times was about and now I know heaps."

From the HOME AND SCHOOL

2010 Calendars – Place your orders please by Friday 27th November

A perfect present for Grandparents and family, and a limited edition!

This year's calendar will feature the fantastic artwork that your child produced for the Art Expo earlier in the year.

We are fortunate enough to have the support of Rapid Copy again this year who have given us an excellent price for the printing and any funds raised will be for school. The calendars are \$10 each. Please place your order (the form is on Page 4 of this Newsletter) with the money, in an envelope by Friday 27th November at the school office.

Please make cheques payable to Worsler Bay Home and School Association and clearly mark your surname and 'Calendars' on the transaction if you wish to pay Direct Transfers into the Home and School Account:

National Bank Courtenay Place
A/C Number: 060513 0304691 00.

Coming up – Please note Tuesday 15th December in your diary for our school "Wrap 2009" evening.
More details closer to the date.

Your Co-chairs of the H&S:

Beth Simpson & Nicola Lancaster

bruce.simpson@xtra.co.nz

nic.lancaster@clear.net.nz

Worsler Bay School T-Shirts

A note for those people who have yet to get a school t-shirt – a navy one is required for Year 4 and above - so particularly the Year 3 children's parents might be interested.

We will do a bulk order and hopefully have some for when they are required in the new year. I'm also willing to take details of anybody leaving the school who wants to pass on their school shirt to another worthy owner, or alternatively somebody who might like to pick one of these up. Just let me know and I'll try helping to connect you up.

Julia Rowling

julia@rowling.co.nz or 934 8202

Home and School

DIARY

Rāhina (Monday)	Rātū (Tuesday)	Rāapa (Wednesday)	Rāpere (Thursday)	Rāmere (Friday)
23 Tennis	24	25 Autahi - Swimming Inter Zone Athletics	26 Māhutonga - No Swimming	27 Tautoru - Swimming
30 No Tennis	1 Hakihea (December)	2 Autahi - Swimming	3 Māhutonga - Swimming	4 Tautoru - Swimming
7 Tennis	8	9 Autahi - Swimming	10 Māhutonga - Swimming	11 Tautoru - No Swimming

Dates of important events coming up:

Tuesday 15th December - "Wrap 2009"
Thursday 17th December - Year 6 Farewell Evening

School commences for 2010 on Wednesday 3 February.

SPORT

Flippaball

Tonight, Worser Bay Blue play Miramar Central at 3.45pm and Worser Bay White play St Marks at 4.05pm.

Year 6 Reply Slip

I give permission for _____ to go on the Amazing Race.

I am **able/unable** to accompany a group on the day. (Please circle.)

He/she **will / will not** be attending the Year 6 dinner. (Please circle.)

- I would like to order a Year 6 Book.
- I enclose \$15 payment for the book.
- I enclose \$10 to cover Amazing Race and Year 6 Dinner costs.

(Please indicate what payments are for to avoid confusion!)

Signed:

Please return by **Friday 27th November**.

Worser Bay Home and School Your Calendars for 2010

The school calendars with your child's artwork make excellent Christmas presents (especially for friends and family overseas).

The calendars are priced at a very affordable **\$10 each**.

Please fill out this form and return with payment to the **school office by Friday 27th November**. Cheques payable to the *Worser Bay School Home and School Committee*.

Child's Name:

Class and Teacher:

Number of Calendars wanted:

Total payment (\$10/each):

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Available for Rent: Three bedroomed house available for short term rental between 22 December 2009 to 22 January 2010.
Telephone Cathie on 388 4752.

Organic Veges & Fruit delivered to your neighbourhood - you can trial the 'box scheme' now! For further info, contact Andrea on 977 5757 or Louise on 973 3797 or go to www.simplygoodfood.co.nz or email them at info@simplygoodfoodcsa.co.nz.

Lost Property: Adam has lost a size 6 Brown Pumpkin patch raincoat. It has his name in it. I think it may have been taken home by mistake as it's been missing for 2 weeks. Telephone Carrie 388 4727.



Diary it now!
**14 February 2010
Summerfest**

at the Worser Bay Boating Club rooms.
Bring your family and friends, from 1 - 4 pm, to a fabulous afternoon of sea, sun, live music, beer tasting with food to match and other refreshments to suit all. Be entertained and enlightened by raconteur and beer expert Neil Millar.

All proceeds from the event go to Worser Bay School. Tickets will be on sale through the school website and from the school office soon. Watch this space for further information.

BUT RIGHT NOW we need to recruit helpers to co-ordinate and run food stalls on the day - the menu and prep will be kept simple. We have ideas already so if you can help out please contact Chris Dennehy on 976 1813 or at chrisjohn@paradise.net.nz. We will be shoulder tapping as we need to get the crew organized before the end of the school year.

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