

Worser Bay School Children love learning. At our school, the entire school community can:

* See achievement celebrated and children valued as individuals; * Feel motivated and inspired to participate; * Experience success.

WORSER BAY SCHOOL NEWS



Term 2, Week 8, Friday 24 June 2011



Our Worser Bay Runners at the Inter-Zones on Tuesday.

We are practising our adding
basic facts by playing Diamond
Dazzle



Mathematical thinking and learning.
See more on page 2.

Tēnā koutou e te whanau o te Whetukairangi

Kia ora koutou

As you would have seen in last week's newsletter, we are aiming for our Year 6 leavers to be thinkers, connected, curious and confident. To help us get there we have a whole staff professional learning focus on increasing our ability to develop our children's thinking skills and, in doing so, challenge our own thinking!

We are talking a lot about both creative and critical thinking. This means we are encouraging originality of ideas and a large number of ideas (fluency) as well as more logical and analytical thinking. Last week the staff went for a 'walk through' the classrooms, with different teachers sharing and discussing ways in which they have been developing these skills in a variety of learning areas. It's really exciting to see the shift in the way we are working as a team in this area, as well as noting the movement in the children's thinking.

It certainly isn't a Pantene shampoo advert. To create an environment where we actually can lift that learning ceiling right off and keep expecting more takes some time. But so exciting to see, feel and hear the changes already in 2011.....and we aren't anywhere near the finish line - in fact, it's never over!

No ora mai ra! Have a wonderful wet weekend!

Jude

Jude

School Banking

Just a reminder that there is school banking in the library every Tuesday at 8.30 am. This is done through the National Bank, so if your child has a National Bank Account, please come and see our friendly bankers on a Tuesday!

ACTION AT A GLANCE

- **Banking** - Tuesdays at 8.30 am in the school library.
- **Matariki Celebration** -
Thursday 30th June 6.00 am (see page 4)
Breakfast orders in by Monday 27th, please!
- **Swimming Sports** - Thursday 7th July at the Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre at Kilbirnie (see page 4)
Please return your slip by Friday 1st July.
- **Diary: Worser Bay School Art Celebration** -
Wednesday 13th July (see page 4)

"You can teach a student a lesson for a day; but if you can teach them to learn by creating curiosity, they will continue the learning process as long as they live".

TAUTORU-ITI, TAUTORU & AUTAHI News

In Maths we are focused on developing children's understanding of numbers, and their ability to use numbers to solve problems. They have been learning to:

- enjoy working with numbers
- make sense of numbers - how big they are, how they relate to other numbers, and how they behave
- solve mathematical problems - whether real life or imaginary
- calculate in their heads whenever possible, rather than using a calculator or pen and paper
- show that they understand maths, using equipment, diagrams and pictures
- explain and record the methods they use to work out problems
- accept challenges and work at levels that stretch them - work with others and by themselves
- discuss how they tackle mathematical problems - with other students, their teacher *and* you!

Take a look at some of our great mathematical thinking and learning across Tautoru-iti, Tautoru and Autahi.

We are practising our 'back through the tens' strategy (e.g. 25 - 8).



We can make 24 using the sticks and blocks to show the tens and ones.



We are learning to count the tens and the ones to make a number.



We are using the hundreds board to help us write a number. How many tens and ones are there?



A note from MĀHUTONGA and MATARIKI

We are into the final three weeks of term now and will be rounding off the current Inquiry with the research project answering a question about the present. We are conscious that this is a challenging piece of work so will be guiding students through it, particularly the younger ones. Please check your child's Inquiry book for the outline of this research project along with branching questions and a research plan. (A good central resource for most is the Enterprise Miramar Peninsula website: <http://www.miramarpenninsula.org.nz>) Students will be asking family members their opinions and some are putting together surveys. Please keep an eye out for these.

In the final week and a half of term we will be thinking about the future in our area. There are some interesting and highly topical things for us all to sink our teeth into. We think our kids should or could have some sort of role-making submissions for future planning. A child's perspective is often an interesting one! Ray Ahipene-Mercer has agreed to come to speak to us on the morning of the 13th July and no doubt will have his own thoughts on the future direction for the Miramar Peninsula, as well as some thoughts about the way the past affects decision making. We are hoping he will be joined by one or two others in a small panel discussion.

We have made a start on the art works for the upcoming exhibition. Students have begun planning their work, brainstorming ideas. Everybody is excited about this.

We are looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible next Thursday for Whetu Kairangi Star Gazing Matariki Breakfast. We have promised the students a low key day of Matariki-based activities so they will manage the longer than usual hours. This is not a compulsory early start to the day. It will be awesome if we get a clear morning. Fingers crossed then!

Thanks for your continued support with the spelling rockets and basic facts drills for homework.

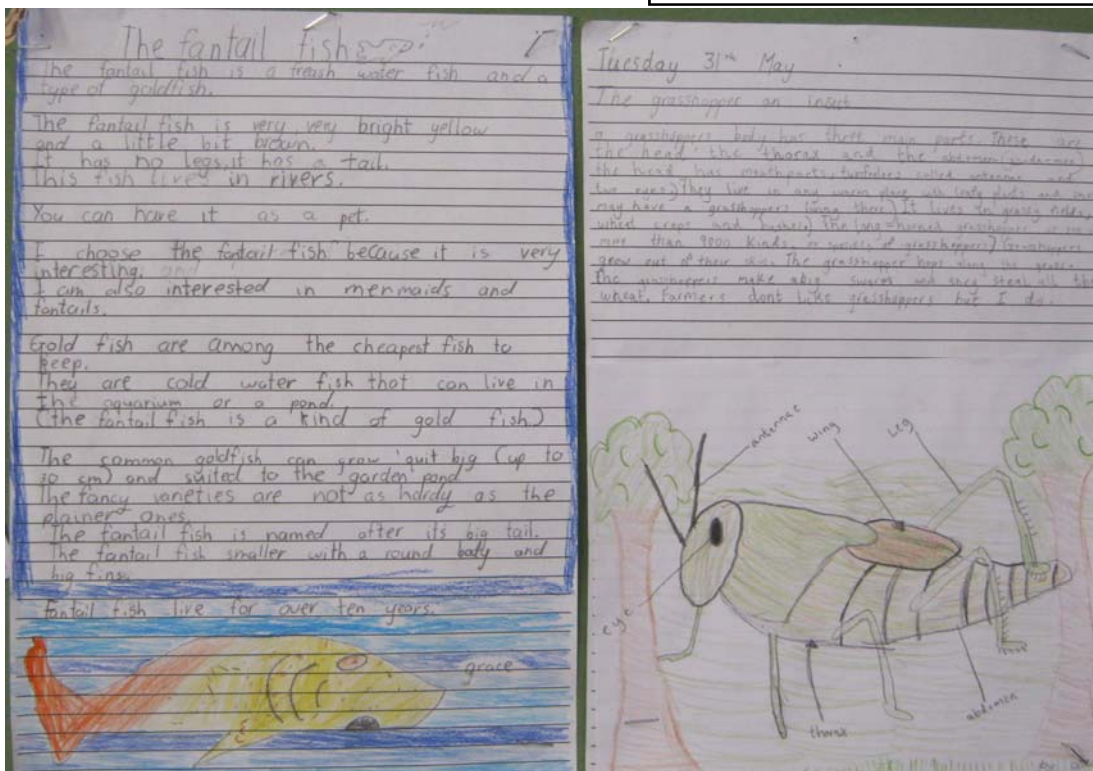
We hope you enjoy some of the 50 word stories we have been writing this week. We were working on being imaginative and being selective in our word choice. We were also developing our editing skills.



Once there was a butcher by a taco stand. A beautiful woman came along. She fell in love with the butcher - he leaned towards her. Took something out of his pocket. The woman thought he wanted to marry her. He leaned closer and said, "One taco, please."



I'm hanging above certain death. Down at the bottom of the pit there is what I seek, the golden tree guarded by evil gargoyles (I'm Saffron, a 10 year old medieval maiden just look at me, what a mess!) My sword drops and rocks begin to crumble. Suddenly I drop into the tree's leaves, the gargoyles conjure fire balls. I grab five pale leaves off the golden tree and run home.



PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

Our Principal's Awards for this week are for:

* Independently thinking outside the box.

Tautoru - Liv, Nahim and Oto

Autahi - Asha, William and Jacob

Māhutonga - Danielle and Ian

Next week's focus is:

* Supporting each other in a group.

Staff News

Some of you will have seen Suz popping in and out lately. Yes - she is back blazing the Reading Recovery trail.

Rachel leaves us at the end of term. We certainly thank her for her ability and flexibility to pick up a variety of teaching roles over the last couple of years and will not forget her skills on the sewing machine when it comes to costume-making in a hurry! Her 'arm splints' are also second to none. We wish her all the best as she takes up a Learning Support and Art position at Scots. We also look forward to continuing our relationship with her in her 'parent capacity!' That will be fun!

We aim to make an appointment before the end of term.

Matariki Celebration at Whetu Kairangi

The rising of the Matariki constellation in our eastern skies heralds a special moment in the Māori calendar. It is a time for reflection and preparation for the year ahead.

Yes, we are holding our inaugural 'drag yourself out of bed and get to school around 6 am' day this coming Thursday, 30 June.

It's time to try something different that relates so well to our special school's location! So, if you are able to come along and join in the Stargazing before it gets light, have some brekkie and catch up with other families, here's the opportunity.

Haratini, from the Wellington Astronomical Society, is coming along to chat about the stars, possibly twice between 6 am and 9 am. It will all be pretty fluid so if you wanted to go home and then come back, up to you. We will have some activities to keep you and/or your child/ren occupied after Haratini talks with us and before school starts - they won't be running wild!

Children will be participating in a range of Matariki activities during the morning. If you are thinking that they may be a bit on the tired side then feel free for a pick up at lunchtime. Just let the teacher know to mark them off.

You will have already received the pre order for breakfast either electronically or in paper form, or both by now.

If it's not possible for you to join in, don't worry- over and above an extra early start - it's a 'normal' school day.

Have a look at the Te Papa website:

<http://www.tepapa.govt.nz/Education/OnlineResources/Matariki/Pages/overview.aspx>

School Swimming Sports

Worser Bay School will be holding its Annual Swimming Sports at the Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre in Kilbirnie, on **Thursday 7th July**. The sports will be run in two sessions:

The first session, **10.00 to 11.00am** will be a fun event where **Tautoru-iti, Tautoru and Autahi** will combine forces for fun-filled water activities and races in the splash pool.

The second session, **1.00 to 2.00pm** will be broken into two parts. Part one, more of a competitive event where students can trial for Eastern Zones swimming sports. This event will be held in the 2 metre pool and is open to Year 3-6 students who can **comfortably swim 25 metres**. Children will be able to select the races that they enter, so please have a chat to your child as you will know their swimming capabilities better than we do.

If your child is in Year 3 and wishes to compete please fill out the attached permission slip. (**Year 3 students without permission will not be able to swim in the 2 metre pool**).

Part two of this event we will be fun relays and other swimming races. These will be held in the 1.2 metre pool for students in Māhutonga who do not feel comfortable in the 2 metre pool. Please contact your child's teacher if your child is not confident enough to swim in this pool.

If you are able to act as a parent helper and can assist with judging races or getting students changed (Tautoru-iti, Tautoru and Autahi), please let your child's teacher know. Your help would be much appreciated.

Reply Slip for Swimming Sports on Thursday 7th July

Please return by **Friday 1 July** at the very latest.

My child has permission to attend the Swimming Sports.

Child's Name:

- I have enclosed \$6.00 cash/cheque for bus, entry and pool hire.
- I have paid \$6.00 for bus, entry and pool hire by Internet Banking to the following account:
Worser Bay School, 03 0521 0138582 000.

Parent's Signature:

Eastern Zone Trials - Years 3 only

If your child wishes to trial for the Eastern Zones, he/she must have signed permission to confirm they can comfortably swim 25 metres in the 2 metre pool.

Parent's Signature:



A brand new, bright red hoodie, size 12, with MSP written in large blue letters on the back is still missing from Māhutonga. Please have another check in case you have taken it home in error!

Our Lost Property Box is bulging at the seams! We would like to see all these lost items returned to their original homes, so please come and check through these clothes as well! You may be surprised at what lost items turn up!

From the HOME AND SCHOOL

Thank you to everyone that made the meeting last night. We are so fortunate to have a very supportive parent body that enthusiastically get behind our children's journey through the school.

With that in mind, a call of help out to any early risers that are coming to the Matariki celebration next week. We could do with some help setting up and dishing out breakfast. Email me if you are able to volunteer. Which leads me to - have you put in your breakfast order? Please get it in so we can make sure everyone will be looked after.

Also, we are looking for volunteers to help with the Worser Bay School Art Celebration on Wednesday 13th July. We need people to help with the following - display art work at the hall; door entry; preparing food; selling food; selling drinks and cleaning up. Once again, please email me if you are able to help with any job, even for some of the time.

Eleni Moore
Chair of the Home and School
moore@vodafone.net.nz or 388 8137

Worser Bay School Art Exhibition is coming to a place near you! Please diary: Wednesday 13 July 5-7 pm, St Christopher's Hall, Forres Street, Seatoun.

Come on down between these times and be impressed by our children's art and a splash of musical talent (both adults and children!). You will also need to bring some pocket money as there will be nibbles, 'adult refreshments' and the like available for purchase and you will want to relax at the end of a long Wednesday in the last week of a long term!

SPORT

Netball Results

Unfortunately netball last Saturday was rained off, but fingers crossed for better weather tomorrow. The **Year 5/6** team vs Holy Cross at 12pm is on Court 4, and the **Year 4/5** team vs Newtown School Keas at 1pm on Court 1. Please be there half an hour before on the practice court for warm up. Good luck and hopefully the weather is kinder to us this Saturday.

Miniball Results

Thunderbirds:

Player of the Day for last week, 15 June was Leo W. – great improvement!

Player of the Day for this week, 22 June - Declan - improvement in ball skills!

'What we've been up to...' on the website.

Have a look at: <http://www.worserbay.school.nz/wb-what-we-have-been-up-to.html>

Jenny has been very busy updating our website with all Worser Bay School's recent activities! It looks great!

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Miramar Rangers Junior Soccer Club

is organising a 'First Kick's' Open Day this coming Saturday, 2nd July. All 4, 5 & 6 year olds are invited to come and try the beautiful game of football at Miramar Rangers, one of New Zealand's most successful football clubs:

9 -11am Saturday 25th June 2011

David Farrington Park

(cnr Weka St, Miramar North Rd and Darlington Rd)

Mini Games, Prizes, Sausage Sizzle, Hot & Cold Drinks

Rongotai College Parents' Association Quiz Night

Thursday 30 June 2011 at Rongotai College, Coutts Street, Kilbirnie.

Please help our Parents' Association raise funds for more "Computers on Wheels". Doors open 7.00 pm, Quiz starts 7.30 pm. Get a team together or come along and join a team. (Maximum of eight people in a team.) Light supper provided. BYO refreshments.

\$15 per person.

Call Suze Randal on 939 3050 for more information or email suze.randal@rongotai.school.nz.

Matariki Festival

Miramar Library, 3.15-4.30pm, Tuesday 5th July

Stories by senior students from Miramar Central, Strathmore, and TKKMM.

Clay sculpting workshop with Nicola Dench from the Clay Penguin.

Matariki quiz and activities.

Wellington Diving Club - Would you like to learn to dive ? Spring diving improves confidence, co-ordination, agility and its great fun !

We are running an introduction session on Thursday 7th July, 5.30-6.30pm, at Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre, Kilbirnie. Cost \$10.00 + pool entry. Numbers are limited, contact Juliet Mollan by email

wellingtondiving@gmail.com or phone 9732874.

YMCA Wellington runs holiday programmes from Mt

Cook School, St Marks Church hall and Churton Park School hall each day of the school holidays. Fun, exciting programmes for 5-15 year olds starting at \$41 per day, with weekly and family discounts available.

These holidays we're visiting Lindale farm, Swish Dish, and going fishing at the wharf. Centres open from 7:45am-5:30pm, and main activities are from 9-3pm.

Check out www.ymcawellington.org.nz, email Shelley on wellingtonoscar@ymca.org.nz, phone

568 3252 (opt 1), or txt 027 600 5496 for more info. OSCAR subsidies apply.

Wellington School of Cricket July Holiday

Programmes are a fun way to spend your holidays learning cricket skills! Enrolments are now open.

Contact Asoka or Ivan on 471 2157 or visit our website for more details and easy enrolments:

www.cricketwellington.co.nz

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