

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

Kau mau te wehi! (Grasp the Magic!)

Week 7 Term 1 - Friday 25 March 2011

Tēnā koutou e te whanau o te Whetukairangi

Kia ora koutou

In last week's plan you had a bit of a refresher session as to where we are heading, namely the Strategic Plan. Each year we develop goals to help guide us along the way. You would've seen that the second goal is 'an engaged community'. The second indicator under this being: *provide opportunities for the community to engage in multiple ways*. This is something dear to our heart and a real focus in 2011. People have different time pressures and responsibilities out there in the life that exists beyond 168 Seatoun Heights Road, so we are keen to keep coming up with new ways to involve you, whether it's around your child's learning, increasing our fundraising dollar to provide greater opportunities for your child's learning or improving the environment or... the list goes on!

So far this year:

- Teachers have called for a welcome back to school chat.
- Teachers have been available at the Open Afternoon/ Evening to discuss the programme, the inquiry process and sporting roles, and afterwards the Home and School AGM, and later the morning tea, and meeting last night.
- There was an opportunity for a catch up at the Family Sports Evening.
- Summerfest - now that was an occasion!
- The Community Directory came home - great for making connections, as is the Ukestars!
- The inaugural Sports Booklet came home - packed full of info.
- Fortnightly assemblies are a great way to keep up with the play and Karakia is always an opportunity for a mix and mingle - not forgetting jump jam! It's always great to see so many of you there.
- The website is being updated regularly and don't forget the daily notices on the front page.
- Our weekly school newsletters really are the key - a mine of information with plenty of student work and quality teacher input, so for those of you who can't make it in during the school day this is how to keep up with the play.
- The morning tea for parents keen to regularly support the classroom programme and a request for parents keen to share 'passions'.
- The literacy and numeracy parent sessions (for Tautoru and Autahi).

Phew! It's all go out there.....

Please remember, you can make an appointment to meet with the teachers throughout the year - don't sit at home and fret - you do need to come in and chat things through, you will feel a whole lot better, as well as the teachers .

We have another great opportunity to get together April 1st, at 9.15 am. If you are free, even for an hour, we would love you to be part of the garden redevelopment. Some of you will be at work but you may be able to lend an implement or two. Due to a lot of weekend commitments, we thought we would try something a little different and have a bit of a 'working bee' during the day, radical! This is also a great opportunity to involve students and have them contribute positively to their environment, plus they usually have a lot of energy!

We have some exciting plans for the new garden, the garden outside my office and the garden outside Tautoru. The plans will be in the foyer soon if you want to have a look. So throw your old clothes and gloves on and come along. Kick off will be straight after karakia.

We need:

- 4 wheelbarrows
- shovels and brooms
- You!

Please let Carolyn A or B know if you are able to come and or lend anything. Morning tea supplied!

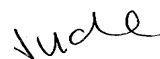
You will have another great opportunity to hear what the children have been up to and what's coming up next term, on **Thursday 14th April, 5.30 - 7.00 pm.**

You will get more detail before then but mark it on the calendar as we want as many children there as possible to celebrate their learning.

We are thinking, if we called it 'Family Fish 'n Chips Evening', and you brought it with you, you wouldn't need to worry about feeding the troops and could relax a bit more!

So - it's essential to always be reviewing the status quo and be aiming to increase engagement. If you have any bright ideas... share!!

No ora mai ra!



ACTION AT A GLANCE

- **Tautoru and Autahi Maths Workshops**
Tues 29th March 3.00 - 3.30 pm (see page 2)
- **Māhutonga Walk** - Thursday 31 March (see page 3)
- **Gardening** - 9.15 am Friday 1 April
- **Next assembly** 9.15 am Friday 8 April
- **ICAS entries due by Friday 8th April.**
- **Diary** the following: Thurs 14th April 5.30 - 7.00 pm (see above)
- **Miniball fees due: \$25 & Netball fees due: \$30**
- Please fill in and return the **yellow form from the Home and School** if you feel you can help in any way at all. Forms available from the school office.
- **Voluntary Contributions are due.**
Remember the discount period finishes on 15th April.
Thanks to all those who have already paid!

*An engaged
community!*



"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".

from TAUTORU and AUTAHI

What a fabulous example of an engaged community on Tuesday afternoon! Thank you to all those parents who came along to find out a bit more about how reading and writing is happening this year and all the offers of help to the programme.

To summarise some of the key points:

- Tautoru and Autahi students are grouped across the two spaces for reading and writing. This is based on their reading levels with students reading daily with either Scott or Rachel, and writing daily with Hamish.
- Guided reading lessons happen in Autahi with writing lessons happening in Tautoru.
- Reading and writing are constantly reinforced and linked across these spaces, while teachers also make it explicit what reading is and what writing is.
- Tautoru-iti students remain in their space for literacy and mathematics.
- Teachers are slowing down the learning experiences, encouraging students to take the time to observe, question and think more deeply about what they are learning.
- In writing this means that students are talking and sharing their ideas for writing, drafting and reworking pieces over a few days, rather than whipping out a piece in one day.
- The Reading and Spelling Rockets are helping students to gain independence and confidence in their reading and writing. They are practised and used daily at school and reinforcement at home would be appreciated. They can be kept in book bags and need to be brought to school on Monday ready for testing on Tuesday. Students will then receive a new list. Highlighted words are words that students got correct.

And a few appeals:

- Thank you to those parents who have offered to help with Reading and Spelling Rockets on Tuesday mornings. If you are able to help, please talk to Kath or Rachel.
- We would love to have a few more parents involved in our reading and writing programme from 9.15 – 11.00 am. This would involve reading with groups, playing word games and/or making things. If you are keen to get amongst it, please talk to Kath or Hamish.
- We are looking for ice-cream containers and small Pringles containers.

Maths Workshop!

Don't forget next Tuesday afternoon we'll be holding a Mathematics Workshop to talk about maths. If you'd like to find out about the numeracy stages - what they mean, and what you can do to support their number knowledge development, please come along. We'll meet in Tautoru to start at 3.05 pm. After this, games and activities will be out on tables for you to take a look at and explore with your child.

In assembly today we wanted to showcase some of the thoughtful work that is being produced in response to our reading, as well as demonstrate how we are linking our reading and writing together. Take a look:



In Tautoru we have made curiosity boxes to put in all our wonderings about things we see. Take a look at some of the things we put in them this week.



"In reading and writing we have been learning about how to use labels. My robot has the labels eyes, head, printer, arms, and shoes."

"I wonder where dust comes from?" said one of our Tautoru-iti children.

Another said it came from under the bed and on top of old things like a box.

A note from MĀHUTONGA and MATARIKI

Camp was, of course, the big one. We had an absolutely brilliant time! It's fantastic to see kids operating outside of their comfort zones, extending themselves and achieving things they wouldn't have believed possible. Wonderful! I can report that most of us got the necessary ration of sleep too. This is a real indicator of how much energy went into the day's programme; everybody was drained! Read on for the students' stories about camp.

This week our students have been the curators of their collections. We have rarely seen the degree of enthusiasm for learning which was on display yesterday as kids shared their collections with others. It is so exciting to see students enthused, interacting with each other, questioning and explaining. Collections included old to new photographic equipment, shells, toys, Lego, golf equipment, hats, football shirts - extraordinary! We are continuing to seek the extraordinary within the ordinary, looking really closely, reflecting on our world and the theme of change.

We have started to examine Marylyn's collection of photos of Worser Bay. We are asking that students be information detectives so they will be looking for visual cues in the photos which will help them decide how old they are. We are exploring the changes that have taken place and the factors which have caused these changes to occur.



We will be exploring the area on foot next Thursday, walking across the ridgeline to the other Pa sites and viewing significant landmarks from the hilltops. There are many stories which relate to the area which will give our students an appreciation of some of the changes which have taken place in the area. If you know any of these stories or have contact with somebody who does, please let one of us know. We would love to have your involvement in this field trip. We will send further information early next week.

Anna Meuli was in class for the morning yesterday. She is leading the staff in some professional development around lifting the learning ceiling and challenging our students to think. She was really impressed by the level of thinking and engagement of our students. We will be talking to her about ways in which we can continue to keep the learning fresh, interesting and challenging.

During next week your children will be asking your questions about the local area and building up their knowledge. We are looking for significant stories!

We are hoping to catch as many of you as possible next week.

Kayaking

Brynn is standing up in his kayak, singing at the top of his lungs, floating on the duck poo filled lake. "Y.M.C.A, It's fun to stay at the Y.M.C.A".

He picks up his paddle and starts to paddle around. Then he calls to me to jump out.

I say "No" and then, "I will if you will."

He yells back at me as he jumps into the water, his legs sink into the mud, horse poo or duck poo. He yells out. "Yuck, this is horrible!"

He starts bobbing around, floating away from his kayak. "Help" he calls out. I start cracking up.

I go over to help him: when he's back in he tells me to jump in. I stand up and start to wobble. The water is making waves. I drop my paddle and jump!!!!

I land in the freezing cold water.

by Barney

Marshmallows!

Have you ever seen someone catch on fire? Well, that didn't happen... at least not now it did.

It was a fine sunny day with gleaming gaps of light shimmering through the leaves from up above. Rings of flame and ash surround the daddy camp fire as if guarding it. They looked like little mounds of dirt just sitting there innocently waiting as if nothing was going to happen. We all started to collect sticks and gorse for the hungry little fires.

When all the fires were fed and lit, everyone got given a pink yummy marshmallow. But suddenly Millie's attention was drawn to Katie across the fireplace who was wrapped in flames. While Millie was distracted, her marshmallow burst into flame, it looked like a flaming torch. To her horror it slid down into the deadly flames!!!!

by Coco

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

Our Principal's Awards for this week are for:

- * Being curious, speaking up.

Tautoru - Emma R and Charlie T

Autahi - Embla and Isabelle

Māhutonga - Coco, Taine, Katie and James

The focus for next week will be:

- * Being curious and not giving up.

SPORTS AWARDS

No sports award this week - no games last week.

Entertainment Books! We will be sending an Entertainment Book home with your oldest Worsler Bay School child on Monday, 4th April, for you to look over. You can let us know if you don't want one sent home.

Orders, or unwanted books, can be returned to the office in one of the boxes on the counter. The Entertainment Book is a great way to support the school while grabbing excellent deals for yourself and the family!

From the HOME AND SCHOOL

Thanks, everyone, for your great support and willingness to help.

We have had some fantastic new ideas coming in and a good response to the yellow volunteer forms, but please keep them coming in.

Also, can I just reiterate that the forms are just a guide and starting point for us. We are aware that circumstances can change by the time we get to you, so if you think you might be interested or could help, don't hesitate to fill it in!

Thank you to all that could make it to the meeting last night. For all those who didn't, a new mum whose child isn't even at school yet came along - so the bar has been raised!! We are keen to get everyone involved!

Things to remember this week:
YELLOW FORMS, ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS,
OR \$12 Donation

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

COMMUNITY NOTICES**Found at Worsler Bay Beach**

A pair of children's trainers and a Big Dig Prize. Found on Sunday 20th March after the Big Dig. If you know who these belong to, please contact Carolyn on 388 8952.

Jean Blackmore Gallery and Studio is hosting their first anniversary show on Saturday 26 March 2011 from 2 pm at their Studio, 100 Massey Road, Shelly Bay. Please come along and show your support of local artists - Jane Blackmore (who kindly donated a piece of her art work for Summerfest 2011), Anne-Marie Jean and Karen Giles. It will be a great afternoon!

Cashmere Avenue School (Khandallah) Fair and Jumble, Sunday 27th March from 11 am to 3pm, rain or shine. Fun and games for the whole family, quality jumble, kids' clothes, toys and lots of delicious food!

St Francis de Sales School Fair, Sun 27 March 11am - 2pm (Mersey St, Island Bay). Come along and enjoy the flavours, fun and fantastic bargains.

On **Sunday, 27 March, 1 pm at Museum of New Zealand, Te Papa Tongarewa**, the World of Wearable Art along with Wellington City Council and Te Papa are giving Wellington's kids the opportunity to help collect donations toward the Christchurch Earthquake appeal. Many kids around the country want to help out and this is a small way towards that. A selection of garments will be modelled by children, these pieces will be donated by previous Wellington designers. Along side this, kids from World of Wearable Art will perform, and some exciting guest artists will also be contributing to the event.

The Carter Observatory is celebrating a birthday this Sunday and there is free entry for children. There will be lots of fun activities too.

Wellington High Performance Aquatics

Springboard and Platform Diving - 3 day school holiday camp 19 – 21 April. See: www.whpa.co.nz

If your son or daughter would like to have some **extra Tennis or Football tuition and fun over the 2nd week of the April holidays**, then we may be able to help. We have Matt Calcott - from Miramar Rangers and Reilly Smith from Smith Tennis - back for another entertaining tennis and football holiday programme. Registrations are now live online at: www.scotscollege.school.nz/academies/holiday-programmes

Holiday camp this April - Head to YMCA Camp Kaitoke for traditional Y-Camp, Horse Camp, or Art Funk! This time, all camps are 5 days, 4 nights, running from 17-21 April. Y-Camp is \$255, Art Funk \$295, and Horse Camp \$320. All camps are supported by the Ministry of Social Development, and OSCAR subsidies apply. Enrolment forms and more information can be found online at www.ymcawellington.org.nz, or you can phone us on 04 526 7338, or txt on 027 600 5496.

Explore Wellington with our fabulous day programmes! Each day of the school holidays, YMCA Wellington runs programmes for 5-15 year olds. Check out some weird science stuff, try out paintball, and explore the zoo. For more information or enrolment forms, head to www.ymcawellington.org.nz or phone us on 027 600 5496.

Also have a look in the Worsler Bay School foyer as we have several brochures there regarding school holiday programmes.

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