



Worser Bay School

NEWS

Friday 31 July 2009

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



Remember this bunch at 5 years old? Look at them now!

This week many of our Y6s spent some time at Evans Bay Intermediate (EBIS) as part of their initial orientation experience. We are very proud of them as the feedback we received about their behaviour and attitude was excellent. We are currently talking with our Y6s about what they would like to achieve in their final two terms at primary school, what they would like to be remembered by and how they can contribute positively to the school and all of those here in the remainder of 2009. It's not easy thinking about what this could look like beyond the tangibles! It would be great if you could support your child to think further about how they may positively 'leave their mark' at WBS.

Welcome to Lewis and his family who joined us at the end of last term, and to Chanel who has just joined the New Entrants. Chanel has family here already. We look forward to helping guide your development and learning.

Congratulations to our great kids and teachers this week. Staff illnesses combined with professional development has meant lots of new faces teaching in the classrooms. School life has gone on as usual ... our children have shown great resilience and flexibility. Tēnā rāwā atu koe! Great stuff!

ACTION AT A GLANCE

- **Diary Student-Led Conferences**
Week of 17th August - see 'Online Booking' on page 2 for instructions - bookings are now open.
- Visit our **New Worser Bay School Website**
Our new website is live! It is at the same address as the old one: www.worserbay.school.nz. Go in and check it out on a regular basis.
- Access our **Library Catalogue** - see page 3.
- **Voluntary Contribution & Photocopying/Classroom Expenses**
Statements re outstanding payments were sent home just before the holidays - please pay as soon as possible.

Tēnā koutou te whanau o te Whetukairangi

Kia ora koutou
By now you will know we have our new school website up and running. We have already had some lovely positive feedback about it from parents which is much appreciated. We very much view this site as a work in progress. It will be added to, deleted from and tweaked and twiddled as we go. Our aim is to provide you with current information quickly. You will see that there is a daily notice component. Many parents cannot make it into school on a regular basis so this is here for you to link into from work or home and act as a memory jog. The Google calendar is another feature we hope you will enjoy and you may wish to link it with your personal Google calendar. Watch this space!

As well as providing information and celebrating learning at school the website will become an effective tool to help extend learning into the home, once again aiming to strengthen the home-school partnership. Our students spend 30% of their 'awake time' at school and 60% of their 'awake time' at home, therefore the stronger the link, the better it is for the child's learning and achievement. If you hook into the library research portal you will find some great information and links to support home learning.

This fresh and sparkling new website would not be here yet if it wasn't for the commitment and patience of a small group of parent volunteers.

Please pop into the website regularly, check the daily notices, check the calendar and remember that the website and the community directory combined provide a wealth of information and serve as the first port of call.

Watch this space for further developments!

Noho mai rā

Jude

WORD FROM THE BOARD

These are exciting times to be involved in education, whether you are a parent, a student, or a teacher. There are now piles of research showing what strategies make a difference to the academic achievement of our children and what is just "noise". John Hattie's work "Visible Learning" is a collation of 50,000 studies of strategies used for increasing academic achievement. It is acclaimed as a "Holy Grail" of educational study, and is one of the sources of information we use to help us decide where to prioritise our resources. In last week's newsletter, Jude mentioned the Metro magazine article on "The best schools in Auckland". This highlights the principles of John Hattie's research and is a thoroughly good read. On a related topic, Simon Upton's opinion piece in Tuesday 28th July's Dominion Post "Sound principles depend on sound principals" is a worthy read also. You can find it on the website: www.stuff.co.nz/opinion/.

Enjoy your weekend, and take an opportunity, if you can, to browse the school's fantastic new website, and the library research links. There are some great resources there for kids and parents alike.

Katherine Butterfield
Board Chair

STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES 17-20 AUGUST

From the 17- 20 August you will be invited to attend your child's Student Led Conference. At this time your child will share their learning and progress with you, prompted by their teacher. The more confident the child becomes with this process, the less the teacher will need to prompt, and in time the conference becomes totally student-led.

The focus is on learning progress and achievement. At the first conference of the year your child and their teacher shared some 'hard data' with you. There will be further hard/ quantitative data in the end of the year summary. This time the focus is on the qualitative data, the on-going evidence of progress in student books and portfolios.

As this is a time for your child to share their learning we need to keep it separate from any behavioural or social concerns you may have. Please make an alternative time before the SLC with the teacher to share any worries.

Your child will have a range of work ready to share with you. They will talk about what they have been learning and what their next steps will be.

A written summary of the discussion will come home before the end of the term.

So what do you need to do?

- Beforehand - Book a time online.
- During - prompt your child with open questions such as:
"What are you learning?"
"Can you tell me more about that?"
"That's interesting, why did you choose to talk about that?"
"How will you know you have improved?"
- Provide encouragement, enjoy the experience, stick to your timeframe and please remember to tell your child how proud you are of them.

We are using a new online booking system – the instructions are as follows:

- Go to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/home.
- Enter the Worsler Bay School code U4M35 and press "Go".

The Booking Line is now open—it is an extremely user-friendly system!

We are lucky to have almost 100% turn out to these conferences. Please support your child and book your time now!

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

The Principal's Awards this week focus on 'being co-operative in all areas' and 'taking risks by sharing'.

Tautoru

'Being co-operative in all areas' -
Faith
'Taking risks by sharing' -
Natalie, Tamrah and Pieta

Autahi

'Being co-operative in all areas' -
Paige
'Taking risks by sharing'
James W. and Emily

Māhutonga

'Being co-operative in all areas' -
Emma
'Taking risks by sharing'
Caleb

The Principal's Awards for next week will be awarded for 'positively negotiating with and influencing others' and 'Excellence in PE and Health'.

Māori Language Week

This week has been Māori Language Week. Māori Language Week has been celebrated for over 30 years. The Māori Language Week theme for 2009 is "Te Reo i te Hapori - Maori Language in the Community."

Since 1975 Maori Language Week has been an opportunity for us to learn, speak and use Te Reo Maori. Why not try and use some of these greetings:

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| Tēnā koe | Hello (to one person) |
| Tēnā korua | Hello (to two people) |
| Tēnā koutou | Hello (to three or more people) |
| Kei te pēhea koe? | How are you? |

Responses:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Kei te pai ahau | I'm good |
| Ka nui te ora | I'm great |
| Me koe? | And you? |

Check out more phrases at

www.koreromaori.co.nz.

You will also find more ideas about how you can celebrate Māori Language Week.



Tautoru make music...

from AUTAHI

A reminder:

The purpose of our homework is for the children to be practising what they are learning during class over a fortnight. It is not meant to be a struggle. If you are having problems with the homework please come and see us. We understand that everyone leads busy lives - spelling, reading and practising basic facts take priority over the other homework grid tasks.

Please make sure your child is reading daily and learning spelling words that are included as part of the fortnightly homework. Reading can include reading library books, school readers, being read to or reading independently.

Your child needs to keep their homework book at home for the duration of the homework fortnight so that spelling words can still be learnt and other daily tasks can be completed.

The next homework sheet will be given out on the 3 August so if your child does not bring one home please send them back to get one.

We are learning to write a personal recount that is descriptive and interesting to read. The children have been focussing on different ways to hook the reader in and maintain suspense in their stories. We are focusing on choosing one moment in time out of a day or event and describing how it happened in different ways. You may like to talk with your child about their writing.

TAUTORU News

"In Maths we have been learning to do our timetables like $3 \times 2 = 6$. We've been learning that the x in the middle means groups or sets of. So for 3×2 there will be 3 groups of 2s." *by Joe*

"In Music with Nicole we have been working in small groups playing different beats on different instruments and taking turns to play. We have also been learning a new song." *by Bella and Evie*

"In Library Skills we are looking at different fabrics and what they are made out of. We have found that some fabrics are made out of plants!" *by Ella*

"In Circle Time we have been sharing problems and ways to solve the problems. We have been talking with Ratty and Possie." *by Anneke*

"How do we connect?"

During the last few weeks Tautoru students have been telling you about our cooperative afternoon activities. Students and teachers have been exploring the question *What makes an effective cooperative group?* So the discussion has been around...

- What are my roles and my responsibilities in different groups?
- How do I interact in different groups?
- How do I connect with others?

For Health, our Circle Time sessions are encouraging discussion and deeper thinking about the question *How do I relate to others in class and in the playground?*

Student Led Conferences in Week 5 will give each student the opportunity to share their answers to the above and much more about their individual learning goals in literacy and numeracy. Check out the online booking form to book your time – ensure you book in with your child's reading and writing teacher. Talk to us if you are not sure.

Maria, Rachel, Fleur

From the HOME AND SCHOOL

Term 3 is shaping up to be a busy term for everyone involved with Worsler Bay School! Watch out for some fantastic events organized by our committee with:

Parents' Morning Tea Wednesday 12th August 9am in the staffroom

This is aimed at welcoming new families to the school but is also an ideal opportunity for existing parents to meet and catch-up. Tots are welcome so come along for a cuppa and some great baking!

Dust off the dancing shoes it's time for the School Disco!

Yes, we promised the children we would do another disco in Term 3 and it is that time already! Our date is about to be confirmed with the Salvation Army for the use of the Hall, as soon as we can we will announce all the details.

"UP!" Movie Afternoon

Join us on Sunday 13th September, 2.30 pm at the Reading Cinema, all tickets \$15. Please read and return the flyer that will come home with your child.

Thank you in advance to all of our volunteers who help with these events, if you have indicated on the yellow calendar that you are willing to help you will be contacted soon.

Beth Simpson

bruce.simpson@xtra.co.nz

Nicola Lancaster

nic.lancaster@clear.net.nz

A Note from MĀHUTONGA

It's been a busy week in Māhutonga, we have enjoyed the rainless days and taken the opportunity to get out of the class room and enjoy the space. We have been looking at Fairy Tales in Literacy focusing on the stereotypes that feature in them - the heroic prince, evil witch and wicked stepmother. We have been introduced to our Independent Fairy Tale Grid involving tasks to improve our vocabulary, character identification, stereotyping and writing structure.

Peace Out Māhutonga!

You can access the **library catalogue** through the **library portal**. From here you can find out what is in the school library, see books that have been recently added to the collection, check what books your child has on loan (and renew these books if you wish), reserve books for your child, and send messages to our library staff. You will probably find the catalogue very intuitive and easy to use, but if you wish to see the Access-It User Guide, you can download this from the link on the front page of the catalogue. If you have any queries, please contact Christine Cross at library@worslerbay.school.nz.

DIARY

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|-----------|---|-----------|-----------|
| 3 Aug Miniball Years 5 & 6 | 4 | 5 Eastern Zones Soccer (Postponement Date 12/7) Miniball Years 3 & 4 | 6 | 7 |
| 10 Miniball Years 5 & 6 | 11 | 12 Miniball Years 3 & 4 | 13 | 14 |
| Artsplash! - Michael Fowler Centre (all week) | | | | |
| 17 Miniball Years 5 & 6 | 18 | 19 Miniball Years 3 & 4 | 20 | 21 |
| Student Led Conferences (Monday - Thursday) | | | | |

* Just a reminder that school will be closed on Friday, 23 October - the Friday before Labour Weekend.

SPORT

Miniball

Spurs - lost 22-8 Player of the day: William W
 Celtics - won 25-19 player of the day: Sam EB
 Lakers won 10-2 against Holy Cross.
 Trailblazers lost.

Netball

Worser Bay won against Seatoun Seagulls 6 - 5. Go girls!!

School Banking

We are looking for "on call" banking help on a Tuesday morning from 8.30 - 9.15 am for times when our current parent banker may be called on to go off to work.

School Foyer

We have a lovely display of some of our students' art work in the office foyer. Come and have a look!

School Lunches

Just a reminder not to send your child to school with a lunch that needs to be heated up, or prepared by the staff in any way.

Lost Property

The lost property is being taken to a charity next Friday (7th August). Come and check it out NOW!

WORSER BAY SCHOOL

168 Seatoun Heights Rd, Miramar, Wellington 6022
 Telephone: (04) 939 7281, Facsimile: (04) 939 2497
 Email: sitemail@worserbay.school.nz
 Website: www.worserbay.school.nz



COMMUNITY NOTICES

Saturday August 1:

Phoenix giveaways with ZM

We will be going around a few parks on Saturday morning giving away Phoenix supporters gear and a whole lot of other stuff. We are going to be at the following grounds:

9.45-10.15am Wakefield Park, Island Bay
 10.45-11.15am Karori Park, Karori
 11.45-12.15pm Fraser Park, Avalon.

Obviously this is weather dependent. If junior football is cancelled, we will head to some shopping areas, and other public places. Best idea is to listen to ZM in the morning from 9am to find out where we are going to be.

Sunday August 2:

Phoenix Family Day at the Stadium

Our annual behind the scenes look at Westpac Stadium is this Sunday from 12-2pm. See the player's changing room, the media area, plus get involved in heaps of activities. All the Phoenix players and coaches will be there - meet new signings Chris Greenacre and Paul Ifill - get autographs and giveaways.

More details here: <http://www.wellingtonphoenix.com/default.aspx?s=newsdisplay&id=28401>

Lotto promotion

And don't forget the Lotto promotion - two weeks to go before the first home game of the season, and the chance to earn some really good gear!

<http://www.wellingtonphoenix.com/default.aspx?s=newsdisplay&id=27538>

OPEN EVENING, HOLY CROSS SCHOOL

Monday 10th August - 6.30 pm

For any Year 6 students and their parents/caregivers, commencing with hot soup and bread rolls, and a welcome from the Principal, Celeste Hastings.

This will be followed by an outline of weekly timetable/programme in Senior School, powerpoint presentation of several events so far this year, speeches from the School Councillor and House Captain and a tour of the school.

Holiday programme available

Location: Holy Cross School, Miramar.
 Dates: 28th September - 9th October 2009
 Enrolments: 30 places available per day
 Fees: \$20/day per child for an 'on-site' day and \$25/day per child for an 'outing' day.
 For enrolment forms and enquiries contact the Programme Supervisor: Sally Rollo - 021 037 6317 or email: holycrossoscar@gmail.com
 or in person at the After School Care Programme.