

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 3, Week 1, Friday 5 August 2011



*Our Art Exhibition in the last week of Term 2 was a resounding success - despite a very cold, crisp evening, we had an amazing turnout! (See more photos on our website.)*

## **Come and find out more about what's up at school, why and how we can work together to support the children's learning on Thursday 18 August.**

We are having 3 recurring sessions so that you can select which suits and if you have a child in each area of the school you may like to come to numbers 1 and 2 or 2 and 3 and you won't be rushed or miss out. We would also like to have the children present as there are opportunities for them to take a bit of a lead in demonstrating what's happening too.

1. 3.30-4.15; 2. 4.30-5.15; 3. 5.30-6.15

*(Please note the format has changed slightly since this was first published last term.)*

**Tautoru-iti, Tautoru and Autahi:** Come along and learn more about the thinking tools and strategies that we are learning about. Students will be showing and leading parents through thinking activities, showing how they work and what we have been using them for in class. We will be sharing how these thinking tools help us in our inquiry and foster deeper thinking about what we are learning.

**Māhutonga and Matariki:** What will the session include? We will revisit the Inquiry Process using our recent Inquiry 'Our Place - The Miramar Peninsula'. A slide show will demonstrate the questions students have asked, the plans we have followed and show examples of student's work. You will see the 'learning story'. We will discuss how you can help at home, giving particular attention to the research work as the students will need to revisit this research process often in order to build their skill base. We have seen great movement already over two terms, it's exciting and we look forward to talking more on the 18th.

## **Tēnā koutou e te whanau o te Whetukairangi**

Kia ora koutou

Sun, snow, wind, calm... you name it, the elements were all out on show for us in the break. School life can sometimes be likened to the weather! You need a bit of everything to know you are learning and moving!

Contemplating what we have accomplished in the last two terms, I have a smile from ear to ear. We wanted and needed 2011 to take a step up, bring some challenge and something new and different and we are getting there. It's certainly about holding high expectations and with support from school and home the children really are capable of achieving great things. There is just so much information out there available to the children these days, it's coming right at you! So, being able to start school at 5 and develop good questions, sift fact from fiction... moving through to leaving primary school with advanced analytical skills, having the ability to think creatively and critically, is where we are heading and, like good things, it will take some time but we will get there!

Gone are the days of the 'project' as some of you may know and remember them. I can think back to my 'Standard 4 Project'. Now this particular masterpiece was on the 'Mississippi River'. Why? Because I could spell it, I liked how it sounded, it was in America and I found a project pack in a book store that I could physically cut and paste, change a few words with the help of the trusty thesaurus, colour beautifully and score an A+. Think? Forget it!

Come along on Thursday 18 August to our Parent Workshops! Get involved, try things out, have a go and find out more about what is happening at school and how you can support at home.

Alone we can't, but together we can!

No ora mai ra!

Jude

## **ACTION AT A GLANCE**

- **Twitter** - now part of WBS's Emergency Plan (page 5)
- **Eastern Zones Football Tournament**  
Wednesday 10th August (17th postponement date)  
Miramar Park, 10.00 am - 2.00 pm
- **Parent Workshops - It's a date! Thursday 18 August**
- **PLEASE READ YOUR NEWSLETTER - it's full of all the IMPORTANT STUFF!!**

**"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**

**What is creativity?**

*'Creativity is not just about the arts, or a particular type of person. We all have the capacity for creative thinking – for generating and extending ideas, applying imagination and looking for alternative innovative outcomes in any activity. Creativity means generating outcomes that are original and of value. Originality may be in relation to one's previous experience, to a group or it may be uniquely original. Creative thinking is also about judgement – our ability to judge the value of ideas and outputs.'*

We are focused on developing our creative and critical thinking this term. We dived into our big inquiry on different homes this week as well as a mini inquiry on different games people play and how we use the markings in the school grounds. We are also learning lots of new thinking tools.

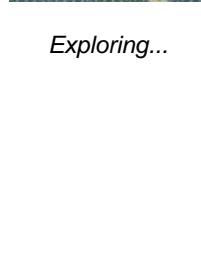
The story of the three little pigs has been the perfect motivator to tune us into thinking about the different materials that can be used to build houses. Over this week and next, we will be exploring these materials ourselves and reflecting on how effective they are.

As well as this we took the opportunity of a surprise discovery Jude found in a box while doing some spring cleaning these holidays to practise the thinking tool of brainstorming and categorising. Jude discovered a ponytail of hair from her younger years that had been carefully kept in a box by her mother. The question was what on earth could she do with it now?

Some very original and unique ideas surfaced during our discussions:



Building a house of sticks...



Exploring...



*Creative thinking is not a talent, it is a skill that can be learnt. It empowers people by adding strength to their natural abilities which improves teamwork, productivity and where appropriate profits.*



What could be inside that box?



Look how blonde Jude used to be!

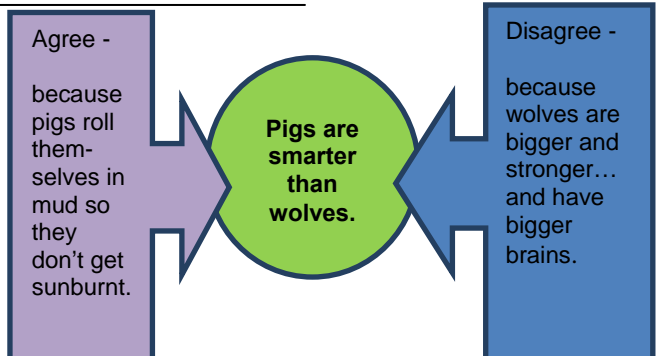


Clip it on like a hair extension...  
Make it into a necklace...  
Make it into a worry doll...



We have also been practising explaining our thinking to others; giving reasons for statements we make.

We used an agree/disagree continuum to practise our thinking skills. We had to say whether we agreed or disagreed with statements like the example below.



## A note from MĀHUTONGA and MATARIKI

Welcome back everybody. We hope that everybody had a great holiday and is raring to go again. We have been talking to the students about our areas of focus for the term and seem to keep coming back to the themes of energy and positivity as we discuss the wider goals. It is clear that the people who get the most out of the programme are those who can commit themselves to it. Last term's research work was a great example of this with many of the students producing great work which they had invested in personally. These kids really enjoyed creating something unique. The Inquiry itself was a wonderful success and a really rich learning experience. We are looking forward to sharing this learning story with you at the upcoming curriculum afternoon. Also, come and check out the whare if you haven't already done so. It is nearing completion but we are still in need of some more materials. We are going to line the walls with bunches of bamboo and toi toi, so if you have either of these plants in abundance, please bring some in. We need quite a lot if we are to make the house water-proof. There are some nikau palm fronds on the roof but again we could do with more if you have any or know of any - we would be most appreciative. Already the whare is being used as a play space during lunch-times, an interesting addition to the playground.

The afore-mentioned foci are self-management, creativity/ thinking flexibly and being active. We are over half way through the year and some kids still are having trouble finding the daily resources needed to learn. Please check with your child whether they need more pencils or new books. We want everybody to be ready for the day when the 8:55 am bell goes.

For Inquiry this term we are asking the question: Why do people write? We are hoping to explore the power and uses of the written word as well as looking at other cultural points of view. We have Jen teaching some Korean and Ann Luke, a Masters student of Asian Studies, will be teaching Mandarin every Wednesday afternoon. During this Inquiry we will be writing character pieces; you might find your child paying particular attention to your movements, observing you in a manner which you are not accustomed to. They are gathering information for their writing, so please act naturally. Later in the term we will move in to more poetic writing forms and this will feed into some song writing. Our main Inquiry for the term will be on the theme of music. We will be exploring this from a scientific perspective but there will also be great opportunities for the kids to get creative; make their own music and write their own songs.

We would like to extend a big welcome to Tom who is with us just for one month and to Kate who has returned to Worsler Bay from Oakura. It's great to have you both with us this term!



### My fact about writing is:

*Chinese writing is written from the top of the page to the bottom. Anneke*

*If we didn't have writing, there would be about 1000 things that we wouldn't have and we probably would still be at the stone age. Johannes*

*People write in different ways and languages. Ruby C*

*The written word is part of everyday life. Ruby B*

*Writing is a great way to record and pass on the history over the centuries. In this way we can learn from the past. Taine*

*A kid invented Braille. Tom*

*It is generally agreed that true writing of a language was invented indendently in at least two places: Mesopotamia (specifically ancient Sumer) 3000BC and Mesoamerica, 600 BC. Oliver*

*The first book was written in Chinese. Brynn*

*Most people write to pass stories on or write about their past like a diary or journal. Fiction books usually connect with what the author likes, or a place they have been to. Alexandra*

*There are more than 2,700 languages in the world. In addition, there are more than 7,000 dialects. (A dialect is a regional variety of a language that has a different pronunciation, vocabulary, or meaning.) Ella*



## PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

Our Principal's Awards for this week are for:

- \* Having the confidence to just be yourself.

Betty Jo, Emma R., Freya, Greta, Ruby, Tiana, Isaac, Jack K., Jack S., Khailin, Seb.

Next week's focus is:

- \* Developing ideas.

## Board Shorts

We hope you have all had a restful break and have returned refreshed and raring to go for the third term.

Life has a way of providing unexpected challenges from time-to-time, and our thoughts are with Jane and her family. Jane, we wish you all the very best for a speedy recovery and know you'll be missing your colleagues and the students as much as they're missing you.

A very warm Worser Bay welcome to Shelley Wilkinson who has started with us this week in the Tautoru-Autahi space, and to Jen Kim who has made herself available at short notice to teach in the Mahutonga-Matariki space. We're delighted to have two such energetic and professional additions to our highly effective teaching team.

And we have official confirmation that we do, indeed, have a highly effective teaching team! In fact, we have official confirmation about the many positive things about our school. The Education Review Office (ERO) came to see us last term to conduct its three-yearly review. ERO has now posted its report on its website - <http://www.ero.govt.nz/Early-Childhood-School-Reports/School-Reports/Worser-Bay-School-27-06-2011>. Take a look at the report - just click on the download button. It's not a long read but is jam-packed with plenty of well considered and positive views about the quality of the environment and learning experience that is provided at our very special school.

Particular congratulations to Jude and the team. Your unstinting efforts over the last few years have created a truly special environment. Thanks also to the many of you that are actively involved in supporting the school in its efforts. A successful school requires the right mix of ingredients of pupils, teachers and support team, place, and community – and we seem to be doing pretty well in getting that mix right. We should all be very pleased, and proud, of the report.

Oh, and a reminder to mark your diary for Thursday 18th August for the parent workshops. We look forward to seeing you there.

## The Board

## SPORT

### Netball

Netball Year 4/5 - It was a windy day, but that did not stop the enthusiasm of the year 4/5 netball team, when they last played netball on 16 July 2011. They all played a great game of netball. Congratulations to Alexandra, for being Player of the Day, for fantastic running and getting free.

For this Saturday, 6th August, both the Year 5 and Year 6 netball teams have a BYE.

A reminder that Fun Ferns will be starting again on a Friday at morning tea-time, and will cost \$10.

**Welcome** to Catherine (Kitty), who started this week, whose family is already here at Worser Bay School and welcome back to Kate and Holly whose family has returned to the area. Welcome also to Tom and Josh, from the UK, who are with us over the next few weeks.

We look forward to guiding your development and learning.

## Staff news

### We are really delighted to have appointed Shelley Wilkinson to the 0-3 team!

A message from Shelley:

"Hello to the families of Worser Bay School!

I am excited about all the exploration and learning this term, it will be a fun and full on time, where there will hopefully be a lot of laughter, conversation and lightbulb moments!

To share a little bit about myself, I recently came home from overseas, where I have been living for the past 3 years, travelling and teaching all over the world. I even did a bit of sheep shearing by hand in the Orkney Islands! I love to be creative; painting and using various other media is one of my biggest hobbies, and I also like to bake delicious creations.

I am really looking forward to meeting you all and working alongside you. Please feel free to pop in and say hello!"

**We are sorry that Jane Bell won't be working with us right now...** Sadly Jane is requiring surgery and plenty of rest and recuperation time. We send her and her family oodles of love and support and look forward to having her back in and around Our Place.

### Jen Kim has been appointed to the 4-6 team. We are thrilled to have her in a full time capacity!

A message from Jen:

"Anyong! Kia Ora to all children and parents/caregivers of Worser Bay School.

My name is Jennifer Kim. I come from Toronto, Ontario, Canada. I obtained my B.F.A. in Performing Arts. I have travelled extensively around the U.K. and Asia and taught English to Korean children. I arrived in New Zealand a year and a half ago and live here with my partner, Jordan, on Cuba Street. We enjoy biking around this amazing city and exploring the surrounding areas with friends.

I am excited about meeting each one of you and hope that we can be better acquainted in the near future."



## From the HOME AND SCHOOL

Welcome Morning Tea, Wednesday 10th August after school drop off at 9.00 a.m. Everybody very welcome!!

Next Home and School Meeting will be on Thursday 11th August, at 7:30pm in the staffroom.

Thanks to the staff for their hard work last term which accumulated into such a successful night last term for the Art Exhibition evening. I have had so many comments on what a wonderful night it was and of the high quality of art work that we all wanted to take home.

### It's official! Book the Date Now!

Sunday 6th November 2011 - 11am to 2pm

For the next amazing Worser Bay School Fair

Would you like to know more?

Come along to the next Fair Meeting Tuesday 16th August 2011 at 7.30pm in the staffroom

### Wanted!

A handy person to look at the Rapid Raffle wheel and rebalance/service.

If you can help please contact Nicola

380 9339 / 021 079 0578 email [nic.lancaster@clear.net.nz](mailto:nic.lancaster@clear.net.nz)

Worser Bay School has secured a spot at Hill Street Market's Kids' Market as part of Wellington on a Plate events on Saturday 20th August. We'd love to rustle up some help for this fantastic fundraising opportunity. This market is food related and we are therefore going with a 'sweet treats' theme. It would be great to involve the children as far as possible, so if you or your children can help out with any of the following activities, please contact Steph Calder ([stephanie.calder@ihug.co.nz](mailto:stephanie.calder@ihug.co.nz), 388 7379, 021 237 5313):

Making treats to sell (toffee / caramel apples, coconut ice, peppermint creams, caramel popcorn, spiced nuts, home-made lemonade)

Donation of a large bag of sweets for packaging into smaller bags (\$8 - \$14 from Moore Wilson's)

Help packing sweets into cellophane bags

Making kiddies' aprons to sell (we have a template and material, we just need some skilled sewers to pull them together!) – Contact Olive Mulcahy

([oliveandgirls@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:oliveandgirls@yahoo.co.nz), 380 7020)

Children to help sell on the day (market runs from 8.30am – 12pm)

Help taking our offerings up to the market first thing on Saturday 20th

Any other assistance or suggestions gratefully received!

What a fantastic week! The sun was out and the kids went back without any tears and were back into the swing of it all as if arriving home again.

Eleni Moore

Chair of the Home and School

[moore@vodafone.net.nz](mailto:moore@vodafone.net.nz) or 388 8137

Wanted: **Clean**, 4 litre paint cans with handles, for a fair project. All will be revealed! Please leave in the school of-

### Sushi Lunches

Don't forget to order your Sushi Lunch for a Friday by 9.00 am on Thursday. Details available on our website. Just put your Child's Name, area and order on an envelope with the correct money and pop into the box in the office. It's a good healthy lunch option!

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### Foxy at the Roxy

**Fashion Show - Pre-loved clothing meets the latest from Starfish, Ashley Fogel and Mandatory.**

Catering by Coco.

Thursday 11th August \$70.00

Tickets from [helen.ward@marypotter.org.nz](mailto:helen.ward@marypotter.org.nz)

### Meet John Marsden

Best-selling author John Marsden, of the **Tomorrow When the War Began** series, will be at The Children's Bookshop, Kilbirnie Plaza on Friday, August 12th between 4pm and 4.30pm to meet his readers and sign copies of his books. Everyone, including parents who may have read his novels as teenagers 15 years ago, is welcome to this free event.

**Wellington High Performance Aquatics (WHPA)** would love to see some spectator support from Wellington schools at the upcoming Asia Pacific Rim Junior Diving Invitational. Young divers from some of the world's leading diving nations will be in action at the Wellington Regional Aquatic Centre from the evening of Friday 19 August through to Sunday 21 August.

For more info, see [www.whpa.co.nz](http://www.whpa.co.nz).

### Do you need to escape to a peaceful haven every few weeks?

How about a beach house in Paekakariki with shared ownership and shared expenses? Spacious, tidy, comfortably furnished with 3-4 bedrooms, open plan living area. On beach front with superb sea views and fantastic sunsets.

If you would like to find out more about this opportunity, see Carolyn A in the school office.

Do you have baby items you no longer want?

**Pregnancy Assistance** would love anything you are able to donate so they can continue to provide pregnant women and new mothers with the clothing, bedding and cloth nappies they need for their babies. Label 'Pregnancy Assistance' and drop off at the St Vincent de Paul shop in Newtown, or phone 389 7122 for more information.

### Using Twitter to get Emergency Information from Worser Bay School

We are now using Twitter as a tool to enable parents to access information if there is ever a **dire** emergency at Worser Bay School. Follow this link to tell you all about it and how to sign up: <http://goo.gl/QYJ1L>

[@WorserBaySchool](https://twitter.com/WorserBaySchool) will only be used in times of school emergencies and thus we expect it to be a very quiet/inactive account. Unfortunately, Twitter has seen it wise to remove your follow requests yet not add you to the list.

**Please follow [@WorserBaySchool](https://twitter.com/WorserBaySchool) one more time** - this time you won't have to wait for any request confirmations.

Please don't hesitate to pass on this info to other parents and relevant people.

(Another key emergency account to follow is [@WemoNZ](https://twitter.com/WemoNZ) (Wellington Emergency Management Office).

### WORSER BAY SCHOOL,

168 Seatoun Heights Rd, Miramar, Wellington 6022

Telephone: (04) 939 7281, Facsimile: (04) 939 2497

Email: [sitemail@worserbay.school.nz](mailto:sitemail@worserbay.school.nz)

Website: [www.worserbay.school.nz](http://www.worserbay.school.nz)