

WORSER BAY SCHOOL NEWS

Kau mau te wehi! (Grasp the Magic!)

Week 3/10 - Friday 6 August 2010

Tēnā koutou e te whanau o te Whetukairangi

This week we have had many visitors in the school as our applications for enrolment for out of zone students closes next Friday. It's always interesting taking people through the school and discussing the opportunities that arise from our team teaching environment. At WBS our children are able to interact with a range of different adults all day, they move from independent to 1-1 situations to small group to larger group to across school group to whole school group with ease. Relationships and learning to work cooperatively with others is not only an important part of our children's development, it's also a focus for staff professional development. We need to model and improve our own key competencies, what we expect from the children we also expect from each other.

Like many jobs the teacher's role is complex and intense! Their knowledge and practice are important, but also their relationships - the relationships the teacher has with the child, parents and colleagues that is vital to improved outcomes. The Teachers' Council has recognised this in the new criteria for Registered Teachers from 2011, relationships have a prominent place. This includes the ability to:

- establish and maintain effective professional relationships focused on the learning and well-being of ākonga (learners)
- demonstrate commitment to promoting the well-being of all ākonga
- demonstrate commitment to bicultural partnership in Aotearoa New Zealand
- demonstrate commitment to ongoing professional learning and development of personal professional practice
- show leadership that contributes to effective teaching and learning

To gain further insight, I spent some time finding out from the children as to what they think a teachers role is...

"Teachers help you make choices."

"They are really responsible, organise things and set an example."

"They are there to smile at you, look at you nicely and say: 'Good job, excellent!'"

"They do get frustrated sometimes because they want you to do great work. If we just did our own work we would choose easy words we already know how to spell."

"My Mum tells me it's a really hard job."

"I'd like to be a teacher because they can write fancy stuff!"

The quote of the day came from Paige: "Our teachers are always prepared for change. They are flexible and want us to be."

Our teachers want to be the best they can be. They are constantly reflecting on their knowledge, practice and relationships and, like the children, setting goals for improvement.

Let's wish them a restful weekend!

Noho ora mai ra!

Jude



Making a difference...



ACTION AT A GLANCE

- **Arts Celebration** - help needed.
- **Tell your friends and neighbours** that enrolments are open for out of zone pupils - closing 3.00 pm on Friday 13th August.
- Visit the **Artsplash Visual Art Exhibition** (see page 2).
- Please pay your **Voluntary Donation**, if you haven't yet done so.

From the Board

At this week's Board of Trustees' meeting, we were fortunate to have a presentation from Fleur about her time in Manila, an experience made possible with the support of an Asia NZ Foundation Scholarship. Fleur had already shared her adventures with some of the children, so a few aspects of her talk were familiar (from a child's perspective, the highlights being: pre-lesson pledges to Jesus and the flag, and a lack of rubbish bins with piles of trash stacked on roadsides). But hearing first-hand Fleur's experiences of teaching in such a different culture was fascinating and obviously lead us to reflect on how worthwhile it is for our teachers to have their 'horizons broadened' and in turn to broaden the children's – also on how fortunate we are to be educating children here!

Our discussion moved on to the value of integrating the study of Asian cultures into what we do, not only because of our location in the Asia Pacific region and the growth of Asian immigration, but because of the many opportunities for business and trade that our children will be involved with as adults. Our school has been awarded an Asia NZ Foundation Grant to support us in developing Social Studies, Arts and Health curriculum in the first half of 2011.

Speaking of whole school events – what a great disco and swimming sports we have just had. We like to chirp on that we are 'a small school with a big heart' and these gatherings demonstrate the ways in which our children interact so wonderfully with their peers of all ages - and how the amazing support of parents is integral to our dynamic school community.

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

The Principal's Awards for the last two weeks were for:

- * Looking on the bright side of life!
- * Following instructions.

Tautoru

Positive attitude - looking on the bright side: Maya
Following instructions: Patrick and Rowan

Autahi

Positive attitude - looking on the bright side: John and Caitlin
Following instructions: James and Pieta

Māhutonga

Positive attitude - looking on the bright side: Tiana and Hemi
Following instructions : Jacob and Emily

The foci for next week will be:

- * Actively listening.
- * Offering ideas and being creative when working with others in Music, Dance and Drama.

Introducing our Teacher Trainees with us at present:

Kiaora - My name is Natasha, and I am from Victoria University training to be a primary school teacher. I am so excited to be at this lovely little school for my seven week teaching placement and I look forward to meeting all of the wonderful young people who attend. I also have a passion for creativity and dance and am becoming very excited listening to the children and teachers' ideas for the celebration coming up - it sounds AMAZING! Hope to meet all of the children's whanau there.

Hi, my name's Bridie, and I will be helping to teach in Māhutonga as their student teacher for the next 7 weeks. It has been an exciting first week getting to know all the students and staff and learning about upcoming events. Thanks for making me feel so welcome!

From the HOME AND SCHOOL

See you at the Worsor Bay School Quiz tomorrow. Thank you to all our families and teachers who are coming along. You can too... Come and join us for two hours of brain-teasing fun on a wet cold winter's afternoon! 3.30 - 5.30pm - Strathmore Local Cafe and Bar.

Bring the children along. We will provide some activities and games to keep the children entertained.

From the School Fair Committee...

Can you dally for the Deli?

The Deli is starting production now and we'd love to hear from you if you have a lemon tree and can donate lemons, or if you could donate ingredients that we use a lot of - sugar, for example. We really need people to help us make all of our goodies so if you are interested in giving it a go, or can donate some ingredients, please let Steph Calder know on 388 7379 or 021 237 5313.

Feeling Crafty?

Can you contribute your creations to the Craft stall? Knitting, paintings, jewellery, Christmas/Birthday cards... or perhaps you have wool, beads, unfinished projects, paints that you can contribute? Please Contact Toni Taylor on 380 8062.

Opportunity Knocks!? Do you love 'op' shopping? Are you a 'Trade Me' fan?

How would you like to put those skills and knowledge towards a good cause; we are looking for someone to lead the Bric-a-brac / White Elephant stall and collection. For more information, please phone Nicola on 380 9339 (or email below).

Fair Silent Auction and Raffle

We are on the hunt for great prizes for the silent auction and raffle for the annual school fair. Do you own your own business or have great contacts that could be approached? In particular, restaurants, cafes, accommodation, ie. hotels or holiday homes, the arts or sports' industries. If you do, we would love to hear from you. The silent auction has great potential to generate lots of interest and therefore money to benefit your child(ren) at Worsor Bay School. If you donate goods or services, your involvement will be acknowledged on the promotional flyer distributed to thousands of homes in the Miramar Peninsula. Please contact Stephanie Wilson on 388 8285 or asewilson@clear.net.nz. We look forward to your support!

From "Around the World" we bring you our Fantastic Worsor Bay School Fair - Sunday 7 November! – Put it in your diary and watch this space.

See you at the Quiz!

Nicola Lancaster, Chair of the Home and School
nic.lancaster@clear.net.nz

An opportunity to see Worsor Bay Visual Art in public!

The Artsplash Visual Art Exhibition will be at the Renouf Foyer at the Michael Fowler Centre - open every day from 10th August.

Worsor Bay School will have a selection of students' work on display there. Tautoru are showing some of their felt sea creatures. Autahi and Māhutonga students worked on group pictures showing contrast and pattern also on the theme of the sea as this work was completed in conjunction with the rocky shore unit. If your child's work is not in the exhibition you will find it displayed in the school foyer.

from AUTAHI

This week in class we have been exploring reading and writing poetry. We have been looking at the language used in different poems and discussing the moods that they have created. In the afternoons we have rotated through different groups, where we have been creating music, dance and movement that match the moods in some of the poems we have read. Here are some of the poems we have written.

It makes me furious...

When I see a small harmless spider being flushed down the sink

It makes me furious

When people steal things from my room

It makes me furious

When I see people sitting and asking for money

It makes me furious.

When I see a fishing boat looking for something to catch

It makes me furious

When I smell a fire and see fire trucks racing

It makes me furious

When people stand and smoke their flaming cigarettes

It makes me furious

By Anneke

*So much depends upon
A peculiar shabby sheep
In a hay ball
In the red barn*

*So much depends upon
A thin silky fish
In the fish tank
On a grey rock
By John*

*When I hear on the news
That three New Zealand
soldiers
Have gone to Afghanistan
One killed, two wounded
It makes me furious
By Thomas*



Enjoying music,
dance and
movement...

A note from TAUTORU

Another great week had in Tautoru this week! Every Friday Tautoru has a slightly different programme running throughout the day which focusses on creative experiences so that we can use them as a spring-board for writing and reading the following week. These are also rich language experiences that give students opportunities to have informal conversations and develop their social and co-operative skills. These photos show our planting activity. We read a story all together called Making Caterpillars. The students were then able to follow the instructions, working together to create their very own caterpillar. These have pride of place in our class, sitting in the sun on our window sill. We are hoping over the next couple of weeks that our seeds will grow after we have watered and cared for them.

We made our caterpillars out of recycled egg cartons, potting mix, seeds and cardboard for the eyes. They are very cute so come in and see them this week some time.



The following writing is an example of how we have used our Friday making and doing experience for Literacy.

On Friday we made some caterpillars that will look like a garden at the end. First we coloured them in. Scott was outside to put in soil. The soil was squishy. We put it into the egg carton with a spoon. We came inside to put some seeds in and then we put them on the window sill. They are growing today. by Arthur

On Friday we made caterpillars and they are cool because they will grow vegetables. First we put in the soil and then the seeds. My buddy was Jack M. We put the seeds on the top of the soil. We read a book so that we knew how to make them. We watered them yesterday. The water came out like a sprinkler. They have already started growing. by Jack CC

Why we like Fridays!!

I like Friday choosing because I like the blocks. I even got to make a caterpillar.



"I mostly like the inside activities like the threading games."



A note from MĀHUTONGA

“(John) Hattie, on the basis of extensive research, describes feedback as the most powerful single factor that enhances achievement... Feedback is most effective when it relates to specific learning goals that students recognise and understand, and to the ultimate aim of enabling students to monitor and regulate their own learning. Feedback should always be honest and specific so that students know how they are doing and what they have achieved.” (MOE, *Effective Literacy Practice in Years 5 to 8*, p 86.)

We have been conferencing with the students teaching them how to peer review. They have learnt that there are 3 sections to giving feedback:

- Compliment, giving specific examples
- Suggest specific improvements
- Correct any spelling or punctuation

Here are some of our students putting their learning into action!

“A compliment I gave was that I liked the descriptive words she used. A suggestion was to use stronger words in the last sentence. I didn't need to give her any corrections for her spelling or punctuation”.



Sport

Netball

The Yr 4 Netball Player of the Day for last week (July 31st) was Kirstie Rae for great defence under fire!

Draw for this week 7 August:

Yr 4 team vs Holy Cross, 1.30pm, Court 2

Yr 5/6 team vs Ridgeway Yr 5s, 12.30pm, Court 4

Miniball

Miniball Yr 3/4 Team

Harriette -Outstanding Defending, John - Excellent Defending, Henry - Great Attacking Play, Nicolas - Fantastic Shooting.

Worser Bay Wizards edged out the Miramar North Tornados 16-12 after quite a physical game. Hemi won Player of the Day for some great multi-talented attack and defence work around the hoop.

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Fleur is back from the Philippines!

I had the most amazing time in the Philippines! I was hosted by a family in Quezon City and went to a school called Claret school of Quezon City. The school has approximately 4000 students from 3 years to 16 years old. They have boys and girls at the school until they are 6 and then it's all boys! I was able to experience visiting slum areas with the school, attend a game of basketball (their national sport), and much more! It was a fantastic learning experience, and great to see how the education system works and compare it to our own.



Fleur and her colleagues, and Claret School



H1N1 flu virus situation

MOH is reminding everyone to repeat last year's intensive prevention measures. These are:

- practice good hygiene – wash and dry your hands regularly, and cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing
- stay home if you are sick
- phone your doctor or HealthLine for advice

COMMUNITY NOTICES

GO-KAN-RYU KARATE

Classes for all the family (Adults, children 5+ & families). Learn Self Defence, Build Confidence, Increase Fitness, Relieve Stress, Improve Self Esteem, Increase Focus and Concentration.

Contact Caroline on 021 063 7423 or visit

www.gkrkarate.com

Celebrating Dads in NZ... Father's Day is coming up.

Why not take a late lunch, finish work early, pick up your kids and have an afternoon to remember at Plunket's free fun event for families. TSB Arena, Monday, 30 August, 1-5pm.

Join the fun and celebrate being a Dad with your kids!

www.plunket.org.nz