

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!)

Tautoru-iti enjoying being back at school.



Banking is back!

Taine, Coco and Paris, with Karen's support, look forward to helping you save your pocket money every Tuesday at 8.30am in the library.



If you or your child/ren bank with the National Bank please come along. If you don't have a National Bank account - join up at your local branch or in town and then we can make life easier by banking at school!

ACTION AT A GLANCE

- **Banking** - starts Tuesday 10th May at 8.30 am
- **Assembly** - Friday 13th May at 9.15 am
- **Tautoru and Autahi - Exploring our Area (morning)**
Tuesday 17th May. Please fill in form and return if you are able to assist by Friday 13th May. (See Page 4)
- **Māhutonga and Matariki - Trip to the City (full day)**
Thursday 19th May (the date has been changed - further information will be in next week's newsletter)
- **Student Led Conferences**
Weeks 3 & 4, Term 2, 16th - 27th May
- **School Disco** - Friday 27th May
- **Cross-Country** - Thursday 2nd June

Term 2, Week 1, Friday 6 May 2011

Tēnā koutou e te whanau o te Whetukairangi

Kia ora koutou

We are back! It was so eerily calm and quiet on Monday morning we were wondering for a while whether you'd remembered to come back - then around 8.40 in all the kids came - many sporting new haircuts and most looking like they had grown taller! That's what absence does!

Hoping you have booked your Student Led Conference (SLC) by now with the teacher whose name was on the slip of paper that came home on the last day of term. It's an important prerequisite to the smooth running of the booking system, too!

We are aiming to tighten things up a little more this year and have the students focussing on a limited number of pieces of work that they can talk about in greater depth. There will also be an opportunity for either your child, or your child with teacher support, or the teacher to share the standardised data collected in March.

As you know, when teachers are making a call as to whether progress is as expected, these tests form a piece of the picture. Teachers place emphasis on what they observe on a daily basis in class and the process and product. They make what's called an 'OTJ', an Overall Teacher Judgement. You will have already been contacted if we have concerns and need to set goals with you prior to the SLC.

SLCs are a time for celebration of learning, just like the Family Fish and Chip night on the last Thursday of term. Thank so much for your support with this new idea - it was just so well attended and we were thrilled to see children taking the lead and getting excited about sharing their term's learning with you all.....walls, books, tote trays, you name it - no rock left unturned! Your feedback was really helpful and just so positive, thank you. As you have had a good look through everything, we are also hoping that you won't feel that you are 'missing out' when the children share a limited number of pieces of work, or 'artefacts' in our jargon, with you at the SLC.

If you couldn't make it to the evening - then please don't hesitate to pop in after school sometime and your child can take you through all of their learning then - no problem.

The other new addition for 2011 is the Parent Questionnaire. These were due back Wednesday. It's really important for us to have your perspective and gain greater insight into your child's passions outside of school. We realise they do take some thought and some time but like many things - please spend a moment because they're worth it!

No ora mai ra!

Jude

"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/AUTAHI News

What a great start to the term; bright eyed and full of enthusiasm. Good to hear about all your fantastic holidays. We are beginning our learning about our area and how it has changed over time with a focus on maps and observations of around our school. For the younger students this is based around positional language: on, up, under, beside, between, etc. For the older students this involves exploring different maps, learning about the purpose of these maps and their key features and making our own maps of our area.

In reading we are making story maps, plotting the journey that characters take through the story. In writing some of us have been writing about our houses, and what is above, below and beside our house. Others of us have been writing a description about a place. We have all been learning to make a brainstorm to plan our writing and use descriptive language.

We are hoping to go on a walk to explore our area a bit more and listen to stories about the past. We would like to go in Week 3, Tuesday 17 May, for the morning and would love some parent support. Please fill in the form on page 4 and return to school, if you can help.

We would also greatly appreciate any other support parents can offer. This could include:

- making resources (at home or school)
- reading with small groups
- helping with spelling and reading rocket testing on a Friday morning from 9.15 – 9.45 am (or after assembly on assembly weeks)
- helping with the passion Fridays (making art and craft this term)

Please fill in the helper's calendar in Tautoru or Autahi if you can help. Thank you so much.

In PE we will be practising our cross country running in preparation for School Cross Country in Week 5, Thursday 2 June. Get those running shoes out! In Music with Nicole we are learning about the different instruments in the orchestra as well as how to represent sounds on paper. We will be thinking about how music has changed over time. In Visual Art we are learning about printmaking and creating our own cardboard prints from old photographs of Worsler Bay; and in ICT we are continuing to explore using the cameras and flips to tell a story.

We are playing 'Hide the Brontosaurus' to practise our prepositional language - 'on', 'under', etc.

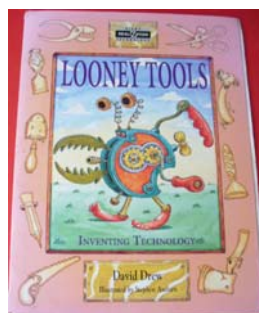


My brontosaurus is beside the bridge.

This is one of our posters showing things that are near, far and very far away from us.



We read the book Looney Tools which took real tools and made them crazy. We had to identify what the differences were and then create our own looney tools.



A note from MĀHUTONGA and MATARIKI

It has been a great start to the term, with everyone keen to continue with their learning and remembering the routines after the break. We have been continuing with our focus of observation during writing, and working hard at really looking at and writing about what we can see – rather than imagining what we see. It is a bit of a change from storytelling in that it is more formal, but it is wonderful to see the progress being made.

As we move into the new term we are continuing with our inquiry finding out about change around our area. We have been focusing to begin with on the Whetukairangi Pa site, our school site. We have been trying to visualise what the Pa and its buildings would have been like and have mapped out in chalk the basic floor plans of a small sleeping whare or whare puni. The kids have remarked on how small these dwellings were and might now appreciate more fully the space they have in their bedrooms even if they do share these with much loved siblings. Great questions emerged from this session as kids set out a village on the bottom court. Where will we get our water? How will we store food? How will we cook? Answering these questions will lead us to some good practical activities: for example, we are plotting the construction of a replica whare; too ambitious? Probably! This week we have been attempting to make rope because our students have discovered there were no nails, so our structure will have to be lashed together. The classroom has been full of flying flax!

This work is leading us into an independent research task - a feature of the 'Finding Out' stage of the inquiry. The students are choosing their own questions to research which will be focused around our local environment and change. We will be revisiting, and using, the S.E.E. (Statement Explanation Example) format for writing up our findings, and will be doing some of the research as a homework task. We also want to use primary sources of information (people), as well as secondary (books, the internet, etc.), so prepare yourselves for interviews.

Also, if you know of any locals who may be able to help us with their knowledge of the area, please inform us. The more contacts we have for this research the better. We have done some really good thinking this week about what research can involve, including contacting archaeologists or other scientists, local Iwi and historians.

As part of our Inquiry we are off to Te Papa on Thursday 19th May, as well as some other significant sites around Wellington, including the Te Aro Pa site. We would love your help, if you are able to join us. Please see the trip slip for more information.

Remember that Spelling Rockets need to come to school on Fridays for testing and they will come back home on Tuesdays.

Finally, it was great that so many of you attended the fish 'n chip evening. We thought it was really lovely to see the kids sharing their work in their books, learning journals and on the walls. We will continue this 'learning discussion', Week 4, at the SLCs. Make sure that you book in with your child's literacy teacher.



The rope makers!

BOARD SHORTS!

Welcome back and we trust you all enjoyed a restful break.

The new term has started with a hiss and a roar with this week's visit from the Education Review Office (ERO).

The reviews are very extensive exercises, and are an important opportunity to get a good understanding about our progress and effectiveness as a school. ERO last reviewed the school in 2008.

The 2011 review has involved hours of work by Jude and the team in providing documents in advance of ERO's visit. It's been a very big week as the reviewers visited to see and understand the school in action and meet with, talk to, and observe the staff, students and members of the Board.

We were expressly asked to pass on the reviewers' thanks for being given a very warm Worser Bay welcome.

I'd like to thank all of those involved for your efforts and energy in responding to the review. While the final report will be available in 6-8 weeks, we should be cautiously optimistic that we'll get the results that are deserved. We look forward to sharing these results with you when they are made available.

Andrew Wilson
On behalf of the Board

Lost Property

Currently we have a huge pile of lost property - this just shows the importance of naming your children's clothing. There are also a number of items that appear to have gone walkabout.

We really stress our school values of respect for others and the environment and this applies to property. Please help other parents out by just double-checking in case clothing has come home by mistake.

And, most importantly, please name your children's clothing.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

A reminder:

Meridian Kids Bike Jams 2011
Wellington Region Jams
Wainuiomata
8th May

Any queries, contact either Susan or Jill by email on
info@kidsbikejams.co.nz
www.kidsbikejams.co.nz

TO RENT

3-4 bedroom house, Seatoun Heights Road
5 minute walk to Worser Bay School
Pets OK
Call Kirsty or Phil 977 8759

Welcome to Zoe, and her family, who joined us this week, at the beginning of Term 2.

We look forward to guiding your development and learning.

Welcome to Kate Sutherland, our student teacher, who is joining us for the first five weeks this term.

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

Our Principal's Awards for this week are for:

* Creating, Imagining and Innovating

Tautoru - Winter Sage, Sophia, Eleanor

Autahi - Connor, Khailin

Māhutonga - Oliver, Josef

Next week's focus is:

* Planning and Creating

From the HOME AND SCHOOL

Hi everyone,

Well, what a great term we are going to have! Yes, it's going to be busy.

Please keep sending in those recipes. Any and all wanted, breakfast, lunch, dinner, second brekkie, gluten free, dairy free, sugar-loaded, special occasions. Email to Stephine.Calder@ihug.co.nz or drop into the office.

Mark your diary for Friday 27 May - because that's the night of upcoming **Worser Bay School Disco!** The disco is always a fabulous, fun-filled occasion - so choose your outfit and start practising your dance moves now!

Keep healthy and safe.

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

Tautoru and Autahi - Exploring our Area (Morning)

Tuesday 17th May
(Please return by Friday 13th May.)

I am able to help with the above excursion.

Name of Child:

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Parent's Signature