

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!)

Here are some artworks that our students have created over our Art Focus Fridays. These artworks show the Picasso influence!



Week 10, Friday 8 April 2011

Tēnā koutou e te whanau o te Whetukairangi

Kia ora koutou

Quality professional learning and development for teachers is vital for their professional growth and improving practice. Quality teaching is vital for increasing student achievement. We are fortunate to have engaged some excellent providers over the last few years. Some of you will remember Murray Gadd, who is a master in his field, developing students as writers, and over the last few years we have had support from Victoria University in developing our skills as teachers of maths.

This year we are taking things to a new level as we work alongside Anna Meuli from the Gifted Kids Programme, developing our skills, in really getting children to think and develop their questioning skills and Maryanne Mills from Core Education as she supports us in our own school curriculum development and gathering evidence of learning and progress. Additionally, all of us have coaching and mentoring from Impact Education, to keep us on the up and up.

Last year we developed a team vision - *"Through inspired, effective collaboration, our team is committed to supporting all in the school to reach their potential."* So, just like the children, we are helping each other move forward and have some fun along the way.

Thank you for the contribution you make towards our teachers and support staff enjoying life at WBS!

No ora mai ra!

Jude

ACTION AT A GLANCE

- **Family & Staff Celebration Time** - Thursday 14th April 5.30 - 7.00 pm
- **Assembly last Friday of Term 1** - 9.15 am Friday 15 April
- **Student Led Conferences** Weeks 3 & 4, Term 2, 16th - 27th May (See Page 4)
- 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** - Remember the discount period finishes next Friday, 15th April!



"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

ICT

What does that mean, you might be wondering?
And how does it look in the classroom?

Information
Communications
Technology

In our afternoon rotations this term we have been exploring and experimenting with Flip cameras as part of our ICT learning.

What is it?

The Flip is a very easy to use video camera that can record up to 60 minutes of video footage. We use the Flip cameras a lot in and out of class to catch children's thought processes or to record action. They are an invaluable tool as the children are able to capture their learning within the classroom environment.

Why are we doing it?

We are learning to use the Flip cameras so that the children are confident with the technology and are able to record their own learning without the need for a teacher to drive it.

How have we been using it?

We have started out with interviewing a partner and focusing on keeping the camera still, speaking in a clear voice and looking at the camera. Groups are now learning about various camera shots and angles. The goal is to work in small groups and to storyboard a short film that uses a variety of shots to tell a story.

Information and communication technology (ICT) has a major impact on the world in which young people live. Similarly, e-learning (that is, learning supported by or facilitated by ICT) has considerable potential to support and enhance learning.

This is going to be a close up!



We are deciding how to show a swish pan.



We are learning about different camera angles and shots.

A note from MĀHUTONGA and MATARIKI

My goodness, how the time has flown this term! As we reflect on the past 10 weeks, soon to be 11, it is wonderful to see the progress made in our learning. We are becoming excellent observers as we have encountered a variety of experiences – from sketching flowers over numerous days, to Weta and our stunning local environment. We are continuing to develop our questioning skills, always eager to go deeper and ask rich questions to help us in our inquiry. It is exciting to see our students go above and beyond by taking their observational and questioning skills out into the world with them, then returning to school to share their findings. We have had a glass sculpture created by Ella G from smooth glass gathered on our walk, a variety of insects brought in to observe, as well as books brought in focused around our 'Art Focus Friday' artists, and the sharing of observations and wonderings that have occurred experiencing everyday life. It is fantastic to see them noticing the extraordinary in the ordinary.

As our weeks are so action-packed we have created a reminders board. You will see it as soon as you walk in to Māhutonga. On it you will find notices that may have been missed, as well as a weekly timetable of activities that are happening such as library days, when homework and spelling is due along with any other extra activities. Please have a look at it, as it is for parents and children alike.

As we are using the Inquiry model, our homework looks slightly different this year as we have no homework book.

This is what you can expect:

- Spelling Rockets coming home, testing will occur every Friday with new words coming home by every Tuesday.
- Children to be reading for at least 20 minutes a night, either a School Journal or their own books.
- A task due weekly or fortnightly - there will be more specific instructions about it in newsletters and in class. It may look like a discussion around a question with findings to be shared in class, or a research project with a product required.

You will be able to see and hear about all of our exciting learning as your children guide you around our classrooms on Thursday at the Family and Staff Celebration Time, 5.30 - 7pm. It will be great to catch up and see you all there!

Peer Activity Leaders

The PALs are back! This time with new recruits and four new groups called 'The Ice-cream Sundays', 'The Cookies', 'The Flexible Candy Canes', and the 'Silly Socks'.

Games will be organised on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Our PALs will come around the classrooms and let you know what game will be played and if it is happening at morning tea or lunch time. When you come to the games you can expect to be told the rules and how to play and then have a lot of fun.

This week we have had games on Thursday and Friday because of the weather.

We look forward to seeing you at the games!

from The PALs



We have turned some of our observations from our 'Walk Through the Past' into a form of Haiku poetry. Have a read about what we saw. Are you able to visualise it in your mind?

Sand

*Blowing in my face
It feels like pins and needles
Chasing each other through my skin*

by Ella N

The Pou

*Children looking at the red Pou
Children playing at the green park
Looking at the big blue sea*

by David

Rocks

*Rumbling rocks everywhere
Like piles of old rusted armour
All crumbly and brown*

by Ben



BOARD SHORTS!

The notion of diversity is thrown about a fair amount these days - usually with various connotations of minority groupings! Recently, the board and staff have been using the term on a range of levels as we discuss deepening the links between home and school and what an 'engaged community' really looks like. We increasingly value the diverse ways in which Worsler Bay parents, grandparents and other caregivers contribute - because in turn it all supports the children's learning. We realise that what works for one parent may not best suit another and that as parents, we are of course as diverse as our children, with different personalities, strengths and passions. Most of us also juggle work commitments and many have extra responsibilities for other relatives or undertake other community projects.

So, as much as we love all the baking at school fair time, we equally appreciate the other amazing ways that parents offer time and support both at school, and as advocates in the wider community. Whether it's assisting with a sports team, helping out in the classroom, coming along to an information evening, pitching in with the gardens (doesn't the new planting look amazing?), or responding to a 'behind the scenes' shoulder tap from the principal or a teacher, it all ultimately strengthens what goes on in the classroom. Even just keeping well informed, by regularly reading this newsletter, and offering some kind words to a staff member or new parent, it's all a valuable contribution to the Worsler Bay community.

(Oh, and it's fantastic if you can also manage the voluntary contribution!)

See you next Thursday for fish'n'chips!

Rachel Healy
On behalf of the Board

STUDENT LED CONFERENCES (SLCs)

It's that time again soon. The SLC provides the first formal opportunity of the year to celebrate learning and set goals together.

Dates: Monday 16 to Friday 27 May

Bookings Open: Monday 18 April (first week of school hols)

Bookings Close: Friday 6 May

The instructions re booking are as follows:

- Go to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/home
- Enter the Worsler Bay School Code XFRYT



Taking a break on our walk through the past!

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

Our Principal's Awards for this week are for:

- * Being curious and being persistent.

Tautoru - Anna and Lucy

Autahi - Nicolas

Māhutonga - Polly, Ella G, Corisande, Millie and David

Next week's focus is:

- * Sharing curiosity with others.

SPORTING AWARDS

Flippaball:

Ella G for scoring her first goal of the season

Wil G for determination and improvement

Family and Staff Celebration Time - Please come along between 5.30 and 7.00pm next Thursday!

We have mentioned Fish and Chips but feel bring to bring whatever takes your fancy and even a refreshment if desired or required!

We were wanting it to be informal and thought if you brought something to eat you may be able to stay and chew the fat a little longer, without the wee ones being 'over it!'. But up to you.....

The main purpose is to give another opportunity for the children and teachers to celebrate what the focus has been, why it's the focus and what we are proud of over the first 11 weeks of school, 2011, and also keep you up to date with where we are heading next, over Term 2.

We would also like children to share some of their work, as some of you can't get to our regular assemblies and we don't want you missing out!

We will talk you through the questionnaire we would love you to fill in about your child and return pre-SLC by 4 May.

We will talk you through the format booking systems for SLCs if you are new to it and also inform you as to which teacher to book with. (Bring diaries!)

It's also a time to congratulate each other on a mighty fine term and thanks for your support in your child/ren's learning!

As some of you have children in both 0-3 and 4-6 we are going to try out this format.....we will soon recognise it's success (or not). Like we say to the children.....be brave, take a risk!

Māhutonga and Matariki: Teachers will chat first up at 5.45 pm and then children will share some learning...

Tautoru-iti, Tautoru, Autahi: Teachers will chat at 6.15 pm with children sharing some learning from the term before and after.

Lights out at 7.00 pm, home and early to bed for the final night of term!

From the HOME AND SCHOOL

A couple of reminders to start with this week!

Bring in your **Entertainment Book** order ASAP or by Monday 11th April, or your family \$12.00 alternative donation.

We want those famous recipes!

Have a competition with your children over the weekend and see which is their favourite recipe or their favourite of yours! Send them in to Steph Calder, Stephanie.calder@ihug.co.nz or leave them in the box in the office.

Thanks to the fantastic team of gardening volunteers who braved the elements last Friday. And, thanks too, to the bakers who provided the morning tea for them all.

It was lovely to hear and see the response of the children to the gardens. How this simple act translated into their pride for the school.

Remember if you are selling or buying through **Jewetts Real Estate**, please mention you are from Worsler Bay School as we benefit directly from your sale or purchase.

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

School branded clothing and accessories are available through the Home and School, and we will collate an order, if required, closing at the end of the term – get your order in by Friday 15th April.

We have on our list: school bags, swim bags, beanies, sun-hats, long-(and short) sleeve t-shirts, and cosy polar fleeces for the winter months.

Just a reminder - all those Year 4 and above and any Year 3 children who have put their name down for next term's Miniball will need a navy school t-shirt.

Order forms are available at the office or on the school website.

TERM DATES FOR 2011

Term 1 - Ends Friday 15 April

Term 2 - Monday 2 May to Friday 15 July

Term 3 - Monday 1 August to Friday 7 October

Term 4 - Tuesday 25 October to Friday 16 December
(8 weeks)

Friday 3 June and Tuesday 7 June

(Queen's Birthday Weekend) will be additional holidays.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Before School Care

Commencing 2nd May 2011 at the Miramar Community Centre 7.30 - 9.00 am.

Manager/Co-ordinator - Mel Stevens

Tel: 380 7181, Mobile: 027 2733055

Email: mel.stevens@xtra.co.nz

For any enquiries and/or enrolment form.

Piano Lessons

Children and Adults

If interested, ring Kerry Wood, 388 9719 or 021 1877196



Sushi starts first week of Term 2

Don't forget to have orders in by 9am Thursday, or make it easy on yourself and pre-pay for the whole term, just e-mail us at wrapitupsushi@gmail.com

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