



Worser Bay School NEWS

Friday 13 November 2009

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

News from TAUTORU

An Engaged Community

Mucking in with paper maché... more wonderful engagement from our parent community. Heads will roll as our parent helpers support the New Entrants to sculpt the head and face of a courtier who might have lived within a Medieval castle community.



Maria has been visiting some prospective 5 year olds at their pre-school and was able to make friends and find out all about their favourite games and what they like to eat.

To further enhance our learning from medieval studies, the children are involved in designing individual family shields. Please support them by talking through their family history. They will use this information on their own shield. We are sending home a sheet for recording the draft information; the final art work will be created at school. Please include details such as: "Where my family comes from." and "Anything that is unique or important to our family."

This information will weave through to our study of Mihi that we begin next term.



Two Tautoru children proudly display their shields.



ACTION AT A GLANCE

- **Please note:** Payment of \$5 for tennis was due by Friday 13 November.
- **Diary:** Worser Bay School Carol Evening - Tuesday 15th December.
- **Diary:** Year 6 Farewell Evening - Thursday 17th December.
- **Situations Vacant** - see page 2.
- **Do you have** packing boxes we could borrow to store our library books in?

Tēnā koutou e te whanau o te Whetukairangi

Change is learning, learning is change, and changing and learning we are!
2010 brings exciting developments in the life of WBS.

Very soon construction is about to begin, creating a new unique library space. We want our library to function as a 'real library' full of delicious new books. Soon, it will be just that!

To re-work teaching and library space, some of the existing library is being reverted back to a classroom, linking to Māhutonga. These alterations provide us with greater flexibility when grouping the students from year to year.

We are also delighted to have made a new full-time teaching appointment. Scott McGregor won this position and we are excited about having him here a whole 5 days a week, rather than his usual 2!

With another teacher on board, our class sizes will be smaller and a change of structure is possible. After deliberating our student numbers, completing the enrolment scheme process (zoning), looking at student needs and teacher strengths, and reviewing what has been successful so far, we have made an 'evidence based decision'! So ... it's a beautiful new library!

Y 0 - 2 Tautoru; Y 2 - 3 Autahi;
Y4 - 6 Māhutonga and Matariki
(Matariki being the existing library.)

If your child is a Y2 who will be working in Autahi, I have already discussed this with you this week.

So what about the teachers - are there changes afoot? Oh, yes there are!

Tautoru - Maria, Scott, Suzanne
Autahi - Rachel, Hamish
Māhutonga - Matt, Kath, Fleur
Marylyn will provide release across the school.

So, structural changes, teacher changes, we are even going to have a lick of paint over January. There's never a dull moment - the future looks bright!

If you are interested in looking at the plans, I'll pop them up in the foyer next week. It's full steam ahead for a busy summer!

Noho ora mai rā.

Na

Jude

WORD FROM THE BOARD

With the year heading towards its conclusion the Board met for the second to last time for 2009 this week.

We started by raising a glass in a fond farewell to Paul McBride. After 6 years on the Board, Paul has decided that professional and personal matters require his focus at this time. Paul has served on two Boards and was centrally involved in recruiting Jude as Principal. In his time he has been a ready provider of legal and other sage advice and has been particularly vigilant in keeping the Board focused on governance matters. Paul, thank you for your contribution to the school community - your efforts have been much appreciated. Thanks also for offering to continue to provide support when it is required. An acknowledgement to you too, Sira, for making it possible for Paul to be involved. With Caitlin and Jacob still at school we know we will continue to see plenty of the McBride family in and around the school.

With Board elections scheduled for early next year, the Board will operate with three parent representatives (Katherine Butterfield, Kirsty Chamberlain and me), and Jude and Kath Delpont as staff trustee. We will seek assistance from time-to-time with specific pieces of work, and look forward to continuing the work of this Board until the election. If you are keen to assist or would like to know more about what the Board does please don't hesitate to ask any of us. You can also look forward to the opportunity to get to know more about what the Board does and how you can be involved early next year in the lead up to the elections.

Andrew Wilson
Board Member

AUTAHI News

During the year in Autahi, we have had a focus on improving children's writing by using more interesting words and sentences. To do this, we have tried to introduce students to as many new and exciting descriptive words as possible.

One way that we have done this is through 'Vivid Vocab'. During 'Vivid Vocab' students work in groups of three or four to use a dictionary to find and write down the meaning of an identified word. They also need to write down how many syllables it has and any root words that they can find.

The groups then work together to create a descriptive and interesting sentence that they share back with all the different groups. You can also help to develop your child's vocabulary at home by immersing students in new language and even discussing more interesting synonyms (words that mean the same thing) for commonly used words.

Here are some examples of students' sentences:

A rat streaked through the royal castle's kitchen, taking a slice of cheese as it went. "What an utterly **vile** and despicable creature!" shrieked the determined cook as she got a broom and tried to bat the rat dead. *by Caitlyn, Hemi and Emily*

The **rigid** rusty piece of metal sat on an old wooden table in the dark, dusty, desolated barn. *by Zoe, Josef and Paris*

One day a **monstrous** killer whale ate a **colossal** squid while it was eating a fish. *by Ella, Thomas and Corisande*

Situations Vacant:

Seeking enthusiastic parent volunteers for new Numeracy and Literacy initiative

Recent data collated from numeracy and literacy assessments has identified a handful of students whose skill and confidence level are cause for concern. We'd like to move these students on and provide them with significant support to improve their achievement. Can you help us? Perhaps you have been thinking about other ways you might increase your involvement and engage with the school. All we ask is for your availability for an hour a week for 5 weeks at a time? We hope to schedule 4 lots of 15-30 minute daily sessions depending on how many parents volunteer. That's all it will take to help a few students bridge the gap between what is known and that which remains to be learnt in literacy and numeracy.

Please speak with Maria or Suzanne to register your interest.

PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

The Principal's Awards for this week are for taking risks by using new vocabulary in writing, and for honesty.

Tautoru

Honesty: Natalie, Evie, Liam, Anneke, Hunter and Burton

Using new vocabulary in Writing:
Nico and Will W

Autahi

Honesty: Millie and Tiana

Using new vocabulary in Writing:
Zoe, Caitlyn and Georgia

Māhutonga

Honesty: Abby and Caitlin

Using new vocabulary in Writing:
Reuben and Bethany

The Principal's Awards next week will be awarded for excellence in book work and maintaining focus (concentrating and making good choices in your actions).



**A message
from Scott...**

Hello to the Worser Bay School Community!

My family and I, Chie, Lia and Isaac, have been living in Wellington since the beginning of this year and are loving the lifestyle the city provides. After spending a number of years in Osaka, finally having some space, beaches within skipping distance and an extra room in the house, things couldn't be better.

When I'm not in the classroom, I like to explore music and spend time with family and friends. I'm very excited about joining the teaching team for 2010 and look forward to meeting and getting to know the families of the awesome children at Worser Bay.

Please feel free to come and introduce yourselves, if we haven't already met.

Cheers, Scott

A note from MĀHUTONGA

A big part of learning is having the opportunity to learn from each other and co-construct new understandings and ideas. As students listen and talk to each other, they are also practising their communication skills, learning how to listen, taking others' ideas on board and clearly voicing their own. As part of the Medieval mayhem activities, the students also have to negotiate which way the story will go and make a decision as a group. The buzz in the classrooms during medieval mornings and afternoons is fantastic - some students even find it hard to stop for morning tea! Engaged, active learning at its best!

Here, continuing on from last week's character introduction from Lucas, is an excerpt from Sovay Flynn's diary aka Ciara. Sovay is a member of the 'The Order of the Chicken'.

"The sun sparkled down on the murky water, glittering across the damp swamp, making the wet place almost seem nice, the scales on the strange animal's back reflected the swamp in a terrifying way.

This morning we had headed south over hills. We had reached a deep ditch in between two hills. There were two creatures, both large, baring their teeth and fighting. The first one had a goat-shaped head, devilish horns and teeth the size of daggers, it was about five metres long. I named it Crocadillicus. The other one had a peacock-like tail and big long eyes.

We moved past as they continued fighting. We followed a river to a small bushy pathway, Ehekla and me leading the way. Suddenly a huge fish called a Feshdinnerado, lunged at us, it struggled, waving its tail fins, and thrashing its marooned body. As we moved forward I heard Ehekla take a sharp intake of breath as a deadly Humma bee emerged from under his visor. He clutched the side of his face where the Humma bee had stung him.

Jordon had tried everything to heal the wound, but none of his herbs had worked. We were forced to go on and as dusk fell, we came to a small grassy clearing with a sparkling pond right in the middle. Without discussion, we all ran and jumped in, Anne and I swam down to the bottom as we felt our strength returning as if by magic.

When we reached the stone floor we saw strange pictures that looked like they were millions of years old, when we came up Ehekla said his string was gone. We camped there for the night, but our tent blew down and broke, so we returned to the castle."



Diary it now! **14 February 2010 Summerfest at the Worser Bay Boating Club rooms.**

Bring your family and friends to a fabulous afternoon of sea, sun, live music, beer tasting with food to match and other refreshments to suit all. Be entertained and enlightened by raconteur and beer expert Neil Millar.

All proceeds from the event go to Worser Bay School. Tickets will be on sale through the school website and from the school office soon. Watch this space for further information.

BUT RIGHT NOW, IT'S LAST ORDERS FOR... the Pre-Summerfest Tuatara special. Order a 6 pack of Tuatara beer (helles, hefe, ardennes, porter, pilsner or pale ale) for \$15 before Thursday 19 November and for every 6 pack sold, the kind folk at Tuatara will donate \$5 to Worser Bay School. Get your order to jason_wells@nz.y.r.com and payment either to the school office (with your name and order details) or pay directly into the school bank account, Westpac Kilbirnie 030521 0138582 00 (mark it Summerfest and your name) by **Thursday 19 November** to make the most of this great offer. We will contact you after the 19th regarding collection details. If you already made your order at the fair, you just need to make your payment before the 19 November, no need to re-order.

We must have all payments by 19 November, otherwise, sorry, but you'll be thirsty. Roll on summer...

From the HOME AND SCHOOL

Thank You!

"Fair Wash Up"

Well done to all those committed stall holders and fair helpers who managed to drag themselves away from their families for our one last fair meeting! The session was well attended with lots of great constructive and positive comments. Thank you once more for the fantastic support and commitment by a lot of our wonderful parents.

If you were unable to attend but would like to send us your feedback (or ideas for next year!) feel free to email either of us (email addresses below).

Coming up - Please note Tuesday 15th December in your diary for our Carol Evening.

More information closer to the date.

Your Co-chairs of the H&S:

Beth Simpson & Nicola Lancaster

bruce.simpson@xtra.co.nz

nic.lancaster@clear.net.nz

An Invitation!!

Namaste! You are invited to join us at school next Thursday 19 November between 3.30 - 4.30pm. I will be showing some digital photos and sharing experiences and highlights from my recent trip to India.



It was an opportunity that was personally and professionally enriching for me. In the four weeks that I connected with hundreds of teachers and thousands of students, my assumptions and perceptions were challenged on a daily basis. I joined in with preparations for Diwali, the Festival of Lights, and one of the most significant religious celebrations for Hindu. Every new friendship I made encouraged me to think more deeply about New Zealand's position in Asia and reflect on my influence as a teacher... How good is my understanding of the importance of New Zealand as an Asia Pacific nation? How effective have I been in preparing students to be future-focused and more Asia-aware? Will my own two children rise to a significant challenge in years to come and engage successfully with Asian friends, neighbours and work colleagues? There is a lot to appreciate within the diversity of Asian culture, religion, history and language.

I look forward to seeing you for a cuppa and a chat next Thursday afternoon.

DIARY

Rāhina (Monday)	Rātū (Tuesday)	Rāapa (Wednesday)	Rāpere (Thursday)	Rāmere (Friday)
16 Tennis starts Years 3-6	17	18 Autahi - Swimming Eastern Zone Athletics	19 Māhutonga - Swimming Indian After- noon Tea	20 Tautoru - Swimming
23 Tennis	24	25 Autahi - Swimming Inter Zone Athletics	26 Māhutonga - No Swimming	27 Tautoru - Swimming
30 No Tennis	1 Hakihea (December)	2 Autahi - Swimming	3 Māhutonga - Swimming	4 Tautoru - Swimming
7 Tennis	8	9 Autahi - Swimming	10 Māhutonga - Swimming	11 Tautoru - No Swimming

Dates of important events coming up:

Tuesday 15th December - Carols

Thursday 17th December - Year 6 Farewell Evening (Year 6 parents - there will be something special for you too, so be sure to mark it on the calendar!)

School commences for 2010 on Wednesday 3 February.

SPORT

Flippaball

There are no Flippaball games tonight (13th Nov) due to a pool exclusion. However, practices and games as usual next week.

Lost Property

One of the children is missing a size 8 Red Kathmandu Raincoat which was used for movie-making. If you know of its whereabouts, please contact Carolyn in the office.

Reply Slip - TENNIS - Please return by Friday 13 November

In weeks 6, 7, 9 and 10, Year 3-6 students will be heading down to the Miramar Tennis Club to participate in the Grasshoppers' Tennis Programme. There is a cost of \$5 per child. Please complete the permission slip below and return with payment to the office by Friday 13 Nov.

Please note: If your child has not returned the money and the signed form, they will have to miss out on this great opportunity and stay at school.

..... has permission to go down to
Miramar Tennis Club for Tennis Lessons.

The cost is \$5.00 and must be paid prior to going.

I enclose \$.....

I am able/unable to assist. (Please circle.)

Signed:

Contact telephone number:

WORSER BAY SCHOOL, 168 Seatoun Heights Rd, Miramar, Wgtn 6022

Telephone: (04) 939 7281

Facsimile: (04) 939 2497

Email: sitemail@worserbay.school.nz

Website: www.worserbay.school.nz

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Available for Rent: Three bedroomed house available for short term rental between 22 December 2009 to 22 January 2010.
Telephone Cathie on 388 4752.

Organic Veges & Fruit delivered to your neighbourhood - you can trial the 'box scheme' now! For further info, contact Andrea on 977 5757 or Louise on 973 3797 or go to www.simplygoodfood.co.nz or email them at info@simplygoodfoodcsa.co.nz.

From the Regional Public Health Officer: Swimming / Paddling Pools and Cryptosporidiosis

Public swimming / paddling pools are safe and healthy environments, but the presence of Cryptosporidium (crypto) presented by users of the pool is always a risk. The microscopic parasite is shed by an infected child and swallowed in pool water by another. As cases of cryptosporidiosis have been rising in recent months, Regional Public Health and Wellington City Council are trying to keep children using the pools safe by keeping Cryptosporidium out of the water.

So here's how you can help:

Always take your child to the toilet before they swim, to avoid faecal accidents.

Shower your child with soap and warm water (especially below the waist) before putting on their swimming gear. Do the same for yourself if you are planning to join your child in the pool.

Supervise your child when they are in the water.

Inform a pool attendant immediately if you see or suspect a faecal accident

Fitting/tight swimming gear is highly recommended for young children.

Ensure your young child uses the appropriate disposable nappy specifically designed to be used in pools.

If you suspect your child has cryptosporidiosis consult your family doctor.

If the child has either been diagnosed or is suspected of having cryptosporidiosis, or any other diarrhoeal illness, DO NOT allow your child to use a pool until 2 weeks after the diarrhoea has cleared up.

Signs and symptoms of cryptosporidiosis can occur after 1-12 days (usually within 7) from infection. They are as follows:

- Diarrhoea (profuse and watery)
- Cramping abdominal pain
- General fatigue and fever may occur
- Loss of appetite and vomiting in children may precede diarrhoea.

There is no effective treatment, except rehydration. The symptoms may wax or wane but clear up within 30 days. Some people may be infected and not have any symptoms.

For more information please contact a Health Protection Officer at Regional Public Health on (04) 570 9002.