

28th August – Interschool Basketball
29th August – Teacher Only Day
3rd September – Olympic Games afternoon
8th & 9th September – Room 4/5 Camp @ Millenium Centre
16th September – APPA Choir Rehearsal – Takapuna Primary School
18th September – Board of Trustees Meeting
25th September – PTA Term 3 Disco
25th September – Year 7/8 Vollyball
26th September – Mufti Day - End of Term 3

JOB VACANCIES – AFTER SCHOOL CARE

We have two vacancies for After School Care persons for various afternoons each week from 2.30 to 5.30. Applicants must be flexible, display initiative and genuinely love kids. Please contact the school office if you are interested or see Annette Browne – After School Care Supervisor.

FATHERS DAY RAFFLE – CAMP FUNDRAISER

Mr Darren Mathers in Room 11 is organising a Fathers Day Raffle to raise funds for camps. At this stage he is asking if anybody would like to make some kind donations of quality items to fill several hampers. The response has been a bit slow, so if you do have anything you are able to donate it would be greatly appreciated. We are hoping to get enough for 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize.

BILLS TO BOOKS – GET FREE BOOKS FOR THE SCHOOL

If you are a Mercury Energy customer, you can donate a book to our school just by switching from paper bills to getting them online! It's called 'Bills to Books', and for everyone who switches to online bills before 30th September, Mercury Energy will give us a book! Just visit www.mercury.co.nz/onlinebill or call 0800101810 today!

OUR FANTASTIC KIDS!!

WOW! The following students have really excelled in their chosen activities:

Jenna Martin – Player of the Day – Netball
Tyler Watson – Most Improved Player – Netball
Tyler Watson – Most Improved Player – Soccer
Taine Horgan – Player of the Day – Soccer
Joshua Sinclair – Player of the Day – Soccer
Reece McCoomb – 8th Kyu – Karate
Luke Van Zuilen – 7th Kyu (Orange Belt) – Karate
Aiden Van Zuilen – 7th Kyu (Orange Belt) – Karate
Briar Wood – Player of the Day – Soccer
Sasha Nordmeyer – Player of the Day - Netball

COMMUNITY NOTICES

AN ENCHANTED EVENING

The Annual Riverhead Charity Ball is on again! 13th September from 6.30 to 12.00 at Markovina Estate (Old Railway Road, Riverhead). Entertainment by Mikey Havoc and CVE! Auctions include a Trueform Spa Pool, Afternoon training with an All Black, Luxury Launch Package and more! Tickets are \$95 per person or tables of 10 for \$850. This includes a sumptuous 3 course meal and beer and wine. Please phone Harriet Watson on 4126416 to reserve your ticket now! All proceeds this year go towards a new 'Information Centre' for our very own school! So dress up in your best frock or suit and come along to the biggest social event on the local calendar!



Ron Irwin of the Harcourts Kumeu office is a resident of Riverhead, actively involved in supporting the community and well qualified to assist with any Real Estate Requirements.

For professional and dependable advice call:



Ron Irwin:
Mob 0272408599
Bus 4127666 A/H 4127040
Email: ron.irwin@harcourts.co.nz

RIVERHEAD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Ph (09) 4129105 Fax (09) 4129106
 Email: admin@riverhead.school.nz
 Website: www.riverhead.school.nz

Newsletter # 25 Week 4 Term 3 2008

WELCOME

A huge warm welcome to **James** and his family; who have joined our Riverhead School Community. Our school roll now stands at 280!

Please ensure you read your newsletter every week and note the key dates pertaining to your child.

'THE BIG PLAN' – UPDATE

Even though substantial growth was forecast at the end of last year, the school is growing at an even faster rate than was anticipated. This has resulted in a very recent visit by the Ministry of Education from Wellington with concerns about future planning, in particular building requirements. Getting it right is absolutely vital for the future of our school, and ill thought out ad hoc modifications now, will only result in costing the school more money in the long term. The development needs to cater not only for roll growth, but also space for many aspects of the needs of our students. As advised in our April Newsletter we have had to delay the construction of a new playground, or any resealing of court areas until overall plans for the school are finalised. It needs to be done once, and done right. The children have been without a playground since work on the MPC commenced; but even over these winter months our 270 children have been successfully sharing the courts area on days when the fields have been shut. We have also been running the following initiatives at lunchtimes:

- North Harbour Sports have trained a large number of senior students to be 'Sports Leaders'. These students now run regular programmes and activities for students throughout the school at lunchtimes.
- All students have access to a substantial supply of quality Physical Education gear during breaks – balls, ropes, hoops and much more.
- The MPC is being well utilised with many supervised activities such as 'indoor touch rugby' taking place in this wonderful space.
- Staff are running a variety of indoor activities for students every lunchtime.
- The fields are open as often as the weather permits and teachers and our sports leaders are frequently running organised games on the fields.
- Our awesome indoor sandpit is still open every day for our younger students, and is utilised extensively.

Contrary to seeing bored students who are losing their gross motor skills by lacking a playground, we are observing a community of students who are using their initiative in creative and constructive play. Each day the Teachers on Duty are noticing a greater degree of tolerance and co-operation not only between peers, but also students from all ages who are playing together on the courts. Communication between the children has also improved, and we have not



had to issue a single yellow card for inappropriate behaviour in the school ground, (incidentally we have not had a single broken bone either, of which the previous playground provided a regular supply).

So the message in the meantime is patience is a virtue, it would be far worse to use the funds which the community has worked so hard to raise for a playground (which are still sitting in wait accruing interest), only to have to pay more out to get it shifted to make way for imminent construction. The building and playground facilities that will ultimately form Riverhead School will be amazing, and the long term gain will most definitely be worth the short term 'pain'.

SPELL-A-THON

The children are working really hard learning their spelling words for the upcoming 'Spellathon' - this is such a great event to combine learning with fundraising. Lots of students are also making huge efforts with their sponsorship, and well done to those who are supporting their efforts. Funds raised through sponsorship will go into a pool to reduce the overall cost of camps, however we understand that some families with children who have made extra special efforts in gaining sponsorship, or families who have several children attending camps, may understandably want their funds raised to go specifically towards their own children's camp fees. If this applies to you, please place written advice of your request with your child's sponsorship money when it is returned to school. This will enable the necessary adjustments to be made.



BAKE STALL – THANK YOU!!



What an incredible response to the Middle School bake stall last Friday! Four full trestle tables were completely stocked full of delicious home baking of all varieties. Children could purchase individual items for \$1 at morning tea, and the indulgence continued through lunchtime. All together over \$400 was raised for the school camps. This is such an amazing effort – even better than any previous school gala cake stall! Thank you, thank you, thank you to all of those wonderful bakers out there who put in such a tremendous (and yummy) effort!

URGENT ROAD SAFETY NOTICE – THINGS ARE NOT GOOD!

If you saw the 'Target' programme on Tuesday evening last week you would have seen the frightening scenes filmed outside certain primary schools. These schools are being targeted by Police to reduce the very dangerous behaviours of students and parents when dropping off and picking up. These are scenes that our staff witness outside our very own school nearly every morning and afternoon - and it's even more frightening to see in real life! The double parking, dropping off in the school driveway, running across the road because it's raining instead of using the crossing, and parking in the bus bay – all need to stop before a tragedy occurs. We have seen some very close near misses recently, and the chaos is always much worse on rainy days. PLEASE OBSERVE TRAFFIC SAFETY RULES, your child has been taught to use the crossing. Running across the road in the rain with your child instead of using the pedestrian crossing only serves to undermine the valuable lessons they have been taught. Please do not be offended if you are approached and reminded where to park or cross, it is only with the best interest of your child's safety in mind. Thank you for your support in this very serious matter.

TERM DATES

Term 3 – 21st July to 26th September

Term 4 – 13th October to 17th December (Labour Day 27th October)

TERM DATES 2009

Term 1 – Monday 2nd February to Thursday 9th April (Waitangi Day 6th February)

Term 2 – Monday 27th April to Friday 3rd July (Queens Birthday 1st June)

Term 3 – Monday 20th July to Friday 25th September

Term 4 – Monday 12 October to Tuesday 15th December (Labour Day 26th October)

TEACHER ONLY DAY

Please note that 29th August this term is a Teacher only day. Students will not be attending on this day.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS

Did you place a Book Club order in the last few weeks? Four of the orders placed did not have names on the order forms! If you do not receive your order within the next two weeks, please check with the office, as one of the nameless orders could be yours!

CAMP REMINDERS

Please note the camp your child is involved in and what needs to happen next. If there is a notice mentioned that you did not receive please ask your child to bring you home another one or grab one from the school office.

- **Year 7/8 Camp at Motutapu Island** – This camp is happening from 28th to 31st of October. Information and a permission slip, plus deposit requirement has been sent home, and an information evening was held on Tuesday evening this week (thank you to all those parents who attended). Deposit and permission slips need to be returned by 28th August.
- **Year 5/6 Camp at Shakespeare Lodge** - This camp is happening on 14th to 17th October. An information evening was held on Tuesday evening this week (thank you to all those parents who attended). A permission slip and \$50 deposit should have been returned by now (due date was 1st August). Parents who put their names forward as helpers need to complete a questionnaire.
- **Room 4/5 Camp at the Millenium Institute** - This camp is happening on 8th and 9th of September and a permission slip and \$50 deposit should have been returned by now (due date was 1st August). An information notice about the camp, and health/diet and EOTC (Education Outside the Classroom) forms have also been sent home and an information evening was held last Thursday evening (thank you to all those parents who attended). All camp consent/health/diet/EOTC forms need to be returned to school by 8th August – that's tomorrow.
- **Room 6/7 Sleepover at Kelly Tarltons** - This camp is happening on 20th August. EOTC, health, diet, emergency contact forms and student contract were sent home with the Junior Syndicate Newsletter which contained further details about the camp. Forms and money must be returned to school by Friday this week.
- **Room 8/9 Sleepover at Kelly Tarltons** - This camp is happening on 19th August. EOTC, health, diet, emergency contact forms and student contract were sent home with the Junior Syndicate Newsletter which contained further details about the camp. Forms and money must be returned to school by Friday this week.
- **Room 10 Daytrip to Kelly Tarltons** - This is happening on 21st August and information was contained in the Junior Syndicate Newsletter. Permission slips and money must be returned to school by Friday this week.

KEY DATES – TERM 3

Please note the following key dates pertaining to your child on your calendars. This list is updated each week so there will definitely be more added throughout Term 3!

19th August – Interschool Speech Competition Year 5/6

19th August – Sleepover @ Kelly Tarltons – Room 8/9

20th August - Interschool Speech Competition Year 7/8

20th August – Sleepover @ Kelly Tarltons – Room 6/7 & Room 6 Outdoor Education

21st August – Life Education Caravan arrives

21st August – Room 10 visit to Kelly Tarltons

22nd August – Interschool Cross Country

22nd August – Rewards Day

26th August - Spellathon

27th August – Whacky Wednesday