

SPELL – A – THON

Your children should have brought home their lists of spelling words to learn in week 1 of this term – so they should be well into list 3 by now! This is a fantastic way to get your child into learning, and the words they get are ones which they do need to practice. This Spell-a-thon is being run to raise money for camps, and the kids really enjoy it. Tests are being run weekly in class to support their list learning, and your child does need to find sponsors (that's the only way this event raises funds), who would be willing to pay say .10c or .20c (or more if they are feeling generous) per word that they get correct in the 'BIG TEST' on Tuesday 26th August. All children with a 100% pass will go into the draw for a \$25 Warehouse voucher.

TUESDAY MORNING CROSSING PARENT STILL URGENTLY REQUIRED!

Please, please, please volunteer for this position if you are able. Tuesday morning crossing supervising the senior students who run the crossing outside the Four Square. Let the office know if you can help. Thank you.

OUR FANTASTIC KIDS!!

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

Bailey Waters – Player of the Day – Soccer

Cody Waters – Player of the Day – Soccer

Isabel Folan – Player of the Day – Netball

Ashtyn Watson – Player of the Day – Soccer

Max Cleveland – Player of the Day – Soccer

Trent Wild – Player of the Day – Rugby

Maddy Cleveland – Player of the Day – Netball

Carlo Marinovich – Player of the Day – Soccer

James Webb – Player of the Day – Soccer

Zoe Webb – Player of the Day – Netball

Tim van der Hilst – 9th Kyu – Karate

Todd Connon – Player of the Day – Rugby

Kurt Brown – Player of the Day – Soccer

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! Buy your tickets within the next week and get an early bird special of \$85 each!

RIVERHEAD OP-SHOP – OPEN AGAIN!

We are so delighted to announce that our Op Shop will reopen again on Thursdays. Opening hours are every Thursday from 9.30 to 12.30. Please wash all clothes before you donate them. Shop is located at the Riverhead Presbyterian Church.

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY:



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
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RIVERHEAD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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Newsletter # 24 Week 3 Term 3 2008

WELCOME

A huge warm welcome to **Fairlane, Windsor, Astaria** and their family; who have joined our Riverhead School Community. Our school roll now stands at 279!

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

URGENT ROAD SAFETY NOTICE – THINGS ARE NOT GOOD!

If you saw the 'Target' programme on Tuesday evening you would have seen the frightening scenes filmed outside certain primary schools, these 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 – EARLY WARNING

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

PTA MEETING

Following the plea for people to either join the PTA or volunteer as helpers at activities, a meeting was held by the existing PTA on Monday afternoon this week. We would like to extend a massive and genuine thank you to those people who did put their name on the list, 14 people were prepared to help with events and 3 indicated they would be willing to join the PTA Team. Whilst this response means the PTA will continue in the meantime, sadly it is nowhere near the numbers required to consider running a School Gala (which requires closer to 80 volunteers). The response was disappointing for a school with over 400 parents, especially as most of the people who did volunteer were either retired PTA members themselves or were regular helpers already assisting in putting events together. In light of this we can confirm there will be two more discos this year – Term 3 and Term 4, however there will not be a school gala. The current PTA will run without a chairperson until the AGM in February 2009, at which time parental interest levels will determine its future direction.

In the meantime, we do have parents approaching us occasionally with great ideas for fundraising – and this is always welcome and encouraging. If you do have a great idea to raise funds for the school, the PTA are more than happy to provide support with marketing, event and financial advice, and requests for volunteers to assist you in running your activity.



MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENTS - CAKE STALL – CAMP FUNDRAISER



All middle school parents are asked to bring items of home baking eg. muffins, fudge, cupcakes etc., to school on Friday 8th August for a cake stall to raise funds for camps. Each item will be sold for \$1 at morning tea on the day, so **all students are invited to bring along a dollar and purchase some yummy home made morning tea!** (Let's hope we have enough baking donated!!). A notice has gone home to all middle school parents this week – so please support the schools' efforts in reducing the cost of camp for everyone. Thanks, Holly Vega – Organising Teacher

SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY

The Cross Country for the whole school will be going ahead on Tuesday 14th August. Juniors (Year 0-4) will run between morning tea and lunchtime, starting with Year 0. Seniors (Year 5 – 8) will run from 12.30 onwards, starting with Year 8. Please make sure your child brings a change of clothes suitable for running in, a drink bottle, and suitable running shoes. Please feel most welcome to come along and support the kids!

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** – An information meeting for this camp (which will happen in Term 4), will be held at the same time as the Year 5/6 information meeting, that is Thursday 12th August at 6.00. Information and a permission slip, plus deposit requirement has been sent home today. These need to be returned by 28th August.
- **Year 5/6 Camp at Shakespeare Lodge** - This camp is happening on 14th to 17th October. A permission slip and \$50 deposit should have been returned by now (due date was 1st August). A notice went home on Tuesday advising of an information meeting on Thursday 12th August at 6.00.
- **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 were sent home last week. A parent camp information evening will be held TONIGHT Thursday 7th August at 5.30 in the staffroom (all parents helping with this camp should attend). 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 and parent helpers have now been confirmed. 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 are due back as soon as possible.
- **Room 8/9 Sleepover at Kelly Tarltons** - This camp is happening on 19th August and parent helpers have now been confirmed. 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 are due back as soon as possible.
- **Room 10 Daytrip to Kelly Tarltons** - This is happening on 21st August and information was contained in the Junior Syndicate Newsletter.

MASSIVE THANK YOU!

To the Dunn family a.k.a. Avondale Blasting & Coatings Limited, for donating \$337.50 to sponsor an activity for the Room 4/5 Millenium Camp. That's fantastic – thank you!

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!

8th August – Middle School Cake Stall – morning tea – all items \$1

12th August – Year 5, 6, 7 & 8 Camp Information evening 6.00

13th August – Board of Trustees Meeting

13th August – School Cross Country

14th August – School Speech Competitions

14th August – Rippa Rugby & Tackle Rugby Tournament #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

27th August – Whacky Wednesday

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 Volleyball

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. We are hoping to get enough for 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize and any donation (big or small) would be greatly appreciated.

ILLNESS

Sadly it looks like the recent school holidays did nothing to stem the flow of contagious nasties doing the rounds this winter – and there are lots of them! Between the vomiting bugs, chicken pox, chest infections and the head colds that are all rampant at the moment, it is **vital** that we all do our part to minimise the spread of germs and flu. We understand that this can be difficult with both parents working, however the health of your child (and of the other students), must come first. Please observe the following guidelines when your child is sick:

- If you child has vomited please do not bring them to school until at least 24 hours AFTER the last time they vomit.
- If your child is prescribed antibiotics please do not bring your child to school for at least 48 hours AFTER the first dose of medicine – and obviously, as long as they are well. (If they require medication at school you will need to complete a permission form at the school office on the morning of their return).
- If your child has a thick runny green nose (yes gross, but how else do you describe it), they should not be at school until their nose has 'dried up'; and this is likely to be an infection which requires a visit to the Doctor.
- Conjunctivitis is common in winter (due to the thick runny green noses), and is **highly contagious**. If your child's eye(s) are itchy, red, weepy or have a mucous-like substance in them, please take them to the Doctor immediately and keep them home until 48 hours after the first antibiotic treatment.
- Headaches and sore throats should stay at home until they have cleared up (can be a sign of strep throat and should be seen by a Doctor if they persist for more than 1 day).
- Chicken pox is a common childhood illness with early signs being fever and spots which appear in stages. If your child has chicken pox they should be kept home until 5 days AFTER the appearance of the last spot – providing all spots are dry and scabbed over.
- Finally if your child has 'been up all night' coughing, upset or with a sore tummy, PLEASE keep them home to get some sleep. Tired children in the classroom can't learn and tend to disrupt others.

With so many children away at the moment it is really important that you contact the school before 8.30 and let us know that your child will be away and why (we are currently chasing up at least seven different families each morning who have not advised us students will be absent). We also have several students who are currently undertaking treatment for cancer, which lowers their immunity – so it is essential that we are advised of specific illnesses they may be exposed to at school, as soon as they are diagnosed.

