

OUR AWESOME KIDS

We LOVE to show off about the achievements of our children! If your child has received an award or achieved something through their sporting or special interest club, please tell us so we can include their name and publicly congratulate them in our weekly newsletter. We have a huge amount of achievements to report on this week!

Renee Paterson Age Group Lifesaving Champs (Renee got into all the finals for water events but missed out on qualifying because she tripped over ☺ - Better luck next time Renee.)

Marissa Porteous – Athletics

Gian Krauer – 3rd place 200 metres sprint – Bays Cougars Ribbon Day

Joseph Wilson – Silver medal – Surf swim at Auckland Age Champs for Surf Lifesaving representing Muriwai

Roosters Under 10 Softball Runner up Team

Blake Watson, Boston Heath, Daniel Keirnan-James, Blake Wilburn, John Tulloch,

Daniel Kiernan-James – Player of the Day – Softball

James Webb – Sportsperson of the Day & Player of the Day – T Ball

Zoe Webb – Player of the Day & Sportsperson of the Day – T Ball

Tyler Watson – Sportsperson of the Day – T Ball

Dragons Under 8 T Ball Winners

Ashytn Watson, James Webb, Zoe Webb, Tyler Watson,

WOW.... What a multi talented bunch of kids we have!

HPV PROGRAMME (as seen on TV)

The Human Papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine National Immunisation programme will be offered through a 2-year school based programme. This year all young women in Years 8, 12 & 13 will be offered the vaccine and in 2010 young women in years 8,10, 11 & 12 will be offered the vaccine. During Term one of each year, girls who are eligible for the vaccine will receive information and a consent form. With signed consent forms they will be able to receive the immunisation at school. For further information on the HPV programme visit www.moh.govt.nz/immunisation or phone 0800 immune.

LATENESS



We seem to be having a lot of children arriving after the school bell, and they seem to be the same ones each day. PLEASE ensure your child wakes up early enough to have breakfast, get ready for school, and be in the classroom by 8.25am each day. Punctuality is an important habit to get into and children feel embarrassed when they are late to class. We appreciate your assistance with this.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

RIVERHEAD NETBALL CLUB – 2009 REGISTRATIONS

Yes, it's that time again! All you budding netballers Registrations take place at Riverhead War Memorial Park Thursday 5th March 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. and Friday 6th March from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

KUMEU JUNIOR RUGBY 2009 REGISTRATIONS

Where: Kumeu Rugby Clubrooms – Riverhead Domain

When: Saturday 28th February – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Wednesday 4th March – 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Any queries please phone Kris on 021 280 7477

KUMEU JUNIOR BADMINTON

Season commences Monday 9th March – Access Road, Kumeu. Beginners Welcome. Enquiries to Sharon on 411 8900 or Jondy on 832 4464.

NZ DIRT JUMP CHAMPS

Woodhill Mountain Bike Park Sunday March 8th at 1:00 p.m. \$2 entry. NZ's top riders plus the Gravity Team from the USA will be there "throwing down" tricks we have yet to even dream about here!

RIVERHEAD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



**Newsletter
Number 4,
25th February
2009, Week 4,
Term 1**

WELCOME

A very warm Riverhead School welcome is extended to our newest student Lulu and her family who have joined our wonderful school community. Our school roll now stands at 263. It is hard to believe that this time last year we were welcoming the leader of the opposition, our now Prime Minister, John Key, to open our wonderful new MPC building. Those years of struggling without this great facility; sitting on cold, hard concrete for assemblies or cancelling them because it was raining, traipsing over to the Riverhead Community Hall and facing bad weather and traffic are all now a distant and bad memory.

This year we will see the start of our next stage of building with a new set of classrooms being added.....we are just growing bigger and better with each passing year.

We are nearly at the end of the first month back at school – and a busy month it has been! It was wonderful to see a great turn out on Tuesday night for our first Learning Direction meetings and we hope that you came away feeling satisfied and happy in the knowledge that your child is getting a solid education with a great set of teachers. If you attended you would have also received a 'Learning Direction' plan produced by your child about taking ownership of their learning. As well as receiving lots of positive comments on the night, the teachers also came away knowing just that little bit more about your child and what makes them tick.

PARENT VOICE QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you to all those parents who took the time to fill in the "Parent Voice" Questionnaires. We have received a huge response with lots of positive feedback and ideas and suggestions regarding reporting about your children. We will endeavour to have all the results collated with results of the questionnaires to be published in next week's newsletter.

PROCESS OF COMMUNICATION

We understand that from time to time a problem may arise with your child or perhaps you are concerned with something that is happening within the school. All schools have a process of communication which must be followed. If you have a problem or concern we ask that you make a time to see your child's teacher first. If you are still not satisfied with the outcome then the next step would be to see the Syndicate leader, ie. Senior Syndicate, Philippa Randell and Junior Syndicate, Dianne Cook. Failing a resolution we ask that you then make a time to see the Principal, Kris Hughes. In all cases we do ask that you make an appointment at a time convenient to both parties. Once all these avenues have been exhausted and you are still not satisfied that your problem has been resolved, we would then ask that you put pen to paper in the form of a letter to the Board of Trustees Chairperson, Warrick Gibbs. This is the due process which must be followed.

RIVERHEAD SCHOOL BUS ROUTE CHANGE

Parents of our bus pupils, please note that we have managed to have our school bus route amended. This means that the school bus in the morning will now turn around at Edward Jonkers Drive and not at James Paige Lane. The change will come into effect



from Monday 2nd March. Running times for the buses are unchanged.

F.O.R.C.E. MEETING – Friends of Riverhead School for Children & Education

We will be holding a F.O.R.C.E. meeting on Tuesday 3rd March at 2:30p.m. at the school staffroom. This meeting is for all members of school committees and organisations such as the Walking School Bus, Nutrition Committee, Road Crossing supervisors, P.T.A., Parent Tutor Readers, Whanau Group plus any other parents / caregivers who assist in the school. We would love to welcome new members to join any of these groups so hope that you can make the time to come along. We are a very friendly bunch and if you are new to the community it is a great way to meet new people. Afternoon tea will be provided along with FREE use of After School Care facilities for the duration of the meeting.

GUITAR LESSONS

Our very talented music teacher, Joelle Brown, is once again offering private guitar tuition.

One to one Intermediate classes (some basic chord knowledge is required) commences on Wednesday 4th March 2:45 – 3:30 pm

One to one Beginners Classes (age 6 years and up) begin Thursday 5th March from 2:45 – 3:30pm

The cost per lesson is \$10, payable in 5 week blocks.

The classes were very popular last year and as Joelle has limited spaces available, names will be taken on a first on the list, first in basis. If your child was a guitar student last year that does not give them automatic entry this year; they will still need to put their name on the list.

If your child is wishing to participate then please leave you're their name at the office or with Joelle.

ROAD WORKS - REMINDER



The school has been advised by the Rodney District Council that major road works are about to be carried out in Riverhead. The road works are due to commence on the 2nd March through to approximately the 9th March, depending on the weather. The area affected is from the Rangitopuni Bridge through to the crossing by the Four Square. During construction hours the highway will be down to one lane and will be diverted, where possible, through Newton Road. They do aim to keep two lanes open during peak times, ie 7:00 – 9:00 am and 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. but of course this may not always be possible.

We are expecting all this to cause disruption to the school, especially during morning drop off and afternoon pick up times. To alleviate any problems, and to ensure that our children are kept safe, we are asking that as many of you as possible walk your children to and from school during this period.

Don't forget that we do offer an after school 'walking bus' service which goes as far as the as the Four Square shop and we will endeavour to accommodate extra children over this time. Our priority is to keep all our children safe during this disruptive time.

SCHOOL SWIMMING SPORTS



We hope you are able to come and cheer your child along at the Annual School Swimming Competitions. The Junior School (Rooms 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12) swimming Sports will be held on Thursday 5th March from 11:00 a.m. and the Senior School (Rooms 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5) will be held on Friday 6th March from 9:00 a.m. We encourage you to where your child's house colour, eg. Red, Blue, Green or Yellow to add to the atmosphere on the day.

SCHOOL LUNCHES – SUSHI DAY

Your child should have received an envelope on Tuesday if they wish to order Sushi for their lunch on Friday 27th February. These should have been returned by Thursday morning....so if you are reading this now and have not ordered then sorry, it is now too late! Sushi lunch days will be held fortnightly on a Friday with every consecutive Friday being a "Subway" lunch day.



SCHOOL DONATION

Thank you so much to all you wonderful parents who have paid their school donation already. There is just a month to go if you wish to take advantage of the discount on the school donation. The discount applies only until the 31st March. The Board of Trustees sets a school figure at the beginning of each year and although these are a voluntary donation, the fees collected are much needed to supplement the Government Grant received to run the school each year. The fees help to provide equipment in the school not provided by or allowed for in the Ministry of Education figures. All donations are tax deductible and a receipt will be issued.

This year the Board has set the fees at:

One child = \$110 (\$88 with 20% discount)

Two Children = \$150 (120 with 20% discount)

Three or more children = \$190 (\$152 with 20% discount)

KEY DATES FOR TERM 1

Please note key dates on your calendar. Details of events are in the newsletter as the dates approach.

Monday 2 nd March	-	PAT assessments begin
Tuesday 3 rd March	-	Confident Kids - Constable Dave
Tuesday 3 rd March @ 2.30pm	-	FORCE meeting
Wednesday 4 th March	-	Confident Kids - Constable Dave
Wednesday 4 th March	-	NW Zone Softball – Years 7 & 8
Thursday 5 th March	-	Junior SchoolSwimming Comp – Rooms 6,7,8,9,10,11,12
Friday 6 th March	-	Senior School Swimming Competition – Rooms 1,2,3,4,5
Monday 9 th March	-	Hearing & Vision Testing
Tuesday 10 th March	-	Confident Kids - Constable Dave
Wednesday 11 th March	-	Confident Kids - Constable Dave
Tuesday 17 th March	-	Years 1 – 4 Stepping Out (pedestrian license)
Friday 20 th March	-	NW Zone Swimming Competition
Tuesday 24 th March	-	Year 1 – 4 Stepping out programme
Sunday 29 th March	-	Daylight saving ends
Tuesday 31 st March	-	Years 1 – 4 Stepping out programme
Thursday 9 th April	-	Last day of Term 1
Friday 10 th April	-	Good Friday



SOAP BOX DERBY SPONSORSHIP

Riverhead School, under the expertise of Shawn Dyer, has entered a car into the annual Soap Box Derby every year for the last five years – and the team does really well! This year we are looking for families or businesses to sponsor the car in the upcoming derby. We realise that times are tough out there for a lot of businesses so another option would be for us to get 6 businesses (or families) to sponsor \$500 each. The sponsorship money pays for the cars entry into the event with all monies raised going to Rotary and the Waitakere Trust who then distribute funds back to the community. Without sponsorship we will be unable to enter a car in this year's event and as we already have children lining up to be a part of the annual event, it will be a shame if we have to disappoint them. If you or someone you know is in a position to sponsor our car then please contact Shawn on Ph 4129500 or leave your details at the school office and we will provide you with more detailed information.

