

## UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS

### Upcoming School Events

- 22 March—Otago Anniversary Day
- 23-26 March—Marae Week
- Wednesday 24 March—School visit to Puketeraki Marae
- 26 March—Next school assembly
- Tuesday 30 March—Teacher Only Day



# WAIKOUAITI PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

10 March 2010 Term 1 Week 6

Kia Ora everyone

What a busy two weeks we have had since our last newsletter. All our classes are working very well with the children positive and enthusiastic about their learning activities. 'Walk and Wheel Week' last week went well with a high percentage of our students and families participating. It was great to see so many of our children having fun during 'Wheels Day' on Monday. A number of our senior students took part in the East Otago Swimming Sports yesterday, with several swimmers qualifying for the Otago Swimming Champs in a few weeks' time. Our junior classes are looking forward to their museum trip next Monday and we are all very excited about our whole school visit to Puketeraki Marae on 24 March.

Regards

Dorothy Butterfield

## ROOM 1

Kia Ora! Whānau,

We had a wonderful assembly on Friday when the tamariki (children) sang "Fire Truck". Everyone enjoyed their performance. Kai Pai! to Taine for receiving the Principal's award and to Angel and Levi for their great effort in reading.

We are still busy exploring our 'bi-cultural' focus and look forward to our trip to the museum next week. On the 24<sup>th</sup> March the whole kura (school) will be visiting Karitane marae with a day filled with exciting activities. You are more than welcome to come and share in this day. Parent transport will be needed for our classroom.

A reminder that it is important to hear your child's reading and practise their word lists.

I have an open door policy so if you would like to see me please make an appointment for after school.

Nā Miss Thorne

## ROOM 2

Kia ora from Room Two!

The children have had a great time learning to play volley ball and tee ball. There are a number of children who are demonstrating excellent skills in this area.

In written language we are learning to write recounts about a personal event. Our volley ball and tee ball experiences were ideal to practise our recounting skills. I have included two recounts below to show you how good we are becoming! The other area of focus is where to put capital letters and full stops. You are very welcome to come into class and read everyone's experience.

We are looking forward to our museum visit on Monday, where we will be learning how to make a traditional Maori musical instrument called a Porotiti.

In maths we are working very hard to increase our number knowledge in skip counting and halves and doubles. We are also exploring different ways to add and subtract.

Kind regards

Louise Ritchie

**Volley Ball - Written by Tamati**

On Monday Room Two went to the Events Centre to play

volley ball.

First we had exercises. The first round we jogged and the second round we skipped. Then we practised by hitting the balloons so we could hit the beach balls easier. Every time the ball came to me I hit it back. I did the highest hit of the class.

After that we popped the balloons and they went Bang! Some of the class chose to keep the balloons but the balloons blew away. They got a new one.

**Tee Ball - Written by Bailey**

Yesterday we played tee ball. It was cool. I hit the ball right past the tree.

I felt excited and it was cool. I liked fielding and I liked batting. It was easy.

Then it was time to pack up. It was starting to rain. At lunch time it was still raining.

## ROOM 3

Kia Ora from Room 3

For the past two weeks we have been working hard in Room 3 on our topic which is focussing on the Marae.

We are all looking forward to our up and coming visit to the Marae in Week 8. The children have been learning about the welcoming onto the marae and making comparisons between rules on a Marae, the rules at home and the rules at school. In Maths we are working on number knowledge and learning some new strategies to solve addition and subtraction problems.

The children did an awesome performance at last Friday's assembly where they sing a Maori Action song. Everyone worked hard on learning the actions and they did a great job. Well done to Leah, Melissa and Katelyn who received certificates this week at assembly for their reading and numeracy as well as always having a positive attitude in class. Callum also received a certificate for a great start in Room 3. In the next few weeks we will be preparing ourselves for the Marae visit and learning about the Marae at Puketeraki.

Miss Burgess

Miss Burgess

Miss Burgess

Miss Burgess

## ROOM 4

Hello everyone

After a busy two weeks swimming and the swimming championships yesterday at Palmerston we are now settling back into routines. Our Maori unit is coming along well, the children are learning all about protocols on a marae. We are also learning our mihi. In maths we continue with addition and subtraction and basic facts and we are continuing with geometry, our focus at the moment is on parallel lines and angles. Next week we will look at geometric shapes. In reading we continue looking at myths and legends and in writing we are understanding how a recount is put together. The majority of the children are completing their homework but a couple still need some assistance at home. Have a good week everyone. Cheryl Neill

Cheryl Neill

Cheryl Neill

Cheryl Neill

Cheryl Neill

Cheryl Neill

## **ROOM 5**

Kia Ora from Room 5.

What a busy couple of weeks it has been for us. Last week we had 10 students attend a course at the Edgar Centre to help them become Waikouaiti's new P.A.L.s (Physical Activity Leaders). In this role the PALs will be responsible for organising and running games and activities for any interested students during break times. The PAL's learned about positive inclusion, teamwork and the attributes needed to be good leaders. Everyone had a huge amount of fun and certainly came away with some terrific ideas to trial in our playground. This week we have had students competing in the School Swimming Sports at the East Otago High School pool. The event was brilliantly organised and all 58 races were over and done with in just under 2 hours (I was incredibly impressed with the level of organisation). We have not received the official times as I type this but I am confident we will see those in the very near future. When we are aware of who has qualified for the Otago Championships coming up we will endeavour to contact families with all relevant details as soon as possible. I would like to thank Miss Fuehrer for stepping into my classroom to allow me the opportunity to attend these out of school activities as well as Mrs Butterfield for her countless hours organising the swimmers. I would also like to thank the many parents who have given up their time to provide transport, extra hands and most importantly support for our students at these events. Your help is certainly much appreciated by both the school and the students. Until next time, keep smiling, keep learning.  
Chris Cowan

## **MARAE WEEK 23—26 March**

As part of the Social Studies focus for our inquiry, we are learning about where we stand in New Zealand's unique bicultural heritage. During Marae Week the whole school will be visiting **Puketeraki Marae on Wednesday 24 March**. More details have been sent out with today's newsletter. On **Thursday 25 March** our students will be in whanau groups for a school based activity day, working on a variety of arts and crafts activities relating to Maori culture. Parents are very welcome to join us for both of these days.

## **EOTC CONSENT**

A blanket consent form for low risk activities at school and in the local community was sent home with our last newsletter. We would appreciate families signing this and returning it to the school as soon as possible. If you have mislaid yours please collect another one from the school office.

## **STUDENT SAFETY SURVEY**

Thank you to families who completed our student safety survey. We received 25 replies and these are being analysed along with the children's responses. The results will be used to review our school procedures for ensuring safety at school.

## **HEALTH and P E CONSULTATION**

A consultation booklet has been sent home with today's newsletter. This is part of our requirement to consult with our community on the implementation of Health Educa-

tion. The booklet outlines the direction for learning in Health and Physical Education as set out in the New Zealand Curriculum. Teachers have identified aspects of Health and PE that they think are important to include in our school's curriculum plan. We are very keen to hear what our families think is important for our Waikouaiti children. Completed booklets can be placed in the box in the school foyer.

## **RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION for ROOMS 1, 2 & 3**

Religious Instruction for Rooms 1, 2 & 3 starts this week. Betty Dempster and her team will be here on Fridays 12-12.30.

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS**

Our professional development focus for 2010 is on Literacy. Our teachers will be attending a series of literacy seminars with Dr Barbara Watson. Tuesday 30 March will be a **Teacher Only Day** as all teachers will be attending seminar one, 'Engaging Each Child in Purposeful Literacy Learning'.

## **WAIKOUAITI SCHOOL**

### **Board of Trustees Election**

Nominations are invited for the election of 5 parent representatives to the board of trustees.

A nomination form and a copy of this notice will be posted to all eligible voters and you should receive them by Monday.

Additional nomination forms can be obtained from the school office.

Nominations close at **noon on 23 April, 2010** and may be accompanied by a signed candidate's statement.

The voting roll is open for inspection at the school and can be viewed during normal school hours.

There will also be a list of candidates' names, as they come to hand, for inspection at the school.

**The poll closes at noon on 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2010.**

*Jill Brocket*

Returning Officer.

## **TRIATHLON**

The School Triathlon will be held on Thursday the 1<sup>st</sup> of April at Hawksbury. There are a number of areas where I need adults to supervise or help e.g. get the bikes down to Hawksbury, marshalling, and setting up the course for the day. If you are able to help out with this event can you please see Katrina.

## **FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE MEETING**

A meeting will be held tomorrow night (Thursday) 7:30pm in the staff room.

## **GIRL GUIDE BISCUITS**

To order Girl Guide Biscuits please phone Tracey Tiddy on 4657 457. Alternatively, biscuits will be for sale on Saturday 13 March outside the local shops in Waikouaiti.

**CONGRATULATIONS MISS BURGESS!!!**

Our very best wishes go to Katrina who is getting married on Saturday.