

NEWSLETTER NO 16 15th October 2009

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome back to the final Term of 2009. After being away from school during Term 3, I am enjoying reacquainting myself with the staff and students. During my absence the school ran very smoothly thanks to the efforts of Acting Principal Peter Papas and Deputy Principal Clair Twomey. Once again we have a very busy Term ahead of us. Activities include Year 6 visits, Cultural Evening, Battle of the Bands, swimming sports, sports tournaments, leavers' dinner and disco and final assembly. Dates for these events will be published in the near future.

Production



During the last week of Term 3, I watched the Production and was once again blown away by the quality of the performance. To take a large group of students from a position where they didn't know one song to performing as competently as they did, is just an amazing achievement and I'm very proud of both the students and staff. Every member of the staff was involved in some capacity and I feel very fortunate to work with such a talented, dedicated and hard working team. A huge thank you, as well, to our parent community who supported the show so well - four sold-out performances!

I would also like to acknowledge the following people who are not part of the staff but to whom we are indebted for their help with Production:

Kristine Saunders, Aaron Campbell, Dave Krakosky, Josh Krakosky, Jennifer Feek, Lindsay Brough, Murray Brough Bon Uriaro and Katrina Jensen.

Community Survey

Thank you to the 167 parents/caregivers who completed and returned the community survey which was distributed in Term 2. These have now been collated and the findings are listed below. This feedback is very useful when we review and make changes to our teaching and learning programmes.

Question 1 asked parents what level of importance they placed upon a list of tasks.

The most important were:

1. Learning the basics.
2. Developing social skills, tolerance, respect for others.
3. Developing work and study skills.
4. Teaching good manners.
- 5= Learning, science, social studies and technology.
- 5= Learning to use computers and electronic communications.

Question 2 asked parents how successful the school was at performing a list of tasks.

The most successful were:

- 1= Giving students a variety of experiences.
- 1= Technicraft.
2. Teaching the basics.
3. Developing social skills.
4. Developing physical skills.

Questions 3 to 10

84.9% of responses indicated that our communication was either very good or excellent.

96.6% of responses rated the school's ability to listen to concerns and take action as either excellent or very good.

99.8% of respondents felt comfortable approaching the school with a problem.

95.1% of respondents felt their children were very safe or reasonably safe at school.

94.4% of respondents rated the effectiveness of discipline as either very good or excellent.

99.9% of respondents felt their children were given equal opportunities regardless of background, race or culture.

99.3% of respondents indicated that interschool activities were either very important or reasonably important.

Parents were also asked to list up to three things they liked best about the school and up to three things they would like changed. I will give you a summary of these comments in the next newsletter.

Maori Parents Hui

The Ministry of Education require schools to consult with their Maori community on matters of student

achievement and how the school may better meet the educational and social needs of its Maori students. We are very keen to do this and the Board of Trustees are planning to hold a meeting at 6.30pm in the school library on Tuesday 27th October. We would love to see you there.

New Technology Block

Tenders for the construction of our new technology block have closed and the Board of Trustees will be meeting to decide which building company has been successful. Hopefully, work will begin in the next few weeks.

Honours Board

Congratulations to the following students:

Hohepa Parahi - Hutt Valley U13 Rugby League Reps

Logan Saumolia - Hutt Valley Rugby League U12 Reps

Geyne Elliott - U15 Hutt Valley Basketball Reps

Diana Oloapu - Wellington and Hutt Valley U12 Rugby League Reps

Naea Albert - Rep Central NZ in U12 Tennis Tournament

Jojo Lerm - Hutt Valley Mixed U12/U13 Rugby Reps

Daniel Miimetuapoko - Wellington Rugby League U13 Reps, NZ Kiwi's U13 Rugby League Reps

Jonti Cullen - Wellington U13 Girls Hockey Reps

Shannon Brown - Tae-kwon-do Nationals, 4th place

Isaako Sopoaga - U13 Petone Rugby Reps, Hutt Valley Premier 2 Rugby Reps, Hutt Valley U65kg Rugby Reps, Wellington Premier 2 Rugby Reps

Lester Maulolo U13 Rugby Petone Rugby Reps, Hutt Valley Premier 1 Rugby Reps, Hutt Valley U65kg Rugby Reps, Wellington Premier 1 Reps

Naenae College

Year 9 2010 Parent Information Evening, 7pm, 3 November 2009

Year 9 Option Subject selection morning 5 November 2009. Only those enrolled may attend. Please enrol your child before this date if you wish them to attend Naenae College in 2010.

Thank you

Steve Black
(Principal)