

**NEWSLETTER NO 9**  
**THURSDAY 17<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2010**

**Dear Parents/Caregivers**



I hope you are all well and managing to cope with the bad weather we have been experiencing lately. At school we have had many wet lunchtimes where the students have not been able to get outside. However, they are coping well and we have been impressed with their 'inside behaviour'. The interschool sports programme has been affected with the cancellation of the Rugby 7s and the girl's hockey tournament. Fortunately the weather cleared for the cross country and the boy's hockey tournament. Our Physical Education programme has not been affected by the weather and the students are enjoying preparing for the Ball in the warmth of the school hall.

Despite the cold weather a number of students are arriving at school in just their polo tops. This may be "cool" but please remember that if they are cold and uncomfortable in class it will affect their ability to learn. We have good stocks of both track pants and polar fleeces available from the school office.

**Staff Changes Term 3**

Many of you will have heard that the Room 12 teacher Mr Rangiwhetu is taking leave from school during Terms 3 and 4. The reason for this is that Mr Rangiwhetu's wife will be returning to teaching after several years of being at home caring for their four young

children. Mr Rangiwhetu will now fill this role during the second half of the year. However, he will work at school on Wednesdays with our cultural group, attend assemblies and relieve in class if a teacher is absent. We hope that he will resume his full time teaching role next year.

Mr Rangiwhetu's replacement in Room 12 will be Ms Ung. Ms Ung presently works at our school in Room 9. She is a very capable teacher and has previous experience of taking on teaching positions half way through a year. Ms Ung is looking forward to teaching Room 12 and we feel confident that the student's education will not be compromised by this change. Mrs McInnarney, who has been working part time hours in Rooms 8 and 9, will replace Ms Ung on a full time basis in Room 9 from the beginning of next Term.

**Open Day**

Tomorrow we are having our Open Day at school. Parents of new students, as well as parents of current students, are welcome to come to school between 9.00am and 12.00pm to receive a tour conducted either by myself or Deputy Principal Peter Papas. This will be an excellent opportunity to come and see the school in action.

Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning. <b>Benjamin Franklin</b>
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## Mid- Year Interviews



Attached to this Newsletter is a form for you to request an interview with your child's teacher. Please complete the details required, select an approximate time at the bottom of the page and return it to your child's teacher. When the reports go home next Friday, inside the envelope will be your confirmed interview time. If you have not requested an interview your child's report will go home early next Term.

This year we have changed the report form to include information about how your child is progressing against national standards in writing, reading and maths. Consequently, also included in the envelope is a pamphlet about the standards published by the Ministry of Education and a letter from me explaining aspects of the report form.

The parent interviews will take place on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> June. **Please bring your child with you to the interview.**

## New Technology and Art Centre



The building is almost completed and we are looking forward to moving in next Term. On Monday the 19<sup>th</sup> July (day 1 Term 3) we will be having an opening ceremony. This will include a powhiri for our visitors followed by a short opening ceremony and a blessing of the new building given by our kaumatua John Wharehinga. The building will be opened by ex student and double Oscar winner Michael Hedges and the function will conclude with morning tea.

Parents are welcome to join us. **Please assemble outside the foyer at 10.00am. If you would like to attend please let our office staff know by Friday 2 July 2010.** Students, in classes, will receive a tour of the new building over the rest of the day and Technology and Art programmes in the new building will start on Tuesday morning.

## Venture Class

Students who have applied for Venture Class Term 3 will know if they have been successful next week. Unfortunately, we had more applications than places available and therefore some students will miss out.

## Absentees

Thank you very much to those of you who contact the school when your child is absent - we really appreciate it. Unfortunately, not all our parents do this and when this happens our office staff has to ring around until they find someone who can give them an explanation for the child's absent. As you can imagine this can take a large amount of time and when they are unable to contact anyone we then become concerned for the child's safety. Please always ring if your child is away and if you have new contact numbers then please let the office know.

## Honours Board

Congratulations to the following student:

Creighdon Dawson, Hutt Valley U12 rugby.  
Asafo Aumua, Hutt Valley U13 Premier 1 and Premier 2 rugby

Thank you

Steve Black  
(Principal)