

Newsletter No 2

THURSDAY 3rd MARCH 2011

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Apologies to you all for the absence of the Newsletter last Thursday. The reason for this was that as we had the picnic last Thursday, with students travelling back to school from Williams Park by car or bus, distribution of the Newsletter would have been difficult.

The Picnic



As in previous years the annual picnic to Days Bay was a great

success. Students took full advantage of the fine weather and enjoyed swimming, canoeing, jumping off the wharf, fishing and being pulled around the Bay on a 'doughnut'. Thank you to parents who transported students to and from Days Bay.

Naenae Schools Literacy Project

As mentioned during the meet the teacher evening, our school is part of a combined schools initiative to improve writing and reading levels across all schools in the cluster. The project's objective is to ensure that students begin college at or above Level 4. Many are not at this level (especially in writing) and our staff will be working hard with their students to ensure they make good progress at meeting this

objective. The project's focus this year is on writing and teachers will be giving students effective verbal and written feedback on the quality of their writing. We know that when students are informed of what they do well, where they need to improve and how to make that improvement, they will start to make real progress.

This year your child will receive two written progress reports and included in the report will be details of how well your child is progressing against national standards for reading, writing and maths.

Earthquake Safety Procedures

Each Term we are required to practice our emergency evacuation drill so students will know what to do in the event of an earthquake or fire. We had our first drill last week and it went very well. Should there be a large earthquake with considerable property damage where parents may have difficulty getting to school immediately; students will be kept at school until they are picked up by a designated caregiver. Details of designated caregivers should have been recorded by you on the enrolment form. If these details have changed or you wish to add other names then please see Ms Browne in the office. Students could be kept (waiting to be picked up) at school for up to forty-eight hours after a large earthquake and therefore we are asking all parents

to provide their child with a **sealed bottle of water and a can of food** which will be stored in the classroom. Could you please do this as soon as possible?

Expectations for student's behaviour

Underpinning all our teaching and learning is a shared staff philosophy of how we expect students to behave while they are at school. We believe that if students do not behave at school and do not take responsibility for their learning and behaviour, then learning will not take place in the classroom.

Three years ago the staff met with a facilitator to record what they felt were things that were really important for students in order for them to succeed at Naenae Intermediate. This shared philosophy is attached to this Newsletter. The teachers have discussed it with their students and we would like you to support us by also having a similar discussion at home.

ERO Report

Last year we had a visit from the Education Review Office. Their review of our school can be found on our schools website www.naenaeint.school.nz or the ERO website www.ero.govt.nz. It is a very good report and if you have any questions about it then please do not hesitate in contacting me.

Music Tuition

Music lessons in guitar drums and keyboard are well underway for Term 1. There are 45 students enrolled as well as a small waiting list. Our tutors, Steve Wren and Caryl Stannard appreciate your prompt payment of fees. Fees can be brought to the lesson or taken to the school office. This year we would like to invite all those students who are learning an instrument to participate in a friendly small concert to show parents

and friends what they are learning. This concert will be near the end of Term 2. More details to follow. Please encourage your child to practice regularly at home. Five minutes a day is so much better than nothing.

Production Scaffolding

During Week 7 of Term 3 we will be performing our Production. The choir sits on scaffolding during the performance and in 2009 we were most fortunate to have a parent who kindly donated scaffolding free of charge. If you know of anyone who could help us this year, could you please let me know?

Athletic Sports

Today we had our athletic sports and next Wednesday the semi finals and finals will be held. Results of place getters will be published in the next newsletter. A team will be chosen to represent our school at the Inter intermediate athletic champs on the 28th March 2011.

School Photos

Class and individual photos will be taken on Thursday 17th March 2011. Correct money in the envelopes sent home last week must be returned to school before this date.

Belmont School Community Gala

Belmont School will be holding their Community Gala on Sunday 13th March 2011, 10.00am - 2pm. This will be held in the School grounds. Money raised from the fair will go towards playground activities.

Mufti Day

Students are asked to wear red and black colours tomorrow and bring \$2.00 to support Christchurch earthquake victims.

Steve Black
Principal