



Windy Ridge School Newsletter

February 10 2010

www.windyridge.school.nz

Kia ora koutou. Hello Everyone.

It is great to see everyone back looking so refreshed and eager to learn. As usual we come back to school in the hottest month of the year and I am pleased to see nearly 100% of children wearing hats as this is so important if they want to move around and play during the breaks and also during Physical Education sessions etc. It may be wise to also put some sun block in your child's bag. It only took a couple of minutes of walking around at lunchtime to feel the intensity of the sun on the skin.

Welcome to our New Staff

I would like to extend a huge welcome to Ms Jenine Maxwell who has started as our Deputy Principal of the Junior School and Mr Greg White who is teaching Y4-5 in room 9.

Meet the Teacher Evening

We will be having our annual Meet the Teacher Evening next Wednesday from 6pm. However this year we will be having a completely new format. We want to start by having a family picnic on the field with the P.T.A selling sausages and drinks. So bring along a sun umbrella and settle down to some quality family time. At 7pm we will be opening up the new Admin block as well as all the classrooms for you to visit with your child. This is a time for you and your child(ren)'s teacher to put a face to the name and for a quick chat. We ask you to be mindful of others who may also wish to do this and to remind you this is not the evening for in-depth and private conversations about your child. If you need to discuss something then it is best to make an appointment to see the teacher at another time. Each teacher will have a written sheet of information for you to take with you that will hopefully provide you with some insight into expectations and routines etc. Classes will be closing at 8pm. In addition to this we will be providing you with an opportunity to share goals for your child with the teacher on Thursday 11 March.

Appointments to see Teachers

Please be aware that teachers have commitments on Monday and Tuesday afternoons due to staff and team meetings. If you need to see a teacher you are best to email them from the webpage to arrange a suitable time. It is not possible for teachers to speak to you regarding issues after 8.55 am as this is valuable teaching time. If it is very important it is best to make contact with the office. Again I ask parents not to disturb classes before 3pm as teaching occurs up to the bell.

School Fees

The Board of Trustees is well aware of the financial crunch hitting New Zealand currently and therefore the fees are the same as last year. Remember if you pay in full or set up a regular payment schedule by the end of term one (separate sheet has more details) there will be a discount.

Can you help with Crossing Duty

If you are able to help us with crossing duty, either in the morning or after school, would you please let Dinie know at the office.

Stationery

Thanks to all those parents who have organised stationery for their children. It is important that teachers are able to reinforce expectations at the beginning of the year and it is easier to give instructions when all children have the correct stationery rather than compromising quality teaching time repeating the message over and over again. Stationery is being sold every morning from the Resource Room before school, or send the order with payment in a named envelope and we are happy to organise it for you.

School Assembly this week

There will be a full School Singing Assembly at 2.10pm **tomorrow** (Thursday 11th Feb) in the hall. Parents are more than welcome to join us if they wish. Please note that this year we will be having our school assemblies on Thursdays, generally once a fortnight due to timetable rearrangements.

ASB

All school bankers are going to be in a draw each week for 25 prizes of \$50 for this term! Banking day is Thursday and the deposit counter will be placed in the (new) foyer soon.

Kind regards

Janine Irvine
Principal

PTA News

The PTA will be holding our **AGM TONIGHT**, Wednesday 10 February, at 5.30pm in the meeting room, off the new school office. All parents/caregivers are welcome to attend. This is a fun, informal group of ladies who meet monthly to discuss and organise fundraising initiatives to raise funds for our school. If you would like to share your fundraising ideas, or just see what we are all about, please join us! ☺

Community Notices

- Eila Rowlands and Carol Hall would like to say a BIG thankyou to the parents, teachers and residents who signed and supported their petition to make the streets of Windy Ridge safer for all. The petition had great support from the chairperson of the Glenfield Community Board (GCB). The petition is currently in the hands of the NSCC Road Engineers who will keep the ladies updated on the progress.
- Glenfield Kindergarten - spaces available. Ph 444 8473 for more details.
- Glenfield Rugby Union - registrations start 15 Feb. Phone 444 6083 for more details.
- Creative Drama Classes - phone Robyn on 444 2769.
- Birkenhead Soccer - enrolments start 15 Feb. Phone 483 5718 for more details.
- Birkenhead College Night & Weekend classes start 15 Feb. Ph 482 1708 for more details.
- Dance Dimensions, Browns Bay, have 5 tutors who are crazy about dance! Ph Ann on 478 5898.
- Kids Manicure Parties - ph Ashlea on 419 5652 for more details.
- Performing Arts Education Classes - Rawene Centre, Birkenhead. For children aged 4 - 16. Sessions after school. Phone Michael on 021 990 705 for more details.
- After-School Artists - Highbury House, Thursdays, starting 18 Feb. Phone Elon on 483 6703 for more details.