

ARAKURA SCHOOL

Thursday 25th February
2010

Issue 2

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

This newsletter belongs to _____ Room _____

Greetings ~ Kia Ora, Talofa Lava, Kia Orana, Malo E Lelei, Fakalofa Lahi Atu, Ni Sa, Bula Vanaka, Taloha Ni and Welcome!

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Welcome to New Pupils ~ Ethan lee and Jayen Tuari to Room Six.

Teacher Only Day ~ There will be **NO school this Friday 26th February, as there is a Teacher Only Day Valleywide.**

School Hours ~ Please remember the bell rings at 8.55 am and students need to be ready to start at this time. Children who arrive after 9 am will be marked as absent on the electronic class register. They will need to go to the office and get a late pass if they are running late. It can be very disruptive to your child's learning if they miss the first part of the morning. If you know your child is going to be late, please call the office and leave a clear message with your child's name, room number and reason for absence on the absentee line.

Board of Trustees Elections ~ will be underway in the next month, with our Returning Officer Linda Mackle sending out nomination forms and then voting papers to eligible parents/caregivers. It is imperative that we have correct details listed for each parent/caregiver for posting out forms.

Update information ~ Please notify the school office if any of your details have changed over the holidays (eg. Change of address, phone, emergency contacts). It is important that we get this correct for the upcoming Board of Trustee Elections.

Teachers' Paid Union Meeting ~ On Thursday 18th March at 1.30 pm teachers will be attending a paid union meeting at the Intermediate. **We would encourage you to collect your child at lunchtime as there will be limited staff available to supervise your child in the afternoon.**

National Standards ~ There has been a lot of information in the media about National Standards being implemented this year. Enclosed with this newsletter is a "Hands Up for Learning" brochure from the teachers' union NZEI with their view on the standards. If you would like further information, there are some brochures in the school office from the MOE, or you can make an appointment to come and discuss your thoughts with me.

Swimming Fun Day ~ There will be a pool fun day at Wainuiomata Pools on Friday 26th March at a cost of \$2.50. A separate notice will be sent home closer to the date requesting permission and payment.

2010 Swimming ~ Our swim programme will be run at Huia Pools from Monday 24th May - Friday 4th June. Children will be transported by bus, there will be no charge for swimming this year.

Parking in School Grounds ~ Please do not drive up the driveway or park in the school grounds. The gates are currently being left open for the builders who have materials being delivered regularly.

Building Bridges Assemblies ~ These have focused on Honesty, Effort, Respect and Pride and come from our 'H.E.R.P. Programme' which has been in place for many years now.

Every second Friday morning there will be a prize draw for children who have been given a gold card during the course of the fortnight. Last weeks winners were: Ngapera Tihore for working hard in all her subjects, Isabelle Packard for looking after our school grounds, Ella-Rose Packard for looking after her friends.

New Classrooms ~ There will be several contractors and vehicles coming and going from the school grounds during this time, and we ask for your patience and understanding on this matter. If your child comes to school after hours/during the school holidays they should be accompanied by an adult, for safety reasons.

Regards

Mark

Kibblewhite, Principal

ASB School Banking is HERE!! ~ We are really excited to let you know that School Banking has started at Arakura School. The children can bring their School Banking deposit envelopes to school every Wednesday and deposit them in the special banking box located in the school office. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to teach your children how to save in their very own account. The amount deposited does not matter – anything from 10c per week is fine, we just want to encourage our children to learn the importance of saving. The accounts are free of fees. Every child that registers for School Banking will receive a Goodie bag to help them with their banking!!! Enrolment packs at school office.



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Special Points of

Interest:

- **Sorry we do not have EFTPOS available at the school office.**
- **Please use the footpath to walk your child into the grounds, not the driveway.**
- **School Lunches ~ Starting Tuesday 2nd March, and only available Tuesdays and Thursdays. A new lunch list is enclosed.**

DATES TO REMEMBER:



- Fridays Whole school assembly, 9 am
- Friday 26th Feb TEACHER ONLY DAY
- Thurs. 18th March Teachers Paid Union Meeting 1.30 pm
- Tues. 23rd March Board of Trustees Meeting, 7 pm
- Fri. 26th March Pool Fun Day
- Thurs. 1st April End of Term One

2010 Term Dates

- Term Two Mon. 19th April - Fri. 2nd July (Queens B/Day Mon. 7th June)
- Term Three Mon. 19th July - Fri. 24th September
- Term Four Mon. 11th October - Fri. 17th December (Labour Day Mon. 25th October)

- NOTE: These dates allow for two Teacher Only days during the year.

COMMUNITY NEWS

New Medical Centre Opening 2010 ~ Hutt City Health Centre, High Street, Lower Hutt (will be open by April 2010, or earlier if they get a high number of pre-enrolments). The number to phone to pre-enrol is (04) 576 2044.

Gifted Child? Here's your chance to come and try out **One Day School**, New Zealand's longest running programme for gifted learners. On Friday 19th March 2009 **Mind Adventure Day (MAD) sessions** will be held 9.00 - 11.45am for children aged 6-8 years, and from 12.45 - 3.30pm for children aged 9-12 years. Sessions will be held in our One Day School classroom at Rangikura School, 95 Conclusion St, Ascot Park, Porirua. The cost is \$30 per child. Parents and teachers welcome too. For more information, or to book a place for your child, please phone Shirley on **232 3523** or email shirley.lawn@giftededucation.org.nz

Tamatoa Dolphins ~ Hey kids - here's a great opportunity. Tamatoa Dolphins is a maritime based youth group for boys and girls from 10 (9 year olds approaching their tenth birthday will be considered) to 12 years of age who like water. We operate for two hours each Wednesday evening and include a range of activities based loosely on sea cadets as well as games and youth development activities. Kayaking, swimming, water safety, marine heritage, an annual raft race, rope skills, seamanship and navigation, trips on the Interislander, warship visits, leadership training and a whole range of great opportunities exist.

Arakura School Mission Statement

In partnership with our community,
we will provide a caring, educational environment
which will recognize uniqueness;
provide opportunities and encourage co-operation.



When you (or someone you know) lists their property with Harcourts Wainui, mention "**Arakura School**" as the fundraising group you'd like them to donate to and when it sells, **they'll donate \$\$\$ to the school!** Phone (04) 564 7310 for more information.

Tram 159 celebrates her 85th Birthday, Sunday 28 February, Tramway Queen Elizabeth Park, McKay's Crossing. 159 invites all her friends around for the party and to enjoy the many activities - including pony rides, tram rides, lolly scrambles @ 11.30 & 2.30, plus balloons and of course - a birthday cake!

Be intrigued by the Tram Barn display and Museum. Food and refreshments on site. **Be there! Great family fun: 11 AM - 4 PM**

Kapiti Tramway Experience , Wellington Tramway Museum Inc.

Display and Museum Open daily from 10 A.M.

Trams run school and public holidays 11AM - 4.00 P.M.

Weekday, school visits and other special events by arrangement.

Birthdays and Christmas & other Parties a specialty.

Each week that you make a deposit into your Headstart account during Term 1 (from 8th February 2010 to 4th April 2010) through ASB's School Banking programme, you're automatically in that week's prize draw to win one of the 25 prizes of \$50.00 on offer.

ASB The more weeks you make a deposit, the more chances you have to win!

“At Arakura School we focus on the individual needs of the student”