

## 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

**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** ~ Has been postponed until next term. Once we have a confirmed date we will let you know.

**National Standards** ~ There has been a lot of information in the media about National Standards being implemented this year. 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. There will also be a Public Forum at the Duxton Hotel in Wellington on Wednesday 24th March at 7 pm with leading educationalists and politicians to discuss the Standards.

**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.

**Impetigo (School Sores)** ~ There have recently been cases of children at school with impetigo. This contagious infection may begin as a cut, scratch or insect bite which becomes infected, red and inflamed. If left untreated infection can spread over the body and to other people.

Sores should always be covered, and if infected will need a course of antibiotics from the doctors. Children should be kept away from school until the infection is being treated.

For further info you may contact your doctor, practice nurse or Public Health nurse Vanessa Osborn on 570 9025.

**Parking** ~ 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. Could parents also take extra care crossing the road by using the Pedestrian Crossing and take care opening car doors into oncoming traffic.

**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: Ema Mene for awesome behaviour in class, Devon Watson for showing respect, Christian-lee for showing respect, Doris Tagaloa for 100% effort in all class work, Trieste Tamaali'i for great handwriting.

**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!!** ~ Once you receive an account number from the ASB, your child 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:

- **Lucky books close Wed. 17th March.**
- **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 ~ available Tuesday and Thursdays only.**

**DATES TO REMEMBER:**



- Fridays Whole school assembly, 9 am
- Tues. 23rd March Board of Trustees Meeting, 7 pm
- Fri. 26th March Pool Fun Day
- Thurs. 1st April End of Term One

**Board Elections**

- Mon 15th March Call for Nominations
- Fri 23rd April Noon, Nominations close
- Fri 7th May Noon, Voting closes

**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**

**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](mailto:shirley.lawn@giftededucation.org.nz)

**YMCA Camp Kaitoke Holiday Camps:** Kayaking, horse riding, archery, group games, campfire fun, and much more! Our highly skilled, trained staff ensure your child has an amazing time, and we have programmes for campers aged 5-15 years, and Leaders in Training 15-17 years. We have 4 day and 1 week options these school holidays, including Art camp, Adventure camp, Horse camps, and our traditional Y-camps. Camps are OSCAR approved, and range in price from \$220-\$350 per camper. For more information contact Emily Robinson at [emilyrobinson@ymca.org.nz](mailto:emilyrobinson@ymca.org.nz) , or on (04) 526-7338.

**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.

**Visique Optometrist** ~ As well as the free sunnies voucher which is available to New Entrants, Visique are also offering parents of New entrants a 15% off voucher for their first purchase. This can include the eye test; frames and lenses or contact lenses. Any questions contact the National Support Office on 0800 Visique.

**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.

Hey Kids, kick start your savings for 2010...

And you could get \$50.00 added to your savings!

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”**