

# ARAKURA SCHOOL

Thursday 25th  
March 2010

Issue 4

## 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** ~ Alexis Awa to Room Eight and Tangaroawhai to Room Six.

**2010 Charter/2009 Variance Report** ~ Copies of these two documents are available at the school office to take home and read, or can be accessed on our school website: [www.arakura.school.nz](http://www.arakura.school.nz)

**School Hours** ~ Please remember 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.

**Complaints Policy** ~ If you are unhappy with something the school has or has not done we have a procedure to try and address this. The BOT has a Complaints Policy which explains how parents can deal with any concerns they have. Complaints are taken seriously and most are able to be easily resolved, but in some cases matters are referred to the Board.

**Teachers Paid Union Meeting** ~ On Thursday 29th April teachers will be attending a paid union meeting at the Intermediate. **We would encourage you to collect your child by 2.00 pm 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. 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 **tomorrow** at a cost of \$2.50. Permission slips and payment required.

**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** ~ 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: Hailey Collins for cleaning Room Seven and Trenell Leota for making good progress in reading.

**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 Banking: What makes a Kiwi bank Kiwi?

If you've been wondering why ASB have been calling themselves a Kiwi bank, it's simple. It's all about doing the right thing for customers like you, and the community we work in. Because ASB believe that's what every good bank should do.

- It's why ASB partner with St John and Starship to help a thousand Kiwis a day, young or old, when they need it most.
- It's why ASB are teaching Kiwi kids about money through School Banking and our GetWise financial literacy programme.
- It's why ASB set up the billion dollar Job Creation Fund to help businesses stay in business and keep Kiwis in jobs.
- It's why, this year alone, ASB will invest \$10 Million in the community they're part of.
- And it's why ASB keep their call centre right here in New Zealand, because no-one does customer service better than locals.

And that's why ASB believe they can call themselves a Kiwi bank. But it's nothing new. In fact, ASB were the bank that invented community giving, over 150 years ago.

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### Special Points of

#### Interest:

- **Sorry we do not have EFTPOS available at the school office.**
- **ASB Banking every Wednesday at the school office.**
- **School Lunches ~ available Tuesday and Thursdays only.**
- **Update info ~ please let the office know of any changes to contact details.**

## DATES TO REMEMBER:



- Fridays Whole school assembly, 9 am
- Fri. 26th March Pool Fun Day
- Thurs. 1st April End of Term One
- Thurs. 29th April Teachers Paid Union Meeting

## **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.

## **Board of Trustees Elections**

### **Arakura School will be seeking Five Parent Representatives for the Board of Trustees.**

Would you like to become a member of the Board at Arakura School? The following gives an idea of some aspects of Board work.

### **Meetings**

Up to 8 times a year.

### **Training**

To help understand and find your niche within the Board training is encouraged and required. There are frequent courses, usually run by NZSTA (School Trustees Association) which cover all aspects of Trusteeship. Costs are covered.

### **Election Timeline**

- Mon 15th March Call for Nominations (posted)
- Fri 23rd April **Noon, Nominations close**
- 27th April Voting papers (posted)
- Fri 7th May **Noon, Voting closes**
- Fri 14th May Results of election announced, new Board takes office.

## **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.

## **COMMUNITY NEWS**

▪ **Rainbow Kidz Start** ~ After school and holiday programme at Alicetown Community centre. Mon - Fri 3 - 6 pm and holiday programme 8 am - 5.30 pm. Pick up from schools in Hutt region, OSCAR and CYFS approved. Enquiries to Sharon 0210587675 or Carol 9766467.

### **Dragon Scales, Viking Tales**

▪ These school holidays read the book 'How to train your dragon' by Cressida Cowell, see the movie, then come and join us for some Viking and dragon activities! Go on an egg hunt, fish, create a Viking ship or a clay dragon and much more! FREE

#### *War Memorial Library*

▪ Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> April 2pm,

#### *Moera Library*

▪ Thursday 8<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> April 2pm

#### *Wainuiomata Library*

▪ Friday 9<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> April 2pm

▪ **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.

▪ **Skylight Counselling** ~ This unique holiday programme combines creative art activities and peer support to provide understanding around issues related to living with a parent with a mental illness. The programme aims to strengthen family relationships through focused parent child time over the holidays. The group is for ages 6- 12 years. A parent/caregivers group will run concurrently. Parent/ caregivers will join the children's group activities for part of each day.

**Date** 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> April 2010

**Time** 9.30 – 12.30pm

**Venue** Skylight, Newtown, Wellington

**For further information or to register a place in a group please contact Skylight (04) 920 9967, or freephone 0800 299100 or visit our website [www.skylight.org.nz](http://www.skylight.org.nz)**



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