



Pigeon Mountain School News

Newsletter No. 5

www.pigeon-mountain.school.nz

JUNE 2009

Dear Parents,

This term, as part of our parent engagement strategy, we have a parent information evening planned on LITERACY. This is to be held in the school hall on Tuesday, 23rd June at 7.30pm. We have the internationally renowned author and literacy expert, Jill Eggleton coming to speak. She has a wealth of knowledge to share and it will be a real treat for us all to come along and listen to her. We will also have some break out sessions after the guest speaker where you will be able to find out more information on literacy. Our literacy team are working hard to organise this fantastic event and we hope to see you all there.



From the Principal's Desk

We would like to welcome all new children and their families to our school this year and hope that new parents join us at the various events and functions we hold and take all opportunities to participate in our school. We know that students benefit most if a healthy partnership between the home and the school is developed and that lines of communication are kept open. New children are: Orlando Yan, Ashley Whittaker, Alan Zhang, Gloria Oh, Nancy Wu, Sunny Pan, and Victor Lin.

INFLUENZA & OTHER ILLNESSES:

Please don't send your children to school if they are unwell in any way. We are trying hard to limit the amount of illness by encouraging children to wash their hands after using the toilet and before eating. Talk to your children about this at home. The Ministry of Health is working closely with the Ministry of Education in this regard.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

The next Board of Trustees meeting is to be held on **Tuesday, 16th June in the Library at 7.30pm.**

PTA NEWS: The next meeting of the PTA will be held on **Wednesday, 10th June in the staffroom at 7.30pm.**

WANTED: Parent to do the school washing once a week. This includes tea towels, sheets & pillowcases from the sick bay. Please see the office if you can help.

BIZZY BODZ After School Care are seeking an enthusiastic, self motivated and organised person to join our team in the above position based at Pigeon Mountain School. Hours Mon-Fri 2.30 to 6pm. Send applications and CV by email to jo@bizzybodz.co.nz or P.O. Box 38742 Howick.

PARENT SURVEY JUNE 2009:

We ask parents of Pigeon Mountain School for feed-back through an anonymous survey every two years. This year we are hoping that every family will complete the survey on line, using a programme called Survey Monkey. This will help the analysis of the data. To complete this survey; go on line and type **tinyurl.com/dkv9ly** into your browser address bar. Other ways to complete the survey:

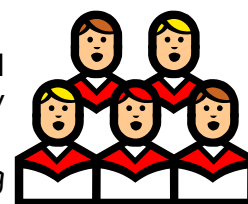
1. For those families who do not have the facility to complete the survey on line, we have a computer set up in the meeting room for parents to call in to use, in order to complete the survey.
2. Parents can collect a "hard-copy" of the survey and we can load the results on to the computer at school.
3. We also have the survey translated into Chinese and a translated 'hard-copy' can be obtained from reception and the results will be loaded on to a computer at school.

BBI Music Festival:

This is being held in the newly renovated BBI Hall on the evenings of Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th June.

It is a wonderful event and it is great to go along and see our entire choir singing their hearts out.

Tickets cost \$7 and are available from the office. They will all sell quickly so be in early just in case. Students who buy 5 tickets to this event will receive a BBI tuck shop voucher.



NEW CURRICULUM:

This month, I am going to write on the Key Competency "Participating and Contributing."

The other Key Competencies are **Relating to others, Participating and contributing and Using language, symbols and texts.**

Participating and contributing is about being actively involved in communities. Communities include family and school and those based, for example, on a common interest or culture. They may be drawn together for purposes such as learning, work, celebration or recreation. They may be local, national, or global. This competency includes a capacity to contribute appropriately as a group member, to make connections with others, and to create opportunities for others in the group.

Students who participate and contribute in communities have a sense of belonging and the confidence to participate within new contexts. They understand the importance of balancing rights, roles and responsibilities and of contributing to the quality of sustainability of social, cultural, physical and economic environments.

More next newsletter with the remaining key competency.

National Standards and Reporting to Parents:

The Ministry of Education has begun consulting on the new National Standards in reading, writing and maths and plain-language reports to parents. An important focus of the consultation is seeking the views of parents, as well as the education sector. Schools have recently received packs that contain background information on National Standards and Reporting to Parents, as well as examples of reports for parents on their children's achievement and a feedback form specifically for parents. The information is also on the ministry website. Parents can send their feedback to the Ministry by free-post, or electronically by completing the submission form on line at: www.minedu.govt.nz/nationalstandards. Feedback is due by 5pm, Friday 3rd July. For more information about the National Standards and/or the consultation process, email us at: nationalstandards@minedu.govt.nz

SPORTS TEAM NEWS:

Unfortunately, the soccer field day was cancelled this year due to inclement weather.

Netball— On Wednesday, 26th June, four yr 6 teams and 2 yr 5 teams played in the Eastern Zone Netball Field Day at the Pakuranga Netball Courts. They had lots of fun and enjoyed playing different positions. They won quite a few games.

Rugby— Pigeon Mountain played Macleans Primary and won convincingly. Last Wednesday, the team played Pakuranga Heights and won in the last 3 minutes of the game 26-24.

Rugby 7's Field Day—at Lloyd Elsmore. The Under 35kg boys won 2 games and drew 2 games out of 6. The Under 45kg won all of their 6 games. They scored 29 tries with only 8 against them. Both teams played well. The Player of the Day was Hayden Stone.

**COMMUNITY NEWS:**

MILAN SHOES in Howick for your winter school shoes. Show this newsletter & receive 10% discount.

Diocesan School for Girls— Open Day Thursday 11 June, 10am to 12 noon.

Part-time Nannies Available— Bucklands Beach Campbell Institute - for more information phone 534 4292 or see information at office.

5 Minutes of Fame at Westfield— School Holiday Talent Quest. You could win a share of \$20,000 in prizes. See www.westfield.co.nz for more info. Entries close 14th June.

High School Musical 2— August 6th—9th at the ASB Theatre Aotea Centre. www.the-edge.co.nz or call 0800 289 842

Polar Fleeces are available from John Russell Menswear in Moore St, Howick. Price \$52.50.

MANDARIN CLASSES:

If you are interested in Mandarin classes at school on Tuesdays 3.30pm to 4.30pm Phone Sue Weng on 532 9274 or 021 232 7033.

DATES TO NOTE:

Wed 10 June	ICAS Science Exam
Wed 10 June	PTA Meeting 7.30pm
Fri 12 June	Mathathon Money due
Tue 16 June	BOT Meeting 7.30pm
17/18 June	Choir Festival
Tues 23 June	ICAS Writing/Spelling
Tues 23 June	Literacy Evening 7.30
24/25 June	Science Roadshow
Fri 3 July	END OF TERM
Mon 22 July	Start Term 3 at 8.50.

Communication audit. For your child to be in the draw for the icecream, please fill out this return slip. I have received the monthly newsletter from

Room _____

Room _____

Parent _____