



Pigeon Mountain School News

NEWSLETTER 8

www.pigeon-mountain.school.nz

SEPTEMBER 2009

Dear Parents,

Our library is one of the most valued resources at our school. Congratulations to teachers and parents for motivating children to use our library. Good news is that a thousand more withdrawals of books so far this year. Parents can visit our library and see our tidal saltwater aquarium.

If you would like to help your students with mathematics, the following website provides information and activities for parents and families to help support children's learning—www.nzmaths.co.nz/node/453



From the Principal's Desk

We would like to welcome all new children and their families to our school this term 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 include: Tiger Nie, Ella Berrington, Akshi Rana, Mandy Zang, Adam Baard, Nancy Chen, Ren Saito, Kevin Zhan, Roy Zhao, Riya Kalra, Michelle Lin, Joanna Hu, Keegan Moore, Denny Woo, Jaden Cheng, and Grace & Kenny Xiong

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

The next Board of Trustees meeting is to be held on **Wednesday, 16th September 2009 at 7.30pm**

PTA NEWS:

The next meeting of the PTA will be held on **Wednesday, 9th September** in the staffroom at **7.30pm**.

HOT OFF THE P.T.A. PRESS:

The **Halloween Disco** will now be held on **Friday 30th October** (was previously advertised as the 23rd October.) Further details to follow.

Ice Skating Disco—will be held on the **Thursday 10th September** at the **Paradise Iceskating Rink** in Botany Downs. Tickets will be available at the door. Further details to follow this week.

REMEMBER— Calendar Orders are due in this Thursday, 3rd September.

NO LATE ORDERS PLEASE as the orders need to be posted.

FAMILY PORTRAITS:

These will be held on **Friday and Saturday, 17th/18th October**. A notice will be sent home this term for you to book a time for your family photo. Cost is \$10.00 for the sitting fee and a 12 x 8 photo in black & white, or colour—your choice.

FATHER'S DAY & SPECIAL MALE ROLE MODEL ASSEMBLY & WHEELS DAY.

To celebrate Father's Day this Sunday, we would like to invite Dads, Uncles, Granddads or anyone who is special, to our assembly on **Friday 4th September, at 1.45pm**. As well as a special assembly, we are also running a "Wheels Day" for the children. (See Monday's newsletter). There will be a **FREE** mufti day for the children on Friday, with the colour theme being **BLUE**.

BOT PROPERTY NEWS

The Property Subcommittee has spent the last 18 months completing outstanding projects e.g. Area D Deck and working through a major maintenance review of the school's property. The first stage was to do repairs in preparation for painting the exterior of the school. We are now at a second stage that is funded by a MOE 5-Year Property Grant. This grant is for modernisation, health and safety and replacement. First, we had to review our 10-Year Property Maintenance Plan and provide drainage, plumbing, and electrical condition reports. The MOE has now accepted the list of projects that the community has identified through the parent survey. These include the hall kitchen/toilet upgrade, office/administration upgrade, some roof and decking replacement and a toilet rebuild. This comes to approximately \$390,000.00.

PARENT SURVEY:

The board is drafting an action plan to implement some changes that were identified in the parent survey. Look out for specific items in the next newsletter..

CONSERVATION WEEK— **7th—11th SEPTEMBER:**

Next week is Conservation Week.

There are lots of fun activities planned.

There will be an aspect of fund raising to support future Environmental projects and initiatives. If you have any items you would like to donate for prizes, please send to Room 20 or contact Leigh Steel on leighs@pigeon-mountain.school.nz Any donation would be gratefully accepted.

As part of Conservation Week, we will be having "Bring a Pet to School". There will be a separate newsletter coming home about this.



SPORTS NEWS:

RUGBY: Our rugby team pool results are: Won 5, Lost 1, Drew 1. We think this will make us the top team in the pool, and we have to play off against the top team in pool B on Tuesday 8th September in a Finals Day to be held at Pakuranga Rugby Club, Lloyd Elsmore Park.



SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY:

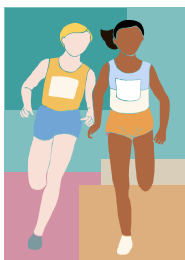
Congratulations to everyone who took part and finished the course. It was all about "doing your best".

Results of the school cross country were:

Year 0	Sophia Leach	Aum Sengupta
Year 1	Emily Lyons	John Hayes
Year 2	Amy Edwards-Maas	Atish Ajaykumar
Year 3	Landy Zheng	Richard Smith
Year 4	Melisa Carinus	Thomas Hughson
Year 5	Teagan McCormick	Quinn Johnson
Year 6	Jacqui Hand	George McErlean

CROSS COUNTRY RELAY:

On Sunday 30th August, Pigeon Mountain School had 10 teams competing in the Pakuranga Cross Country Relays. Our A Team finished 2nd. The team was...Kieran MacKenzie, Katie Dickinson, Jacqui Hand and George McErlean. Pigeon Mountain had the highest number of teams entered for this event.



SAFETY ISSUES:

Parents should know that schools are not public places, but we enjoy our parents and children using our grounds. Research tells us that there is less vandalism if parents and children use the school grounds. Skateboarders are NOT allowed in our school grounds because of the damage they cause. You may notice that there are blinds and curtains in all classrooms to protect our valuable resources, including ICT equipment.

ROAD SAFETY:

*It is important that road rules are adhered to by parents dropping off and collecting their children. In particular **parking over driveways or on broken yellow lines**. This can result in traffic offence notices being issued. Children must cross using the Loloma Drive crossing. Sometimes children are called across the road by parents in a car, and we are concerned that this is a dangerous practice.*

CHINESE TRANSLATION

SENIOR SPEECH FINALS:

The Year 5 & 6 speech finals were held in the Hall on Friday, 21st August. The Judge was Mrs Diane Parkinson from BBI. The winners were:

- First Prize - Visilini Gunthas
"Healthy Food"
- Second Prize: Malitha Ambanpola
"Harry Potter"
- Third Prize: Daniel Baunton on
"Snakes"

Highly Commended were Jacob Reynolds on "A Week of my Life" and Pranika Arisht on "Flatulence".

Congratulations to these students. Visilini competed in the interschool speech finals on Tuesday 25th August. She was "Highly Commended".



BBI ENROLMENTS:

Closing date for out of zone applications is **Friday 16th October**. Ballot date for out of zone enrolments is **Friday 23 October 2009**.

TERM DATES 2010:

The board has approved the following term dates for 2010:

- Term 1 Thurs 4 Feb to Thurs 1st April
- Term 2 Mon 19 Apr to Fri 2nd July
- Term 3 Mon 19 July to Fri 24th Sept
- Term 4 Mon 11 Oct to Thurs 16th Dec

DATES TO NOTE:

- Fri 4 Sep Father's Day Assembly
- 7th Sep Hocus Pocus Show
- 7th—11th Sep Conservation Week
- 8th Sep Rugby Finals Day
- 9th Sep PTA Meeting at 7.30pm
- 10th Sep PTA Ice Skating Party
- 11th Sep Yr 1&2 Assembly 2pm
- 15th Sep Interschool Cross Country
- 16th Sep BOT Meeting 7.30pm
- 17th Sep Saving Day Inter School Cross Country
- 25th Sep **Last Day of Term (3pm)**
- 12th Oct First day of Term 4.**
- 17th&18th Oct Family Photos

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 _____