

N E W S L E T T E R
1 8 J U N E 2 0 1 0

ST CLAIR SCHOOL

CAPABLE, CARING, CONFIDENT, CHILDREN CONTRIBUTING TO OUR COMMUNITY

What's Happening?

June

PTA Meeting - staffroom, 7pm,
24 June
BoT Meeting - OUCollege of
Education - 6pm, 24 June
Junior Parent Assembly - 2pm,
29 June

July

Reports posted home - 2 July
Last day of Term 2 - 2 July
First day of Term 3 - 19 July
Parent Interviews - 27, 28, 29
July. (2pm closure 27/28 July)

Check our website for further
key dates.

MID YEAR REPORTS AND NATIONAL STANDARDS

Late last year, the Minister of Education released a set of National Standards for all primary schools. The National Standards are a series of aspirational bench-marks which are intended to indicate to parents and teachers the level of achievement that children will attain in reading, writing and mathematics during their time at primary school. The standards attempt to not only show where children are in their learning but also provide guidance about what children need to do next.

Over the past five months, teachers at our school have worked extensively to modify our assessment and reporting structure so that it reflects the new Standards. Our new mid-year reports look similar to previous reports but now include a statement about each child's progress and achievement, as measured against the

the National Standards in reading, writing and mathematics. In addition, reports also include suggestions for parents about ways in which each child's learning could be enhanced by simple home-based activities. Reports will be mailed home on July 2.

As in past years, a Three-Way Conference is offered to all families in late July. These conferences will look in greater detail at current goals and next learning steps for each child. Conference bookings will be opened early next term. Conference dates are: 27 July (school closes 2pm), 28 July (school closes 2pm), 29 July (normal school hours).

Copies of the National Standards will be posted on our website as a reference for interested parents. The Ministry of Education also has a number of useful references on its website at: <http://www.minedu.govt.nz/theMinistry/EducationInitiatives/NationalStandards.aspx>

We are also hosting a National Standards information evening on Tuesday 22 June to share further information with parents. We think this session will be most useful. The presentation will start at 7pm in the school staffroom and will conclude by 7.45pm. We hope you can make it.

Our School Values **Kindness, Caring & Manners**

Our next focus will be:

~ Caring ~

Caring for our own belongings as well as the property of others makes the best of everyone's resources.

Our next focus will be:

~ Manners ~

The use of common courtesies and everyday manners helps everyone to relate more happily, and feel valued and respected.

Thank you to all those who have completed our Health Consultation Survey. Please complete the survey today if you have not yet done so: <http://www.tigersurvey.com/survey.php?>

Senior Team Swimming

This week children from our Senior Learning Team enjoyed five days of swimming tuition under the guidance for Swimsation at Moana Pool. All children who completed the course made pleasing progress. Parents are encouraged to follow up on these lessons with visits of their own to Moana Pool to reinforce their new learning. Our thanks to the many parents who assisted with supervision in the main pool or wave pool.

Building Update

Our new building extension is progressing very positively with the exterior framing and roofing now complete. Currently the builders from Stevenson & Williams are installing internal doors and completing work on the mezzanine deck, prior to commencing lining and the installation of the ceiling. We are all increasingly excited about the potential the building has to change the way our children learn and interact. Our anticipated completion in September remains on schedule.



School Kowhaiwhai Design

Last week, artist Ewan Duff delivered a series of kowhaiwhai design options to school. The designs were all slightly different and all made use of our children's ideas and our existing logo. The selected design (see illustration) utilises our school logo, reflects our triple values (KCM) and three-team structure, and conveys our location through the repeated use of koru/wave patterns.

Please check our 'unclaimed clothing' collection at the base of the Room 1 staircase.

Chess Club Success

Last weekend, our two chess teams competed in the Otago/Southland regional chess championships held at Dunedin North Intermediate. Both teams played skillfully and showed great sportsmanship during the event. After a number of challenging matches, St Clair A were eventually placed second and St Clair B were placed 8th. Warm congratulations to both teams. St Clair A are eligible to go on to represent our school at the South Island School Tournament in September and the National tournament later in the year.

NATIONAL STANDARDS

What is our school doing? What will reports look like?
An informative session for all parents - 22 June, 7pm, Staffroom.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Kid Station (based at St Clair School)

Quality before/after school care for your child/ren. Casual bookings welcome. Ring Kevin or Carmel on 0274 492 102 or 455-9344.

More FM Sports Cancellations

Cancellations are broadcast every 20 minutes both Sat & Sun between 6-10am.

Leslie Rugby Junior Coaching Clinic

Wed 14 July 9am-4pm - Edgare Centre. Ph 466-3051 for more info.



School Contacts

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