

N E W S L E T T E R  
2 1 M A Y 2 0 1 0

# ST CLAIR SCHOOL

CAPABLE, CARING, CONFIDENT, CHILDREN CONTRIBUTING TO OUR COMMUNITY

## What's Happening?

### May

40 Hour Famine - 21-23 May

My Greatest Feat (pedometer challenge) - 24 May

My Greatest Feat - Visitors - 28 May

### June

Queens Birthday - school closed - 7 June

NIE Spelling Quiz - 16 June

Swimming - Senior Classes - 14-18 June

PTA Meeting - staffroom, 7pm, 24 June

NZISF Science Road Show - date TBC

Check our website for further key dates.

## \*X\* Welcome - Welcome - Welcome \*X\*

We warmly welcome Taya Morrison, Lewis Manukau, Shamus Campbell and Juliette Young to our school. We trust you all settle in quickly and have a very happy time with us.

## PROMOTING LEARNING THROUGH WEB 2

Many of you will have heard the term 'Web2' and may have wondered what it means. Put simply, Web2 refers to a second generation of easy-to-use, but powerful, internet-based tools that focus on enabling people to collaborate, communicate and share information online. Facebook and Twitter are both examples of Web2 tools.

In the school setting, Web2 tools can benefit learning by;

- promoting critical reflection in children
- providing real audiences, and real feedback, for young writers beyond their own classroom
- providing a safe and moderated way for children to share their ideas with a wider audience
- broadening the range of learning tools children can use to enhance their skills and knowledge.

Our school, in recognising the potential benefits of Web2 technology, runs a number of blogs and wikis. These web-tools provide information for families and in some cases, opportunities for families to respond to their children's learning directly, via moderated 'feedback'.

To gain an insight into these tools and their use, visit our school blogs and wikis at: <http://www.stclair.school.nz/studentwork/index.html> .

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

Our next focus will be:

### ~ Kindness~

Acts of kindness can be simple or complex. Such acts brighten our day and make both the recipient and giver feel happier and valued.

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.

## *New Board Meets*

Our new Board held its first full meeting on Wednesday of this week. During the meeting, the Board discussed its role within the school, received an update on our building project, reviewed the school's policy and practices in regard to health and safety and approved a number of short-term staff appointments.



## *Junior Aquarium Visits*

This week children from our Junior Learning Team visited the Portobello Aquarium as part of their integrated inquiry into our community and our local beach environment. Children found out about our coastal marine life and spent time on the local beach searching for animals and investigating their habitats.



## *PTA AGM*

The St Clair School PTA AGM was held last Thursday. Office holders for 2010 are: Debbie Reading (President), Glenda Anderson (Treasurer) and Karen Hobbs (Secretary).

## *Toys At School*

All children and families are reminded that precious toys and special possessions should not be brought to school. Such items are easily lost or become irresistible to others. Regardless of how it occurs, the loss of an item of significance results in sadness that can be avoided by simply leaving special items at home.

## *Senior Team Parent Education Evening*

On Thursday night, Senior Team teachers met with more than 20 families to discuss how home and school can work together to support a child's learning. The evening was an interactive discussion with hands-on activities led by the children themselves. Children showcased games and activities in spelling, reading, writing and basic facts. Following this, the iSuite was opened up and children taught adults how to leave a comment on their class blog. They also shared favourite online games that linked to their weekly spelling lists and other learning activities.

Our thanks to the parents who attended. We trust you found the session interesting and useful.

## **COMMUNITY NOTICES**

### **Kid Station (based at St Clair School)**

Quality before/after school care for your child/ren. Casual bookings welcome. Ring Kevin and Carmel on 0274 492 102 or 4559344 for further information.



### **School Contacts**

455 8199

[office@stclair.school.nz](mailto:office@stclair.school.nz)