

N E W S L E T T E R
5 F E B R U A R Y 2 0 1 0

ST CLAIR SCHOOL

CAPABLE, CARING, CONFIDENT, CHILDREN CONTRIBUTING TO OUR COMMUNITY

What's Happening?

February

Waitangi Day - 6 Feb
PTA Fair meeting - 7pm 10 Feb
Beach Ed (R12 & 13) - 11 Feb
Beach Ed (R7 & 14) - 12 Feb
Middles Family Fish & Chip Night 5.30-6.30 - 12 Feb
Junior Family BBQ 6-7.30pm - 16 Feb
Beach Ed (R9 & 11) - 17 Feb
Board Meeting - 7pm, 17 Feb
Beach Ed (R8 & 10) - 18 Feb

March

International Children's Day - 7 Mar
Junior Team - Swimming (TBC) - 15-19 Mar
Middle Team - Swimming - 15-19 Mar
Anniversary Day - 22 Mar
Year 6 Camp - 22-26 Mar
Year 5 Living/Giving Week

Welcome - Welcome - Welcome

We warmly welcome Aiden Bennett, Oscar Cameron, Alex Clarkson, Brandon Cleaver, Cameron Condon, Caleb Ferguson, Shanaye Geddes, Ana Halalilo-Rouvi, Harper Halalilo-Rouvi, Kaia Katipa, Brylie McIntosh, Luciana Marks, Max Roche, Nina O'Docherty, Georgia Peterson, Thomas Poole, Tara Price, Casey Robertson, Emma Robertson, Toriann Russell, Thomas Than, Hannah Than, Madison Wills, Sean Wong and Tonisha Rollo to our school. We trust you all have a very happy time with us.

~ WELCOME BACK ~

The Board of Trustees and staff extend a warm welcome to all families at the start of a new school year. We would like to particularly welcome families who have joined our school for the first time. We trust that your children settle in quickly and have an enjoyable, stimulating and positive experience with us.

During the break, teachers spent a considerable period of

time preparing for the term ahead, ensuring that learning programmes are both interesting and appropriate. Consequently, children can anticipate a wide variety of stimulating and challenging learning experiences covering not only literacy and numeracy, but also science, arts, health, physical education, social sciences, and technology.

~ PLEASE KEEP IN TOUCH ~

As the new year gets underway, parents are reminded of the importance of open and regular communication with teachers. Research indicates that learning is most effective when home and school form a strong partnership that respects the skills, interests and integrity of each party. It is therefore most important that parents contact the school promptly if they perceive that their child is not enjoying their schooling experience or requires extra emotional or learning support to maintain academic and/or social progress.

Our School Values Kindness, Caring and Manners

Our current focus is:

~ Manners ~

Everyone feels affirmed and valued when we use simple courtesies and everyday manners to enhance our interactions.

Our next focus will be:

~ Kindness ~

It is the small, thoughtful things that we do for others everyday that makes our school the special place it is.



For the past year, the Board of Trustees have worked closely with the school leadership team and architect Philip Gilchrist to put together a new building project. The project, funded by a combination of Ministry of Education and school funds radically transforms the look of our school by linking the two existing blocks with a large, versatile and attractive learning atrium for children. Although some disruption can be anticipated during construction, the final result will more than make up for any inconvenience. The Board anticipates that building work will commence in the next few weeks. Large images of the project will be displayed on school notice boards and our website in the next few days.

National Standards

Despite the political debate that has begun over the merits of the new National Standards, our school is well underway with their implementation. The standards are based on the NZ Curriculum and provide a useful benchmark for teachers as they consider the progress and learning needs of each child. The standards will not however, by themselves, alter student achievement. Many research studies have clearly shown that effective learning only takes place when children have appropriate programmes at school and a high level of support at home. The challenge for both teachers and parents is to ensure that both elements are available in abundance.

School Stationery

Thank you to families who have already purchased their child's stationery. Having exercise books and pencils available helps children to feel settled and fully engaged with their learning.

Several of parents have confirmed that the prices of our stationery is very competitive.

**REMINDER: PTA FAIR MEETING
10 February, 7pm, STAFF ROOM.
ALL WELCOME.**

Smart Lunches - New Prices in 2010

Smart Lunches are once again available from school. We have been advised that prices have risen due to increased costs. \$2 lunches are now \$2.50 and \$3 lunches are now \$3.50. Full lunch details are on the student section of our website.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Kid Station (based at St Clair School)

Quality before/after school care for your child/ren. Casual bookings welcome. Please contact Carmel or Kevin by email Carmel@kidstation.co.nz or by phone 0274 492 102 and 455-9344.

Parents Inc Toolbox Parenting Courses

Day & Evening courses, Game On-dads / Parent Support Group-mums. Register now for 2010. Ph Sue 477-3403.

The Southern Gymnastic Academy - Sportgym, classes for under 5s on Thurs & Sat, tumbling on Fri & competitive classes for boys and girls throughout the week. Ph 4775885.

Music - Piano, guitar, keyboard. Ph Sandra Dingwall 455-2953 for more info.

Music - Flute, piano, speech & drama. Contact sharlotte.mckenzie@hotmail.com for more info.

School Contacts

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