

2 March 2010

Issue 4, Week 5, Term 1

Kia ora koutou

It was a shame the picnic had to be cancelled last week. We tried to get alternative dates, however we were unable to get one that didn't clash with something else happening on that day. We would like to have a picnic at the end of the term down at the Otari Wilton bush picnic area to compensate. While not as exciting a venue, we can still enjoy a community get together and go for some walks. Dates will be provided for this soon. (The \$5 paid by some families for the trip will be put aside and will go towards our next school outing).

**School Athletics** is on Thursday at Wilton Park. We will leave school shortly after 9.00am. The first rotation starts at 9.30am. The final event (sprints) is at 12noon. Parents are most welcome to come along. Children need to bring plenty of water, food, sunhat, sunblock and a warm jersey/jacket. Please ensure children wear appropriate clothing & footwear and also wear the colour of their team.

**Three way interviews** - Week 8, Tuesday 23, Wednesday 24 and Thursday 25 March. Three way interviews involve parents, child and teacher meeting together to discuss progress and establish some key goals for future learning. The format of each interview (20 mins) will be as follows:

- The teacher informs parents of observations, assessment results and the learning goals she has established in conjunction with the student. She will explain the strategies and learning programmes that will be implemented to achieve them.
- The child is asked to comment and contribute any other goals they may have for themselves, and how these will be met.
- The parents will be asked to comment on the goals. They may suggest some other goals if they wish. Parents will discuss with their child and the teacher how they can also provide support toward the achievement of the goals being discussed.

This year most parent interviews will be booked online. Details about this will be in next week's newsletter. (We will provide an alternative for those parents who cannot book online).

**PTA / Fundraising Committee meeting** - The parents of Otari School are keen to establish a PTA or similar to support the school by way of fundraising etc. Our first meeting will be this **Thursday 4 March at 7pm** in the school hall. Please come along and lend your support. The more the merrier.

**Whanau Hui/Shared Kai - Thursday 11 March.** An agenda will be sent home shortly. All welcome.

**Emergency Contact forms** - There are still a huge number of forms outstanding. Please send these back urgently. We need up to date details for every child.

**Montessori Preschool Job Vacancy** -The Preschool need someone to teach te reo Maori to their children for 1.5 hours per week (paid position). Please contact Bronwyn on 475-9688.

**VIRTUE: Our virtue is Loyalty**

*Loyalty is unwavering commitment to the people and ideals we care about. We are steadfast through good times and bad. Even when others disappoint us, we are resilient and forgiving. We invest in our relationships and do what it takes to keep them whole and strong. We stand by our true friends whatever the cost. We don't allow blind loyalty to lead us into trouble. Above all, we must be true to ourselves and loyal to what we know is right.*

**Upcoming Events Calendar:**

Activity	Who's Involved	Date & Time	Cost
Otari Athletics	Everyone	Thurs 4 March	-
Montessori strand Open Evening	Montessori parents	Tues 9 & Thurs 11 March	-
Parent Interviews	Parents & children	23,24,25 March	-

*"The best mirror is an old friend."*  
George Hebert

**Term Dates 2010**

Wed 3 Feb – Thurs 1 Apr  
Mon 19 Apr – Fri 2 Jul  
Mon 19 Jul – Fri 24 Sept  
Mon 11 Oct – Fri 17 Dec

Have a great week everyone.

Regards, Clifford

**Extra notices sent home last week:**

- Montessori Strand 'Information Evening' letter
- Kaikomako newsletter

**Community Notices:** (Please note these notices are passed on to us and are not necessarily an endorsement)

**Gifted Child?** Here's your chance to come and try out One Day School, New Zealand's longest running programme for gifted learners. On Friday 19th Mar, Mind Adventure Day (MAD) sessions will be held 9.00-11.45am for children aged 6-8 years, and from 12.45-3.30pm for children aged 9-12 years. Sessions held in our One Day School classroom at Rangikura School, 95 Conclusion St, Ascot Park, Porirua. The cost is \$30 per child. Parents welcome. More info/bookings phone Shirley on 2323523 or email [shirley.lawn@giftededucation.org.nz](mailto:shirley.lawn@giftededucation.org.nz).

**I'm listening! Are you?** - Help your children develop into successful, responsible adults as you apply proven communication skills that create happier, more satisfying relationships within your family. This practical one-day course will provide skills to, as one parenting expert said, "talk so your children will listen, and listen so your children will talk." Date: Saturday 27th March, 9.30am-4.00pm, Wellington High School, Community Education, cost: \$75. To enrol: [www.cecwellington.ac.nz/course/parent](http://www.cecwellington.ac.nz/course/parent), or phone on 04 385 8919.

**Children's Day** – Wellington City Library are celebrating Children's Day, by hosting a 'Story-time' event. Sunday 7 March, 1.45pm – 3.30pm. From 1.45 – 2.15pm there will be opportunity for children to enjoy colouring in and face-painting, provided by Presbyterian Support Central. From 2.15 – 3.00pm a story will be read to children by three guest readers: Steve Joll from The Breeze, Gregory Fortuin from the Families Commission & Julia Hennessy, Family Works General Manager. After the story reading children will be free to stay on and enjoy the colouring in and face-painting until 3.30pm.

**All Star Cheerleaders** is running free American style cheerleading classes in your area. Everyone is welcome, no experience necessary. For more information call 0800 CHEERLEADER or [www.allstarcheerleaders.co.nz](http://www.allstarcheerleaders.co.nz).