

Dear Parents

Wow, what an exciting week we've had!! There's always great activity going on in a learning organisation, but there were some extra specials this week....

Choir – A special invitation was issued to our choir to perform at the launch of AUT's Primary Teacher Training Programme on Tuesday. Cherrie Leefe and Claire Callister took 56 children to AUT in Akoranga Drive Campus where they received absolutely justified plaudits from all in attendance – MP Dr Wayne Mapp, Sir Paul Reeves, Deans 'n Chancellors 'n all – plus of course envious Principal colleagues. They were simply superb, a credit to themselves obviously, their music teachers and the school.

Sculpture Symposium – 14 of our 3D-keen art students went to John Ferguson's Rusty Dog studio at 258 Blackridge Road yesterday to talk with the artists and sculptors who have been working on their pieces for the 'Low Flying Cars' Exhibition starting this weekend. From paintings to intricate glass, metal and feather work to wood, log and stone works up to 4½ tonnes fabulous creativity. Our children as ever made an impression with their enthusiasm, searching questions and of course their behaviour. If you have an interest, go and have a look yourself.

Car Show – Well, what a collection of beautiful vehicles graced our sports field yesterday afternoon; - you didn't need to be a petrolhead or vintage car enthusiast to appreciate at least some of the vehicles on show. There is certainly some grunt under some of those hoods, elegance in many and with equal appreciation of what yesteryear provided by way of transportation. Everyone had their favourites, I reckon - I certainly did! A huuuge thank you to parents who brought their vehicles along, several with more than one, for cajoling their like-minded friends, the Shaws from along the road, ... a wonderful display with the bonus of numerous rides for Rm 9 pupils and organising teacher Phil Hancock (no he didn't get to ride in all the hot machines)

PFA BBQ/Tryathlon - A monstrous organisational effort by Tarnia Harman saw plenty of energy and excitement expended by participants (and more than a few parents, - who looked to be competing in the wrong age group, hahaa) in the tryathlon last evening. With support from teachers and parents, particularly as marshals, the various races went off with barely a glitch. A heap of fun... again well done Tarnia, and Thank you! (and to the PFA for organising the BBQ)

Thanks also to TTC who provided the signs and Treescape who did the Traffic Management Plan to allow the road to be used for the cycle leg. (Yep, there's all that to be organised as well).

Eli Sharplin – All classes yesterday took part in a drawing workshop under the tutelage of art expert Eli Sharplin.

School Donations - Thank you to those who have donated already this year. We have received either all or part of the requested donation from just over half of our families. Check your child's bag today for your receipt then use it to claim back 33% of your donation from Inland Revenue.

Year 4/5/6 Netball (for boys and girls)

If you would like your child to play netball this year, please return the tear-off slip below by Monday 8th March. The children will be sorted into teams once we have accurate numbers.

- The cost is \$50 (if using a school top) or \$45 (if you purchased your own top last year) payable to the office with your slip. Children will not be placed into teams if they haven't paid their sub.
- Teams will only be entered if they have a coach and umpire. Netball North Harbour run free sessions to help you in these roles.
- The games are played on Monday afternoons for Year 4 and 5 and Wednesday afternoons for Year 6 at the Netball North Harbour courts in Northcote Rd during Terms 2 and 3. Transport to and from games is your own responsibility.
- There can be up to 3 boys per team.
- Hockey Players – If you still want to play netball don't worry at this stage about a potential clash. Fill out this form anyway and we will see whether both sports can be accommodated.

Sharleen Heslop – Netball Co-ordinator

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Year 4/5/6 Netball – boys & girls

My child _____ Yr ____
would like to play netball this year. I understand that transport to and from the games is my responsibility.

My child is also hoping to play hockey this year
Yes/No (please circle)

I can coach a team

I can umpire the games

Signed _____

Name _____

Email _____

\$50 payment enclosed
(if using a school top and skirt)

or \$45 payment enclosed
(if you purchased your own top last year)

This form must be returned to the office by Monday 8th March, with payment.

From the Board of Trustees

Hi All. The Board has already kicked off the year preparing annual accounts & budgets, holding meetings and planning sessions for further developments around our school. We have had a special award occasion with the Staff, acknowledging some tremendous terms of service:

Richard Johnson 5 years
Jo Brocherie 10 years
Shirley Jensen 10 years &
Paul Greenstreet 20 years

Well done and a big "thank you" again from the Board and school for your continued dedication, commitment and enthusiasm for our pupils and school.

Fast approaching, are the upcoming elections for the next Board of Trustees. The voting will take place on **MAY 7th** and nominations are now being called for. We have had a number of people come to us and attend meetings - it's not too late if you are interested!

The Board next meets **Tuesday March 9th at 7.30pm in the Staff Room - please do come along if you are thinking about joining the Board.** It is a great experience and the meeting will give you a snapshot of some of what we do.

As always, the Board is always contactable for questions-queries-enquiries via the office.

JD Glover (Chair/Property)
Jacqui Cantell (Treasurer)
Rohan Stace (Secretary)
Warren Haigh (Property)
Richard Manthel (Communications)
Paul Greenstreet (Principal)
Chris Boulden (Teachers Rep)

School Swimming Sports (8 yrs & up as at 12 March) – Helpers Needed

Next Thursday 4th March 10:30am-2:45pm.

For this event to run smoothly we need as many volunteers as possible to help out on the day. If you are able to assist please fill in the form below and return it to the red letter box or Shelley Ross in Room 11 as soon as possible. The inter-school event will be held at our pool on Thursday 11th March. Children will be selected for this following our swimming sports.

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Swimming Sports Helpers

Yes I can help with the school swimming sports next Thursday 4th March.

Name: _____

Child's Name & Rm _____

Contact Number: _____

Changes to Class Swimming – There will be no class swimming on the mornings of Tuesday 2nd or Tuesday 9th March, nor on the swimming sports days of Thursday 4th and 11th March. If teachers re-schedule to another day or time they will let their helpers know.

PFA - Help Needed

The PFA needs a new *chairperson and new members*. Due to board elections and departing families the PFA is now a group of only 6 parents. We need your help if we are going to be able to run the social and fundraising activities that the school enjoys.

Being a decile 10 school the PFA funding is vital to support the activities your children enjoy. Equipping the new classroom, computer equipment, COWS (computers on wheels), Ag Day, playground redevelopment, sausage sizzle, icy slicey, discos, school BBQ's, triathlon, quiz nights, new parents afternoon teas are but a few of the things we do.

We realise life is busy and you may feel you cannot commit but the level of involvement is up to you. You do not have to always attend our monthly meeting. Enthusiasm and a willingness to help out is all that is needed. Help us make 2010 as successful as 2009. Joining the PFA is a great way to get to know the school, other parents and to make an impact on what the school can achieve. If you are interested or have any queries please call Nikki 4150414 or Anna-Fay 447 1863.

Upcoming Events

* **Sausage Stall at Market Day 7th March** - Once a year the parents from each class are asked to run the Coatesville School sausage stand at the market. Last year this raised \$4,900 for the school. This month we need parents from Rms 3a, 3 and 4 to run this stall from 9-3. Letters asking for your help will be sent out to these classes. Please help if you can.

* **Inter-School Swimming Sports 11th March** - at the Coatesville School Pool. The PFA runs a refreshment stand on the day. Can you help for an hour? Call Anna-Fay on 09 447 1863.

* **Sausage Stall at Twilight Market 21st March** - We need the parents from Rm 5 to run this stall.

* **Coatesville Scruffs 28th March** - The dog show with a difference. 12-3 Coatesville Hall and Reserve. More details to follow.

* **PFA Meeting 30th March** - Come and make a difference and be part of a great group.

Plastic Supermarket Bags Needed - For the Coatesville Scruffs Dog Show. Can you please collect and hand in at the office - attention Mary Logan.

Kind Regards

11th Grade Rep Trials - Albany Football Club - for players born 1999 or later. Thurs 4 Mar 5-6pm on Rosedale South (behind Crown Hockey fields). Contact Dave Cross on 4445944 or 021 0462107.