



Forrest Hill School

Community Contact

11 March 2010

Newsletter No.6

Dear Parents/Caregivers

Yesterday Anna Smythe (Assistant Principal) and I were invited to attend an awards evening at the University of Auckland to acknowledge and honour the work done by the school in the areas of: whole school vision development; the imbedding of the new NZ Curriculum (NZC) into the vision leading to "graduate profile" descriptors; and the development of an inquiry process for learning that is reflective of the NZC and the school's own curriculum frame work.

In 2006, in consultation with parents, the school developed a new school vision. In 2007 a school wide function held during the day saw the launching of the new vision. This was attended by parents and representatives from the Ministry of Education. This was further followed by work on developing student graduate profiles, representing the NZC key competencies. Finally the school developed learning through inquiry as requested by the new NZC. The process was very consultative and very thorough helping us with the sustainability of keeping this approach to teaching and learning very alive and well. The Ministry of Education and University of Auckland through Team Solutions (an advisory group to schools) have recognised the quality of our work in creating a motivating climate for learning. This was further recognised by the ERO in 2009.

A brochure has been published about all of these developments made by our school, with further recognition given to the leadership and management team. It was indeed an honour to be a guest at such a prestigious occasion.

Copies of the brochure are available at the school office if you are interested in reading the information focusing Forrest Hill School.

PTA NEWS

The PTA Annual Meeting was held last Tuesday. Sue Conroy, Debbie Ruscoe and Kylie Langley have now stepped down from the PTA. We would like to thank these mums very much indeed for the sustained work they have done for the school over the past several years.

There is a group of new parents who have now joined the existing PTA now led by Alison Ottenhof. Michelle Dorward is Deputy Chairperson, Ivris Darby is the new secretary and Clint Hines has taken on the role of treasurer. This group of keen mums and dads are now organising the sausage sizzle to be held after the Shore to Shore walk in a few weeks time. The next meeting is April 27th at 7.00pm in the staffroom. If you are still thinking of joining the PTA parent group then it's not too late. Do pop along to the next meeting where you will be warmly welcomed.

National Standards

The Senior Management Team attended a Ministry of Education training day for Principals in the use of National Standards. Useful and factual material was discussed to a good depth and explored widely. This professional development day has confirmed to us that very little in the way of change is required by us in the way we assess student learning, collect and use the assessment data, report on achievement to parents and the Board of Trustees and report the student achievement to the Ministry of Education. The government is still working on aligning standardized tests to the new standards meaning we cannot yet measure our students against the National Standards using these tests. We have been advised that this problem will most likely be fixed by the end of Term One.

Winter Netball

If you did not receive a notice and your child wishes to play winter Netball, please ensure you collect a form from Mrs. Lister in Room 11 tomorrow.

All notices are due back on Friday 12 March

Depending on numbers, we intend registering teams for the following competitions.

Netball North Harbour

Monday – Year 4 and 5 students

Wednesday – Year 6 students

Kidzplay

Saturday – Year 3 and 4 students

Fancy Moving Feet

After our successful 'Walk to School' week, students are being encouraged to decorate their shoes on Friday and wear them to school, and to get moving with a Jump Jam session. Ribbons, bows, flowers, toys, beads..... anything that can be attached to add colour and 'fun' to our shoes! Who will have the most original design?

Illegal parking

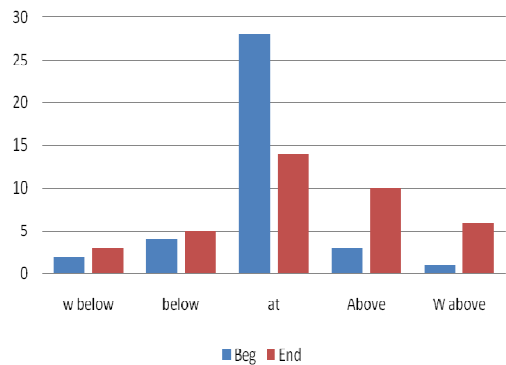
We have been advised that there will be intermittent police presence at our school gate for the remainder of the term. We must ask parents again not to park outside the school in the P2 Zone – it is for stopping and dropping off only. Please do not park on yellow broken lines (it is illegal) and do not drop off in our staff car park. Thank you for the anticipated change in parking habits.

Forrest Hill School

Reading Year 1 and 2

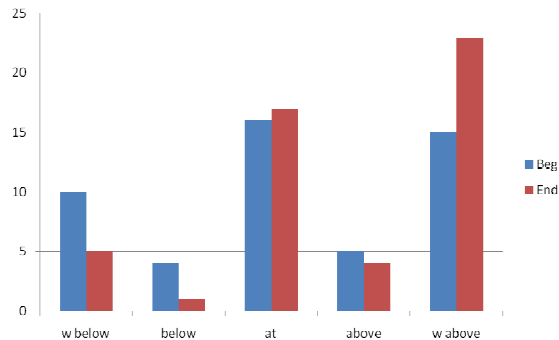
Every year the school tracks the progress of all students in reading writing and maths. The following graphs show the learning gains made by Yr 1 and 2 students from March to November in 2009.

Year 1 Reading Progress March - November 09



In November 80% of Yr 1 students were achieving at and above their chronological age

Year 2 Reading Progress 2009 March to November



In November 88% of Yr 2 students were reading at and above their chronological age.

This data shows that the Year 1 and 2 groups have made very strong progress in reading during their first and second year at school 2009 year.



Travelwise Corner

Maxx will be back at assembly on Monday and will then be looking out for students who are walking home through the tunnel on Becroft Drive



Have you sent in your registration for this event? On the day, the finish line will be the place to be, with Sticky TV and loads of spot prizes up for grabs! The kids will go to our tent site, have a sausage, drink and rest before getting ready for prize giving. There will be a YouthTown tent where people can see what they have on offer and go in the draw to win some amazing prizes! There will be FREE iceblocks from North Shore City Council to keep the kids cool. After prize giving there will be a big dig with heaps of cool prizes up for grabs!

Absolute last day for registration is Friday 12 March

Library Books

We have an increasing number of library books being returned in a damaged condition. Over the past week, 4 books purchased late last year, have been returned in a condition that has meant we have had to withdraw them from our collection. We suggest library books always go into your child's book bag. If a book is returned damaged, a letter will come home requesting payment to replace the book in our collection.

FUTSAL – Train & Play with Professional Brazilian Players!

FUTSAL (Brazilian indoor soccer) develops fast, skillful, exciting players!
Forrest Hill School Hall - Fridays - Before School 7:45 – 8:40am (8 – 11yrs)
Starting 5 March 2010 1st session is FREE (Come & try)...
10 PASS card (10 sessions) \$125
For more info craigdinho@brazilacademy.com or Craig 021-322-522



Forrest Hill Brownies

Girls aged 7 to 10 are welcome to attend Brownies. Our local group meets at the Becroft Scout Den on Tuesday at 4.30p.m. Interested? Speak to Mrs. Lister in Room 11.