



# Forrest Hill School

## Community Contact

25 February 2010

Newsletter No.4

Dear Parents/Caregivers

This week has been busy with meetings. The Board of Trustees had their first meeting for the year where some policies were reviewed, property issues were recommended and the Principal's Report discussed. The Principal's Report each month summarises all the school's events and accomplishments and keeps the trustees well up to date with what is happening at the school. At the next meeting student achievement in literacy will be presented and celebrated.

The Akoranga Team held their camp parent meeting where volunteers were advised about how the 2 day camp at the Peter Blake MERC Centre, Long Bay will run and the activities they will be helping with. We are indebted to those of you who support these school programmes that we are unable to run by ourselves. The Waterwise is another programme we run with huge input by current and past parents of the school. Small adult student ratios all in the name of safety, means that we need the support of our school community. Our parents who do accompany us on these programmes certainly let us know how much they enjoy themselves!

Next week Atatu (Year 1 and 2 students) are having their road/pedestrian safety programme operating. Let's hope the weather holds favourably all week.

### Travel Wise Outcomes

With the newsletter this week is a flyer from the North Shore City Council that shows the move from travelling to school in cars to more and more people walking the distance or at least part of the distance. In 2005 60% of families drove their children to school and 4% used the walking school bus. By 2009 just 36% of families drove their children to and from school, 42% walked to school and 5% use the walking school bus. This is a great turn around! Well done to the 42% of families who walk to school (and the cyclists too!) This year we want to make that walking and part driving/walking percentages grow! Check out the flyer, it has some interesting reading in it.

### PTA Meeting Reminder

Don't forget to come along to the first PTA Meeting of the year – Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in the staffroom. Everyone welcome.

### National Standards

Thank you to the families who have returned the survey form that went home last week and to those who completed the survey on line. The deadline for this is **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February**.

### School Donation

Thank you to those families who have now made their 2010 donation to the school.

As said last week – every cent goes right into the learning of our students. Your donation is investing in your child's education so we can continue with the high level of opportunity for every learner here. If you make your donation before the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010 you take advantage of the discount amount and you can make a tax claim on the donation as well. Now that has to be considered positively! Donations can be proportioned to be made each term (\$40.00) or each fortnight (\$8.00) and set up as an automatic payment with your bank. Please phone the office for help with this if needed.



The annual 'Shore to Shore' fun Run / Walk is planned for **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March**

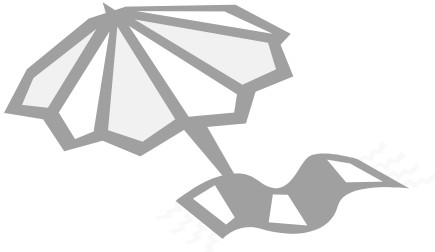
This is a family event that encourages the school community to get involved for both fitness, and as a fundraiser. Each entry associated to Forrest Hill School helps earn the school reward points that are then converted into 'Sports Equipment Dollars' to spend on new P.E. equipment.

So make a note on your calendars to keep that morning free for the family and your school community. Entry forms will be coming home on Monday and these need to be returned by **Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> March** in order to qualify for a discounted entry fee. Orders for a sausage sizzle to be held on completion of the Fun Run will be sent out at a later date. There will be newsletter updates, to keep you informed about what is happening. Any questions – see Heather Lister in Room 11.

## Classroom Contributions

### Room 1

### Our Summer



**S**unbathing on the beach  
**U**nderneath the water were lots of fish  
**M**ovies in 3D are awesome  
**M**eeting up with friends  
**E**ating too much food!  
**R**eally didn't want it to end

### Room 6

Last Wednesday Room 6, along with the rest of Awatea, had a trip to Milford Beach for Outdoor Education. The bus ride was exciting, and after brain food we built sandcastles on the beach. Pouring on water made them even better! A play on the playground and a walk to see the boats happened after morning tea. Then it was back to the beach to make pictures from things we found and to write our names in the sand. We were very hot by the time we got back to school. Luckily it was our swimming time that afternoon!



### **Mairangi Bay Junior Badminton Club**

Season Starts Thursday 4th March at Centre in Bond Crescent. Ages 7-14 (shuttles provided) from 5.30 to 7 pm

Memberships available or \$5 per visit (includes coaching)

google us at: Mairangi Bay Badminton or ph Lisa on 449 2841 for more information

## Hooray – it's swimming today!

Swimming is in full swing and class lessons are really looked forward to by students. The pool is solar heated and so very pleasant to be in – after that initial 'rush' of getting in! Swimming starts off in the junior years of learning water confidence and safety, moving on to floating and kicking and then the teaching of swimming strokes in the mid and senior years. The swimming programme leads successfully onto the water wise sailing programme when students are in year 5 and 6.



## Travelwise Corner

Next week is 'Walk to School' week and we will be recording how students travel to school each day. Students will be issued with forms that will be stamped daily and collected on Friday, with prizes awarded to those who walk regularly during the week. Walking can be from home or from a location far enough from the school gate to encourage a 5 – 10 minute walk being undertaken by children. (Akoranga will do their recording in Week 6)