



# Forrest Hill School

## Community Contact

2<sup>nd</sup> September 2010

Newsletter No.27

Dear Parents/Caregivers

On Tuesday the Year Six students loaded their personal bags of luggage onto two large buses and went off to camp for the week. Yesterday morning Mrs Robson and Mrs Watson went to visit everyone at camp and found 85 very spritely, very happy and very highly organised students, fully engrossed in out door activities. The teachers and the parent helpers looked a bit worse for wear suffering a little from sleep deprivation but still well motivated and full of fun. Students were involved in kayaking, archery, air rifle shooting, camp cooking and problem solving all awhile needing to work collaboratively and cooperatively, needing to use initiative and learning the importance of clear communications. On Wednesday the weather was very warm and sunny – just perfect for the outdoors. We are quite sure that the promise of rain today will not dampen their bright spirits. In next week's newsletter we will have some photos for you and do look out for a photo gallery show casing the Year Six Camp on the Forrest Hill School website. ([www.forresthill.school.nz](http://www.forresthill.school.nz))

### SPCA Fund Raiser

At the weekend the Ng family had a very good idea. The Ng family have been associated with Forrest Hill School for many years now with Mr Ng having been on the previous Board of Trustees. It was agreed upon by the Ng family to support the fund raising project of the SPCA. So Mrs Ng and her daughters baked over 100 cup cakes along with some ginger crunch, and the girls held a cup cake stall at school during playtime. The cup cakes sold like 'hot cakes', and in no time they were all sold out. The cup cake stall raised \$178.30 all of which has been donated to the SPCA. This was a lovely idea initiated and supported by the Ng family. Thank you!

### A very generous photos opportunity for the families of FHS

Michael Overend Photography is a top NZ photographer who is providing an outstanding opportunity for our families to have a professional photo sitting along with a selection of photo prints as part of a special Forrest Hill School family package. Michael Overend Photography is supporting the school very generously indeed with this offer, whilst making the total package value of \$785 for just \$75.00 for our families. Please contact the office for details.

### Forrest Hill is a Growing School

In response to more recent rapid growth of our school the Ministry of Education has required that we establish an enrolment policy. This means that only the students who live in the identified Forrest Hill School area have a full right to attend the school. Students who live beyond the identified area have a right to attend only if there are spare spaces at the school. Parents of students who are out of zone can have their child's name on the waiting list in case a spare space becomes available after a ballot. We can also make contact with you when formal applications are being called for.

Please refer to the accompanying sheet that describes the Forrest Hill School zone area. If you have children enrolled here now and you live out of zone you will not be affected. Any other children from your family will only be able to come here if there is a space available. We will advise you before we advertise positions available, and an advert will be in the North Shore Times paper.

### News from Room 16

Term 3 has been such an exciting one for everyone in room 16.

Our first 6 weeks this term were filled with lots of endurance training for the school cross-country. We all did extremely well, especially Vicky, Lara, Aimee, Matt, Dylan, and Jaxon, who were all place getters in their respective races. Our favourite part was the mud pit!



We have also been busy inside the classroom, conducting various science experiments involving, fossils, volcanoes, the Moon, the Sun, and the Planets. It's been heaps of fun working with students and teachers from other classes every Friday, and now we are investigating our questions about Planet Earth and beyond.

Some of the questions we came up with have really made us think! Like "What would happen if the Earth had no moon?..."



# Forrest Hill School

## Reporting to Parents: summary of outcomes

Summary:	Y	N
1. The 1 <sup>st</sup> goal setting gave good information	98%	2%
2. The 2 <sup>nd</sup> goal setting at the S led C gave me good information about what my child needs to learn.	98%	2%
3. The written ideas for parents in to help at home was good	98%	2%
4. I liked being told how to help my child at home	98%	2%
5. The written report was easy to understand.	97%	3%
6. The report gave clear info about my child's achievement	100%	
7. I liked having the work habits and an effort rating	100%	
8. The conference gave good information about learning	98%	2%
9. The conference gave me enough information about the wider curriculum area	84%	16%
10. I liked being able to look through my child's books etc.	100%	
11. The conference was about the right amount of time.	84%	16%

### Summary:

The statistics show that a very big majority of parents feel that the goal setting session at the beginning of term 2, the mid year written report at the end of term 2 and the student led conference including the goal setting part of the conference at the beginning of Term 3 provided good information about their children's learning.

All parents stated the report clearly indicated if their child was achieving at expectation or not and that they liked having an assessment of their child's work habits, attitudes and effort. All parents liked having time to look through their child's work books, computer files and learning journal.

On a different note:

- 10 out of 63 parents would have like to have the wider curriculum reported on
- 9 out of 48 parents would have like the SLC to have been longer.

### Future Directions in Reporting to Parents:

- In the final week of term four the end of year report will go home and will cover all curriculum areas as well as the involvement a student has had in the opportunities that have been available at the school.
- In 2011 the first goal setting meeting will be mid way through term one once all standardised testing has been completed and learning goals have been set.
- SLC may be structured to allow parents a longer time to look at their child's work, computer files and learning journal.
- Thank you to the parents who took the time to reply to the survey so we can try to report effectively to you on your children's learning and achievement (iust 17% of the school community replied).



Come to school in your gumboots on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2010 and be part of our Gummy Gumboots Day. As part of World Car Free Day we encourage you to leave the car at home and walk or use one of the park and walk options. The TravelWise student team will be meeting people as they arrive to school and giving out gummy bears to those who wear their gumboots.

## PMP

PMP runs three afternoons a week with all our new entrants and most of our year one's attending the class twice a week. Marianne Wriesnik plans for and runs the programme and each term hold a training session for the parents who help. PMP gets students to develop their perceptual and spatial awareness as well as enabling the students to gain control over their large and smaller motor movements. The programme helps to develop that readiness for learning. The following photos were taken this week of our very newest new entrant children competing PMP activities. Our very grateful thanks go to the parent team who help out every week at PMP. Without this support PMP could not run.



## Fact-a-thon

All donations and sponsorship money should be collected and handed in to your child's class teacher by now. Please ensure any outstanding monies are sent to school as soon as possible. All funds go towards upgrading the school's ageing IT computer suite computers.

**The total collected so far is \$7741.60.**