

# Peninsula Primary

Newsletter No. 2 28 February 2011

*Greetings, Tena Koutou e hoa ma, hello parents and friends of the school, talofa lava, malo e lelei, fakalofa lahi atu.....*

## **Our focus of study for Term 1 is: Celebration of Culture**

### **Enduring understanding:**

- 1. Culture is defined by a shared set of attitudes, values, goals and practice.**
- 2. We need to understand and respect all cultures.**

### **Essential questions:**

- 1. What do we mean by culture?**
- 2. What determines and influences culture?**

Last week the 'Meet the teachers/information evening' gave opportunity to recognize all our teachers, and also get a brief glimpse of our current strategic plan. It was pleasing to see a good number of parents, and especially pleasing to see 'new' parents. I remind everyone that PPS has an 'open door' policy, so feel free to come in and discuss anything school, education and student related. Many parents and caregivers are in the school daily, but teachers like to offer this evening opportunity to those who cannot call in regularly.

As well as having a chance to hear about learning at each level of the school, at 'Meet the teachers' evening, the following days are planned to help caregivers find out about education matters, and about how best to support the learning of your child:

- Wednesday 16 March Maths open day assisted by Team Solutions
- Monday 21 March Evening session by Elaine Le Sueur about more able learners (date now confirmed)
- Wednesday 8 June Maths evening by Team Solutions personnel

Team Solutions personnel are part of University of Auckland Faculty of Education and Elaine Le Sueur is the director of Gifted Education Services and an authority in her field.

### **MATHS OPEN DAY.....**

We will be having a Maths Open morning on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March from 9.00am until 10.30am. This is a chance for parents to learn about the Numeracy Programme that operates in our school and to visit the classrooms to see the children working on their Maths.

From 9.00 until 9.30am in the hall Linda Cheeseman a Facilitator from Team Solutions will talk about the programme and answer any questions. Then from 9.30 until 10.30am you will be able to visit the classrooms. From 10.30 until 11.00am morning tea will be served and you will be able to ask any further questions of Linda. We do hope to see you there.

### **@school Parent Portal.....**

@school Parent Portal offers parents and guardians real time access to their child's information at school. For example, a student's assessment records could be viewed. The Parent Portal is an easy to use tool that allows parents to quickly access key information influencing their children's education. Peninsula Primary School is currently exploring the use of this communication tool with a view to starting some features of it very soon. You will be kept informed.

### **School Fees / Donation....**

The school receives government funding to run the day to day activities of the school. Often this does not allow for the provision of much needed resources. The school fees help to provide for these things. Fees/School Donation: \$85.00 per year for one child or \$65 if paid by 1<sup>st</sup> March. \$130.00 for a family or \$110.00 if paid by 1<sup>st</sup> March.

*Return slip*

*I have received and read Newsletter No. 2 Childs Name.....Room.....*

*Signed .....Parent/Guardian*

## Physical Activity Opportunities available to Senior Syndicate students.

### Parent Information.....

- Softball Field day- training in the lunchtimes and culminating with a field day 8 March postponement day 10 March.
- Athletics Day for senior school at Rutherford college (training during sport time) week 5 postponement week 6 date to be confirmed. (cluster field day team chosen from this).
- Athletics field day 29 March postponement 31 March training of team once school athletics day completed.
- Senior school swimming sports week 9 or 10 date to be confirmed (cluster field day team chosen from this).
- Sportsability for lower ability sports people every second Tuesday lunchtime in the hall starting Week 3.
- Rugby training starting with Mr Tahana in the lunchtime preparing for field Days later on.
- Leadership Day Y6 4 March Beach Ed Y5 28 February.
- Bike Safety classes Weeks 5 and 6 for Y6.

### Also available to year 3-6 students:

- ASAC – after school activity club middle or seniors at a cost of \$15 for the term will run Tuesday 3 – 4.30pm based around sports and agilities related. Run by Kiwi Sport Activator. Class full but will be available again next term.

### Also available to all students:

- Gym Club – each Friday lunch time run by outside operator. \$85 a term working towards badges and improving skills in balance, co ordination, strength and flexibility.

## Positive behaviour reinforcement at Peninsula Primary School.....

This year our weekly certificates are green and earning five of these means a student receives a Gold Certificate in recognition of this achievement. Teachers can award only three green certificates each week.

Teachers, especially when on duty, can give a student a reward slip which goes into a draw for assembly on Monday. These tokens are given for friendly behaviour, helping others and so on.

In class there are other incentive schemes also with stickers, house points being two of the most common.

Our students, almost without exception, come to school ready to learn and to behave well. Parental support in education at Peninsula Primary School is valued.

## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER.....

March 2	Meeting of Maori Parents
March 4	Year 6 Leadership Day
March 6	Krypton Factor
March 8	Softball Field Day
March 8	Bike Safety
March 10	B.O.T. Meeting
March 15	Bike Safety
March 16	Maths Open Morning
March 21	Elaine Le Sueur talk about educating more able students.
March 29	Athletics Field Day
March 31	Twilight Gala 5.30 – 8.00pm

FREE EVENT

Te Atatu Peninsula

# FAMILY FUN DAY

Saturday 19 March 2011, 10am – 1pm

Jack Pringle Village Green (Town Centre)

Te Atatu Peninsula

**FOR THE COMMUNITY BY THE COMMUNITY**

COME AND FIND OUT WHAT'S AVAILABLE IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

## Enviroschool News

*Did you know a group of students from our school were part of the Get growing with New Zealand gardener television show on Prime TV? The show with our students aired on 6<sup>th</sup> February, the students were knowledgeable and had some great things to say. Well done, we are proud of you all! There will also be an article about the schools Garden to Table programme in an upcoming NZ Gardener magazine, so keep an eye out!*

*We now have an Enviro Update noticeboard in our library with information on what we are doing in our school and what environmentally friendly activities there are in our community. Come in and check it out!*

*Upcoming events: Ecoday is being held on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March from 10am – 4pm at Olympic Park in New Lynn, there will be lots of environmentally friendly fun for the whole family, including a recycled arts and crafts market, a kidzone, food and drink, and an ecoexpo and green marketplace.*

