

Peninsula Primary

Newsletter No. 4 20 June 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 2 is:

IMAGINING

Enduring Understandings:

- 1. What we imagine does not have to be real.**
- 2. Opportunities are created by what we imagine.**

Essential Questions:

- 1. What is imagining?**
- 2. Why do we imagine?**

Term Two has been another exciting and successful one. Teachers and students have been working hard in all subjects, aiming to learn as much as possible whenever possible. This is the same in any term at Peninsula Primary School as is the wonderful support we have had from parents and guardians. The most recent example of this was the Trash to Fashion event held at our school at the weekend.

At the semi-finals for Trash to Fashion our students displayed the products of their imagination and skill, their fantastic costume entries, and of course, behind this was the support of parents and teachers.

Some great photography has been done by a parent, Kate Anderson, and other help and guidance came from many other parents.

After the finals, there will be a full report on this major event in our calendar. We will know who made the finals in a day or two.

Our Friends of the school team provided refreshments for the day making another great financial donation to the school. Thanks again to this hard-working team who do so much for Peninsula Primary School.

While this co-curricular work goes on, we have been developing reports into a comprehensive document which 'covers all bases' parents have said they want covered. The reports also do what is required by the Ministry of Education.

Along with reports, change has been made in response to caregiver feedback about length of interviews. Each interview will be fifteen minutes long. As before, you will have the option of booking your times on line.

The report will be evaluated following interviews. At this time some important notes must be made:

In 'telling it like it is' as parents requested, some caution is needed. A student who is below National Standard is not a failure, nor are they destined to be one. Placement at that level means the teacher, student and parents can remedy weaknesses, if possible, and of course we all know of people who were academic failures but very successful in business, sport or entertainment, for example.

The Ministry of Education requires that we report in plain language. To make sure the report is plainly understood, some terms are explained below:

Overall teacher judgement –

An assessment tool that has emerged recently is 'teacher overall judgement' (OTJ). An overall teacher judgement involves gathering up several items of assessment in order to make an overall assessment of a student's progress and achievement. Such a judgement is based on valid data not guesswork

Return slip

I have received and read Newsletter No. 4 Childs Name.....Room.....

SignedParent/Guardian

Progressive Achievement Test – PATs

PAT's are standardized tests developed by the New Zealand Council for Educational Research (NZCER). There are PAT's for Year 4 to Year 10 students in reading comprehension, reading vocabulary and mathematics. There is a listening comprehension PAT for Year 3 to Year 10 students. Schools use PAT's early in the school year. The PAT results provide teachers with information about the student's progress compared to other New Zealand students. Teachers use this information to make decisions about what the students need to learn next.

In the assessment data part of the report some spaces may be blank. This will be because only results appropriate to a student's level are entered. Also it is possible a student missed a test. This is something you should ask about at the report meeting/interview.

Other important questions to ask are:

- Is my child settled at school?
- Is my child progressing as expected?
- What does my child do well?
- What can I do to help my child at school?
- Is my child in different groups for different subjects? Why?
- How well does my child get along with others?
- Is my child working to his or her ability?
- Does my child participate in class discussions and activities?
- Have there been any changes in the way my child acts at school? For example, have you noticed any signs of hearing, vision or other problems?
- What's the best way to contact you if I have a concern?

The report form will be available to view on:

www.peninsulaprimary.school.nz

prior to issue to help you understand it fully. Copies will also be on the notice board in the foyer. The same report form is issued to each class except the two reception rooms 19 and 20.

ALBUM MAKING PARTY.....

Learn how to create personalized photo albums, no creativity required. Classes held in your home, at a time that suits you. Details \$5 per person, includes all materials. Bookings essential.

Contact Carolyn Litten, Creative Memories Consultant Phone 8382413.

MID-YEAR INTERVIEWS TUESDAY 12 JULY FROM 1.30PM UNTIL 8.00PM AND WEDNESDAY 13 JULY FROM 3.30PM UNTIL 6.00PM

Parent Interviews will take place on the above days. On Tuesday 12 July the school will close at 12.30 pm and all children will be dismissed at this time. The After School Programme will commence at 12.30pm for all enrolled students.

On Wednesday 13 July the school will close at the normal time of 3.00 pm.

We are using the BOOK SCHOOL INTERVIEWS ONLINE programme again this year for parents to book interviews with the teachers online.

Booking interviews is as easy as 1 – 2 – 3

1. Log on to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and enter our schools code E5Q4D. Enter your name, your child/childrens name and your email address.
2. On the next page pick the teacher/teachers you want to meet.
3. On the next page click the time that suits you.

When you have finished your interview timetable will be emailed to you, and if something comes up, you can return to the site and change your interview.

If you do not have access to the internet please phone Maree Williams in the office and she will go online and make appointments for you.

DATES TO REMEMBER.....

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| June 29 | Cosmodome visit |
| July 1 | Cosmodome visit |
| July 6 | Seniors Corbans visit |
| July 12 | Parent / Teacher Interviews from 1.30 to 8.00pm. School closes at 12.30 pm. |
| July 13 | Parent / Teacher Interviews from 3.30 pm to 6.00 pm. School closes at 3.00 pm |



School Banking Day is Friday. Encourage a good savings habit from a young age, making small and regular deposits is the best way to go. Even 50c or 10c a week is a great start to regular savings and creates a good savings habit. If you would like to register your child, applications are available from the school office. The children receive a Kashin banking bag which includes a savings diary, calculator and certificate.

