

# Peninsula Primary

Newsletter No. 2 22 August 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 3 is:**

## CHALLENGE

**Enduring Understandings:**

1. We all face personal challenges.
2. Challenges can have positive outcomes which help us to develop.

**Essential Questions:**

1. What do we mean by challenge?
2. How can we learn from our challenge?

The first two weeks of term three have rushed by with classes setting to work quickly and energetically. Teachers are hard at work delivering the curriculum, having spent much time preparing for the term during term break. Already many rooms have exemplary environments set up.

There is a lot of effort going into extra-curricular activities also. Our finalists in the Trash to Fashion show are preparing to do their best on the big days (semi finals and finals), sports teams are training hard to compete well in local schools' field days, an instrumental group is rehearsing to perform in the Auckland Junior Music Contest, the Writers Club is working on a book they will publish, talented young artists have workshops at Lopdell House to attend and ukulele and recorder groups are practising hard. Also guitar students, keyboard and violinists are learning individually, with tutors from Music Education Centre.

This makes our school a very busy place, but one where holistic education is aimed at, and where pupil engagement is promoted.

**GARDEN TO TABLE.....**

On 30 August, all going to plan, 20 workers from the ANZ Bank will complete the large garden planned for behind the Junior Block. These volunteers are donating a days work as part of their community service scheme. They will be carrying out a plan which is a fusion of our students ideas developed into a design by the head of landscape design at Unitec, Renee Davies. Recently a university evaluator visited the students working in our garden and 'kitchen' employed by Garden to Table Trust to find out about the effect of the programme we run. The researcher's report will be available soon.



**WALKING SCHOOL BUS NEWS.....**

As part of having prepared as a Walking School Bus Leader, Mrs Jan Frost has completed a First Aid course on child first aid.

Susan Paszczuk and her bus won the Mr Poppers Penguins Competition for the West. Max the Pukeko and a Penguin Mascot will soon be coming to an assembly to hand out prizes. Congratulations all round.

*Return slip*

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

*Signed .....Parent/Guardian*

## Enviroschool News

As a bronze Enviroschool, we are aiming to continue reducing our rubbish and improving our environment here at Peninsula Primary. This week on Thursday, we will be having a "No Waste Day", where all children will be asked to bring their rubbish home. This will become a weekly event. On this day, the rubbish bins will not be put out for use.

Also, this year each class has been working on a mosaic classroom number. We are making good progress with this project; the junior syndicate has all their classroom numbers up, which has made the junior syndicate look wonderful! We encourage you to come and have a look around the school as they are going up!

### Assessment Tools.....

For your information here are descriptions of command used assessment tools.

#### Reading Running Records –

Running Records are used in junior classes to assess an individual student's progress in reading. The student reads a passage aloud to the teacher who records how the student reads each word. The record shows details of mistakes, changes made and the way the child goes back to make sense of a phrase.

Teachers share running record results with parents as part of reports, portfolios or parent-teacher interviews. This helps the parent to find strategies the student could practise at home.

#### ESOL – English as a second or other language –

Special English programmes for students from non-English-speaking background (NESB) may be provided as part of the normal class programme or as a withdrawal ESOL programme. The class teacher uses assessment tools to find out how good the student's English is and to decide the best programme for them. The progress of students who are taking part in an ESOL programme is also assessed.

Daffodil Day is one of the organisations we support as a school. Fabric daffodils, tattoos and stickers are available from all classrooms. Fabric daffodils are a gold coin donation and tattoos and stickers are any coin donation. Coin trail will be held on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> August.

### DATES TO REMEMBER.....

August 22	Rugby Field Day
August 26	Senior semi-finals speech contest
August 26	Daffodil Day
August 30	Middle school group to Lopdell House
September 1	Speech Finals
September 2	Middle school semi-finals speech contest

### STORYFEST.....

Today some of our talented artists are working in the art room on "Our World Today – Auckland" with the guidance of art tutors from Storyfest. Storyfest is designed to encourage interest in the arts, especially community arts. The theme of 2011 Storyfest is "Adventures and Discovery in the New World". This artwork will be displayed at the Kelston Community Centre during the Storyfest Childrens festival on 24<sup>th</sup> September. Our school is making a large map that shows a journey of discovery in the new world of Auckland City. All children will also make colourful pennants with images and words on them to be hung all over the Community Centre.

In today's workshop our students will be making:

1. A section of a large map of Auckland
2. A frame to go on their section of the map
3. Pennants



### SCHOOL STARS....

Some of you may remember the School Stars performance we had in the past and planned to have again this term. Unfortunately, School Stars has been put out of action by the earth quakes in Christchurch, where they are based. They hope to be running at capacity next year, and have us 'booked' in. In place of this event the school will hold a concert featuring cultural groups and performance. The date for this will be set very soon.