

# Peninsula Primary

Newsletter No. 12 December 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 4 is:**

## CAUSE AND EFFECT

**Enduring Understandings:**

1. **Everything we do has an effect on someone or something.**
2. **To keep balance we must think about causes and effects.**

**Essential Questions:**

1. **What do we mean by cause and effect?**
2. **How can we reach and keep a balance by thinking about cause?**

The school year is coming to a close and I can report that once more it was a very successful one. The most vital success has been the progress made by every student. The range of this success has been from good to outstanding. For example, a number of students went up 10 or more reading levels.

Teaching programmes were very successful. Student engagement was noteworthy. Monthly behaviour reports to the Board of Trustees featured very little negative information.

An outstanding result was achieved by Elijah Manu in winning the local schools' cluster speech competition.

The school, led by our Enviro Crusaders and staff in charge, won the Puriri Award for the great work they are doing in our playground environment. This prestigious award is given by the Keep Waitakere Beautiful Trust.

Our 'Garden to Table' work continues to be a great success thanks to the outstanding work of volunteers Michelle Barton and Larry Gibson, and the support of them by Malcolm Whittaker, Runner-up in the Keep Waitakere Beautiful Trust 'Best Caretaker' awards.

Our Taniwha team won their category at the Trash to Fashion awards.

Peninsula Primary School Kapa Haka group was invited to open the Trash to Fashion finals. Part of the group also performed at the viaduct basin as part of Rugby World Cup celebrations.

Peninsula Primary School Pasifika Cultural group was invited to perform at the launch of a pre-school programme called Pacific Beatz. On the strength of the outstanding job they did there, our school was invited to attend Pacific in the Park. The organisers of that day said the group selected to take part in that event were wonderful ambassadors for our school.

The only West Auckland primary school to take part in the Auckland Junior Music contest was Peninsula Primary School.

Music Education Centre Annual Report data shows Peninsula Primary School as having more than twice as many pupils working with their centre teachers, compared to other local schools. Three students were awarded Star Musician Awards during the course of the year. Congratulations to Joshua Larking, Odessa Lawson and Emily Smith.

Groups visiting Lopdell House art workshops produced some fantastic work. Examples displayed in the school foyer drew a lot of good comments from various visitors.

A student group, Amanda Cooper, Hannah Donaldson and Joshua Larking, have organised an art exhibition for work made at home. Building on the success of this event, it is likely this will be extended next year.

*Return slip*

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

*Signed .....Parent/Guardian*

Sports successes have been numerous. At each field day our students' superior self-discipline and readiness to listen to organisers is obvious. On top of that generalised success we achieved the following:

Athletics 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Swimming 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Soccer 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Basketball 1<sup>st</sup>  
Rugby 1<sup>st</sup>  
Netball 1st

Teachers were of course an integral part of our success and professional development they undertook concluded successfully also. Of particular note was the intensive work on catering for Gifted and Talented students. A delivery model is on our website for comment. A 'gap' we have identified is catering for gifted or talented students who have a clearly outstanding ability. While there are plenty of chances for students to look for involvement in extension activities, we now want to look at some individualised learning pathways for particular students. In relation to this, if any parent feels they could offer a gifted student a learning opportunity, I would welcome hearing from them. Our community is full of talented musicians, mathematicians, scientists, organisers, artists and more.

I could go on : Incredible Science Day, Bookfairs, Cultural Performance Concert, Writing Club.....

### **Student organised Art Exhibition:**

The works will be open to view from lunchtime 12 December. The entry fee is that you must vote for your favourite one. There are prizes for people's favourite, and judges choice of first, second and third. The prizes have been generously donated by Mrs Lesley Cooper. The judge is Tonga Vaea, this year's guest speaker at Prizegiving Assembly. Tonga will make his choice after Wednesday assembly.

### **Talent Quest.**

This year the talent quest will be held during school time, on Monday afternoon 19 December, starting at 1.30pm. It was decided to hold this event at this time because our students are extremely tired, as are staff who are working on end of year reports right now. Parents, Grandparents.....any supporters of performers are welcome to attend the event.

### **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER.....**

**December 13 Graduation Year 6 students 6-8pm**

**December 14 Prizegiving Assembly 11am**

**December 20 Last day Term 4. SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 2PM**

**February 7 First day Term 1 2012**

### **Singing for our supper.....**

Once again Te Atatu Senior Citizens Association made a very welcome and generous donation to our camp fundraising. Their donation made it possible for students who could not make enough money to be allowed on camp. In appreciation of this generosity, a group of students will entertain the Senior Citizens at their final luncheon for the year. The programme will highlight just some of the talents to be found at Peninsula Primary School.

Vocalists (Aliyah Tautuhi and Serenity Kahi), Instrumentalists (Bridget Sabich, Mara-Shelle Slatter, Samantha Harding, Ryan Fraser-Sanders, Hannah Pether, Joshua Larking, James Mitchell, Erina Logan and Tyrell McGee, and Ukulele players (Susan Ward, Kelsi Ward, India Smith, Stella Maaka-McCrea and Michelle Barton). The group will perform from 1.00pm until about 1.30pm.

### **TOPIC FOR TERM 1 2012**

#### **RESPONSIBILITY**

##### **Enduring Understandings:**

- 1. Responsibility affects choices and decisions.**
- 2. Values underpin responsibilities.**
- 3. Responsibility requires action.**

##### **Essential Questions:**

- 1. What is Responsibility?**
- 2. What would happen without responsibility?**
- 3. How can we show responsibility?**

### **The Art Exhibition organisers in front of some of the work.**

