

Peninsula Primary

Newsletter No. 1 27 July 2009

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

The understandings we hope our children will retain are:

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

The essential questions for study will be:

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

As usual, our students have returned to school ready to behave and work well. Teachers completed education plans late term two and classes are immediately on to prepared work.

An immediate challenge, for students and teachers, is to prepare a song and dance performance for recording by ~~S~~Skoolstarsq On the second and third of August, the class performances will be recorded, in professional quality, by ~~S~~Skoolstarsqtechnical people. The resulting D.V.D\$ will be screened in our hall on 17 August. More information on this will be available nearer that date.

Hopefully, another challenge will be carrying on the work of our school while each main block is refurbished, and a new classroom is brought on site. The Ministry of Education has had plans and consents for many weeks now, so a start to work must be imminent.

The work to be done is:

Refurbishing rooms

5,6,7,8,9,20,11,12,13,14,15,16,17

Refurbishing toilet blocks outside these classrooms.

Placing a new classroom by the Dental Clinic.

Parent / Teacher interviews.....

195 meetings took place between teachers and parents, indicating a good turn-out of parents concerned about and involved in their children's education. A focus group of parents who discussed reports and interviews with me were very clear about the importance of parent interest in their children's education, something which unfortunately cannot be taken for granted.

Some key points the parent group found:

- The reports were professionally presented.
- The reports were clearly laid out and easy to read.
- The beginning, proficient and advanced terms easy to relate to the areas concerned.
- Literacy levels hard to understand until explained by teachers.
- They had not all received the newsletter explaining aspects of the report.
- A mid-year report was a useful check on progress.

Return slip

I have received and read Newsletter No. 1 Childs Name.....Room.....

SignedParent/Guardian

First Aid training.....

Antony Fiske, a trained and fully qualified paramedic from our school community, has kindly offered to provide 2 days of basic first aid training to parents of children at Peninsula Primary. The session will be held in the school staffroom on Sunday 9th August and Sunday 16th August. The training will begin at 10am and conclude at 3pm. If you wish to take part in this training could you please complete phone the school office as soon as possible.

INCREDIBLE SCIENCE SCIQUIZ 09...

On Monday 6 July, two teams of selected students from our school took part in a Science Quiz organized by the Science Faculty of the University of Auckland. More than 50 primary schools from the wider Auckland region participated in the Year 5 & 6 section of the SciQuiz. We participated in the second heat and once again our students did well and the Year 5 team answered 17 out of the 20 questions correctly. Unfortunately this team was just one mark short and did not make it to the final round.

I want to congratulate the following students for their hard work and effort in preparing for, and participating in this challenging science quiz:

Year 6 Rhys Tetenburg, Tjiele Poata, Joshua Scott, Elizabeth Faamamafa.

Year 5 team . Samuel Brooking, Rex Kennedy, Rawiri Hohepa, Zara Osborne.

A special word of thanks to the parents/caregivers for getting their children to the University and for their support of both teams.

Pops Huri – Teacher in charge

CLASS ACT OPERA

This performance for the whole school will be on Wednesday 29th July at 1.30pm. This year they will be performing a specially adapted children's version of Donizetti's *The Elixir of Love*. This is a wonderful opportunity for our children to experience a live opera, something many people never get the opportunity to do.

Thanks to a grant from Creative New Zealand Community Grants and a subsidy by the school we have managed to keep the cost down to \$2.00 per child. If you have not already done so please send your child's \$2.00 along to school tomorrow.

Dates to remember.....

July 29th

Class Act Opera

July 30th

Cake Stall Senior camp fundraising

August 6th

Cake Stall Senior camp fundraising

August 7th

Lopdell House Y 1/2

August 11th

Year 6 to Te Atatu Intermediate

PARENT READING.....

If any parents are able to help with the Parent Reading Programme please contact the office. The programme takes place Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 9.00 . 10.15am. At the moment we have a vacancy on Wednesdays. We would be very grateful for your support. If you are able to help please get in touch with Leonie Blackburn or leave your name at the office.

NETBALL NEWS.....

The Peninsula Ferns Y5/6 participated in a pre-match drills competition, prior to the LG Mystics home game against the Queensland Firebirds at Trust Stadium last term. The team had to show their speed and agility as they squared off against Matipo on the court, in front of the Mystics and Firebirds teams as well as the camera crew and the many netball fans watching the game. The Ferns came out on top, winning for themselves some fantastic Mystics team gear such as caps and water bottles along with a team ball.

They got to welcome the Mystics team on the court at the commencement of the game with pom poms forming an arch of honour. They along with many others from our school got to watch the game live which was an exciting and fun afternoon for our team.

