

Peninsula Primary

Newsletter No. 5 29 June 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 2 is.....



Next term our key concept will be **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?

Tomorrow, school will close at 1.00pm.

for teacher/parent interviews to start at 2.00pm.
Interviews are by appointment only. To confirm your appointment time please check your child's homework book. Last newsletter I offered some points for getting the most out of these meetings. The following information is a guide to parts of the report referring to assessment data teachers regularly update:

MATHS:

By end of year 1 students should be working at stages 2-3.

By end of year 2 students should be working at stage 4.

By end of year 3 / 4 students should be working at stage 5.

By end of year 5 / 6 students should be working at stage 6.

Y 5 / 6 reports only:

For basic facts, teachers used the following criteria, based on scores in regular tests (the same test is used in each classroom):

Less than 65% - beginning

60% - 90% - proficient

91% - 100% advanced

READING:

Reading Age, ideally, should match actual age. Where a level is given, not reading age, the teacher will be able to give a reading age equivalent.

WRITING:

The number used to indicate progress in writing in our reports shows the writing level that your child achieved under test conditions at the end of term 1. This sample was also sent home for your comment at that time.

Teachers base the final level given on a number of criteria set out in the **New Zealand Curriculum Exemplar**. Your child was assessed on the following criteria:

Their ability to gain an audience's interest, how clearly they express their ideas; the structure and organization of their writing and how they use language to convey their ideas. These are known as **deeper features**. Further to these, children are graded on **surface features** such as spelling, punctuation and grammar. All of these features are used to give a final overall level.

Children progress through these levels at approximately one stage per two years at school e.g.
Level 1 year 1 & 2
Level 2 year 3 & 4
Level 3 year 5 & 6

It is important to understand that the level used was based on your child's performance on one particular day and that your child's teacher will be able to provide further information at tomorrow's parent interviews.

Return slip

I have received and read Newsletter No. 5 Child's Name.....Room.....

SignedParent/Guardian

Pupils work on 'Matariki'

" On Matariki new year it means you plant and you sing on new year and you have kai with your family or your cousin and your aunties and your uncles and you play with your cat or your dog. You fly kites to the sky and think about people you care about"
by Kolokita

"Matariki is a celebration for the Maori new year on Wednesday 24th June. When we are at Maori new year we sing songs and plant new plants and some other things. You can see seven stars called the seven sisters and we have a new moon". by Allysa

'TURN ON THE TAP'.....

Joshua Scott from room 5, recently suggested to me, our school could help people who have no healthy water supply. He was aware that a Cambodian small village had poor water supply because his father recently visited there. At assemblies, Joshua and his family outlined the plan to help Oandong School in Kampong Chnnang. Each class has a labeled bottle in which they can put loose change. This effort to help others who are less fortunate will run for four school weeks. A detailed information sheet is displayed on the office foyer noticeboard.

YOUNG AUTHORS IN PRINT.....

The 25 June issue of the Auckland newspaper featured an article about talented young writers at Peninsula Primary School. It was great to see the work of Peninsula Primary School teachers and students acknowledged in this publication. Our talented writers regularly contribute to Our Community Voices Celebrating Waitakere and Jude Black of Room 14 recently came second in a poetry writing competition sponsored by that newspaper. This writing work is part of our school's focus on academic achievement and setting the highest of expectations. Congratulations to Jude Black, prize winner, and all other contributors.



Dates to remember.....

June 30 Parent/Teacher Interviews.
School closes at 1pm
July 3 Last day Term 2.
School closes at 3pm
July 20 First day Term 3

JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAY SPECIAL

SWIMSATION SWIM SCHOOL

Te Atatu Swimsation and their Mascot Spike would like to thank Peninsula Primary for participating in the Watersafe Auckland Partnership for Schools Programme. To show our appreciation we have put together a deal for Peninsula Primary students and their siblings for July holiday lessons.

Contact Te Atatu Swimsation on 948 2414 or email teatatu@swimsation.com to take advantage of this fantastic offer.

Present this voucher to receive

25% off

Te Atatu Swimsation July Holiday Swimming Lessons. Present the certificate achieved during the water safety programme to receive this discount.

**conditions apply*

FRIENDS OF SCHOOL UPDATE....

Thank you to those kind people who helped out with the Disco last Thursday night. There was a great turn out and we had a thumbs up from all of the kids we spoken to about enjoyment levels. Hopefully it raised lots of money for the senior camp. I'm sorry if the changed finish times caused any problems. There are a few fun events being planned for the third term that we hope will you will all support. There will be more information about these closer to the events.
F.O.S. Chairperson . Anita Martens

Community Notices.....

Blue Turtle After School Art Classes ō
Begin term 3 . 28th, 29th, 30th July for 8 weeks
Tuesdays Wednesdays and Thursdays 3.30pm .
5.00pm Te Atatu Intermediate School. Garden sculpture, corrugated iron painting, mixed media canvas painting. For more information phone Rowena 8345297.

Catch a reading bug at your library these holidays..

Creep into your library and enjoy a story time about creepy crawlies and flutterbys during the July school holidays. 10.30am Tuesday 7th and 15th Te Atatu Public Library.

Kip McGrath Education centre Henderson

Call Amanda or Shelly on 8369061 to enrol your child to get ahead in Maths and English. Term 3 weekly tuition from July 20 and our school holiday programme from 14-16 July. www.kipmcgrath.co.nz