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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

I wrote about reporting student progress in the last newsletter. Since then the Minister of Education has consulted with school managers on the same subject. This consultation came under the heading: National Standards and reporting to Parents. The consultation took the form of meetings, with Ms Anne Tolley (Minister of Education) outlining what is proposed. The basis of the draft scheme for National Standards and reporting comes from ideas from the New Zealand Assessment Academy. Ms Tolley refers to this group as education experts.

Currently, the Minister is being given feedback about expectations being set by the education experts. Some benchmarks set are plainly unrealistic.

A contentious statement made by Ms Tolley was that only 50% of schools were using appropriate assessment tools and doing something about data the tools showed up. A schools survey is underway to test the accuracy of that statement. For example, at Peninsula Primary School, all the assessment tools we use like Progressive Achievement Tests (PATs) are on the accredited list from the Ministry education experts.

What do we do with data?

- Trends can be tracked across levels of the school.
- Trends can be tracked from year to year.
- From trends identified, teaching can be altered to counteract problems and capitalize our strengths.
- Professional development can be planned to suit findings of assessment data.

P.A.Ts are designed as diagnostic tests and analysis of results can provide definite information about weaknesses and strengths of individuals.

This information can also clearly indicate a students position compared to others of the same age. P.A.Ts are norm referenced, meaning the results have been standardized so teachers can compare their students results with those of other New Zealand students.

What do we do with this type of data?

- Set groups of students at similar levels in the classroom.
- Use this information to decide educational plans and lesson content.
- Closely scrutinize individual students achievement.

Other assessment tools we use, which feature on the accredited list are:

- Assessment Resource Bank. (ARB)
- Burt Word Reading Test (BURT)
- Exemplars
- Junior Oral Screening Tool (JOST)
- Numeracy Project Assessment (NumPA)
- Reading Running Records
- School Entry Assessment (SEA)
- Six year net (Reading)
- Supplementary Test on Achievement in Reading (STAR)

The Board of Trustees also look at assessment data, for accountability purposes, making sure students are progressing not stagnating or regressing.

To date, in 2009, our Board of Trustees has been shown information about:

- ❖ P.A.T. results .
 - Listening Comprehension
 - Reading Comprehension
 - Reading Vocabulary
 - Mathematics
- ❖ Benchmarking results
 - Reading

Return slip

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

*I will attend the Skoolstars evening on 17 August 6.30pm session **or** 7.30pm session*

Signed Parent/Guardian Adults Children

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- students are competent riders. School personnel will check bike safety, helmet use and so, from time to time.
- A bicycle permission notice must be filled out and returned to school for approval. (We call this our Bike Licence).
 - Younger children may ride bikes to school if caregivers make special application, and agree to travel right beside the rider.
 - The school will withdraw permission to ride to school if safety is compromised.

SKOOLSTARS..... See your child on the big screen.....

The Skoolstars evening shows will take place next Monday 17th August. Show times are 6.30pm . 7.30pm then 7.30pm . 8.30pm. There is no entry charge. The Skoolstars DVD is available to purchase at each show. The D.V.D. includes all class performances and bonus footage. D.V.D.s are \$20 each (cash only). \$5.00 from each purchase goes to Peninsula Primary School. Refreshments will be on sale from Peninsula Primary School Friends of the School.

Please fill out the relevant section on the return slip on Page 1 to indicate which Skoolstars session you would like to attend and how many will be attending.

CLASS ACT OPERA.....

Report by Elizabeth Fa'amamafa and Tylah Wisnesky on the opera . Wasn't that just hilarious! They have lovely voices too. A few weeks ago Peninsula Primary watched this group perform 'The Elixir of Love' The opera was a story of a man names Nemorino who lived in a camp which was owned by a lady named Adina. Nemorino watched Adina lie in the sun, he admires her secretly. But out of the blue Justin Timberlake comes and sweeps Adina off her feet. Nemorino buys a magic potion, which is actually a bottle of cheap wine from a fake doctor named Dulcamara.

Wow! It was loud and fun. I never knew people could sing so well. I mean how can they hold their breath for so long? The acting was outstanding. The piano playing was brilliant. Our favourite part was the first few songs where Nemorino admires Adina and sings to her. Overall the show was a classic.+

DATES TO REMEMBER.....

- August 11** Y6 students visit Te Atatu Intermediate
- August 12** Senior speech semi finals
- August 13** B.O.T. Meeting 7 pm
- August 13** Cake Stall. Senior camp fundraiser
- August 17** Skoolstars 6.30-7.30 or 7.30-8.30
- August 18** Netball Field Day
- August 19** School Speech Finals
- August 19** Te Atatu Intermediate enrolments 3pm school office.
- August 20** Netball saving day
- August 21** Junior speech finals

Achievement at Peninsula Primary School.....

Congratulations to Lyn France, teacher of Room 16, on completion of her Masters of Education. Ms France's study had a focus on literacy and papers passed were:

- ✚ Psychology of reading
- ✚ Issues in Literacy Teaching and Learning
- ✚ Children with Reading Difficulties
- ✚ Teaching for Scientific Literacy
- ✚ Psychology of Writing
- ✚ Challenges of Literacy Difficulties
- ✚ Language Analysis for Teachers
- ✚ Empowering Education in Low Decile Schools

Spanish Classes for Peninsula Primary pupils...

These classes begin at school, Tuesday and Thursday at lunchtime. For further information contact Mrs Eva Anton on 8345441.

Well done to these talented students: International Competitions and Assessments for schools –

Computer Skills Participation	Simon Cooper Connor Tunncliffe Raeesha Khan
Credit	Rhys Tetenburg Elizabeth Fa'amamafa Zara Osborne
Distinction High Distinction Top 1%	Rawiri Hohepa Rex Kennedy

