

Fairburn School Newsletter

Newsletter Number 13

1 August 2012

Kia ora, Talofa lava, Namaste, Kia orana, Malo e Lelei, Fakalofa lahi atu, Ni hao, Mauri, greetings to you all.



Parent Survey

Today, along with the newsletter, each family will receive a parent survey asking how you felt about the written report you received at the end of Term 2 and the Three-Way Conferences that took place in the last week of term. Across the school, we had approximately 75% of parents attend the Three-Way Conferences. We would like some feedback from you about how this worked for you. Please fill in the survey and send it back to school by Wednesday 8th August. The information will be used to make decisions about reports and conferences for next time we do this.

Climbing in to Culture

Our whole school learning inquiry around culture is underway. In the week of 13th -17th August, classes will be mixed across the school so students can work together with others around their own culture. We will be asking our “parent experts” to come along and work with teachers and students during this week. If you said you could help in this way, we will contact you to come and meet with us so we can talk to you about what we are doing and how you can help. On Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th August, we will be having “sharing days” so students can see what other groups have done. We hope that you are able to come along to be part of these days.



National Standards and League Tables

Over the past two years, both the Board of Trustees and I have written about our concerns over national standards and league tables. Educators and academics are speaking out against using these measures to judge student achievement and school success. As a school, we are strongly opposed to both as there is no evidence that they will work and bring about positive outcomes for students. Our advice to you is that a league table will not give you accurate information about schools and you are better to use the schools Education Review Office (ERO) report to inform you about how well they are performing. National Standards will not give you a clear picture of the progress your child is making, you can get this information from your child’s report and at Three-Way Conferences. If you want to find out why we do not support either the national standards or league tables you are welcome to

come along and talk to us about this. The most important issue for us is whether or not what we do is good for kids and learning or not!

Otahuhu Intermediate Pre-Enrolment Information Meeting

Tuesday 7th August at 9.30am - Year 6 students and their parents/caregivers are invited to attend a meeting in our Fairburn School Hall to meet with our colleagues at Otahuhu Intermediate. This is an opportunity to find out about what Otahuhu Intermediate has to offer our Year 6 students when they move on to intermediate school.

Merit Awards

Congratulations to the following children who received merit awards in the last week – Lyvelle Booker-Vercoc, Charmaine Mason, Bosco Loamanu, Naharah Crawford, Lanuola Tupou, Loreal Ki, Damian Leaming, Naina Shaye, Kahurangi Papua, Kemindhi Liyanage, Inangaro Rairoa, Pauline Falakiseni, Nardia Dawson, Arekahanara Bradley, Debra Sio-Iosefo, Elijah Aiolupotea, Patelisi Hafoka, Andrew Campbell, Vinal Chouhan, Riyansha Sen, Andrew Nua, Semi Nabenu, April Heffernan, Ngaratai Cuthers-Heitia, Saqib Ali, March Tiotala, Regina Shaye, Nickawana Perese, Vivek Kumar, Edward Tapukalanga. Well done everyone.



Term Dates:

Wednesday 1st August
Thursday 16th August
Thursday 16th August
Monday 20th August
Tuesday 21st August
Wednesday 22nd August
Thursday 30th August
Thursday 30th August
Monday 3rd September
Tuesday 4th September
Wednesday 5th September
Thursday 6th September
Thursday 20th September
Friday 28th September

Otahuhu Music Festival 7pm
Hindi Speech Contest
Inter-school Hockey Tournament
Ukelele Concert & workshops
Ukelele Concert & workshops
Duffy Theatre
Area Speech Contest (English) at Fairburn School
Maori Speech Competition
Hearing and Vision Testing
Hearing and Vision Testing
Tongan Speech Competition
Year 3-6 Cross Country at Memorial Park
Kids For Kids Concert (evening)
Term 3 finishes

Frances Nelson
Principal



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