

Term 4 Week 2 25th October 2013

From the Principal

Dear Parents/Caregivers
Kia Ora Koutou. Nga mihi kia koutou

By the time this newsletter is being read, the students in Year 4 will be home from Highland Home Camp in Pohangina and Years 5/6 will have returned from El Rancho in Waikanae! The year 3's have enjoyed a great EOT programme too! No doubt there will be an early night planned for a number of children and adults! I cannot thank the staff and accompanying parents enough - without your commitment we simply could not complete fantastic EOTC activities such as these.

CONGRATULATIONS - Manawatu Digi Award Finalists

To Ms Goodwin and Room 4 whose entry in the 'mini documentary' section AND to Mr McCarthy and Leilani, Aniya, Enshean, Jessica and Emilee from Room 7 whose entry in the Short Movie section have both made it through to the finals of this year's event! This is REALLY exciting - congratulations and best wishes for you all on finals night - Monday, 4th November at the Regent Theatre!

SCHOOL UNIFORM SUNHAT (\$11.00 each from the school office)

Unfortunately we still have a significant number of students without their regulation sunhat. Please ensure EVERY child has their sunhat at school every day from now on. 'No hat, no play' makes for unhappy morning tea/lunch/sports times.

2014

Preliminary plans are underway for our school organisation next year. While we do not have final details regarding personnel yet, we are excited to be able to tell you about some fresh, new ideas. We will operate as TWO teams - Years 1-3 and Years 4-6. These teams will have new names, likely new locations, 2 Team Leaders in each team and lots more. Teachers will not necessarily be teaching at exactly the same level and it will not be usual for children to have the same teacher for 2 years.

We anticipate starting with 1 New Entrant class, 3 x Y1/2 classes, 3 x Y2/3 classes, 2 x Y4/5 classes and 3 x Y5/6 classes. The reasons for these changes are many: Children get to experience different strengths/skills with different teachers and peers, having a new structure ensure that our practice is fresh rather than recycled, we want teachers to work more collaboratively to be meeting the individual needs of our students (as per the Ministry of Education's guidelines around Modern Learning Environments). The framework for National Reporting requirements also fits more tidily in these age brackets.

Of course we are still finalising details - please be assured that we will carefully consider the needs of your child when making placement decisions. We are NOT lowering expectations for Year 3's (or raising the bar too high for Year 4's) - just using a new structure to meet the needs of today's children.

In the coming weeks, we will have a competition to give the teams new names. This is an adventure - an exciting journey to be on!

LABOUR WEEKEND

School will be closed on Monday, 28th October for the public holiday, Labour Day. School reopens on Tuesday morning at 8.50am. Enjoy your break everyone!

Lin Dixon
 Principal

Celebrating Learning ~ Action 9

VOICES IN MY COKE by Heyden

She closed her eyes and concentrated on the sound. She heard voices coming from the tiny bubbles! Yes, and she heard words, a little louder now. What were they saying? They were just loud enough to understand. She bent over her coke cup to hear then she didn't realise she was getting smaller and smaller and smaller until she was as small as a bubble. She fell in. Deeper and deeper she went in. It was like she was in the beautiful ocean. Bubbles were following her saying "Follow me, follow me." The bubbles led her to an underwater Candyland. She saw gummy bears walking around, she blinked and a rainbow of colourful sherbet was over her head. It sprinkled over her face. It was so smooth and soft. She wanted to know what trees were made of, LOLLIPOPS! She ran over the bridge and jumped in the cokey water. She swam around and went deep under the fizzy pond. She found herself back at the cokey sea and started to swim as deep as possible. Then she saw seaweed made from long snake lollies, fish that looked like chocolate fish and a castle made from jelly coke jelly of course. She swam back to where she fell in, OH NO bubbles again! This time they were saying, "Shhhh everyone will hear you!". So she did what she was told but then thought, why would I listen to bubbles? That sentence was going on and on in her head. She jumped out of her cup "BYE BUBBLES" she yelled. "Where have you been?" her friends asked. "Ahh nowhere," she replied.

SPORTS NEWS

Hockey: Results from Hokowhitu Huia Team against Glen Orua (Go Peewees!). 4-1 loss. Was a brilliant first game with all players getting stuck in and really enjoying themselves. Lots of shots at goal with one disallowed. Player of the day was Noah. Well done Huia's. Looking forward to a great 2nd game, with hopefully less rain.
 Draw for next Tuesday 29th October ~ Hokowhitu Huia vs AOK rockets on Turf 1H @ 4.30pm
 ~ Hokowhitu Kiwi vs RSS Redwings on Turf 1C @ 5.00pm

Wetbix Triathlon: Forms for next year's race are available from Room 8. The school has been registered online so if you fill out a school form this will be added to our online Registration. This is for children aged between 7 and 15.

Achievement Awards

<p>Whizzing One Sam Daniel W Super effort with learning Clever story writing</p>	<p>Action 9 Year 3s Year 4s For showing creativity during our bird making activity For your enthusiasm and commitment while on camp</p>
<p>Totally Two Aylah, Maiya, Noah, Xavier & Jack P For amazing spelling words</p>	<p>Friendly 14 Tarun & Mareko For great maths work.</p>
<p>Enthusiastic 3 Fletcher, Ajay, Chenuka, Hiroshi, Matt & Junior Denae For clever statistical thinking For mature self-managing skills</p>	<p>Funky 15 Izayah Liberty For learning to write a story all by himself For making the right choices in class</p>
<p>Room 4's Learners Lounge Maximus & Silas Going the extra distance with thinking at maths time. You always strive for excellence.</p>	<p>Sunny Sixteen Rital Oliver For being a courteous, helpful classmate who works quietly. For great thinking in maths</p>

Congratulations to Matthew Cao who recently passed his New Zealand Speech and Drama exam Grade 2 with Honours plus.

Hokowhitu School PTA

Gala
 Organisation of the Gala is underway. Make sure you pencil in 28th November for an evening of yummy food, fun activities and loads of entertainment.

Cookbook
 Cookbook order forms will be going out with the children next week and we are hoping to announce the winner and runners up of the cookbook cover competition at assembly next week.

A Wonderful Place for Kids

Our virtue for the week is:
Patience & Courtesy

Courtesy is being polite and having good manners. It is a gracious way of speaking and acting which gives others a feeling of being valued and respected. It is greeting others with respect. "Please", "Thank you", "Excuse me", "Hello", "Goodbye", "You're welcome" are not just words. They are courteous expressions that show people you respect and care about them.

Patience is quiet hope and trust, expecting things to turn out all right. Patience is being calm and tolerant when difficult things happen. It means showing acceptance when you or others make mistakes. Patience is doing something now so that later it will bear fruit, like planting a seed and waiting for it to grow. Patience is a commitment to the future.

School Notices

Scholastic book orders
 Due to camps we have extended the date for scholastic book orders. Please have them returned to school by Tuesday 29th October. If paying by cheque, please make the cheque out to Scholastic New Zealand.

Uniforms
 Please ensure your child's uniform is clearly named.

Contact details
 Please ensure we have the correct contact details for your child (particularly phone numbers) in case we need to contact you in an emergency.

Community Notices

Palmerston North Police:
 Palmerston North Police Bluelight are holding two fantastic events in the month of November:

Bluelight Bike'a'thon - Sunday 10th November 10.00am. For children aged 4-12 years held at the Esplanade riding through the bush tracks. Cost \$5.00

Bluelight Trolley Derby - Sunday 17th November 10am. For children of all ages, held at Cashmere Drive Summerhill. Cost \$10 per trolley entered. However there will be two or three trolleys available for rides for a small donation.

Entry forms for both events can be picked up from the school office or the Palmerston North Police Station at 410 Church Street. There will be a sausage sizzle and spot prizes at both events. These are going to be fun days out for the family with plenty of Police supervision to ensure safety.

Carncot Scholarships for Boys. There are Carncot scholarships available for year 7 boys in 2014. Lynne Handcock Enthusiastic 3 has application forms - please collect one from her if you are interested.