



School Newsletter

Term 2 Week 1 2011

Dear Parents/Caregivers

A warm welcome back to our families and friends as we begin the 11 week second term. I think we are all hoping that this term will be much more settled than the previous two terms. I think all of us need to have a term where we can concentrate on doing the best we can, helping to rebuild our city and our school community, and remembering what is really important in our own lives. I hope that we all have the opportunity to focus on this over the next term and beyond.

I have asked teachers to become more firm on some of our **school rules** this term. I think it is important that we focus on the little things that allow our students to show the pride they have in themselves, their families and their schools. Teachers will be checking student uniforms, make up, as well as jewellery over the next few weeks. We ask for your support in ensuring your child is correctly dressed. All details are available in our prospectus, or on our website.

Another item we would like to look at is **cell phones**. Many children bring cell phones to school, and, as asked, place them, turned off, in the deposit box each classroom has. Some choose instead to leave them at the office, collecting them themselves at the end of the day. Either of these options is good with us. Some children choose to leave them in their bags. This is OK, as long as we all realise that if they go missing, the school will accept no responsibility for them. Unfortunately some children are continuing to keep their cell phones on them, and are using them in class or in the playground. May I remind parents that should children be seen using their cell phone at school without teacher permission, we will confiscate it for the day on the first occasion, and then until a parent comes to collect it on the second. Cell phones are great tools for our children and we all understand why parents might choose to give their children one. In the case of the earthquake, most of those cell phones that had been handed in were quickly returned so that children could contact parents – I can assure you that this will happen again should we be in a similar situation. Please encourage your child to hand in their cell phone in the morning.

Year 8 students and their families should be keeping a close eye on the newspaper to learn where and when High School open days are happening. Whenever we are notified by a school, we will do our best to ensure we inform you through the school newsletter so that you can take the opportunity to visit prospective high schools and have a look yourself. However, we are not always notified sufficiently in advance, so please make sure you take proactive action. Many schools also offer scholarships – again, please contact the high school directly to ensure your child has the opportunity.

Next Wednesday is the first meeting for this term of our **PTA**. The meeting begins at 7:30pm in the school staffroom and usually they last no longer than one hour. It would be great to see many of our parent community supporting the school through the PTA.

The next meeting of the **Board of Trustees** is on Thursday 19 May. Any interested person is welcome to attend the meeting, starting at 5:15pm in the staffroom.

Recently the Board received the confirmed report from the **Education Review Office** following their visit last year. Attached to this newsletter is the letter to the community, a shortened version of their full report. If you would like to see their full report, you can access it on www.ero.govt.nz or on the school website. The full report makes, I believe, very good reading for our school, and is an acknowledgement of the hard work of the Board, and all the staff at our school. I invite you to read it, and should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to ask.

Here's looking forward to a settled and successful Term 2. Thank you for all your support and encouragement.

Phil Tappenden
Principal

4 April 2011

To the Parents and Community of Kirkwood Intermediate

These are the findings of the Education Review Office's latest report on Kirkwood Intermediate.

Kirkwood Intermediate provides a good quality education for Years 7 and 8 students. There is a technology centre based at the school which provides high quality programmes in technology to students from nine local schools. International students experience a high level of care and education. The trustees and senior managers actively support and promote an inclusive, student-centred school philosophy.

Students and teachers have positive relationships that support learning. ERO observed high levels of student engagement in learning programmes. Students have good opportunities to achieve success in all areas of the curriculum. The school has good evidence to show that all groups of students are progressing well during their time at this school. Teachers could encourage students to take greater responsibility for setting more meaningful and measurable goals for their learning.

The school's learning support programme is well designed to support and extend students at risk of not achieving and more able students. Students who are identified as achieving just below expectations are the focus group for the school's annual achievement targets. Reports to the board show that many of these students have made good gains in their reading and mathematics.

The school curriculum is designed to meet the needs and interests of intermediate-aged students. Teachers use students' ideas for possible topics to plan annual learning programmes in areas other than numeracy and literacy. They could now consider how they can integrate bicultural perspectives in teaching and learning programmes to reflect the principle of the Treaty of Waitangi in the New Zealand Curriculum.

The principal provides strong professional leadership. He provides direction to senior leaders and encourages all staff to take leading roles within the school. The principal and senior leaders are working to provide consistency and coherence in learning programmes across the school. Teachers have opportunities to share strengths and skills in team and staff professional meetings. Professional development and appraisal are helping staff to continue to lift the quality of teaching.

The newly appointed board is committed to ensuring that staff are professionally supported. Trustees have a shared vision and understanding of what is important for students' learning. They need to find out the aspirations parents of Maori students have for their children. They could use this information when setting plans and targets to support Maori students to succeed as Maori.

The board receives useful reports that support them in making informed decisions about effective resourcing of the school. The next step is to set an expectation that reports will be more evaluative and based on a range of analysed evidence and information.

Future Action

ERO is likely to carry out the next review within three years

.Review Coverage

This report provides an evaluation of how effectively the school's curriculum promotes student learning - engagement, progress and achievement. ERO's evaluation takes account of the school's previous reporting history and is based on:

- *what is known about student achievement information, including the achievement of Maori and Pacific students;*
- *decisions made to improve student achievement using assessment and self-review information; and*
- *teaching strategies and programmes implemented to give effect to the school's curriculum.*

ERO also gathers information during the review to contribute to its national reports. The national reports are published on ERO's website.

If you would like a copy of the full report, please contact the school or see the ERO website, www.ero.govt.nz.

Graham Randell

Graham Randell
National Manager Review Services
Southern Region
Education Review Office

Bookclub
closes
26 May.
Orders
with
money to
the office
please.

To all parents and caregivers – you are invited to attend the



Kirkwood School 2011 School Cross Country Tuesday 17 May 11.30am – 12.45ish

For the event to run smoothly and for the safety of the students **we are seeking marshals**. If you are able to help with marshalling please contact the school before Thursday 12 May.

All students are expected to participate in the event. Each student will be given a placing at the end of the event. Each class placing will be added together. The class with the lowest total will win either the Year 7 or Year 8 shield.

If for some reason your child can not participate in the Cross Country please send a note to school explaining why and ask your child to give this to their classroom teacher.

Those students who get into the top 10 for their age group will be selected to attend the Intermediate Cross Country at Halswell Quarry, held later this term.

Ski Day - Mt Hutt - Thursday 18 August

The date has been set for our annual ski trip – so mark it in your diary now!
This year there will only be one ski day for all students– a total of 200 places.
There will be more information sent home later in the term so watch this space!

Blues Assembly – Wed 29 June – 12.30pm

If you think you have earned a Blue then please see Miss McLean or contact her via email as soon as possible. Refer to the website www.kirkwood.school.nz for the criteria. Cut off for this will be Friday 3 June. No exceptions due to the fact that badges need to be custom made.

High School Open Day/Nights

For all the Year 8 students - I have listed some of the Christchurch high schools and their open day/nights - please ring the appropriate school to confirm dates and times and also to get their tour times.

*(Scholarships for Yr 9 2012 are available. Information available at the office)

Wednesday 4 May 7.30pm	St Bede's College
Wednesday 4 May	Christ's College*
Thursday 5 May 9 – 12noon	St Thomas of Canterbury
Monday 9 May 10.30 -1.30pm	St Margarets
Monday 9 May 1 – 4pm	Rangi Ruru Girls' School
Thursday 12 May 4 – 6pm	St Andrew's College *
Tuesday 17 May 7pm	Riccarton High School
Tuesday 17 May 9.00am – 3.30pm	Villa Maria College
Tuesday 17 May 7pm	Hornby High School
Tuesday 24 May 7pm	Hillmorton High School
Wednesday 25 May 6.30 – 8.30pm	Shirley Boys' High School*
Thursday 26 May 4 – 6pm	Hagley College Open Night
Thursday 26 May 4 – 7pm	Christchurch Boys' High School
Tuesday 31 May 7pm	Burnside High School
Thursday 2 June 7pm	Lincoln High School
Thursday 9 June 7.30pm	Papanui High School
Thursday 9 June 2-4pm	Christchurch Girls' High School
No open day	Cashmere High School

Our Term Calendar:

Wed 11 May	PTA meeting, 7.30pm in the staffroom
Fri 13 May	Kids' Lit Quiz, 10-1pm at Cobham
Tue 17 May	School Cross Country 11.30am (alternate date Thur 19 May)
Thur 19 May	BoT meeting in the staffroom at 5.15pm
Tue 24 May	Hagley Sport commences ICAS competition for Computer
Fri 3 June	Cut off for Blues
Mon 6 June	Queen's Birthday – school closed
Wed 8 June	ICAS competition for Science
Thurs 16 June	BoT meeting
Mon 20 June	Intermediate Artistic Gymnastics
Tue 21 June	ICAS competition for Spelling & Writing
Wed 22 June	Intermediate Cross Country
Mon 27 June	Intermediate Rhythmic Gymnastics
Wed 29 June	Blues Assembly
Tues 12 July	School Open Day/Night 9-1pm; 7.00-8.30pm
Thur 14 July	BoT meeting
Fri 15 July	End of Term 2
Mon 1 Aug	Start of Term 3
Tue 2 August	ICAS competition for English
Tue 16 August	ICAS competition for Math
Thur 18 August	Ski Day – whole school BoT meeting
Thur 15 August	BoT meeting

Technology Extension

is looking for an architect or draftsman to mentor 1 or 2 students for a design competition. If you can help or know anyone who would be willing – please contact Julie Anderson-Hema on 348 6041 or email: j_anderson@kirkwood.d2g.co

Piano Tuition available – Yolande Hamilton teaches piano two mornings a week at Kirkwood and has a couple of spaces available. Ring her on 351 8492 or 027 4877808 for more info

Community Notice Board

BNZ – open a term deposit, nominate our school and we could win a one-on-one training session with the Crusaders. Nominations closes 22 May.

Hornby Hockey is trying to build the boys side of the club up so if you know a boy who might like to play then let us know. Any boy from Yr1-8 welcome. All you have to do is register at hornbyhockey.co.nz ASAP and we will be in touch.

Angela Petrus Singing and Speech & Drama Studio - Papanui. Tuition fees are \$25 per 30 minute lesson. Phone\Text: 021 180 7172; www.angelapetrussingingstudio.com

Delta Rhythmic Gymnastics Club – for girls between 5-12yrs on a Monday & a Saturday. Contact Fay Richardson on 358 5728 or email rob-fay-r@xtra.co.nz

Drama – book now for afterschool classes in term 2 - The Helen O'Grady Drama System is the largest worldwide drama school of its kind. Our extensive curriculum helps students with their verbal communication and confidence. Our qualified teachers have extensive speech and drama training and make every lesson fun! We hold classes in different venues around Christchurch. Please phone 359 6546 to book.

Camper/Emirates Team NZ Volvo Race Boat visit to Christchurch - Camper Team NZ Volvo Race Boat will be visiting Naval Point Club Lyttelton on Sat 7 May. The boat will arrive between 7:30am and 8am on Sat 7 May. It will be berthed in the inner harbour at No 7 wharf West. Come on down and bring a friend to NPCL at 9am sharp and go sailing either in your own Optimist or *YNZ Sailing Have A Go* Optimist. Your name will go in the draw to win a ride on board the brand new *Camper* with Emirates Team NZ Volvo Ocean Race boat at 2.30pm. After sailing at 12pm you can go onboard *Camper* for a boat tour. Please fill out a registration form which are available from the school office. The boat will be open to the public on Saturday from 9-11am and Sunday 0900-1500

The International Dog Bite Prevention "Teach a Child, Save a Dog" Event

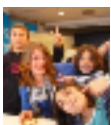
Come along and participate in the fun and interactive programme on how to be a Dog Detective on Sunday May 15th at the Foundation of the Blind (96 Bristol Street) starting at 10am until midday. Entry fee: Koha
For more info: www.nakeddog.co.nz/doggone.htm



Experience another culture BRING HOME A BROTHER OR A SISTER

In June/July 2011, students aged 14 – 19 years from Europe, the USA and South America will be arriving in New Zealand to study at local schools for 2-10 months. Opportunities are available to act as a host family in a volunteer/unpaid capacity. Hosting can be on a temporary, short or long term basis.

Host families help provide each student with the chance to study and experience life in New Zealand. This is a great way to practice another language, share your stories, learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill.



Our students bring with them their own spending money, health insurance and a wonderful attitude and desire to learn about their new host country. Your whole family...and your relatives and friends...will grow and learn as you all get to know your new 'son' or 'daughter' from another land. If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today.

To learn more about this opportunity call Student Exchange Australia New Zealand on 0800 440 079 or visit our website. <http://studentexchange.org.nz/>