

Purakanui School Newsletter - Term 1, 22 March 2010

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Our busy term is drawing to a close too quickly! Many thanks to all our supportive families, who have helped on all or any of our recent outings. We may not usually have chosen to be so busy with Out of School Activities – but all of those recent ones were such great opportunities we couldn't afford to miss them, as I am sure the children's reports of their trips will bear witness.

The Train Trip

This was fantastic fun and so was breakfast in the Octagon. We were also able to follow up with our quick visit to the Museum to learn more about Mapoutahi Pa – a fascinating insight into the history of this area before the Europeans arrived.

In class we are now moving up through the years. We found out about the early contact and sealers. Now whaling is under the spotlight – quite topical given the recent activities of Greenpeace and the Japanese.

Enviroschools Orokonui Hui

We were all so proud of our three speech-makers at the beginning of the Hui last Friday – speaking to a capacity crowd in our school library. The girls went on to attend the hui up at the sanctuary.



“The best thing about the Orokonui Eco-Sanctuary was getting the prizes. We got chocolate, a book and a certificate saying purakanui had the best creative design and Natural materials” by Sarah.

“We didn't go into the bush and I really wanted to. And I also wanted to see the birds” by Uma

“At the Eco-Sanctuary we won some fair trade chocolate and a book. We got them for creative design and Natural materials” by Elsa.

A whole school visit inside the sanctuary is now marked down as an important thing we need to do.

Library Visit

The rest of us were entertained by Kaitrin McMullin with sea-stories in the living quarters of a sailing ship at the Otago Settlers Museum, then more lovely stories and birthday cake (!!) at the Children's Library on their 100th Birthday Celebration Day.

Robyn Belton presented our school with a copy of her book “Herbert the Brave Sea Dog” and thanked us for our help on the book while she was writing it.

Swimming

After today we have one more session at the pool. Licia is very complimentary about our children's good behaviour, willingness to learn and their impressive progress. Tim and I definitely see our involvement with her swim-school as a great success and will be repeating it. Everyone is invited to a small awards ceremony to mark the end of our swimming sessions this year, at 2:30pm at the swimming pool next week – Tuesday 30 March. Please bring a small plate for afternoon tea.

Fundraising Meeting – Thursday 30 March 3:15pm

CALLING ALL KEEN FUNDRAISERS!! - To get together and map our money gathering ideas and strategies for this year.

We need to set dates for our major events (Quiz night and Fair) and share out some fundraising applications for various smaller projects. New ideas and suggestions for fundraising opportunities are very welcome.

Ski Trips – Treble Cone

Danielle has given the early heads-up for the ski weekends.

They are:

24 – 25 July and 14 – 15 August.

The cost remains the same as last year (which includes a donation of \$5 to the school):

\$125 per person **with** gear hire

\$95 per person **without** gear hire

This cost covers all your lift passes for both days. You do need to book your own accommodation, and Danielle advises you should get in early for this. Any queries contact Danielle, 482 1233.



Board of Trustees Elections

The elections are coming up! Here is the time line to note, as well as thinking about joining the school board or who you would like to nominate (you **can** nominate yourself!)

Nominations for the BOT elections will be called on 9 April. However as this date is in the holidays, you will all receive your Election Nomination forms (with instructions) on Wednesday 31 March.

Nominations close on 23 April (first week of Term 2).

More information will be sent with Nominations forms.



Lynne Allen
Principal

Dates for your Diary

BOT Meeting	This week! Wednesday 24 March 7 pm
BOT Elections	Reminder - Nominations close on April 23
End of Term 1	Thursday 1 April 2:00pm
End of Term 1 Assembly	Wednesday 31 March 6 pm
Good Friday	2 April
Easter Monday	5 April
First Day Back Term 2	Monday 19 April
Anzac Day	Sunday 25 April
Queen's Birthday	Monday 7 June

