

DIARY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
23 Board of Trustees Meeting 7.00 pm	24	25	26	27 H & S Disco 6 - 8 pm Salvation Army Hall, Miramar
30	31	1	2	3
6 WBS Swimming Sports - Monday 6th April	7 H & S Meeting 7.30pm	8 The Inventors' Workshop Eastern Zone Swimming Sports	9	10 Good Friday & beginning of School Holidays

Please note: School recommences for Term 2 on **Monday 27th April** at the usual time of **8.55 am**.

The Inventors' Workshop is all go and planned for Wednesday the 8th of April. We are preparing for two sessions when the children will share their inventions with you and anyone else you would like to bring along!

Please mark the times in your diaries: 1.45 - 2.45 pm and a late afternoon session 5.00 - 6.00 pm. We would like as many children as possible to be able to make both sessions. We will provide you with further details over the next couple of weeks.

Get your dancing shoes on ... it's disco night!

Fill in the disco form, add \$5 and pop it into the school office. Snacks, drinks and glow sticks will be for sale. So come along to the Salvation Army Hall in Miramar on Friday 27th 6-8pm and have some FUN!

*Please note: there will be no door sales.



Organised by the Home and School Committee



WORSER BAY SCHOOL, 168 Seatoun Heights Rd, Miramar, Wgtn 6022
Telephone: (04) 939 7281; Facsimile: (04) 939 2497
Email: sitemail@worserbay.school.nz
Website: www.worserbay.school.nz

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Girl Guide Biscuits (plain, chocolate and mini-chocolate) are available for sale from Carolyn B in the office. To place an order, phone 939 7281. All biscuits are \$3.

Zonta Club of Wellington

The **New Horizons for Women Trust** is holding its fourth annual Pre-Loved Fashion Sale from 9 am to noon on Saturday 21st March at St Andrew's on the Terrace Church Hall in Wellington.

The Worser Bay Life Saving Club is holding an **Open Water Swim** on Saturday 28th March. Included is a 200m along the shore swim for 9-12 year olds at 3.30pm. Cost is \$5.00 and children can pre-register or register on the day from 11.30am - 3.00pm. Entry forms are available from local pools. All participants receive a swim cap from Swim for Life. For more information, go to: wbswim09@hotmail.com

"Working with the school to help your child with learning difficulties."

The speaker is Glenys Moir, a teacher experienced in both the primary and secondary sector. All parents welcome. Cost \$4.00.

24th March at Johnsonville Community Centre 7-9pm / 31st March Newtown Skylight above the National Bank in Riddiford St. Use the side door.

Enquiries to office 382 8807.

NZ Vegemite Spelling Bee Final

Saturday 21st March at 1 - 2 pm at Wellington High School (Riley Hall - beside the school office). Thirteen Year Nine students from around the country will compete for the title of Champion Speller and a trip to Washington DC to compete in the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Accommodation Required

German Female University Under-Graduate Student needs accommodation from the beginning of April to the end of June. Working for NIWA. Please call Phil Heath, daytime (04) 380 7987.

'Cars In The Capital' - Classic Cover Insurance NZHRA 2009 National Hot Rod Show

11-13th April 2009 (Easter) at the TSB Bank Arena, Wellington. Opens at 9am each day. Bring your family along to see New Zealand's top Classic and Hot Rod Cars on display. Adults \$10. Children (5-14yrs) \$5. Family pass \$25 (2 adults & 2 children) Under 5yrs free.

We empower our children with a love of learning so that they are adaptable and creative.

Worser Bay School NEWS



Friday 20 March 2009

From AUTAHI



"We are making our own inventions. We have an Inventors' Roundabout. (Zoe explained the Inventors' Roundabout - it is a chart of a circle divided into four sections - Purpose, Ideas, Building, Testing. The children start at 'Purpose' and move round the roundabout, finally ending up at 'Testing'.) Everyone at the moment is on ideas but next week we are going to make toys or cockroach catchers." Zoe

"In Hamish's writing group we have been learning about similes and adjectives. An example is "The sun is as bright as gold". Caitlin G

"In Autahi we have been learning about the five competencies and here they are: Participating and Contributing, Relating to Others, Managing Self, Using Language and Symbols and Thinking. We have been trying hard to do them all." Coco

"Last year we all got a bean plant, but some people's plants didn't grow. The people whose plants did grow have huge beans. It took all of last year's holidays to grow.

Just like this one!!" Liam



ACTION AT A GLANCE

- **Te Reo Maori** - get back to us.
- Please return your yellow slip offering help with the **H & S fund-raising events** for 2009. All your help is very much appreciated!
- Diary: **Disco** - Friday 27th March 6 pm - No door sales.
- Diary: **Working Bees** Sunday 5th April and 26th April 10.00 am (More details to come.)
- Diary: **WBS Swimming Sports** - Monday 6th April.
- Diary: **The Inventors' Workshop** - Wednesday 8th April.
- **Voluntary Contribution & Photocopying/Classroom Expenses** - Have you returned your payment or payment option slip to the office?
- Can you help with **School Banking**?

Kia ora koutou

This week has flown and what a great one it has been. It was kicked off on Monday night with the Home & School AGM and Student-Led Conferences (SLCs) followed on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. SLCs are a great opportunity to build on the home-school partnership and place students in charge of their learning, so that they do have the opportunity to develop enterprising attributes and are challenged in a safe environment.

This week I'd like to provide some food for thought from Dr John Edwards, Managing Director of Edwards Explorations, an Australian based company concerned with exploring and developing human potential:

"For if they have never experienced being challenged in a safe environment; have had all of their creative thoughts explained away; are unaware what catches their interest and how then to have confidence in that interest; have never followed something they are passionate about to a satisfying conclusion; have not clarified the way they sabotage their own learning; are afraid to seek help and do not know who or how to ask; have not experienced overcoming their own inertia; are paralysed by the need to know everything before writing or acting; have never got bogged down; have never failed; have always played it safe. How will they ever know who they are?"

This type of thinking is sitting behind the way we are thinking about the new curriculum, how and what we teach and what our feedback to students looks and sounds like.

Thank you for supporting your child's learning, for asking those prompting questions, providing positive reinforcement and encouragement and for being keen to help them focus on their goals.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend!

Jude

Jude

WORD FROM THE BOARD

It was good to see a great turn out at this week's Home and School AGM. Congratulations to Nicola Lancaster on her appointment as co-Chair along with Beth Simpson on her reappointment. A big thank you to outgoing co-Chair Kathryn Easter for her tireless efforts and to those of you who assisted Kathryn and Beth during what was a record-breaking year on the fundraising front.

The Home and School is looking to top that effort this year, and will need all of our help to do so. It's never too late to put your hand up, so if you haven't already done so, fill in the yellow Diary/Volunteer slip provided in a recent newsletter and return it to the office.

As with many of you, I had the pleasure of attending a Student Led Conference this week. It really is a tremendous experience to see the effort that our children put in, the pride they take from sharing their efforts and achievements with us, and get a real understanding of what they've been doing and what they are going to focus on. An enormous thank you to all of the teachers for the time and energy you have put in to make this very important initiative such a success. The teachers have noticed a real increase in the conferences that have involved both parents attending this term so thanks for making the effort as it is appreciated that it does take some organising on the home front.

Finally, a few dates for your diary. The Board has its monthly meeting this coming Monday 23 March from 7pm in the staff room, and all are welcome. A reminder that the first of two working bees will be taking place on Sunday 5 April, with the follow up on 26 April. And finally, dust off your dancing shoes and we'll see you at the school disco next Friday night (27 March) from 6pm.

Andrew Wilson
Board Member

Te Reo Maori

Are you keen to improve your pronunciation and confidence? A few parents have already mentioned to me that they would be keen if we could support this. Well, we can!

Joan Costello, Kaiako at Te Papa, helped us to develop our new school karakia. Joan also worked with the staff before the school year and started helping with the correct pronunciation of the karakia. I know the staff will agree with me when I say Joan is a great teacher.... She is also willing to provide a series of lessons to our parent community.

We are thinking of five Tuesday evenings during Term 2, here at school for a total cost of \$50.00 each, that's \$10 per lesson. This would be a great way of not only helping your children but also connecting with others in the community, as well as having a bit of fun.

We need to see how many of you would be interested... can you please let the office know by Monday 30th March. You may have some friends who would like the opportunity too.



PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS

Every Friday Jude gives out Principal's Awards. The focus for these awards is shared on a Monday morning at Karakia. Next week the focus is on completing tasks - finishing work and creativity/creative thinking.

Congratulations this week to:

Liam and Fern of Tautoru for storing their belongings in their tote trays and remembering to put things away when they have finished using them. Also, Finnegan for using people's names and Caitlin M for putting things away.

From Autahi - Paris for putting things away and taking responsibility for keeping our class beautifully tidy, and Corisande for talking to and introducing herself to Philippa, our student teacher.

And from Māhutonga, Finn and Curtis for looking after their things and helping put away all PE gear, and Emily for using names and being polite.

ASSESSMENT

Assessment is ongoing. It's important to combine a range of the 'hard' data such as SEA, PM Benchmarks, Numpa, STAR, asTTle, PATs with observation and discussion. We never rely on one form of assessment when we are making professional judgements about how to group or what to teach. At the SLCs, results from a range of these assessments were shared, depending on the age and stage of your child. In many cases the children were able to discuss these types of results with confidence, which is just great!

The PAT maths and reading results (Years 4 - 6) arrived just this week therefore weren't shared at the SLCs. Teachers will be discussing results over the next few weeks with the children.

Glossary to help you understand some of the jargon:

School Entry Assessment: SEA

PM Benchmarks: Reading Running Records

Numeracy Project Assessment: NUMPA

Assessment Tools for Teaching and Learning: asTTle

Supplementary Tests of Achievement in Reading: STAR

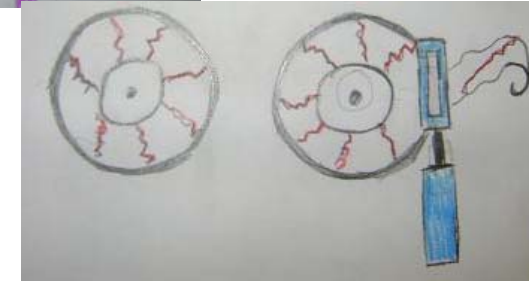
Progressive Achievement Test: PAT

Also see:

<http://www.ero.govt.nz/Publications/pubs2008/assmnt-prim-guide-dec08.doc>

A Note from MĀHUTONGA

In Māhutonga we have been learning about figurative language. Can you guess these common expressions?



We have been learning to use similes to make comparisons between ourselves and an insect. Can you spot the simile?

"I can dart around the room like a dragonfly. I am loud and annoying. I'm quiet and shy. I am running outside in the wild, flying like a dragonfly. Up down. Up down. Soaring through the air like a horse that had been let go. Free!"
Thomas N.

"Sneakily, creepily, I flutter from branch to branch. I am such a cheeky little mite that no-one notices me climbing about. I am as quiet as a mouse. Then a shadow looms in front of me like a dark raincloud. I shiver."
Briana

From TAUTORU



"Helen said that we have one chrysalis and one is on its way.

Now the frogs have fruit flies in the water. The tadpoles are laying eggs.

Emma has been learning to solve problems in maths like $5 + 10 = 15$.

The circles have been learning to count backwards from twenty.

Thomas D has been learning to skip count to 100.

Fleur has been learning about Gum Emperor Caterpillars.

We've got a tonne of things in our class, from tadpoles to inventions. Come and have a look.

We have boxes for our Leonardo machines. We would love some extra hands to help us if you are available and would like to."
Dimitrije, Ella, Ian, Joe, Nico, and Thomas W.

School Banking

Our school bankers are about to be trained. This year we will need a parent volunteer to support them one morning a week from 8.15 - 8.45am. Is that you? Or we could have a roster if we get a few hands up...

From the HOME AND SCHOOL

ONLY 7 MORE SLEEPS! Get those dancing shoes ready and return your form and money for the School disco by Wednesday for your chance to star in our very own version of WB School Musical!

WOW! A fantastic response to our Diary/Volunteer Forms – thank you! Some people may have already heard from us to confirm help with the disco, we endeavor to reply to you all by the end of term. Please return your form if you have not already – it's never too late to volunteer.

The Entertainment Books are due out at the end of the month, so please ask friends, family, and work colleagues if they would like to purchase these popular books of discount vouchers – more information out soon.

Last but no means least, thank you to all the people who supported our AGM on Monday evening. It was great to see some new faces. The committee places were filled as follows:

Beth Simpson and Nicola Lancaster – Co-Chair

Julia Rowling – Treasurer

Louise Massey – Secretary

A very large and warm note of thanks to those people who have stepped down from the committee. Their contribution to our school community has been invaluable.

"Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless."
Sherry Anderson

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 7th April 7.30pm in the staff-room. All are welcome to attend.

