

DIARY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9	10 WBS School Fun Run 5.30 pm Worser Bay	11 → (Postponement Date)	12	13
16 AGM Home & School 7.30 pm	17 Student-Led Conferences Start →	18 →	19 →	20
23 Board of Trustees Meeting 7.00 pm	24	25	26	27

SPORT

Miniball and Netball will begin in Term 2 (Years 4 - 6)

Last week we gave you a taster of what putting yourself up for managing a miniball team entails. This week we have information about netball. However, please send in the Miniball reply slip by Friday 13 March if you are interested in playing.

Netball Season 2009 - Years 4, 5 & 6

Worser Bay School participates in the Motu Kairangi Netball League for the eastern suburbs schools, held at Evans Bay Intermediate School every Saturday. The season runs for Terms 2 and 3 (excluding school holidays) and the 30 minute games are usually held late morning/early afternoon.

For our school to take part, we need parental support. For each team we need a coach, manager (does the rotation of positions and subs players) and an umpire. No prior netball knowledge is needed as Motu Kairangi provides training courses for umpiring and coaching.

Fees for the season are \$30 and Worser Bay School provides the uniform which is a polo shirt and navy blue shorts. Good sports shoes and the willingness to have lots of fun and learn a new skill are about the only other requirements.

If your child is interested in playing, please collect a registration pack from the WBS office and return the completed forms plus payment by Friday 13 March. Any questions, please phone Sue Haberfield on 380 8250.

Reply Slip - Miniball (Years 3-6)

My child/children wish to participate in Miniball.

.....Child's Name

.....Child's Name

Parent's Signature

I am able/unable to assist. (Please circle one).

COMMUNITY NOTICES



Girl Guide Biscuits (plain, chocolate and mini-chocolate) will be available for sale from 7th March. Please contact Carolyn B in the office to place an order. Tel: 939 7281.

Weetbix Go for Gold Tryathlon 2009 Wellington - Sunday 8th March
Please take a look at www.weetbix.co.nz for further information.

Meridian Kids' Bike James 2009 Wellington—Sunday 10th May
(Entries close 4 May.) Please take a look at www.kidsbikejams.co.nz for further details.

Zonta Club of Wellington
The **New Horizons for Women Trust** is holding its fourth annual Pre-Loved Fashion Sale on 21 March and we need your help to make it a success. Your unwanted clothing can help provide awards to assist women with no qualifications to embark on tertiary education for the first time, and to fund research into issues of interest to women. If you have good quality, contemporary items of clothing that you can spare - including bags, scarves and even coat hangers - let us know and we'll come and pick them up. Email prelovedfashion@paradise.net.nz with your address and phone number and you will be contacted.

Our sale will be held from 9 am to noon on Saturday 21st March at St Andrew's on the Terrace Church Hall in Wellington

Open House at the South Coast's new Victoria University Coastal Ecology Laboratory, 396 The Esplanade, Island Bay (between Island Bay and Owiro Bay). Sunday 8th March, 10.00 am - 3.00 pm.

Wanted to Rent
I am looking for a garage to rent to house my Toyota Hiace from April to mid-July. Please call Marion on 938 8837.

Flippaball Results
Last week our Division One Flippaball team had a BYE. Our Division Two team lost to St Marks 3, but they played a great first half.

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

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

Worser Bay School NEWS



Friday 6 March 2009

MĀHUTONGA CAMP (lots more next week!)



THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU MATT, KATH, HAMISH, MATT, KATH, HAMISH.....

Māhutonga Camp was a huge success. Teachers go above and beyond to plan for and lead a camp like this. Not only are they on duty 24/7, there are many hours of sorting through forms, planning activities, completing intensive risk analysis documentation and on the list goes.

I would like to personally thank Matt, Kath and Hamish for their dedication and contribution to the school. Without you going that extra mile a camp would not be a feature on our calendar.

Our kids are lucky to have you.
Jude

Literacy Based Problem Solving Team

We are thrilled to have Bronwyn Poultney (teacher and WBS parent!) working with a group of students from across the school this term. Here is a word from Bronwyn....

"A group of students are meeting twice a week to make a medieval game using simple machines. By the end of the term they will have:

- developed a plan that has the key stages for producing a game;
- written a series of rules for their game;
- added and deleted details as they go through the process of designing the game;
- most importantly, developed a game that is fun to play.

This has been our first week of production and things are really exciting; students are full of ideas and I'm loving being a part of the madness."

Kia ora koutou

Māhutonga are back from camp and what a blast they had! They arrived back with that wide-smiled, glassy-eyed look! School definitely seemed quiet without them – they were missed! Did you catch the teachers working the road patrol signs whilst Māhutonga were away? It certainly caused some amusement on all fronts!

Thanks so much to Matt, Kath and Hamish and our camp parents, Cathie, Bruce and Angela - please remember to turn the alarm clock off this Saturday!

In this newsletter, you will find the return form for Student-Led Conferences (SLCs). Please book a time asap as this assists the teachers greatly with their planning. Our Worser Bay children are very lucky as we have a 100% turn out for our SLCs. The child is the best person to talk about their learning and you, their parents/caregivers, are the best people for them to be talking to about their learning.

If this is your first time attending a SLC, or you need a bit of a refresher, you will find some tips for supporting your child at their conference in this newsletter.

Have you seen the resident frogs in Tautoru? A lot can happen over a weekend so enjoy yours. Hope to catch you at the Fun Run next Tuesday!

Jude
Jude

ACTION AT A GLANCE

- **Fun Run** - Tuesday 10 March at 5.30pm (Postponement date 11/3)
- **Student-Led Conference Slips** (page 3) must be returned by Wednesday 11 March.
- **Miniball** - Please return your slip (page 4) by Friday 13 March if your child is interested in playing.
- **Netball** - Please collect a registration pack from the office if your child is interested in playing (see page 4).
- **Voluntary Contribution & Photocopying/Classroom Expenses** - Have you returned your payment option slip to the office?

WORD FROM THE BOARD

As the newest member of the Board, I am delighted to be able to let you know a little about myself. I became more involved in our school as I was keen to be part of the improvements that were underway, and I wanted to put a little something back into the community in which my wife Stephanie and I have chosen to live. With Ella, a Year 2 in Tautoru, Hunter due to start in October of this year, and our youngest child Greer turning one next week, we'll have children at Worser Bay through until 2019!

Last year I was asked to help the Board look at how to keep improving what it does and how it does it on a regular and ongoing basis. Having seen how well our School is served by the Board, I was delighted to join it when a vacancy arose late last year. My background (I am currently GM, Communications and HR at the Ministry of Health) allows me to make a contribution to a number of aspects of the Board's operation.

In that time it's become very clear how important all of the different parts of our school community are. While it starts and finishes with our kids, the quality and enthusiasm of our teaching staff is on display every day of every week. This was no better illustrated than through the contribution that Kath, Matt and Hamish made to this week's camp. Thanks guys for making it such a special experience for our Māhutonga students.

Our school also depends on parental and community support, so thanks also to the parents who helped out at the camp.

Thanks also to those of you who returned the forms indicating your Voluntary Contributions intentions, as it really helps with planning - and don't feel bad if you haven't had a chance to yet as it's never too late!

I look forward to seeing many of you at the Fun Run on Tuesday evening.

Andrew Wilson
Board Member

Highly effective teachers who strive for excellence!

On Monday, Tautoru and Autahi teachers endorsed this strategic goal when we received professional development by Murray Gadd in the teaching of writing. This year we are lucky enough to be working with Murray who is well known internationally for his expertise in the assessment of children's writing and his involvement in the New Zealand Curriculum Exemplars.

We observed Murray modelling a narrative writing lesson to groups of children and followed this with rich discussion in our teaching teams about how to enhance the way we teach writing. After school we focussed on the draft asTTle writing indicators which now include surface and deeper features in level 1 Basic, Proficient and Advanced. As a team we marked samples of narrative writing recently crafted by each student and together we moderated these to get a best fit level across the school.

Murray will return in a few weeks. He will work with the children in Māhutonga and speak with teachers to advise us on our programme and give feedback about the strategies we are using to teach writing.

It's not easy to instantly appreciate the journey that children embark on when they write. For example, at level 1 it is about more than just quantity or frequency of writing. Much detail is hidden in a story plan or one or two lines of carefully phrased text. Do come and see us if you have any questions about the writing continuum or you would like to view some online Exemplars. Be sure to diary the next parent information evening because Murray Gadd will be our guest speaker (Monday 18th May).

From AUTAHI

"In topic we have been making U.F.O.s. Some of the simple U.F.O.s flew further than the complicated U.F.O.s. We went on top grass to fly them because it was quite big so it was a good place to fly."
Martha

"In Art we have been learning about Icarus and Daedalus. We had to cut out shapes of Icarus and collage them onto black paper."
Taine



The originals can be seen in the Office Foyer.

School Security - please help us out!

One of the difficulties in the school is securing all doors at the end of the day. The unique design of the school makes it easy for people to move from one area to another. Sometimes this means when teachers have locked and thought an area is clear there may still be people who come in the classroom through another access way.

Please help us out. If you do come back into the school building in the afternoon please ensure all doors are locked and secure before you leave.

A note from the Office:

Please make sure you return your library books to the correct library. Miramar Library often ring to ask us to collect Worser Bay School Library books from them, which is an extra job for the office staff.

STUDENT-LED CONFERENCES

From the 17 March you will be invited to attend your child's Student-Led Conference. At this time your child will share their learning over the last 7 weeks with you, prompted by their teacher. The more confident the child becomes with this process, the less the teacher will need to prompt, and in time the conference becomes totally student-led.

The focus is on learning progress and achievement

As this is a time for your child to share their learning we need to keep it separate from any behavioural or social concerns you may have. Please make an alternative time with the teacher to raise any of these worries.

Your child will have a range of work ready to share with you. They will talk about what they have been learning and what their next steps will be. If they are at the stage where they can share more 'hard data' with you, they will, otherwise this will be shared by the teacher at this time.

A written summary of the discussion will be completed by 9 April 2009.

So what do you need to do?

- Beforehand - Book a time.
- During - prompt your child with open questions such as:
"What are you learning?"
"Can you tell me more about that?"
"That's interesting, did you choose to talk about that?"
"How will you know you have improved?"

Provide encouragement, enjoy the experience, stick to your timeframe and remember to tell your child how proud you are of them.

Times

The following times are available for you to book in your Student-Led Conference/s. Each session is 15 minutes. We are allowing time for a swap-over.

Tautoru

Maria: 17th & 19th March, 3.20 - 6.50 pm
Rachel: 17th March, 3.20 - 4.20 pm, 18th March, 3.20 - 6.20 pm,
19th March, 3.20 - 6.20 pm
Fleur: 17th March, 3.20 - 7.20 pm, 18th March, 3.20 - 6.20 pm,
19th March, 3.20 - 7 pm

Autahi

Suzanne & Hamish: 17th, 18th & 19th March, 3.20 - 7.20 pm

Māhutonga

Kath & Matt: 17th March, 3.20 - 7.20 pm, 18th March, 3.20 - 5 pm,
19th March, 3.20 - 7 pm and 24th March, 3.20 - 7 pm

Please fill in the date and time most convenient for you on the Reply Slip below. We will confirm this, or let you know if we need to make another time.

Please return by Wednesday 11 March.

Student-Led Conferences - Reply Slip (Please return by Wed 11 March)

Your child's name: _____

Home-class teacher: _____

Choice 1:

Preferred Date: _____ Preferred time: _____

Choice 2:

Preferred Date: _____ Preferred time: _____

Signed: _____

From the HOME AND SCHOOL

**Two important dates to diary:
Worser Bay School Fun Run -
Tuesday 10th March**

The Fun Run starts from the green area opposite the Worser Bay Surf Clubrooms. The distance is 2km. Please be there by 5.30pm as the run starts promptly at 5.45pm.

**Home and School AGM, Monday
16th March, 7.30pm in the staffroom.**

All welcome - we would love to see you there.

Two notices from the Home and School are coming home with today's Newsletter.

From TAUTORU

We have been very busy this week with our learning and creating. Our afternoons have been full on making things like jet balloon cars, finger skateboards and pulleys. Our newsletter team have been interviewing to see what we've been up to.

Ruby has made a jet balloon car and a finger skateboard. Ruby made her jet balloon car out of cardboard, pins and one balloon. Ruby made her finger skateboard out of sandpaper, cardboard, sellotape and straws.

Ian and Joe have been learning about patterns and how to make balloon cars. Embla is learning to do a finger skateboard. Isabelle is learning to respect others and making new friends.

Adam has been learning to play the clan game and to draw an octopus! Leila has been learning to read and to spell properly.

Dimitrije interviewed Kate R:

D: "What have you been learning?"

K: "I have been learning to make pulleys"

D: "What else have you been learning?"

K: "Numbers"

D: "What will you do to respect our classroom?"

K: "Tidy up and push in chairs."