

41 THE DRIVE, EPSOM, AUCKLAND 3.
Telephone: 630-5144; Fax: 630-0972; Email: office@epsomnormal.school.nz

27 May 2010

'Am I making positive connections in the world?' is the 2010 Learning Theme

Kia Ora Tatou, Greetings to all

Dear Parents

Board of Trustees Election Results

Thank you on behalf of staff and students to those parents who stood as candidates in this year's elections. We are grateful and appreciate your decision to stand to support us in realising the school vision.

The elected Board of Trustees members are as follows:

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| Michael Worth | Adrian Dale |
| Gita Jayaram | Richard Adams |
| Nancy Tsen | Tim Dawson |

Staff Update

Science Fellowship Award

Lucy Preston has won a Science Fellowship to work with the Royal Society of New Zealand for Term 3 and 4 of 2010. The fellowship works with teachers who have a keen interest and knowledge of promoting science in primary schools. The Royal Society hopes to strengthen teacher capabilities in the Science field. We are delighted that Lucy was successful. We are in the process of interviewing teachers to replace Lucy for Term 3 and 4 in Room 11.

Welcome to Catriona Waddingham who has been appointed as a new teacher-aide to assist teachers in the Junior School.

Here are two lovely pieces of writing from children in Room 17 –

The Seagull

The plain, white seagull glides through the sapphire-blue sky,
Swiftly, he alights on a twisty branch,
Silently, he swoops down towards a tasty-looking mussel,
Stealthily, a jet-black cat prowls towards him,
Cautiously, he takes off with his prize,
While the cat gazes in dismay, far below.

By Tasleem

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Belinda Wilson
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Phone Belinda Wilson on
638-4332 or 021 731-007
Email: berwilson@gmail.com



The Greedy Pigeon

Stealthily, you hunt for food in the playground,

Swiftly, you run on your skinny little legs.

Proudly you act like you are the king of the roof,

You are as greedy as a shoplifter.

By Samei

Warmest regards

Jane Cavanagh-Eyre

Principal

INFORMATION UPDATE

Sick or Unwell Children

The winter flu season is once again upon us. This year there is a particularly nasty flu and/or vomiting bug circulating. Over the last couple of weeks we have had a number of very unwell children arrive at the school sick bay. If your child is not feeling well, i.e. has a sore throat, cough or sore stomach, we would appreciate you assisting us by keeping them at home until they are well.

Absent Children and Late Arrivals

The school is required to know where your child is at all times during the school day. Parents of children who are absent from school for any reason, or are going to be late are asked to phone the school before 9.00am every day your child/ren are going to be absent. The school has an absence/late line for this purpose. Please phone 630 5144 and follow the instructions given (**push 1 to leave a message**). Please speak **slowly and clearly** and give your child's name, room number and the reason for the absence/lateness.

Children are required to arrive at school in time to be ready for class at 8.55am. If your child is not at school by this time, please make sure that you come to the office and sign them in. You still need to do this even if you have phoned the absence line and left a message. The office staff check this sign-in list against any children who are marked absent before phoning parents to find out where their child is.

For parents taking children out of school during the school term, whether for a couple of days or weeks, a letter is required in writing prior to the last day their child will be at school. Please include the dates the children will be absent and the reason for this absence.

All holidays need to be notified whether in New Zealand or overseas. Please bring the letter to the school office.

Thank you

The Office Administration Staff

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Chaos at the School Gate

Due to parents' concerns and ongoing issues at our school drop off zone, we have once again enrolled in the "Chaos at the School Gate" programme. It involves placing parking officers on patrol outside schools to observe non-compliant behaviours and issue tickets to those illegally parked. The "Chaos at the School Gate" programme has been very successful and is helping to reduce the danger to children as well as improve traffic flow around schools.

Shelley Quinlivan, Deputy Principal

Gardener Required

Epsom Normal Primary is looking for a gardener to work part time in the school. This position would suit a person who is able to work 5 hours per week and has some knowledge of gardening. Time and days are flexible. Please contact John Jacka, Property Manager on 630-5144.

Zone Swimming Champs 2010

On Tuesday 23 March, our school zone swimming team headed off to Saint Kentigern School for a fun filled day of competing and supporting each other. There were over nine schools participating. The parent support to myself, and the children was amazing. We were even lucky enough to have a sun shelter this year, which kept us out of the sun and let us enjoy glorious heat. A huge thank you to the parents who helped put the shelter up and take it down! The competition was fierce but every child participated to the best of their ability and had a fantastic day.

Congratulations to Julia Tairua-Doyle for winning the 50m Freestyle. She is definitely a rising star and one to watch in the future.

Miss Jackson

The Cake Stall was a Resounding Success

The Green Kiwis are the Epsom Normal Sustainability Club of Year 5 and 6 children who are passionate about the environment. Recently they organised a cake stall, which was available for the Year 4 to 6 children to purchase cakes. \$305 was raised and this money will fund the Epsom Normal Fruit Orchard, set to be planted on one of the DOT days coming up this term! Thank you so much to everyone who supported this fundraiser, and also a big thank you to the parents who kindly allowed their children to infiltrate kitchens for baking!

We haven't forgotten the Juniors! We are planning another cake stall later on this term.

Jennie Adlam, Lucy Preston and the Green Kiwis

World Environment Day – Friday 4 June 2010

To celebrate World Environment Day, the Green Kiwis are organising a “plastic and package-free lunch” day. The reward to bringing along a lunch FREE of gladwrap, plastic and packaging will be the right to “Go Green” - in other words, to wear something green on that day. Children are able to replace **one** uniform item for something green, eg green socks, green jeans, green top, green headband, green hat. On the day there will be give-away prizes.

The Green Kiwis are working hard to promote a rubbish awareness around the school and this will be a great way to educate everyone about reducing the amount of rubbish in the school.

Please help! Dogs at School!

We need your help please to keep our school a safe (physically and emotionally) environment for our students. Recently we have had a lot of dogs whose owners walk through our school grounds on a leash. We do applaud the parents who walk to school and understand you taking the opportunity to walk beloved pets at the same time. However, we are a ‘dog free’ school and we have many youngsters who are very afraid of dogs.

We would invite you to continue to walk to school with your pet but please tie them up in a safe place **outside the school grounds**.

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent Teacher Interviews will be held on Wednesday 28 July and Thursday 29 July 2010.

Please note that the school will close at 1pm on Wednesday 28 July and we ask parents to make arrangements to collect their children at this time.

ENPS Electronic School Interviews

Epsom Normal is continuing to use the Parent Teacher interview system in order to make it easier for you to book your children’s interview with their teachers.

Please follow the steps below, in order to register into the system. We regret that this is a first come, first serve basis and we will not be able to move other parents interview times to accommodate your personal needs.

If you are not able to access the Internet from your home or work, a computer has been placed in the reception area of the school for your use. Office staff will be available to assist parents with this process.

Steps

1. Go to <http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/>
2. Type in our school code **EXFQ2**
3. Choose New Parent Booking (Only have to register on first use)
4. Enter your name, your email (to receive email confirmation of your bookings), number of children at ENPS, and the children’s names
5. Choose your child’s year level and teacher. Book a time that suits you.

You will then receive email confirmation if you choose to enter your address. If you wish to change the time(s) selected, please login at any time. Note: other parents may have logged in as well and less times may be available.

The Deputy Principals of each sector of the school will also be in their offices if you wish to speak to them. Please ask at the school office if you are unsure where to go.

Bookings will close at 10:00am on Tuesday 27 July. There will be no changes past this time.

Shawn Creamer, Assistant Principal

