



## SENIOR SECTOR TERM 3 NEWSLETTER Number 2

3<sup>rd</sup> October 2011

Kia Ora Whanau,

Our senior school Topic Studies entitled 'Our School, Our Nation' this term has been very successful, with high levels of engagement and students being empowered to drive their own learning using learning centres, to focus their research. They are in the process of developing innovative ideas for redesigning learning spaces during this latter part of the term.

The foci of the learning centres include; safety around our school, classroom furniture, structures, information and communication technologies and environmental issues. Children have added their own understanding to the display boards and created in-depth resources for the planning of modern learning environments.

For writing, students have focused on Exposition texts, putting forward points of view on a subject and supporting their position with solid facts and evidence. Again this year, the children have written and presented highly effective and entertaining speeches. Year level finals and Sector finals were of a very high calibre making the adjudicator's role a challenge. Catherine R2, Hannah R9, Annie R1, Elvira R9, Harsimran R5 and Jesslyn R10 are to be congratulated on their outstanding effort. Annie was placed first overall and went on to represent ENPS at the APPA Competition.

Our girls' Gymnastics Teams represented ENPS at the Zone Gymnastics Competition earlier this term. The girls had been training regularly during lunchtimes building up to this event. Monique, Yalda, Claudia and Stella managed to place 1<sup>st</sup> overall with individual places in the top 10. One team was selected to go on to the Champion of Champions competition where they were placed 3<sup>rd</sup>. A great effort demonstrated by this group to achieve so highly out of all the schools in Auckland.

Four teams of runners were selected to participate in the Zone Cross Country at Shore Road Rugby Fields in Remuera. These athletes were fantastic ambassadors for our school, demonstrating great sportsmanship.

Our Chamber Choir competed in the Kids Sing Competition in the Auckland Town Hall. These students, led by Mrs King, achieved a Silver Award which was stunning, as this was the first time ENPS had ever entered. Our Senior Sector children will also be performing in the APPA Music Festival in Term 4.

The Winter Field Day was a rewarding experience for our school. Teams played in challenging conditions building team spirit. This day gave them the opportunity to continue building skills and strategies related to their chosen sport. Netball, Hockey, Rugby and Soccer featured on this day. We have now moved into Athletics for Tuesday Sport. Children will be taking part in High and Long Jump, Ball Throw, Sprints and Baton Relays.

The TIMSS Test in Mathematics and Science for Year 5 children was completed during Term 3. This information is used by researchers to determine where New Zealand children sit in comparison to other countries at this year level in Maths and Science.

Homework will consist of 20 minutes of reading each night, review of fractions and decimals, basic facts and spelling activities. For extra activities, students are encouraged to visit the school website in the student area and use the learning links.

[http://www.epsomnormalprimary.school.nz/index.php/students/learning\\_links](http://www.epsomnormalprimary.school.nz/index.php/students/learning_links)

Kind regards

Senior Sector Teachers

Ateel Sudhakar

Liason Senior Sector

**Year 5**

Corinna Raasch, Trisha Dennis and Jennie Adlam

**Year 6**

Innes Jephson, Martha McFaul, Emily Withrington and Mark Bridges

Teacher contact details are available on the school website in the **about us** section. [www.epsomnormalprimary.school.nz](http://www.epsomnormalprimary.school.nz)