

KOWHAI SYNDICATE TERM 2 NEWSLETTER

6 May, 2009

Dear Families

Welcome back to Term 2! It is going to be an exciting and interesting term as the whole school learns about sustainability and how we can all be guardians of the future. Out of this learning, we will be taking actions to enhance and sustain the school environment for future children. Also, at the end of this term teachers will be facilitating developing talent workshops for two full days (25/26 June) - you can find more information about this on the school website.

Thank you for all of your support last term with the swimming programme.

We appreciate the hard work from our volunteer parents and all parents for helping the students to have their gear ready for the lessons.

This term sees a change over to winter sports to include soccer, hockey, netball and touch rugby. We hope that the weather will co-operate and allow us to learn new skills and practice those skills in the above sports.

Aerobics and cross-country will also become a regular part of our programmes to improve our fitness levels. Cross country also provides an early start to our cross country competition in Term 3.

Check out the Push Play website link for some ideas to beat the winter blues.

<http://pushplay.sparc.org.nz/>

As part of our study of sustainability, we will be going on a trip to the Visy Recycling plant in Onehunga. Opened in 2008, this is the most sophisticated recycling plant in the southern hemisphere. It processes all the waste from household recycling bins from the Auckland and Manukau regions. This is a very special chance for us to see where our rubbish goes after it leaves our kerbs, and to observe how recycling is carried out on a massive scale. Rooms 5 and 7 will visit the plant on Monday, 15 June; and Rooms 6 and 16 will visit on Tuesday, June. We will require a signed permission slip for each child, enclosed with this newsletter, and need about four parent helpers per class. The plant only takes one class at a time so while one class is there, the other class will go by bus to Cornwall Park. If it is raining, we will visit the Onehunga Public Library. While we are at Cornwall Park, we will be observing how the park creates a sustainable environment for all to use and enjoy.

Term One saw two Year 4 teams, The Sharks and The Dolphins, compete in the Epsom Flippa Ball League. Flippa Ball is a junior version of water polo and it requires an exciting mix of swimming and ball-handling skills. We trained at lunch time here at school, then met at the Epsom Girls Grammar pool each week to compete against other local schools. Despite the fact that some other schools start from Year 3 and have their own indoor pools to practice in, our teams did really well with the Sharks finishing 4th in their division, and the Dolphins finishing 5th. Miss Mills would like to say a huge thank-you to all the parents, grandparents and children involved.

Mr Creamer, Mrs Sitters and Mrs Adlam would like to say an even bigger thank you to Miss Mills for giving up lots of her precious time for the Flippa Ball teams!

Please also find attached an overview of learning for Term 2. We are busy carrying out assessments for Reading and Spelling and collating AsTTle and PAT results from last term. These results aid teachers in planning teaching programmes appropriate to the learning needs of the children. Results will be included in Term 2 Reports, due home on 2 July.

As we approach the cooler months of winter, it is important to ensure your child is getting enough rest and eating well to stave off winter ills. If your child is unwell, please keep them home from school to prevent other classmates becoming infected with any air-borne viruses.

Important Term 2 dates to diary:

Monday, 11 May

Motivational talk from Mark Inglis

Tuesday, 12 May

Children will receive an educational talk on Healthy Eating

Thursday, 14 May

Auckland Grammar School Pipe Band performing for the children

Monday 1st June: HOLIDAY QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY

Monday, 15 June

Rooms 5 and 7 visit Onehunga Recycling Plant

Tuesday, 16 June

Rooms 6 and 16 visit Onehunga Recycling Plant

Term 2 ends on 2 July with a MUFTI DAY: Reports home

Teacher only days: Thursday afternoon 2 July and Friday, 3 July

Term 3 starts on Monday, 20 July.

Kind regards

Year 4 Teachers

Annie Mills, Sandy Sitters, Shawn Creamer and Jennie Adlam

Trip to Onehunga Recycling Plant:

I give permission for _____ to attend the trip to the Visy Recycling

Plant from 9:15-12:30 on:

Monday 15th June (Rms 5 & 7) Tuesday, 16th June (Rms 16 & 6)

I can / cannot come as parent help.

Name of parent if helping:
