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EPSOM NORMAL PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER

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

2011 Learning Theme: Together We Are Strong

Ehara toku i te toa takitahi

Engari toku toa i te toa takitini

My strength comes not from myself alone,

But from the strength of all the people

Kia Ora Tatou, Greetings to all

Dear Parents

Thank you to all our parents who have attended Parent Consultation Week. We appreciate your feedback on our inquiry/strength-focused learning.

Rugby World Cup New Zealand 2011

The world is here to play! To commemorate the Rugby World Cup in New Zealand, ENPS has gathered educational RWC resources, which intend to involve students in the celebration of this spectacular event.

During this period each class at Epsom Normal has been given, at random, a country participating in the RWC. Teachers and students are busy gathering information about the cultures, traditions and language related to their chosen country.

ENPS will have the opportunity to express their pride of their learning around the RWC in the form of a whole school parade which will be held in the last week of Term 3, not to mention a Staff vs. Student Touch Rugby game towards the end of this term as well. Further information about the parade will be sent home with your child/ren closer to the time.

Go the All Blacks!

Warmest regards

Jane Cavanagh-Eyre

Principal

Kip McGrath
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INFORMATION UPDATE

ICAS Science

Congratulations to all the children who sat the ICAS Science exam. A number of children were awarded High Distinction or Distinction in their respective year levels. To see who these children were, follow the link below to look on the school website -

http://www.epsomnormalprimary.school.nz/images/uploads/2011_ICAS_SCIENCE_RESULTS.pdf.6

Annual SPCA Cupcake Day: A Great Success!

Thank you very much to all the families who supported this fundraiser for the SPCA. On Monday, 29 August, an amazing number of beautiful cupcakes decorated in very creative ways arrived at school! The children really enjoyed the day and there were so many cupcakes that the Year 3 children were able to join the Y4 -6 children in purchasing them!

The final amount raised was \$883.80, which is a fantastic amount to give to such a worthy cause. Thank you again for your support.

Jennie Adlam

Trash to Fashion Awards Show

Mrs Cavanagh-Eyre and myself attended this show and were very impressed with the standard of garments being modelled. Our models Ariki, Stella, Jess, Natasja and Monique looked fantastic and paraded down the runway with style and confidence. We are very proud of these girls and the teams who worked with them to produce such stunning outfits. Thanks must also go to the wonderful mothers who have attended the rehearsals for the past two weekends.

We are proud to announce that Ariki, in her garment "Coffee Girl", won the Pacifica Award. Well done Ariki and that includes your design team of Michelle and Nekyta.

The next exciting opportunity for our girls is being part of a special show being held at the Viaduct on 22 September as part of the World Cup celebrations. Ariki, Jess, Monique and Stella have been selected to take part in this show.

Jennie Adlam

Plants! Plants! Plants!

This year our school turns 125 years and to mark the occasion and celebrate our Arts focus we are having a school 'Garden Party'. This will take place on 1 December and will be for invited guests and parents.

Our staff, children and parent volunteers will be putting in a great effort over the next few months to ensure our school gardens look spectacular for this special occasion.

Should you be doing a 'Spring tidy' in your garden and have plants that are surplus to your needs that you would like to donate, we would be grateful if you could send them along to school.

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We are interested in perennials particularly: Ringa Ringa Lilies, Clivia, Hostas, Busy Lizzies, mini Agapanthus, Mondo Grass, Liriope, Day Lilies etc.

Please leave any spare plants with our Property Manager John Jacka by Friday 23 September.

Many thanks in advance for helping us to create an outdoor environment the school community can be proud of.

Therese Bakker, Leadership Team

ADMINISTRATION UPDATE

Advance Notice - Staff Only Day Tuesday 25 October 2011

There will be a Staff Only Day on Tuesday 25 October 2011. Teachers will be holding a mini conference about strength focus learning at the school on this day. School will commence for Term 4 on Wednesday 26 October 2011.

Absences and Late Arrivals

During the year 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 9am every day your child/ren are going to be away. The school has an absence 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 when they do arrive. 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 as absent before phoning parents to find out where your 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 your child will be at school. Please include the dates your child/ren will be absent and the reason for this absence. Please bring the letter to the school office.

Unwell and/or Injured Children

The school sickbay is staffed by office staff members who are trained first aiders. We do not have a nurse or doctor in the school. If your child is not feeling well, i.e. has a sore throat, cough, runny nose or sore stomach etc, we ask that you keep them at home until they are well. This will prevent any illness spreading to children and staff.

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If your child is unwell, you will be contacted to collect your child and take them home. Please be aware that while we endeavour to give a sick child the best care we can, we are unable to remain with them until you arrive, however we do check on them on a regular basis. We ask that you assist us by coming in or that you arrange for another person to collect them on your behalf as quickly as you can.

Helping our School Neighbours

Our neighbours have expressed some concerns regarding cars parking over their driveways close to our school - especially along The Drive. They are concerned that when cars extend over the parking lines, they are unable to exit their driveways safely, especially at 'pickup' and 'drop off' times. Our neighbours are great in helping to care for our school and we know you would like to assist them in return by parking with care in appropriate places. We thank you for your support in this.

Staff Car Damaged

On Thursday 1 September 2011 (last week) a staff members' car - a black Honda CRV - was hit and damaged while parked in Wilding Avenue during the school day. If you saw the incident and have any information which you can give us to pass on to the vehicle's owner, we would appreciate you letting the office know.

| IMPORTANT DATES 2011 | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Friday 9 September | School closes at 2pm |
| Friday 7 October | Last Day Term 3 - School closes at 1pm |
| Tuesday 25 October | School Closed - Staff Only Day |
| Wednesday 26 October | First Day Term 4 - School begins at 8.55am |
| Thursday 1 December | Garden Party |
| Friday 16 December | Last Day Term 4 - School closes at 1pm |

Parnell Trust

So much to do these School Holidays! Parnell Trust provide a fun and safe programme for children 5 to 14 years. Activities and outings include: 'Glee Club' dancing and singing four day option, cartooning, robotics with LEGO, soccer clinic, clay sculpting and much more.

Weekdays 10 - 21 October. Only weeks to go - book early.

Phone Parnell Trust 379 2095 ext 9724, email pfc@parnell.org.nz or visit www.parnell.org.nz