

## Year 5 and 6 Newsletter Term 1 2011

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2011

Dear Parents / Caregivers & Students

Welcome back to school. We trust you have had an enjoyable and relaxing holiday.

### **STAFF**

We welcome Miss Adele Adams and Miss Kellie McLean to the Year 5 and 6 cluster. Mrs Jarvis and Mrs Watson will be supporting us as release teachers this term and will be joined by Mrs Nankivell when Mrs Jarvis goes on maternity leave.

As you are aware the new building is due for completion at the end of term 1 so Miss Biggs and room 11 are enjoying learning in the classroom adjoining the Kaiaua garden until the end of this term.

### **STUDENTS**

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all new students to Beachlands School and are looking forward to getting to know you; if you have any concerns the teachers and students of the year 5 and 6 cluster will be only too willing to help you.

### **LONG HAIR**

It is school policy that all hair that can be put into a hair tie is tied up. We appreciate your support with this as it is the one effective way we have of being able to prevent the spread of nits. Teachers will be monitoring this diligently.

### **Shoes**

Thank you to all parents who have supported the school uniform policy by ensuring that students wear regulation black school shoes or sandals. For those families who have yet to purchase school shoes, please refer to our school website for suggestions (soft canvas type shoes are not recommended).

### **SWIMMING**

Year 5 and 6 students will be swimming twice per week; your child or your child's teacher will let you know the day their class is swimming. It is school policy that bikinis and long shorts are not worn for school swimming. Thank you for ensuring that your child has the appropriate swimming gear. If your child is not swimming they will require a note as swimming is an important part of the curriculum especially when living in a seaside town.

### **Swimming Sports**

The year 5 and 6 students at Beachlands are extremely fortunate to belong to two sporting groups – this is unique to us and enables us to take advantage of both ECCS and HPPA competitions. For swimming we will be competing in the HPPA event which is being held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March. The year 5 and 6 swimming sports will be held at the school pool on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March from 8:45. We encourage all students to participate and parents are welcome to attend.

### **Camp – Chosen Valley Ararimu**

This term students will be participating in a two night camp at Chosen Valley Christian Camp in Ararimu, (they have a website that you may be interested in viewing). Rooms 14, 15 and 11 will be attending camp from **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March** and rooms, 13 and 16 will be going from **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March - Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March**.

The **approximate** cost of camp will be **\$140.00**. Further details of costs, health forms and equipment requirements will be sent home as soon as possible. We strongly recommend that all students attend camp as it is an important part of building a class culture and solid

friendships are formed whilst at camp. Camp also plays an important role in providing opportunities for students to experience personal challenges and activities unique to camp. If there are any obstacles that may prevent your child attending camp, please contact Shirley Winters as soon as possible so that solutions can be explored.

### **HOMEWORK**

This year we will be introducing a new school-wide home-learning programme, details of which will be available shortly. In addition to this, all year 5 and 6 students will be given basic facts and spelling words to learn each week. A sheet will be sent home every Monday and should be returned to school by Friday of the same week. The basic facts sheets will be also available on our school web page.

### **RIMU TEAM ASSEMBLIES**

Full Rimu Team assemblies will be held in weeks 3, 6 and 9. Each class will take turns to present their learning; this will be a time for sharing our successes. Parents will be invited to attend these assemblies.

### **HATS AND DRINK BOTTLES**

Please remember that all children must wear a hat whenever they are outside in Term 1. It is important for your child's learning that they have an adequate intake of water, please ensure all children bring a named drink bottle to school everyday.

We look forward to your on-going support and welcome our new parents. If you have any concerns regarding your child please contact the class teacher in the first instance.

Thank you

Year 5 and 6 teachers

Miss McLean, Miss Levett, Miss Adams, Miss Biggs and Mrs Winters