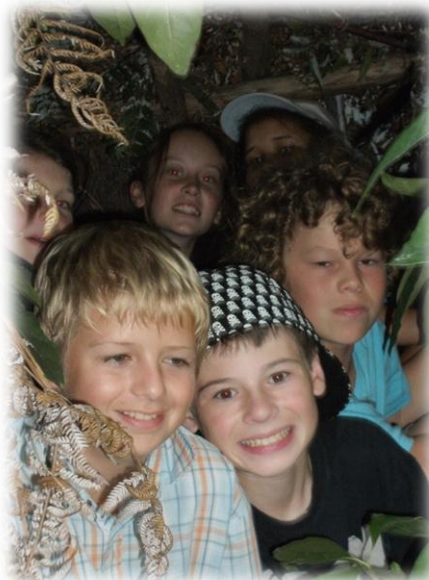


BEACHLANDS INTERMEDIATE

Term 2 Newsletter 2011



Tuesday 21st June 2011

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

What a busy term we are having, the time just seems to be flying past! I would like to start by thanking all the parents who came on camp- being a camp parent is no easy task and we are so lucky to have great volunteers for this role. Both camps went really well and the students really pushed themselves outside of their comfort zone. It was amazing to see the students encouraging and supporting each other throughout the camps- it shows how well the FERN values are embedded.

Curriculum Programmes

This term students have learnt how to write narratives, this is the piece of writing that they have had assessed. It will be scanned and available for viewing on the students e-portfolios in the coming weeks. We have moved on to speeches for writing- something that students seem to love or despise. We are sure that as the time to present these draws closer you may well have the opportunity to listen to your child's speech. We ask that you only help them with the presentation and not the content, as these need to be in the students own words.

We have mostly finished Keeping Ourselves Safe and are looking forward to our learning pathways. Students are going to be looking at the impact of different cultures in New Zealand and exploring their own cultural heritage.

We are just finishing statistics for mathematics and are going to be teaching number for the rest of the term- focussing on addition and subtraction strategies.

Independent Learning Programme

The intermediate years are seen as a two year transition to College. One of the major changes between primary and secondary is the timetabling system. At Beachlands Intermediate on a Friday morning we run a series of options classes to help students to become more independent, more organised and able to adapt to a range of different teaching styles. Mrs Croll has put together an amazing display for the school office showing this terms options; please take the time to have a look. This term the options that are running are:

- French for Year 7 and a more advanced class for Year 8
- The Real Game- a careers education programme
- Practical Science
- The Beach Times- our school newspaper
- Advanced Maths
- Drama
- Poi Making and Performance
- Independent Learning Project- a group of students challenged to learn a new skill independently based on their interests.

Intermediate Ball

We are all very excited at the prospect of the upcoming ball on the 8th of July. The students at Beachlands School are always exceptionally well behaved at this event and understand that this is a formal event. Girls are already talking about what they will be wearing and how they are going to do their hair. It would be greatly helpful to us, if you could reinforce the message that these conversations are for the playground and after school and that they need to maintain their focus in the classroom on their learning.

School Involvement

A big emphasis in the Intermediate Team is really encouraging students to get involved in school opportunities. This is a time for students to get involved and start exploring some of their existing interests and trying out new ones. We have a huge number of experiences that students are currently participating in. Our student leaders are all contributing to our school: House Leaders, Sports Co-ordinators, ICT Leaders, Road Patrollers, Librarians, Radio Station Leaders, Wet Day Leaders, Environmental Education

Leaders. Intermediate students are also involved in Kapa Haka, Choir, B Club, Dance Group, Music Lessons, Sponsor-a-child committee, ECCS Sports days and representative teams, Students vs. Staff Rippa Rugby, Station Leaders for Jump Rope for Heart... just to name a few.

Uniform

As role models of the school it is important that students are wearing the uniform correctly and are making their best effort to wear their uniform with pride. It is good to report that most students are in the correct uniform, however this does require constant vigilance and we would like your support with the main areas that we seem to be addressing. We have noticed an increase in the number of students wearing rings, necklaces and nail polish lately. It is not pleasant for the child or the teacher to have to keep asking about these, please support us by checking your child when possible. We also are finding children are not remembering to bring their PE gear to school- all classes have set PE lessons and students are expected to change for these. A big thank you to the students who have long hair- we have noticed a remarkable improvement in this being tied up and neat.

Sports and PE Programme

This term the intermediate has had the opportunity to be involved in the East Counties Soccer Fun Day, East Counties Rugby trials, East Counties Netball trials, School wide Jump Off and Rippa Rugby training with Steelers player Dameon Chaney.

At the beginning of the term we had Dameon from the counties Manukau Steelers team come and take Rippa Rugby training sessions with the years 5 -8 students. He also took a coach training session with the teachers. Intermediate students were invited to play teachers in the staff v student Rippa Rugby match which ended in a 3 all draw!

We had 18 students attend the Soccer Fun Day; they were well behaved and showed fair play and sportsmanship. Six of our top boy soccer players went to the trials for the East Counties Soccer team and 4 of them were successful in making the team. The team placed second at the Counties tournament.

Five of our boys were recently selected for the East Counties Rugby team with four of them in the winning grade at the Counties Tournament. They will go on to represent East Counties at the Auckland Champs later in the term.

The Jump Rope for Heart day required many of our senior students to provide leadership on the day. We had 42 students who ran the event smoothly and showed initiative in modifying activities as classes needed it.

Trials are going to be run to select girls wishing to trial for the East Counties Netball team, they will be attending the trial later in the term.

Learning Pathways Centre

This term in the learning pathways centre students worked on a mural in a group based on a children's poem. These are going to be displayed on the top field fence. They are continuing to work on their children's book sculptures that will be displayed throughout the school. The new projects for this term are wearable arts- where they work in groups to create a recycled costume for a show at the beginning of Term Three. They are also creating balsa wood CO2 Racers- which need to be light and aerodynamic. The races will hopefully be held before the end of the term.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind Regards

Barbara Dinnissen, Megan Croll, Ruth Nixon, Laura Masters, Helen McKie, Kieran McEwen and Jo Tremlett