

Newsletter – 12th September 2011

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

From the Acting Principals – Ms Dinnissen and Mrs Winters

Last week we were fortunate to attend a conference and hear a range of excellent speakers including Nigel Latta and Celia Lashlie. One of the issues raised was the lack of male teachers in primary schools, currently around 14% in New Zealand. There are many factors that have contributed to the recruitment and retention of males in teaching primary schools, and most of these require a governmental shift in policy to fix. The issue with gender imbalance is that males and females think, behave, interact and react in vastly different ways, and not having both equally represented means that the system actually can't respond to both ways of being. This is leading to male underachievement in school and in wider society; it is an international issue that needs to be redressed. There is some good news! There are a range of strategies and ideas that can be used to help our boys to achieve greater results, and we believe that there is an untapped resource sitting in our school community who can help us to make Beachlands School a more "boy friendly" place to be. Calling all dads, granddads and uncles, we need your ideas! All you need to do now is email or call us and let us know that you are interested in being part of the solution at Beachlands School. We will arrange suitable ways of gathering your ideas when we have a group of *good keen men*.

Open Morning

Every term we have a morning block set aside for parents to come in and celebrate their child's learning. This term we are having this on Tuesday 20th September, between 10.40am and 12.20pm. Parents are welcome to join in their child's classroom at this time. This is a great time to share with your child how they have been working towards their goals and to see how the curriculum works at Beachlands School.

Cultural Day

All students at Beachlands School have been learning about the many cultures in New Zealand over the past term and a half. To culminate all of these studies we are holding a dress-up day on Thursday 22nd of September. This is a day where students celebrate their own cultures by dressing up in either traditional costumes or colours that represent their own cultural heritage.

Year 3 and 4 Cultural Open Day Invitation - Classes will share what we have been learning through a display and a cultural dance they have learnt.

The Parenting Through Separation programme is now running at Willowbank School (Howick) for all parents who are in the process of separating or considering separation. It is a free course delivered by Triple P New Zealand, working with a Family Court lawyer. The next course is (7 – 9pm) September 27 and October 4. **To register call Triple P New Zealand 09 579 1794.**

Rugby World Cup Fun Day

The RWC Fun Day is a planned event to help us celebrate the Rugby World Cup and the different variety of cultures in our world. This event is coming up on Friday 16 September, week 7. The classes drew out the team they will be 'adopting' for this school wide event. The students will be encouraged to come dressed in their adopted countries colour for the Fun Day.

Conservation Week in Kaiawa - from 11th – 18th September

You might like to check out this website for things to do during Conservation Week.

<http://www.doc.govt.nz/conservation-week-home/>

<http://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/EN/OurAuckland/Events/Pages/makeawishconservationweek2011.aspx>

At school for week 7 and 8 all classes will be taking a visit down to Kaiawa Gardens after winter to do class working bees. As spring is around the corner and the weather is getting warmer it is a good time for tidying up the gardens and doing some planting. It will be a good project for the school as conservation week is about appreciating what we have and contributing towards improving it. Kaiawa is a wonderful resource. A list of jobs has been created that need working on and classes will choose what they want to be involved with. Jobs include tidying sheds, weeding, planting, work on the banana grove, pruning, tidying the chicken area and painting. Your child will let you know when their class time is. The students may be required to bring gumboots and you may be asked to bring some tools along that are required for the job. Mrs McLeod

Beachlands School Book Fair

I am currently organising our annual Book Fair which will be held from Monday to Thursday 3rd – 6th October. Are you able to help before and after school? The 'shop' hours will be:

Monday-Thursday: 8.15am - 9.15am

Monday-Wednesday: 2.00pm - 3.00pm

Thursday: 12.00noon - 8.00pm

Please contact me via email on mcroll@beachlands.school.nz or, leave your name and contact number with the school office. Thank you.

Student Learning Conferences/Parent Interviews

These will be held on Thursday 6th October from 12.40pm to 7.50pm. To book an interview please go to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and enter the code **N973C**. If you are unable to book online, please call the school office.

Beachlands School Radio Station - Raffle

It is not too late to get your raffle tickets. Tickets available every morning from the school office and the raffle will be drawn on Friday 16th September. Tickets \$2.00 each.

Zone Cross Country

Congratulations to those students who represented East Counties at the Zone Cross Country last Tuesday. East Counties team had a top 3 finish in each race category. Anna Ross, Richard Morrison, Brook Robinson, Alice Cloke and Lachlan Haitana are continuing on to the final round- Auckland Champs on Thursday 15 September, we are proud of their achievements and wish them all the very best!

Koanga Festival

The school is very proud of those students who represented Beachlands School at the recent Koanga Festival, they did a fantastic job. If there are parents or whanau who wish to purchase a copy of the performance these can be ordered through the school office for \$5.00.

Year 7 and 8 Dance Group Bake Sale

Our year 7 and 8 dance group will be competing in the ECCS dance competition next week. As a way to fundraise money for our uniforms we will be holding a bake sale this Tuesday under the blue cover at morning tea.

Coming Events

Tuesday 13 th September	Beach Clean Up – Y1 – Y4
Friday 16 th September	Rugby World Cup Fun Day/Sausage Sizzle (\$1.50 each)
Friday 30 th September	Disco
Tuesday Thursday 6 th October	Student Learning Conferences (Parent Interviews)
Friday 7 th October	End of Term 3 – normal closing time

PTA News

Hot Chocolate Friday - There will be no Hot Chocolate this Friday as we are holding a sausage sizzle. Hot Chocolate will resume next week.

PTA Meeting – We Need New Faces – give the usual fabulous but tired PTA members a break.

Thurs 29th Sept @ 49 Beachlands Road 7.30pm. New people welcome. Casual, fun group. Share ideas & get involved helping out our school. Rebecca Preston 536 4288

Sausage Sizzle Friday 16 September

Most of you will be aware that Jessica Morrison, a former student of our school, is now a New Zealand Running Champion. It has been her long held dream to one day represent New Zealand at the Commonwealth Games. She is well on the way to achieving this goal. Unfortunately it does not just take determination and dedication to get there. Jess has both of these in bucket loads. It also requires a great deal of money for Jessica has to attend competitions throughout the country. She has so far travelled to Christchurch, Ashburton, Wellington and Stratford this year. This travel has to be paid for. We as a PTA would like to help Jessica achieve her goal and have decided to run a sausage sizzle to raise funds to help send her to Wellington in October for her next National Competition. We will be holding a sausage sizzle this week at the end of the RWC Fun Day on Friday. Please order your sausage by Wednesday this week on the order form in this Buzz (cash only and correct money as we are not able to give change). We would love to have help with this event. Please email hmckie@beachlands.school.nz if you are able to help from 11 am on Friday.

Abacus Calendar Orders

We are unable to accept further orders as this has been sent to the printers. This fundraiser is now closed. You will receive your calendars, etc, during the first week of Term 4. Thanks to all who placed an order.

Join the **LADIES' CLOTHES SWAP** @ the school hall **Friday 23rd September** 5.30pm – 7.00pm for voucher holders and 7.00pm – 8.00pm for cash buyers. An eco friendly girls night out ... the ultimate in guilt free shopping!

How it works:

Step 1: Get the clothes that you no longer wear out of the closet, such as impulse shopping mistakes, things you are bored with or no longer fit.

Step 2: Separate those that are in good condition: no rips, stains, missing buttons or zips. The test is whether you would be happy to exchange similar quality items. Fair game are also scarves, hats, and bags. But no underwear or togs.

Step 3: Bring your gear to the blue cover before or after school from Tuesday 20th to Friday and exchange them for vouchers. One item is worth one voucher. The more items you bring, the more vouchers you get and the more new items you can swap them for.

Step 4: The organisers will sort the clothes for Friday evening.

Step 5: At 5.30pm the clothes swap begins for voucher holders, pay \$10 at the door and enjoy a glass of bubbles whilst you inspect the goods. Don't forget to bring your re-usable bags to take your fab swaps home in.

Step 6: At 7.00pm we open the doors to everyone and unswapped items may be purchased by anyone who has run out or do not have vouchers. Any items left at the end of the evening will be donated.

So for \$10 you get to tidy up your closet, enjoy a glass of bubbles, a catch up with the girls (no rugby talk!), do your bit for the environment and update your wardrobe (without worrying about a credit card bill!)

Don't forget to order your Sushi tomorrow.

PTA Sausage Sizzle – Friday 16th September - \$1.50 – in an envelope with name please

Name/s _____ Room/s _____

We would like _____ sausages Enclosed \$ _____