

Newsletter – 19th September 2011

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

From the Acting Principal – Ms Dinnissen

Empathy is the ability to share the feelings of someone else, to “walk a mile in their shoes”, to be able to imagine what it might be like to live their lives. It is also sadly, one of the ways of thinking that we are beginning to lose in today’s hectic and rushed world. Taking the time to really think about what it might be like to live someone else’s reality, to understand their challenges and their point of view is something that we as adults have a responsibility to role model to our children. I have recently been to Christchurch to catch up with family and friends, and while I was there I had an opportunity to look around some of the damage caused by the earthquake. Everyone that I have spoken to who had been down before have said “you have to see it to believe it” and I can now understand what they meant. The utter devastation of the central city is heart-breaking, and it’s also too big to get your head around. Coupled with the conditions that people in the worst affected suburbs are living in day in day out, and you start to build up a picture of a city that has been brought to its knees. While life goes on and people in Christchurch seem to have incredible amounts of resilience, there is no denying that many people are still “doing it tough”. So, just take a moment this week while you listen to the news about the re-building efforts, or while you drive through some road works, or while you think about how far you have to drive to get to the shops to wonder what it might be like to “walk a mile” in the shoes of a Cantabrian.

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 tomorrow 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.**

Awards at School Assembly

Congratulations to the following students who received an Award today –

Lachlan, Hannah, Hannah, Samuel, Caleb, Dylan, Violet, Kishan, Josh, Jack, Amelia, Lachlan, Nathan, Trevor, Shay, Michelle, James, Alex, Dallas, Sabrina, Victoria and Madison.



House Points

1st Takitimu

2nd Tokomaru

3rd Tainui

4th Arawa

Special Awards Presentation

On Thursday 29th September at 1.00 we are having a special assembly, to be presented with our new Enviro School's Green Gold Flag and sign by members of the Enviro Schools Foundation and the City Council. We were reassessed for the award term 3, last year. Parents are invited to attend the presentation, especially the parents who helped on the day of the review.

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 Wednesday 5th October for Rooms 17 and 22 and 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.

Lost Property Frustrations

This is a never ending problem. Our Silver bin is overflowing with shoes, lunch boxes, uniform items, jackets and socks. Please make a concerted effort to recover those missing items. Only 3 weeks of term to go and then Eddie will have no choice but to throw what is left away. The monitors have been putting uniform items with names and room numbers on them in the teachers' cubby holes. They spend an hour doing this each week and that is more than enough time out of class. They won't be doing this job for the rest of Term 3 as I will be away. If a parent would like to sort out the bin please be our guest. You will be amazed at how much unlabelled gear there is in there. It's not the washing machine that eats all those socks. The mystery has been solved... they are all holidaying in the lost property bin!

Rugby World Cup Raffle

Congratulations to these people who have won the rugby world cup raffle held by Beachlands Radio Station 107.1 FM

1st Emma McKie

2nd Shirley Winters

3rd Kathleen Cullen

Friday Bake Sale

The radio station is holding a bake sale on Friday at morning tea time. Bring a gold coin for delectable goodies.

Coming Events

Friday 23rd September Ladies Clothes Swap 5.30pm onwards \$10.00 entry

Wednesday 28th September Board of Trustees Meeting

Friday 30th September Disco

Wednesday 5th October Rooms 17 & 22 Student Learning Conferences (Parent Interviews)

Thursday 6th October Student Learning Conferences (Parent Interviews)

Friday 7th October End of Term 3 – normal closing time

PTA News

Thank you to those who bought a sausage last week. We raised \$300.00 for Jessica Morrison.

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

Don't forget to order your Sushi tomorrow and Friday is Hot Chocolate Day.

Community News

Guitar Concert at Beachlands Baptist Church tomorrow Tuesday 20th September. Pupils and parents to be there at 6.00pm ready for 6.30pm start. Teachers very welcome to attend.
Donations for East Africa Appeal – Katherine Davey