

**Kia Ora**

**Dear Parents and Caregivers**

**WELCOME** – I trust that you all made the most of another lovely weekend in our “pretty city”. Our children have been busy doing lots of testing as teachers gather data in preparation for the end of year Reports.

**CONGRATULATIONS** – to all of our past pupils who have been featuring in the end of year Secondary School Prizegiving lists. We are very proud of you all. Last week we were thrilled to learn that Ben Johnson will be the Head Boy at Kings High School in 2012. Congratulations Ben!

**ATHLETIC SPORTS** – The Otago Athletic Championships are to be held at the Caledonian Ground on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November (p/d Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> Nov). A separate notice has been sent home to those involved.

**SWIMMING** – Started this week for Rooms 6 & 7. Rooms 1, 2 & 4 will swim 21st November to 25th November. All children will need to bring their swimming gear each day. There will be a \$10.00 charge to cover transport so this must be paid prior to attending. Many thanks to the FOTS for paying for the professional swimming coaches.

**ROAD SAFETY** – issues are constantly being brought to our attention. All children travelling to and from school need to be aware of the Road Rules. We can never be too careful. We also ask that drivers treat Howden Street as a One-Way downhill only, street. This not only helps with traffic flow but also road safety issues as well. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

**CAMP WALK** – tonight for Y8 pupils and the Deep Cove Camp Parents. Please assemble at the “Bull Ring” Flagstaff, at 6pm tonight, rain, hail or shine. These walks are compulsory for all who are going to the Y8 Camp. You are most welcome to bring along other family members for this enjoyable walk. See you there.

**MEASLES** – Are currently around in Otago.  
**Measles symptoms**  
Measles is a highly infectious disease and is more serious than many people realise. Symptoms include fever, cough, red eyes and a runny nose, and then a rash which develops around 3 days after the other symptoms start. Complications can include middle ear infections, pneumonia, and, more rarely, encephalitis or brain inflammation. So far this year more than 70 people with measles have needed hospital treatment (around 1 in 5 cases this year). The best measles prevention is the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine which is free for all New Zealand children. It is also free for adults who need it (this is if you are born from 1 January 1969 and have not been fully immunised). We are **asking staff, parents and caregivers to make sure that their immunisations and their children’s immunisations are up-to-date**. Anyone born from 1 January 1969 should ensure they are fully immunised against measles. If they are unsure, they can check with their family doctor.  
**People with measles must stay at home**  
Any student or teacher with measles must stay away from school for five to seven days from the appearance of the rash and until recovery, depending on the advice of the local medical officer of health. Unimmunised students, or those with no immunity to measles, who have been in close contact with a measles case during the infectious stages should stay away from school for 14 days from their last contact. This requirement is under the Health (Infectious and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations 1966 (Regulation 14).

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE** – prizes are gradually filling up the Hamper boxes in our foyer. Many thanks to all who have donated so far. Other donations are welcome to be sent along as soon as possible. Thank you.

**Y8 CAMP** – to Deep Cove is only 21 sleeps away. Parents please make sure that your Camp Account is all paid up and that your child has all of the essential gear on the list.

**COMPUTERS IN HOMES** – offered to you last week, seemed too good to be true. 3 or 4 families have already indicated that they are keen to take part. I have another 24 spaces available. Free training for 8 weeks and then you get a free computer to keep at home plus free access to the Internet for 6 months. All you have to do is attend the training sessions at school and pay a one off \$50 commitment to the programme. 7 training computers will be installed at school next week and lessons will begin in about Week 2 of next year. Please contact the Office for more information or to sign up for this unbelievable offer.

**DIVING** – at Moana Pool has started again for 4 lucky pupils from our school. We give a huge vote of thanks to Becky Marquet and her team for arranging this free training for us. Best wishes to James Nicol, Kaitlyn Hughes-Trezise, Brayden Thomas and Tayla Padgett as they challenge themselves this term.

**SCHOOL LIBRARY BOOKS** – All library books are due in Friday 2nd December please.  
**BOOK AMNESTY** – All school Journals and books can be returned to the bin in the foyer.

**UNIFORM IN STOCK** – The new uniform is being phased in over the next 18 months. In the mean time we have got the old stock to sell off. A decision has been made to sell these items for half price on a first in first served basis. Please see Justine with your requirements. Thank you.

**“COINS FOR BRICKS”** – is the name of the charity set up in Vanu Atu where our “Sound Alive/Words Alive” teacher, Mrs Kate Lloyd and her family are now living. We have raised \$120.00 from the BBQ profits last week. Thank you so much for helping out this school in Vanu Atu.

**RESPECT** – is our Value that we are focussing on this term. Congratulations to Brianna Reid who received the “Values” award at the last assembly.

## Final data collection for the Family-School Partnerships and Literacy Development Study.

A big **thank you** to all the children, parents and teachers who have participated in our research over the last three years. Your support has been fantastic. Thanks especially to families who have just returned the final questionnaire; this information is so valuable to our research. If you still have this questionnaire at home, we would really appreciate you filling this in and returning it to school this term.

This term, the final of the early literacy measures will be administered to the year one, two and three children in the study, and we will be asking children their opinions about reading and things they think have helped them in learning to read. These measures, as well as information provided by teachers and families, and, for participating Year 1 children, videos of reading across the year, will help us to better understand the ways families and schools work together to support children’s learning in early primary school. We will be sharing the results of the study with parents at the end of the study. It has been such a privilege watching your children’s reading develop over this year, and we have learned a lot from this experience. It has also been lovely to be part of Green Island School, and to witness all the other exciting milestones such as birthdays, missing teeth, new family members and new skills learned (break dancing, singing, bike riding...!). Thank you once again, Pip Struthers, Juliet Kendall and Elizabeth Schaugency, faculty supervisor, Department of Psychology, University of Otago

**REMINDERS** – “Christmas Hamper” donations  
- Mc Donald’s receipts  
*Nga mihi nui/Best wishes*  
**Steve Hayward**  
**Principal**

P.S. Teacher: Did you know that most accidents happen in the kitchen?  
Pupil: Yes, but we still have to eat them!