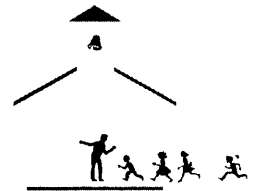




COLWILL SCHOOL

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Tuesday 25th May 2010

Newsletter. No 13

Greetings, Kia Ora, Fakalofa, Iahi atu, Kia Orana, Talofa, Shalom, Malo e lelei, Taloha ni, Guten Tag, Bonjour, Dobro Dosli, Croeso, Sawadee, Goeie Dag, An Nyung ha seayo, Asalamu Alaikum, Prevet, Namaste, Swaddeka., Ni Hao.

COMMISSIONER'S MESSAGE TO PARENTS

Kia ora tatou, Talofa lava, warm greetings to you all!

I am pleased to have this opportunity to bring you up to date on a number of matters:-

A Education Review Office report on Review Visit to Colwill in February, 2010

Attached to this newsletter you will find a summary of the Review Team's findings. There is much to be encouraged by in the Review Report, as well as some challenges. Because this report showed improvement in many areas over the previous one in March 2009, the Government has given approval for the school to return to governance by a Board of Trustees, with a government officer known as a Limited Statutory manager to assist them.

I congratulate the staff on their hard work over the last 18 months, especially in the areas of literacy and numeracy. Parents, we need you to help us help your children in these areas. Please be in regular contact with your child's teacher so that you identify the particular ways you can help and guide your child.

B The election of a new Board of Trustees.

Please note the following:-

It is proposed that the new Board will have four places for elected parent representatives and one for a staff representative.

The election date will be Friday 30 July if the number of people offering themselves for election exceeds the number of places available.

The current number of parent representatives who can be elected is five, but this is being reduced to four to allow the new Board to appoint two more representatives who either bring important skills that the elected Trustees don't offer, such as financial skills, and/or represent an ethnic group of significant size within the Colwill School community which is not represented by those elected. This is a good time to remind you that there are 39 different ethnic groups identified amongst Colwill families.

A Returning Officer will be appointed to run this election process. By law, the latest date a returning officer can be appointed is 36 days before the election date, which means our RO will be appointed on or before Thursday 24 June.

Please watch newsletters in the next few weeks for more news about the election.

I take this opportunity of thanking the parents and caregivers who, as members of the Parent Advisory Group, have acted as vital parent contact for myself and the Principal. In particular, Maggie Scelly, Steve and Paulette Trent, Kerry Lord, Lizel Venter, and Sharon Dennis have represented you well by faithfully attending monthly meetings over the past nine months. The PAG will meet each month until the election in July

C Ms Raewyn Pilbrow as Acting Principal during Mr Taylor's sabbatical leave

We are all grateful to Raewyn Pilbrow for taking up the Principal's role during Rob Taylor's absence on study leave between 24 May and 17 August. No-one knows the school, its children and the parent community better than Raewyn. I look forward very much to working with her over the next three months.

Trevor McKinlay, Commissioner

tсмck@xtra.co.nz

027 406 9371

SKI TRIP

Ski week is the 23rd to the 27th August 2010.

TERM DATES FOR 2010

Term 2

Ends on **Friday 2nd July**

Term 3

Monday 19th July and ends on Friday 24th September

Term 4

Monday 11th October and ends on Friday 17th December

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Full uniform checks will be happening this week. Any students not in correct school uniform will be sent home with a note requesting this be attended to. Anything worn under the school uniform must be navy. All students should wear white socks and black shoes. From Monday 24 May 2010, any student arriving at school in incorrect uniform, (unless an order with payment has been made at the office) will result in a parent being called to collect their child from school.

NSW / ICAS

ICAS - New South Wales Competition and Assessments 2010

Many of our students have been doing these over the last three years. Each student receives a personal analysis about their personal strengths and weaknesses are in each subject.

- Available in:
- Spelling cost \$9.50
- Writing cost \$17.50
- English (Reading fiction/non fiction and poetry) cost \$7.50

Mathematics cost \$7.50

- Spelling and Writing entries close Tuesday the 25th of May

English and Mathematics entries close Tuesday the 22nd of June

Forms will again be handed out to interested students tomorrow by Ms Pilbrow and spares will be available in the office.

NETBALL RESULTS

Colwill 1 - LOSS

Colwill 2 - WIN

Colwill 3 - WIN

Colwill 4 - WIN

Colwill 5 - WIN

MESSAGE FROM OUR ACTING PRINCIPAL

Mr Taylor has begun his sabbatical leave and we welcome Mr Vega to Room 18.

As noted in a previous newsletter while I (Ms Pilbrow) am Acting Principal Colwill is also being well supported by Mrs Ogden as First Deputy while Mrs Chase and Mrs Pivac are sharing the roll and responsibilities of second Deputy Principal.

The wet weather is finally here and sadly one of my first jobs has been to close the hall for a period due to water damage during last weeks rain. The roof and ceiling were being upgraded but unfortunately the amount of rain proved to much for the builders tarpaulins to cope with. The problem is being fixed but we will be without the use of our wonderful hall for two to three weeks. Afterschool care will continue in the school library and our music classes will be relocated.

The wet weather also brings with it all its usual issues of parents wishing there children to stay dry, please send our children with coats or jackets even on dry mornings as Auckland weather is often changeable. Our wardens are doing a great job and a clearly visible in their orange coats you can make their job a lot easier by not parking on the side opposite the school or in the school driveway. Several of our wardens and teachers have commented on the fabulous way our parents always use the crossing, setting a great example to our kids. A BIG THANK YOU to all of you.

Last week we had three sports teams play 'inter school' Thanks to Mrs Jones, and Mrs Chase for organizing the year 3-6 rugby (two teams) and the senior soccer.

We were extremely proud of all their efforts and results. The Ripper -Rugby' team won and the senior soccer made it through to the quarter final where they lost by only one goal. Mr Vega went with our soccer boys and his sideline coaching proved very valuable! As always the events were made possible by the great parent support we received.

Over the next two weeks all students and teachers will be involved in testing at school. Please assist your children by making sure they have lots of rest during this time, tired children rarely perform at their best.

The testing is to help inform their school progress reports which will come out later in the term. You will notice some small changes in our reports as we move to focus on progress in this report and achievement levels against the national standards being introduced across the country. More about this in following newsletters.

Have a great and safe week everyone.

Raewyn Pilbrow (Acting Principal)