

# GREEN BAY SCHOOL

www.greenbay.school.nz

11th February 2010

## Principal's Piece

Greetings to all our families and students! The hot and muggy weather is taking its toll on us all here at school, especially in the afternoons so we are very thankful our school pool is up and running after an initial hiccup with the filter. It has been wonderful to see so many parents popping into classes after school and catching up with their child's teacher. I have seen some wonderful examples of children's work on display on classroom walls as I have visited classes this week. Make sure you take any opportunity you can to visit us.

Jude will be back at the helm on Monday. She has recovered very well from her knee surgery and has been missing the kids and the hustle and bustle of the start of the year. I want to take this chance to thank the wonderful staff here at Green Bay School – teachers, syndicate leaders, admin staff, teacher aides, our hard working caretaker, and senior leaders – for the way they all pulled together to make the start of the year so smooth and relatively hassle free. They have made my time as acting principal very positive. We are a fortunate community to have such a great school staff.

## Communication

An area of interest from the community, which has come to our notice, is a desire to find a way to have the school pool available for community use. At the moment we do not have the pool available due to council regulations, which require a person employed by the school to supervise during hours the pool is open to the community. There are also health and safety regulations regarding pool water quality which have to be addressed. However, we are very happy to review this situation if there is support for the venture from the community. Therefore, later in the year, in preparation for next summer, we will call a meeting asking for interested parents to come and meet with us to see if we can plan a way forward to meet community interest. We will advertise the meeting so keep your eyes peeled for further developments.

## Goal Setting Interviews

In Week 8 on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March from 2-8pm we will be having our goal setting interviews so that parents and teachers, along with students, can discuss their child's current achievement, where we would like them to be by the end of the year and set some plans for how to get there. These are really important times and we encourage all parents to attend. More details will follow soon.

Linda Allen  
Acting Principal

## Cell Phones at School

Green Bay School's policy is that all students' cell phones are to be stored in the school office during the day. They are signed in and signed out by the student. We have become aware that many students are not following this policy, so students will be reminded of our expectations. Any cell phones found in your child's possession will be taken off them. We do this not only to help keep cell phones safe from theft, but mainly to help prevent bullying or misuse of phones. If you need to contact your child during the day please do so through the main office. If your child brings a cell phone to school we hope you will be able to speak to them and support us with this policy.

## Native Walkway

At the weekend a group of Corrections workers helped to make the area behind Rooms 21-24 closer to becoming a native walkway for the children. They removed many weeds and dead trees, transplanted flax and generally tidied up the area.

As a result of the school's involvement in planting trees in the Twin Streams' Project, we will be receiving funding to buy native trees to plant in this area when the weather is suitable. The planting of these trees will involve the students. We will also need funding and help to make and edge a path, complete fencing and put in a gate. Other plans are to provide seating for the children, possibly in some creative form such as a taniwha which all the children could be involved in; wooden

seating, and also a mural to decorate the end wall. If you have expertise in any of these areas or would like to help in any way, please leave your details at the office for the attention of Kathy in Room 22.

## A Big Well Done!!!

Marcus Rm7 competed in athletics at the North Island Colgate Games, Mt Smart Stadium at the beginning of January. He won a gold pennant for long jump, gold pennant for 60m and bronze pennant for 100m in the 7 year old boys age group. The games had 1600 competitors aged 7-14 from all over the North Island.

## 50th Jubilee

Our 50th Jubilee is happening this year. It is being held on the 4th and 5th of September. Please spread the word about this wonderful event, and if you know of anyone who is a past pupil, please pass on the information. If you would like to receive a registration pack, please contact the school to register your interest.

## Board of Trustees Elections

The Board of Trustee elections are being held in May 2010. Are you considering being a parent representative on the Board? Would you like to know more? Please contact the office. We will be asking for nominations shortly.

## Lost Property

Lost property is on display in Room 20 today, Thursday 25<sup>th</sup>, and tomorrow, Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February. Please make sure you check the lost property. Anything left over on Friday afternoon will be donated to the Salvation Army.

## Important Dates

26.02.10	Rimu Bethell's Beach Trip
19.03.10	Rimu Amazing Race
23.03.10	Power of One Show
25.03.10	Goal Setting Interviews
25.03.10	2pm Finish

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## Safety on the Road

Just a reminder that we have a pedestrian crossing outside our school for a reason—it is the safest place for children to cross the road. Although there are islands further up the road by the high school and further down the road by the park, and they are a safe place to stop in the middle of the road, traffic does not have to stop for pedestrians! Please ensure your child uses the pedestrian crossing on the way to and from school.



## Fruit & Vegetable Fundraiser

Affordable Organix is an "Organic Home Delivery Service", and are proud to Support our school by gifting 5% from every order sold, back to the school. This is a great time of the year to try a box of delicious summer fruit and veg, such as watermelons, sweetcorn and strawberries and you'll find that for an average household, \$36 (delivered) is all that you will need to spend on your weekly organic fruit and veg...so why not give it a go!!

Call them now on (09) 817-9318 or email: [affordableorganix@xtra.co.nz](mailto:affordableorganix@xtra.co.nz) and don't forget to mention our School.

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### Dance Lessons

Auckland Academy of Dance is currently enrolling now for 2010. We offer dance classes for preschoolers and school aged children for Ballet, Jazz, Hip Hop and Contemporary. Located at 59 Portage Rd New Lynn the Academy has been parents choice for nurturing young dancers for more than 30yrs. email: [office@aucklandacademyofdance.co.nz](mailto:office@aucklandacademyofdance.co.nz) or call Nicole 021 246 2801. You can also check us out on the web [www.aucklandacademyofdance.co.nz](http://www.aucklandacademyofdance.co.nz)

## DID YOU KNOW ...?

### Cybersafety Tips- Mobile Phones and Your Child

Do you know what your child uses their mobile phone for?

Did you know that most mobile phones have the capacity to connect to the internet?

Did you know that most mobile phones can communicate with other devices (phones, computers etc) and transfer information/files/pictures? Bluetooth is wireless technology which enables data exchange over short distances.

Your child may already be using Bluetooth to share downloaded files with their friends. Music files are an example. This may seem harmless enough, but as always with ICT, there are risks involved. Because there are no filters or blocks in place it is possible for inappropriate content to be exchanged in this manner. We have recently been advised by some parents that they have discovered inappropriate material on their child's mobile phone. We thought it wise to pass on some tips to parents of older children.

What can you do?

- Educate yourself! Visit [www.netsafe.org.nz](http://www.netsafe.org.nz). Netsafe is a fantastic online resource not only for parents, but also for young people, schools and businesses.
- Talk to your child. Not just once - keep up regular and open communication about cybersafety. Talk about acceptable behaviour. Put plans and strategies in place to support your child to be a responsible user.
- Consider monitoring their cellphone use. A random check with no advance warning would soon put your mind at ease or disclose if there are any issues you need to be aware of.
- Turn off Bluetooth on their phone and only turn it on when required.

Cellphones are a privilege for children not a 'must have'. At school, students must hand their cellphones in or face confiscation. Use of mobile phones while at school is not permitted. So the onus for ensuring children are responsible users falls very much to parents. We hope this information supports parents in their role.

### Eco Day

Sunday 28 February 10m—4pm  
Olympic Park, New Lynn  
Free entry

Ecoexpo and green marketplace—seminars and workshops—green transport zone—ecokids zone—recycled arts and crafts market—organic food and drink—ecotours.  
[www.ecoday.org.nz](http://www.ecoday.org.nz) or Ph 826 4276.

### Hockey

Western Districts Hockey Club junior trials are to be held at the Avondale College turf on Sunday the 14th of March and Sunday the 21st of March from 8am. For more information see [www.westernhockey.co.nz](http://www.westernhockey.co.nz), email [westernjuniorhockey@gmail.com](mailto:westernjuniorhockey@gmail.com) or phone Tracey Bourke 09 836 3885 or text 027 272 9847

### Auckland Boys' Choir

The Auckland Boys' Choir is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> Jubilee this year and to mark this occasion it has been decided to increase the number of boys from 30 to 40. This means that there are 10 additional places for boys aged 9 to 12 years.  
For further information phone 522 4227.

**ASB**  
one step ahead

*Hey kids, kick start your savings for 2010... and you could get \$50 added to your savings!!!  
The more weeks you make a deposit, the more chances to win!*