

# GREEN BAY SCHOOL

www.greenbay.school.nz

6th October 2011

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S LAPTOP

What a busy term it's been! Ten weeks of non-stop activities and learning.

### *Children's Learning:*

Children have been learning about forms of communication incorporating forms of literacy and using ICT. Many classes have included how a big sporting event such as the World Cup helps peoples of different countries communicate. Classes have interpreted our Design Technology programme in a variety of ways, focussing on understanding the role of different types of materials. Some classes have looked at puppet design and how puppets can be used as a form of communication; other classes have looked at the design of sports uniforms and how the materials chosen have to be suited to the purpose, and what uniforms communicate to us about other countries. This type of approach will lead into designing uniforms or team mascots or other symbols of team pride. Some of this work may carry over to next term.

### *Teachers' Learning*

Seven teachers have been doing university maths education papers complete with after-hours lectures, personal study and assignments. Another group of teachers has been implementing strategies from the Auckland University High Expectations Project which has involved regular professional learning discussions with a facilitator and teachers from another school. A third group of teachers has been working hard on an Auckland University Technology Project which has involved professional development during the term and how to include technological concepts into teaching planning. We've benefitted from regular meetings where success and challenges have been shared and new ideas have sprung. Individual teachers have been doing: maths professional development, how to use mobile technologies, Enviro training including Travelwise and, along with some of our teacher aides, special needs training in areas such as Autism and ESOL.

### *Management Team's Learning:*

Senior Teachers and Linda, Diane and I have been working with an outside facilitator on professional coaching, which helps us learn strategies for giving feedback to others about how to improve. At the same time, our facilitator has helped us collect, from teachers and students across the school, information about what progress we have made in implementing Assessment for Learning (AfL). AfL is an approach in which teachers try to bring clarity about what they are teaching to the children in ways children can understand. This is really important. If a child understands what they have learnt and what they need to learn next then they'll become more motivated to do the work. It's pleasing to see how much further teachers' understandings about AfL have improved even just this term, which means that children will be understanding their learning better too. We've also had professional development as part of the Waitakere Learning Plan which is a network of West Auckland schools that are working together to lift student achievement across the city. We are working on building leadership and professional capacity in our schools. A number of leaders and aspiring leaders from our school have attended workshops on: building assessment literacy, AfL, leadership coaching, change management, and transition (between school sectors) and community engagement. Some of our leaders have been attending small professional learning groups led by other principals in the Learning Plan, while I have led a group of aspiring leaders from other schools. I'm leading the Student Achievement Strand and am a member of the Reference Group running this inter-school project while Linda is on the Leadership Steering Committee.

And we mustn't forget all the other cool things that have happened this term... our Jump Jam Team getting into the Nationals, our sports teams who've trained and played, our individual student successes at high level sporting achievements, our lunchtime Mandarin, French and German Clubs, our Outdoor Education trips, our Trash to Fashion entry group, the visit by the Westpac Rescue Helicopter, Choir, Kapahaka, Te Reo.... The fundraising for Christchurch and Japan, and our quilt-making working bee, our school fundraising discos and other events our hard-working Fundraising Team have run... and I'm bound to have left something out!

*Fundraising Update:* new Basketball and T-Ball sports uniforms have just been ordered, and Kapahaka uniforms for our new members are being purchased and made from school funds and funds raised. Watch this space!

Well done everyone! What a great team effort this term – parents, teachers, and students all working together! You're all wonderful!

Have a great week everyone... Go the All Blacks!

Jude



### SCHOOL NEWS AND EVENTS

**EARLY FINISH**  
**2PM**

**Friday 7th October**

No supervision between 2 and 3pm

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 24th Oct Labour Day—No School
- 25th Oct Term 4 Starts
- 26th Oct BOT Meeting Staffroom 6.30pm
- 1st Nov Team Photos
- 5th Nov Car Boot Sale 10am—1pm

## SCHOOL NEWS AND EVENTS



This is a picture of three Y1 girls from Wainoni School wrapped in some of the quilts from Green Bay School! They have been a real treasure! They were distributed to families by them requesting one via a letter telling the school about a positive thing that has come out of the quakes!

This is a picture of all the fantastic helpers at the quilting bee, with some of the quilts.



Our Mini Rugby World Cup Sports Day—the students, teachers and parents all got into the spirit of the event and supported their nominated country.



Help Us Get Free Story-books for Our School

If you're a Telecom customer, you can turn your bill into a storybook for our school. All you have to do is switch to online billing by 24 November 2011 at [telecom.co.nz/billstostorybooks](http://telecom.co.nz/billstostorybooks), and choose our school to receive a storybook. There are 10,000 storybooks to be given away, so the more of you who choose our school, the more books we'll receive!

### Reminders

- All **unsold seeds** need to be returned to the office by **Friday 7th October**.
- Changes of clothes are still required, the fields are still muddy and we don't have spare clothes at school.
- **HATS! HATS! HATS!** Term 4 is hat time. Hats must be worn when outside.
- It is nits season. Please check your child's hair over the holidays and treat if necessary. Daily checking of hair is very important to stop recurrence!!

### COMMUNITY NOTICES

#### Time to clear out your kids' clutter?

Book a stall at the Titirangi Plunket Market on Sunday 6 November (10am to 2pm), for all your new and pre-loved baby and children's goods. Stalls are just \$15 for secondhand goods or \$25 for a retail stall. Want to have a clear out but don't want a stall? Titirangi Plunket are gratefully receiving donations for the Plunket stall.

Email [titirangiplunketmarket@gmail.com](mailto:titirangiplunketmarket@gmail.com) or visit [www.facebook.com/titirangiplunketmarket](http://www.facebook.com/titirangiplunketmarket) for further details.

#### Titirangi Mums' Craft Market

All things homemade for children & some for the rest of the family.

10am to 2pm—Saturday 8 October

Kaurilands School hall

109 Atkinson Road, Titirangi

For more information:

[www.facebook.com/titirangimumsmarket](http://www.facebook.com/titirangimumsmarket)

Christmas Twilight Market –

Thursday 1 December, 6-9pm