

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Kia ora tatou.

Here we are at the end of the 2011 school year and what a superb year it has been for our school. Our students have achieved well, our teachers have given their best and our parents have played their most important part.

As you know last week the Education Review Office spent four days at our school. They looked at planning, talked to teachers, students, parents and the Board of Trustees. They met with leaders in our school and their findings were most positive. Their findings confirm that our school is indeed a high functioning school where our students have quality learning experiences each day, and have positive and supportive relationships with their teachers and each other. In their view, our developing home-school partnerships are a key feature of our school.

They were impressed by how well our students are achieving and in particular, how we reported our student achievement in relation to the national standards. The reviewers spoke of how capable our students were and how well our students knew what their learning goals were. They noted how confidently our students spoke about their learning progress and achievement.

They rated our school highly. I do however feel it is important to note, that while we temporarily pause over the holidays to celebrate our great school, make no mistake, we will not be resting on our laurels. We await the confirmed report which will be published and sent home to families in March 2012.

Yesterday we celebrated with our senior students at the annual prize giving assembly. We would like to congratulate all our Year 6 students for working so hard this year. Especially our Dux, Max Zecchini-Dowling and the winner of this year's Principal's Discretionary award, Louis Stensness. We wish all our year 6 students the very best for their next learning adventures in 2012 and beyond.

Yesterday we also thanked all our parent helpers at a special helpers lunch. Thank you again to all the parents who have worked so hard throughout this year so that we could offer the many extras that we do each week. Without your support we would be lost.

We wish all our families a merry festive season and if you are travelling for your holiday, please do so safely so that you can enjoy the time with family and friends. We look forward to seeing you all back in 2012. *Sherilee Swanepoel*

LAST DAY OF TERM 4

This will be tomorrow, Friday 16th December. Our last assembly for the year will start at 12noon. Please note – **school will finish at 12.30pm, buses will be running at this time.**
After School Care will be available on this day from 12.30 to 6.00pm.

POOL PASSES

Last day is tomorrow, Friday 16th December to get your pool pass. \$70 for the season.



2012 TERM DATES

- Term 1 Wednesday 1st February to Thursday 5th April
- Term 2 Monday 23rd April to Friday 29th June
- Term 3 Monday 16th July to Friday 28th September
- Term 4 Monday 15th October to Wednesday 19th December



LUNCHROOM NEWS

The lunchroom will be open for morning tea items only tomorrow, but the stock will be limited. Please note that **from term 1 2012**, the lunchroom will only operate on **3 days each week – Wednesday to Friday**. The first day the lunchroom will be open in 2012 will be **Wednesday 8th February**. We will be reviewing the situation each term and always appreciate any feedback.

MENTION IN DESPATCHES

Great news to hear that Gabrielle Paul and Caide Parry won awards at the Auckland West Dance Academy prize giving. Well done guys, a great achievement.

LOST PROPERTY

All lost property not collected by tomorrow, Friday 1.00pm will be donated to the Salvation Army.

OSCAR KOOL KIDS HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

On-site at school in Room 21. Our Xmas holiday programme will be running from Monday 19th December to Friday 23rd December. This week your child will enjoy making Xmas crafts, Xmas baking and swimming – Casuals welcome. We will also be open from 16th January until school commences in 2012. Please call in and meet our friendly staff for enrolment information or visit our website www.oscarkoolkidz.com

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Easy Christmas Shopping – Treat yourself to easy Xmas shopping and help our school. Simply go to www.yourfastshop.co.nz/oratiaschool Your shopping is dealt with by your chosen online store.



BEST WISHES FROM THE BOT



The Board of Trustees thanks our students, staff, parents / caregivers / whānau and community for your contributions to a successful school year. We would also like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy Christmas and New Year and look forward to seeing you all safely back next year. The first meeting of the Board will be Tuesday 21st February 2012 and your input is always welcomed.

Christine Healy, Board Chair.

Please turnover for the Board of Trustees December Newsletter