



ASHGROVE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

“GROWING TOGETHER FOR SUCCESS”

Mission Statement: “To provide a quality education in a positive environment which encourages learning for life”

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Tena Koutou katoa
Greetings parents and caregivers

We had the grand opportunity to be the first school and indeed the first group of the Rangiora community to use the new Dudley Aquatic Centre. Our school swimming sports was a special event. The pool temperature at about 30 degrees made it a very enjoyable day. The children found the environment pleasant, taking in the atmosphere and facility. Thank you to the parent helpers on the day and to the special team of parents who swam the combined Ashgrove staff parent leg of the swim relay. It was a lot of fun. Now we have been able to use the complex, view the layout and space availability, we can build on the preparation and planning for swimming sports and activities as they happen throughout the year. Thank you to Mr Seaton and team of staff for their work in preparation for the swimming sports. A lot goes on behind the scenes to ensure the programme not only runs smoothly but that we also are prepared for any emergency issue as it may arise.

The first three way conferences are now completed with 424 bookings on the internet which made the administration job that much easier for all. It is envisaged that these conferences are a beginning to what will be an open and positive home school partnership. Over recent weeks teachers have been assessing children in Maths and Literacy, this information will assist with learning activities in the classroom and practice at home. Parents are always welcome to discuss your child’s progress at other times in the year. Not just at the Parent interview times arranged formally through the school. We look forward to more opportunities for parents to be part of the school. Soon parents will receive information on Board of Trustee elections coming up and this month we have the PTA annual general meeting with membership opportunities.

With the first of the Senior camps underway and the Middle school camps going next week I wish the students, parents and teachers a happy time. The venues are excellent learning environments where children will be able to bond as a class, build on cooperative team skills and be challenged individually to do trust activities outside of their comfort.

For every camp and educational activity that happens off the school site we are required to prepare a Risk and Management procedure. The documentation is very detailed and discussed with all relevant people who are involved with the outdoor programme. These procedures are also viewed and discussed at the Board of Trustee level. Teaching staff would be more than happy to share this information with parents just as with all educational activities.

Enjoy what remains of the warmer weather before the Autumn change.
Have a good week.

Principal
Christine Houia

Maori Quote for the week

Maori whakatauki me te wiki

Hei o ano te whetu e tu nui, kotahi – a tatou tamariki

There is only one star shining – our children

IMPORTANT DATE

School will be closing early on the following date

Wednesday 24th March 2.00pm ICT Professional Development training

PLEASE NOTE: The NZEI Paid Union Meeting planned for Thursday 25th March has been **Postponed**

SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS

Ella Hansen (Rm9) and **Tahlia Hansen** (Rm14) recently won the 2010 South Island BMX Championships for their age groups in Dunedin. Well done girls!!!

CHANGE OF ENTRY TO SCHOOL ON SEDDON STREET

We welcome the new pedestrian crossing the most safe and visible area now the new position.

New roading lines will be placed in front of the school entrance. We ask that parents adhere to the road rules so our children will be safe entering the school. Parents and students are asked not to use the gate entrances for services vehicle or the new staff car park to enter or exit the school.

The main school entrance by the Dental Clinic is the safest entry way. Two other entry ways to the school are McKenzie Place and Kinley Street walkway through to the park at the back of the school.

Thank you one and all for being patient with this while this work is being completed. Changes do mean people have to think more carefully when entering the school. As gates do need to be shut at all times we appreciate your help with this matter.

NATIONAL STANDARDS

National Standards School Bus Tour – 2.30pm 11th March

The National Standards School bus tour is coming to Rangiora. The New Zealand Educational Institute is organising the bus visiting schools talking to parents and teachers about National Standards. Make the most of this opportunity to know more about National Standards.

NORTH CANTY SPORT & RECREATION TRUST GOLF FUNDRAISER

Funds go to North Canty Primary School coaching programmes. Friday 26th March. Get a team of 4 together for a game of golf. For more information and registration details contact North Canty Sport and Recreation Trust phone 311 8881.



S U C C E S S F U L G R O W I N G T O G E T H E R

ASHGROVE SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL 2010

Report on “Te Koru Trust Leadership Camp” by Brea and Taylor.

Last week the school council went on the leadership camp at Te Koru Trust. Some of the fun activities we did were going to Spencer Park and the Groynes. At Spencer Park we did group activities like races down the flying fox and races up to the top of the climbing ropes. But the best activity was soaking the teachers when they had to balance a bowl full of water on their feet. When we came back from Spencer Park we set up the tables and chairs for dinner with our families. After dinner the families were allowed to try and get to the top of the rock walls.

In the morning we went to Northcote Primary School to do a breakfast club for the kids that come to school without breakfast. Then we went to the Groynes and did a trust activity when you got blindfolded and your partner takes you around the playground and tells you to go left or right while following a rope. We had morning tea and were allowed to have a go on the rock wall. During lunch we prepared for our speeches about what we had learnt from our time at Te Koru Trust. After the speeches Mr Crawley presented the certificates to the school council members. We then said goodbye to Ross who is leaving Te Koru Trust and going to work in Blenheim.

Leadership Training - What is it all about??

The Leadership Camp theory and team based activities are based on the book “Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens” by Sean Covey. The principles of this book help teens to make the right choices when faced with difficult and challenging decisions. The leadership training teaches them skills and gives them guidance on how to improve self image, build lasting friendships, resist peer pressure, achieve their goals, get along with their parents and generally be better equipped to deal with life as a teenager.

The leadership and life skills taught at the camp are important for our student role models at Ashgrove School. The school council group have a responsibility to represent Ashgrove School in the best and most positive way they can. Part of that responsibility is being able to make the right choices and lead the way for our younger students.



I was extremely proud of the way the students conducted themselves at the camp and at the depth of understanding they had of the 7 Habits and how to best implement them into their lives. We have a very good 2010 council team and are expecting great things from them. (We even forgive them for soaking us while we were on the ground and defenceless!!).

Jo Davidson. 😊

Upcoming Events - Mufti day Friday 19th March - gold coin donation towards paint for our murals (more about this later)

An omission from the Newsletter regarding National Standards

So we can keep parents informed about National Standards we have created a link on the school website www.ashgrove.school.nz for parents to view media articles, information from Ministry of Education, the NZ Assessment Academy, NZ Council for Educational Research. We want our parents to be as well informed as possible. There is a lot being said about the National Standards politically and anecdotally. We assure you that your child's learning is important to us and we ask you to take the time to read all perspectives before making your own mind about what we do at Ashgrove School.

2010 CHILDREN'S DUDLEY DU / TRI-ATHLON - March 21st

8 & Under Duathlon / 8 & up Triathlon. First age group event starts at 10.30am.

Sponsored event with FREE swim for all competitors. Part of the Family Fun Day Celebrations to Open Dudley Pool.

A special notice and return slip / entry form will be given to Ashgrove children on Monday 8th March. Come join in the Carnival Fun! Late entries available on the day for a small charge.

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Sunday 7th March is Children's Day!! Take a photograph of your family spending time together on the day, and you could be into win family movie passes, a family game of mini golf, or swimming pool passes.

Entries are invited from Preschool, Primary School and High School students and Adults.

Entries close on Wednesday March 31st and can be emailed to karen.lindsay-lees@wmk.govt.nz or mailed to Waimakariri District Council Community Team Attention: Karen Lindsay-Lees. An exhibition of winning entries will open with a prize giving in the Waimakariri District Council Foyer on Friday 23rd April.

ASHGROVE SCHOOL CALENDAR**8th March – 7th May 2010**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8th March Rakahuri Zone Swimming Sports (Dudley Pool)	9th March Senior Camp 2	10th March Senior Camp 2 Middle LT Camp	11th March Senior Camp 2 Middle LT Camp National Standards Bus at Ashgrove	12th March Senior Camp 2 Middle LT Camp
15th March	16th March Senior Camp 3	17th March Senior Camp 3 Primary School Triathlon Champs QEII 10.30am	18th March Senior Camp 3	19th March Senior Camp 3
22nd March	23rd March Senior Camp 4	24th March Senior Camp 4 School Closes at 2.00pm	25th March Senior Camp 4 Canty School Swimming QEII 8.45am – 2.00pm	26th March Senior Camp 4 Final Night for Friday night basketball
29th March Senior Camp 5 Final night for Monday night football	20th March Senior Camp 5	31st March Senior Camp 5	1st April Senior Camp 5 Last day of Term	2nd April GOOD FRIDAY
5th April HOLIDAYS	6th April HOLIDAYS	7th April HOLIDAYS	8th April HOLIDAYS	9th April HOLIDAYS
12th April HOLIDAYS	13th April HOLIDAYS	14th April HOLIDAYS	15th April HOLIDAYS	16th April HOLIDAYS
19th April	20th April	21st April Yr 8 Girls Self defence Upper Junior Sport	22nd April	23rd April
26th April	27th April	28th April Yr 8 Girls Self defence	29th April	30th April
3rd May	4th May	5th May Yr 8 Girls Self defence	6th May	7th May