



NEWSLETTER

27 May 2010

No. 15

Dear Parents/Caregivers

School Dates

4 June - Mufti/Wacky Hair Day
4 June - LEAP
7 June - Queens Birthday - **school closed**
9 June - Canterbury Cross Country
9 June - Yr3 Parent Assembly, 11.30am
14-25 June - Yr 1-6 Swimming programme
24 June - Yr 7/8 Information Day
25 June - Disco
30 June - Yr4 Parent Assembly, 9.15am
2 July - Yr2 Parent Assy, 2.15pm
2 July - Term 2 ends
19 July - Term 3 starts
2 Sept - Numeracy Day
24 Sept - Term 3 ends
11 Oct - Term 4 starts
25 Oct - Labour Day - **school closed**
12 Nov - Show Day - **school closed**
17 Dec - Term 4 ends

Welcome

Welcome to the following children who have joined us this week:

Rm 5 - Kobe Clark, Lily Schwalger, Mila Stribling

We hope that you have already made new friends and that your time at Queenspark will be a most enjoyable one. Welcome also to all the new mums and dads. We are looking forward to getting to know you and seeing you become involved in our school.

Hagley Sports

All Yr 5-8 children who are participating in Friday sport at Hagley Park must pay \$25 for the buses. We would appreciate prompt payment.

Accounts

If you require a receipt for your donation for tax purposes please contact the office. We will be happy to print one for you. The donation for 2010 has been kept at \$80 per child, which is the minimum needed to cover the shortfall in Government funding.

The Activity Fee, Camps, Swimming & Aranui Technology fees are all compulsory payments which cover the costs of all programmes we are entrusted to deliver to your child under the New Zealand curriculum. The Ministry of Education does not cover the cost of these activities therefore we must pass on this charge to our parents.

We really need every family to contribute in order for the current learning opportunities for our children to continue.

We have a variety of payment options available. Please contact the office for more information or to discuss any aspect of your account.

Parent Occupation/Skills Database

We are looking to update our database of parent/caregiver occupations and/or skills.

One of the things we are exploring with our new website is to put up a list of local trades and services that are available in our local community and who could be of support to our school.

Please pass your details to the office, either by email, phone or in person.

Wet Weather Play

If your child is intending on playing on the field at morning tea and/or lunch we ask that you pack a spare set of uniform in his/her bag that they may change into if they get muddy & wet. This will save us having to ring parents to come and with a change of clothes. Thank you.

Piano & Keyboard Tuition

Resident tutor, Ian Swansbury, will be available to give lessons on Friday mornings, at school, from week 6 of this term (28 May). Currently Ian teaches Wednesdays and Thursdays. After school lessons are also available. Contact Ian direct on 980-4847 or

027-408-6859, if you have children who are interested in earning.

PTA News

- **Entertainment Books**

If you have pre-ordered a book they are now available to collect from the office. If you would like these sent home with your child please send them with a note to the office to collect. If you did not pre-order a book we do have a few for sale, but as stocks are limited be in quick before they sell out. Only \$65 for many incredible savings!

- **Movie Night**

Tickets have sold extremely fast and limited numbers are now only available.

Tickets can be purchased at the office or by calling Kerrie Crampton on 3838240..

Remember....Tickets are \$20 each and includes a free wine, cosmopolitan or fizzy drink. 3

Date: 20th June 2010

Time: 6.30pm

Where: Reading Cinemas The Palms

Anyone who can sell 15 tickets or more will receive a free ticket.

Have a great weekend.

Kind regards

Ross Willocks
Principal

Parenting Advice

Hot Tips From Parents Inc

Parents - A Child's First Teacher

Even if you don't know much about curriculums, national standards, or current teaching methods, you can still have a huge influence on your child's educational experience. All through the preschool years you're helping them to develop skills in number and letter recognition. Counting the number of jumps to the end of the hallway, grouping together animals whose names start with the same sound, or asking them to explain their artistic creations to relatives are just some of the ways that parents are laying the foundation for success at school. Asking them lots of questions is great for encouraging critical thinking skills, and of course, you can never read too many stories together!

10 Point Discipline Checklist by Michael Grose

I've spent much of my professional life helping adults get cooperation from less than cooperative kids. I have learned that effectiveness when managing children is largely about attention to detail. That is, attending to the minutiae of communication - **the little things that matter**.

Discipline is a process that when followed carefully leads to cooperation. Here is checklist of **10 things to do to get cooperation from even tricky or make me kids**:

Get their attention: Want some cooperation? Then you need to get children's individual attention first. Move closer to your child rather than further away, but don't move so close that you are intimidating. Lower your voice rather than raise it to get attention.

Make eye contact: Make sure your kids are looking at you before you deliver any instruction. When this happens rarely must you repeat yourself. Try it. It really works.

Choose the timing: If you or your child are upset, angry or just plain excited either get some calm or wait until the situation is calm before speaking. When you or they are over-

stimulated you can speak until you are blue in the face and they won't listen.

Put your instruction in positive terms: Tell them what you want rather than what you don't want. That is, tell them what to do, where to do it, how to do it, and when to do it rather than "Don't ..." There are two reasons for this. First, you put ideas into some kids' heads and second, many boys only process the last thing they hear. ("Don't play on the couch" becomes a great possibility for some).

Be specific: Generalities such as 'I want you to be good when we visit nana's place' or 'Don't be late home' can be a waste of breathe with some kids. Be specific about the behaviours you want. For instance, tell kids two or three ways to behave at nana's and exactly the time you want them to be home.

Check the message is received: This checking can take many forms. One simple way is to get kids to repeat what you say if you are unsure they have understood.

Move to action rather than repeat yourself: If children are less than cooperative then avoid repeating yourself as it leads to parent deafness. Set some type of consequence. Make sure it fits the 3 R's and you can't go wrong. That is, it is **Reasonable** ('You are grounded for a year' is NOT reasonable), **Respectful** (You maintain their dignity) and **Related** to what they have or haven't done (e.g. losing toys for a day if not pack away is related).

Set your antennae up for cooperative behaviour: Make sure you are on the lookout for approximations of cooperative behaviour. Sometimes with some difficult kids we tend to look for the bad rather than the good. If this is you, reset your antennae and tune into their good stuff. You'll get more of it!

Recognise cooperative behaviour: Make a fuss of their cooperative behaviours. Take a multi-sensory approach to magnify the effect - **smile** (Visual), touch or **hug** (tactile) and **say** how well they have done (verbal).

Restore the relationship: When kids mess up and you get angry, make sure you restore your relationship. We all do it on our own ways. It could be an apology, a game, a smile or shared treat. Let them know that while you may dislike the sin, you do love the sinner.

I have worked with many parents and professionals to improve their behaviour management skills and I have learned that the key to change is repetition.

Go through this checklist every time you want some cooperation from your children (i.e. before, during and after) and you will find after a month it will become routine for you.

Then you will have a great process to get some cooperation from your kids regardless of their age or temperament.

Community News

Parenting Course - The Middle Years

Monday 14 June, 7.30pm

Nothing gives parents more pleasure than seeing their children grow and mature. The Middle years are your window of opportunity to stay connected, teach skills and build memories. It is now that children learn about right and wrong, and most important of all, during these years that they are still interested in what you, as a parent, think! This course will provide you with the skills and strategies needed to be the parent you have always hoped to be. You will get insight into the challenges and opportunities that the middle years bring. And you will gain tools for handling the challenges that arise along the way.

**Contact: Lauren and James McGifford
3821298**

Avon Hockey

Mini's Team:

We are looking for a handful of wee mini hockey players (5-7 year olds) to play in two of our teams. Boys or girls welcome. Games are always at Rangi Ruru Girls school between 9am and 12 noon. These teams are 6 aside teams and the girls need a few extras so that we cover illnesses and the mixed team needs a couple of boys and a couple of girls for the same reason. Please contact Shelley on 021 332991. Practice is at Porritt Park, Avonside Drive on Thursdays at 4pm - 5pm.

Kid's Future Blacksticks

10.am - 11.00am Saturday mornings.

Linfield Sports Club, Kearneys Rd, Linwood.

Ages 4-8 years. No gear required (except sports shoes). Coached by experienced senior players. All Welcome.

Have-A-Go Hockey

If you know any little people and their parents/caregivers who would like to HAVE-A-GO at hockey send them along on Saturday mornings, hockey skills are coached on the grass at Linfield and is an excellent way to become involved. Phone Issy on 3323222 if you have any questions.

Olympia Gymnastic Sports

AEROBICS

Gymsports New Zealand Aerobics Programme delivered by Olympia Gymnastics.

We are taking enrolments for term 3.

Sockburn Primary School Hall (across the road from Olympia on Road).

Days & times (TBC) Tuesdays 4.00-5.30pm and Thursdays 4.00-5.30pm

Classes taken by qualified Aerobics

Instructors, offering access to sprung floor in main Olympia gym for specific skill development. Olympia coaches provide extensive knowledge on aerobic skills required.

Olympia will host and support competitions throughout the season. Combines Gymsport Incentive Awards programme.

Classes include:

Aero skills level 1 (beginner) 7yrs+

Aero skills level 2 (intermediate)

Aero skills level 3 (advanced)

Junior a, b, c open & elite

Individual or teams of 3 to 6 (girls, boys, mixed)

Cost (1 ½ hour class) - \$140.00/term

To enroll or for further enquiries ring Olympia Gymnastic Sports 344-6060 or email marketing@olympia.org.nz