



NEWSLETTER

29 July 2010

No. 22

Dear Parents/Caregivers

School Dates

- 29 July - Rm 3 visits CoCA Gallery
- 30 July - QPS Congress
- 2-13 Aug - Yr 7/8 swimming programme
- 4 Aug - Winter Sports Tournament
- 4 & 5 Aug - Parent Teacher Interviews -
school closes at 1.45pm both days.
- 6 Aug - QPS Congress
- 10-11 Aug - Art workshops for Yr 2-8
- 11 Aug - Winter Sports Tournament
Postponement Day
- 11 Aug - Cantamaths
- 22 Aug - PTA Black & White Photos
- 28 Aug - PTA Quiz Night
- 31 Aug - Kapa Haka group in Cultural Festival
- 2 Sept - Numeracy Day/Evening
- 3 Sept - LEAP
- 9 Sept - Choir performs at the Art Gallery
- 9 Sept - Yr 4 at Writers Festival 1pm-3pm
- 16 Sept - Yr6 at Art Gallery 9.30pm-2.00pm
- 16 Sept - Showcase
- 24 Sept - Term 3 ends
- 11 Oct - Term 4 starts
- 19 Oct - Canterbury Primary Schools Music
Festival at the Town Hall
- 25 Oct - Labour Day - **school closed**
- 12 Nov - Show Day - **school closed**
- 22 Nov - Choir performs in the Kids For Kids
concert at the Town Hall
- 17 Dec - Term 4 ends

Welcome

Welcome to the following children who have joined us recently:

Rm 3 - Yeon Jung Jang

Rm 4 - Nawaf Alnasser, Hoon Suk Bae

**Rm 6 - Harrison Avery, Shyla Hudson,
Harry Jamieson, Ashton Kelso, Brooke
Saggers, Corey Smith, Shikarna Smith**

Rm 19 - Nouf Alnasser

Rm 20 - Chae Min Bae

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.

We also welcome **Mrs Fiona Lange**, our roll growth teacher in Room 6, and look forward to the great work she will be doing with our new entrant children.

Congratulations

Grace Sharman Rm 17
Ballet exam - initial - HONOURS

Parent Teacher Interviews

Wednesday 4th & Thursday 5th August
2.00pm - 4.45pm & 5.45pm - 7.45pm

Yes, it's that time again....have a go at booking online: www.schoolinterviews.co.nz

Code: **BNDNB**

For those who cannot access the website, please return the form sent home on Tuesday so that your appointment can be booked through the office.

Please note: School closes at 1.45pm on these days.

The library will open while interviews take place next week. Pop in and have a look at the exciting things happening in this school area. Saskia will be on hand to answer any questions.

Cantamaths Competition

This year the Queenspark Cantamath teams do not have to take part in the preliminary qualifying round. Therefore, both teams are in the final. **This year the competition is being held on Wednesday 11th August at the Christchurch Town Hall.** The competition for the **Year 7 Team begins at 7pm and 8pm for the Year 8** competition.

Congratulations to all team members on your selection and best of luck on the competition night!

Year 7 Team:

Breanna Henderson (captain), Rm 4

James Kolien, Rm 4

Hamish Sanders, Rm 4

Luke Smith, Rm 4

Dominic Kaoussi (reserve), Rm 3

Year 8 Team:

Jason Brown (captain), Rm 4

Kate Robinson, Rm 4

Nicole Smith, Rm 2

Wiremu Te Ahuru, Rm 4

Emmy Scott (reserve), Rm 2

ICAS Computer Skills Competition Results

Congratulations to the pupils who chose to participate in the ICAS (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools) Computer Skills exam this year. The following pupils were awarded certificates:

Certificate of Credit (Top 25% of New Zealand Participants)

Yr 6 Ginnie Ferguson, Rm 15

Certificate of Participation (for all remaining New Zealand participants)

Yr 8 Kortnee Gardner, Rm 1

Yr 7 Alice Beesley, Rm 1

Clay Taylor, Rm 1

Yr 5 Madison Arthur, ex Rm 23

Jacob Crampton, Rm 23

Yr 4 Lucy Beesley, Rm 21

ICAS

For more than 20 years, the University of New South Wales (UNSW) has been conducting the International Competitions and Assessment for schools.

Queenspark pupils have competed against **equivalent age pupils** from schools in Australia, New Zealand, India, Singapore, Brunei, Malaysia, South Africa, Hong Kong, China, and the Pacific Region.

Every pupil who enters the ICAS receives a certificate acknowledging their results. The certificates are for **Participation**, (for general results), **Credit**, (Top 25% of Entrants in New Zealand), **Distinction**, (Top 10% of Entrants in New Zealand) and **High Distinction** (Top 1% of Entrants in New Zealand). Certificates are accompanied with an analysis of entrants score.

The exams are not based on the New Zealand curriculum. They are based on a general

assessment curriculum (developed from each national curriculum by the University of New South Wales) and therefore the exams are assessing common developmental themes in each subject area. All certificates will be presented at a Learning Team Assembly.

NB: The certificates are posted to each school and can take up to six weeks to arrive. As soon as the certificates arrive, they are presented at the next Team assembly.

The Primary Research Project

During term 2 we entered 21 of our senior students in the Primary Research Project.

This is a wide ranging project that tests the students ability to locate and use a variety of research tools to answer set questions.

The project has been offered to students for the last four years and is completed, without help, as a homework activity over a two week period. All of their answers are entered, by the students, on-line.

The results were very pleasing. Our overall average score of 76% was well above the National Score of 63%. We had two students who achieved High Distinction, scoring 39/40 correct (98%) and five who achieved Distinction. Their scores ranged from 35/40 to 37/40 (88-93%).

I would like to congratulate all of the students who participated and completed all of the questions and especially those who achieved so highly.

Overall results were:

High Distinction

Yr 8 Callum Roberts, Rm 3

Yr 7 Breanna Henderson, Rm 4

Distinction

Yr 8 Lauren Iggo, Rm 4

Yr 8 Summer Iggo, Rm 1

Yr 8 Jeremy Thomas, Rm 3

Yr 7 Luke Smith, Rm 4

Yr 7 Jordan Woodward, Rm 4

Credit

Yr 8 Caitlin Hawkin, Rm 1

Yr 8 Emmy Scott, Rm 2

Yr 8 Ashleigh Tobin, Rm 4

Yr 7 Rhianna King, Rm 1

Merit

Yr 8 Paige Elder, Rm 4

Yr 8 Kortnee Gardner, Rm 1

Yr 8 Ha Yeon Kim, Rm 4

Yr 8 Nicole Smith, Rm 2

Yr 7 Shaleise Ward, Rm 1

Yr 7 Jae Jun Woo, Rm 2

Participation

Yr 8 Emilie Gallagher, Rm 3

Yr 8 Kieran Priest, Rm 4

Yr 7 Hamish Sanders, Rm 4

Yr 7 Samantha Wiffen, Rm 4

Tax Invoice/Statements

Your child's tax invoice/statement was mailed home this week. Please feel free to contact the office if you wish to discuss your account. A reminder to you that ALL costs related to curriculum programmes such as Activity Fee, School Camps, Aranui Technology, Swimming & Gymnastics, Hagley Sports and any other extra-curricular programmes are **COMPULSORY** payments.

We are reliant on donation income from our community in order to ensure that we have the best resources available for our teachers and children.

Lost Property

We have accumulated a collection of valuables lost over the years - keys, bone carvings, watches etc. We are making a last attempt at finding their owners. All items will be available at Lost Property (outside Mr Mabin's office) until tomorrow, at which point they will be destroyed.

Canteen News - URGENT

Looking for a social outlet...? Well then the canteen needs you!

Shifts are now available for Term 3:

9.00am - 11.00am

11.30am - 1.00pm

No special skills required. Check out our page on the school website for a list of duties or come in and put your name down on the roster.

Any help you can give, big or small, will be appreciated. Each shift you do puts you into the weekly draw for a \$10 canteen credit.

Any queries phone Glenda 3837272 or Shona 3835925

Please note that due to the nature of handling hot food we are unable to have pre-school children in the canteen on the second shift.

Cultural Festival 2010 - 'Lets Make A Splash!'

Tuesday 31 August

Come and support our school performing in the Cultural Festival at the Town Hall on Tuesday 31 August. Send ticket order form and money to school by **Monday 9 August** to get discount - adults \$10, children 13 years & under \$5. Family concessions available. (If you prefer to purchase your own tickets directly from Ticketek, you will pay standard price - adults \$15, children \$8 + service/booking fees). Don't miss the discount!

Christchurch Schools' Music Festival

Tuesday 19 October

Preferential Ticket Orders

We invite you to order you Festival tickets through school by Tuesday 10 August.

Tickets cost \$12/Adult & \$5/ child.

We try to ensure your seats will be in a position to view our choir.

If you miss our on ordering through school tickets may be purchased through Ticketek from mid September at a cost of \$14/adult and \$6.00/child plus Ticketek booking fee.

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.

In School Piano/Keyboard Lessons

All parents with children who would like tuition in term 3 or to be placed on a waiting list, please contact Ian Swansbury by phone at 980-4847 or 027-408-6859 **urgently**, including any who have spoken to Ian previously. Limited places for extension day available.

PTA Upcoming Events

- **Black & White Portraits**
Sunday 22 August
Family & individual black & white portraits
Free sitting (10 minutes per family)
Free passport sized proofs
Black & White Prints from \$15.50
For an appointment contact Wendy on 383-0085
- **Quiz Night**
Saturday 28 August, 7.30pm start
Tickets \$60 per table (max 6 members per table)
Licensed cash-only bar (no BYO). Snack food available for purchases.
Quiz Night Raffle - tickets ONLY available on the night, includes a first prize of travel vouchers valued at \$800
To register your team please contact Glenda on 383-7272

Thank You

As a lot of you know I had brain surgery on the 24th May. It was a very challenging time, not only for myself, but for my family & friends as well.

I am so humbled by the generosity of so many and so very blessed to have such amazing people in my life.

Thank you all so much for all of your love & support, flowers, cards, meals and transport at times.

All of your kindness truly helped to make a difficult time in our lives a little brighter.

I am well recovered now and living life to the max!

Thank you again,

Marcelle & Daryn Stanley and family

Have a great weekend.

Kind regards

Ross Willocks
Principal

Parenting Advice

Hot Tips From Parents Inc

Co-operative Kids

Encouraging teamwork, speaking positively to one another and celebrating each other's successes are all ways to foster an atmosphere of co-operation. Of course there are occasions when our kids simply need to do as we've asked - and do it now - but if the groundwork has been done, and most of your interactions are positive, then you have earned the authority you need to see that request through. Most situations need a light-hearted and encouraging approach and we can save the serious face for when it's most needed.

Does Parenting Make You Happy?

By Michael Grose

It's a paradox that kids are supposed to add to our lives, yet on many well-being and happiness scales, singles and childless couples consistently outscore parents. Perhaps it's a case of the rewards of parenting being long-term, rather than enjoyed in the present. I think it's more about being in the present as a parent, rather than always looking ahead.

That only adds to the pressure many parents feel. When I ask parents how they are faring, I usually get one response. *'I'm busy.'*

It seems we try to fit so much in our days that there isn't a lot of fun to be had in parenting for many people. It isn't just worry about our children and endless housework that makes many of us anxious and unhappy; it's that we aren't actually having fun anymore. When you strip fun and enjoyment from any activity then anxiety always increases! Most parents want their kids to Thrive! Here's one of the keys: ***You go first!***

Here are three ways to thrive and get some enjoyment and happiness from your parenting:

1. **Build your parenting skills:** Most parents have laudable long-term goals for kids such as making a contribution to the community, and being successful in future work and relationships. We also want our kids to like us when they grow up. But we also want our kids to do as we say the

first time and to help around the house without accompanying sulks or tantrums that so often greet a reasonable request. This type of cooperation makes parenting enjoyable rather than tolerable.

Getting cooperation from kids is attainable. Firmness, good communication techniques and a determination not to be a martyr or a mule are the keys. Consider attending a parenting course, reading some books or working alongside with a trusted friend to improve your child

management skills.

2. **Build regular down-time into your life.** Most parents will agree that time away from kids helps you enjoy being with your kids. However parents are hard-wired to put kid's interests before their own. Nothing wrong with that, but we do need to maintain some interests or hobbies of our own. If you have something in your life to look forward to, it's amazing how you can put up with more mundane parenting moments!
3. **Have more fun with your kids:** One way to increase parental enjoyment is to inject a little fun and levity into family life. If that means more time playing with your kids, just for fun rather, then so be it. Spend time doing more of what you enjoy with your kids and your parenting satisfaction levels will rise. Okay, so the house may end up messier than you'd like, and the garden unkempt but you may just end up with a smile of your face..... and your kids may be happier too.

Community News

North Beach Community Childcare

Farewell Connie!

After 14 years Connie is leaving to take on new challenges. All past families are most welcome to come in on Friday 30 July from 12.30pm to share their memories.

Would love to see you, from the crew at 102.

Gifted Child?

Here's your chance to come and try out One Day School, New Zealand's longest running programme for gifted learners. There will be two age based sessions on **Friday 13 August 9-12 noon** for 9-12 years and **Monday 16 August 12.30-3pm** for 5-8 year olds. Both will be held at Kendal School, 53 Kendal Ave, Burnside, Christchurch. The cost is \$30 per child. Places are limited and bookings are essential! For more information, or to book a place for your child, ring Andrea on 021646963 or email andrea.wong@giftededucation.org.nz

SingQuest

The Christchurch City Chorus is holding a talent contest for singers 19 years and under. Contestants have the chance to win \$1000 in a singing contest to be held in September.

Entries close of August 23rd for SingQuest.

The auditions will be held at the Kaiapoi, Woolston & Papanui clubs on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th September.

singQuest is organized by the Christchurch City chorus as a fundraiser for their trip to compete in the Sweet Adeines World Championships in Houston, Texas.

Email singquest@hotmail.com for an entry form or see Mrs Stafford, Rm 11

Northlands Star Search 2010

September School Holidays.

This year Northlands Star Search 2010 has well over \$5000 worth of cash and prizes to give away. All entrants will receive a participation award and no-one will go away empty handed.

Information sheets and registration forms are available at the office. Entries close 12 September.

Toolbox Parenting Groups - Support Every Parent Needs!

Want to be a great parent, and have heaps of fun with your kids? You'd love to create an awesome family team and be armed with practical solutions for the tricky bits? Toolbox courses are relaxed, informal parenting sessions run over six weeks. The focus is on making your parenting experience a really positive one. Using DVD's, manuals and informal discussion these groups provide a lively context in which to acquire and practice new skills all us parents need. We investigate Parent Types, Building Self-Esteem, Discipline, Making Memories, Building Character and much more. The cost covers 6 weeks of resources, supper and a parenting magazine subscription.

Option 1: Early Years (children aged 0 - 5)

Option 2: Middle Years (children aged 6 - 12)

Start Date: Tuesday August 10th, 2010

Time: 7.15pm - 9.30pm

Cost: \$40.00 per person or \$60 per couple

Venues: 111 Seaview Road, New Brighton

More Info: www.parentsinc.org.nz

To Register:

- Visit the office @ 111 Seaview Rd, New Brighton.
- Phone Grace Beach Campus on 3885459
- Email: office@grace.org.nz