

# Wednesday, 8 February 2012

## Ko te Wenerei, 8 o Pepuere 2012



*Tēnā koutou katoa*

*Ngā mihi o te tau hou!*

*Happy New Year!*

*Welcome back to a brand new year. I hope you all had an enjoyable holiday with your children. I certainly loved being with mine and these times with them are always moments to treasure for me.*

*However, the holidays was tinged with sadness as we had to say good-bye to our co-worker and colleague, Warren Watson. We will be forever grateful for the work and commitment he gave our school. Our love and thoughts are with Wendy and Amanda.*

*Condolences also to the Uerata whānau for their sad loss this week.*

### **Welcome**

*We had the pleasure of welcoming seven new students and one former student to our kura: Hemara O'Carroll, Aotea Shadrock, Creation and Liashon Thom, Aotea, Tainui and Tokomaru Taylor, and Tangaroa Katipa.*

*It's wonderful having you and your families join our school whānau.*

### **Swimming**

*Swimming is on this term and children are expected to bring their swimwear to school everyday. If they do not bring a towel they cannot swim. For those with longer hair we recommend they bring a hair tie or swimming cap. Our interschool swimming sports will be held at the Te Awamutu Events Centre in March and will be organised by Kinohaku School. More details to come as we receive them.*

*Unfortunately, because of unforeseen circumstances, Allan RuBay is no longer able to help with the whaleboats. We are working on an alternative wharf based programme for our senior students.*

*This Friday, Wendy from Water Safety NZ is hoping to be working poolside with the juniors and at the wharf with the seniors.*

### **Project Energize**

*We are lucky that Jen Riley will be continuing with Project Energize at our school this year. This term she is supporting the swimming by helping teachers with programme development and bringing in people such as Wendy from Water Safety NZ.*

*We are also in the*

*process of converting our swimming pool to a saltwater pool. Hopefully this will be completed by the end of the week. Not only is this cost-effective, it is also kinder for our children.*

### **Swimming at the Wharf**

*Yesterday we had a visit from Dougal and Dean from NZ Diving Salvage who own the boat that is moored at the wharf. They asked the children to not swim by the boat until the propeller fully stops, to take care by the carrot and not to board the boat unless invited to.*

### **Writing 2012**

*This year our school has applied for In-Depth Professional Learning and Development in Writing and this will be confirmed by the Ministry of Education by next week.*

### **Finally**

*Once again our thoughts are with last year's Year 8s as they are embarking on their new journey to high school. We all feel your excitement and anxiety but always remember, you can take the person out of Kāwhia but you can't take Kāwhia out of the person!*

*Bring your sunhats!*

*Kia pai tō koutou wiki*

*Leanne Apiti*

### **Bible in Schools**

*Bible in Schools starts at 9am every non-manual Wednesday from Week 4. If you do not wish your child to participate, please contact the school or send a note to the office. School officially begins at 9.30am on the days that Bible in Schools is on.*

### **COMING EVENTS**

Fri, 10 Feb	Whaea Niki at Reading Recovery, Hamilton. Whaea Apiti in R1. Sarah from Water Safety
Tues, 14 Feb	HPV education for Yr 7-8 girls
Thu, 16 Feb	Whaea Niki at Reading Recovery. Whaea Robyn Ninnies in R1 (Art)

## **Manual**

**Bus leaves at 8.30am sharp every second Wednesday morning.**

**Please make sure you pay the manual fees as soon as possible. These fees are set by Otorohanga South Primary School and we only act as their agents for collecting the fees.**

## Lost and Found Property

We have a number of items held at the office that were found but have never been claimed. If any of the following items belong to you, please see Mrs Sherman. Any found items will be held for two weeks and then disposed of.

Children are reminded not to bring personal property to school.

## School Donations

We recommend the following school donation be made for 2012:

\$20 individual    \$35 family

Payment can be made at the office or by internet banking (make sure you write family or student name and DONATION)

Bank details are:

BNZ 02 0440 0022924 00

## Club Mud Triathlon

Wednesday, 29th February.

50m swim, 5km bike ride, 2km run.

More details to come.

*Start training now!*

## Message from

Anne Young

(Kawhia Connection)

Please email Anne again so she can re-add you to the mailing list for the Kawhia newsletters.



Trying on the very heavy diving helmets with Dougal and Dean from NZ Diving Salvage

Attending school on a regular basis is hugely important. Regular attendance is needed for children to continue learning and improving their basic reading, writing and other skills they need. It also means they are likely to experience educational success.

To this end it's really important that you as a parent place importance on regular attendance. As always, children learn by example and will take your lead. If you show a relaxed attitude to their going to school then they will too.

There's another reason why regular attendance at school is important - it's compulsory and parents/care givers can be prosecuted in extreme cases of truancy. Please read the attached Rock On procedure so that you are aware of the steps if your child's attendance becomes a concern.

## Duffy Books in Homes



*The children have just received their first selection of books for this year to choose from thanks to their sponsors: The Sproule*

*Family,*

*Greg and Karen Nicholls, The Lion Foundation*

*and the*

*Kāwhia School Board of Trustees*

## MESSAGE

**The Green Paper for Vulnerable Children: Norm Hewitt asks us to "Say something and change children's lives."**

Like me, as parents I'm sure you feel angry and sad another every time another child is deliberately hurt – or worse – by their caregiver. Each year, around 10 of our children – our own tamariki – are killed by the very people they are supposed to rely on for protection, while at least 160,000 children are living in conditions that mean they are unlikely to reach their potential. We know the factors that make these children vulnerable – the big question is how can we fix them? What needs to change to make New Zealand a great, safe place to bring up kids?

These are the types of questions the Government's Green Paper for Vulnerable Children asks. Released in July last year, this discussion document is asking what we think should be changed to ensure all children reach their full potential. We need as many New Zealanders as possible to answer – it doesn't matter what you say; you just need to *say something*. We aren't powerless to stop child abuse – this is something we can all do to help.

Please take the time to go to [www.saysomething.org.nz](http://www.saysomething.org.nz) and have your say. You can also mail in a submission, or post comments on Facebook or Twitter. After the submissions are read, a Children's Action Plan will be developed and released during 2012. As parents, you know what it's like to raise a child in New Zealand; you are the experts. So, please, do your part to become part of this critical conversation. **Submissions close on February 28.**

Nāku noa, nā, Norm Hewitt, Champion. Green Paper for Vulnerable Children