



From the Principal...

Dear All

It's good to be back. My first day was a bit of a shock to the system, but by the end of the second day it was like I was never away! Susan and Marion did a brilliant job in my absence and they were incredibly well supported by the rest of the team.

I really enjoyed the opportunity of visiting some schools both here in NZ and in London. The three key messages I got were:

The broader educational issues we are grappling with here in NZ are mirrored in both the UK and the United States, and many other countries as well.

Seatoun School stacks up incredibly well - the quality of teachers and teaching, the engagement of our children, the support of parents and the community, the quality of our buildings and grounds; we have so much to celebrate and be thankful for.

Despite all the doom and gloom NZ is a pretty neat place. The social and economic issues facing much of the world are enormous. We are perhaps too complacent here, and don't recognise that if we are not careful we will lose the many things that make NZ such a great country.

Over the last week and a bit the following new entrant children have started at Seatoun School. Welcome Liliana Mather, Georgia Lambie and Jake Davies. The big buddies are: Katie Oolders, Penny Linton and Max Crowley.

Congratulations: Special congratulations to all of the following:

Staff:

This week Laurina popped in with Eli, her beautiful new baby son. A very proud Marion even allowed other staff members to have a quick cuddle of her grandson!

It came as no surprise that Meg Broadhurst was offered a permanent teaching position for next year in the first school that she applied for. Meg will be teaching at Awakeri School in Whakatane.

Students:

We have received the results from 3 Australasian Assessment Competitions. Congratulations to all children that took part. In total students were awarded 7 High Distinction, 14 Distinction, 48 Credit and 74 Participation Certificates.

Spelling: 43 Seatoun students participated and were awarded 1 High Distinction, 4 Distinction, 12 Credit and 26 participation Certificates. Sabrina Kao (Y8) was awarded High Distinction and Gus Coates, Ella Horrell (Y4), Hannah Gadsby and Louis Davis (Y5) were awarded Distinction.

English: 53 Seatoun students participated and were awarded 1 High Distinction, 7 Distinction, 20 Credit and 25 participation Certificates. Risa Takahashi (Y8) was awarded High Distinction and Sabrina Kao, Shenna Dunn, Millie Newton-Rencen (Y8), Saama Dias (Y6), Baxter Robb, Fiona Roper-Caldbeck (Y5) and Morgan O'Hara (Y4) were awarded Distinction.

Mathematics: 47 Seatoun students participated and were awarded 5 High Distinction, 3 Distinction, 16 Credit and 23 participation Certificates. Sabrina Kao, Risa Takahashi, Marran Young (Y8), Matt Dench and Baxter Robb (Y5) were awarded High Distinction, and Sam Rowan, Louis Davis (Y5) and Stefan Jenkins (Y4) were awarded Distinction.

Paid Union Meeting: Once again apologies for any inconvenience this meeting has caused and many thanks for making the necessary arrangements to ensure school supervision of children was kept to a minimum.

Planning for 2011: Many thanks to those parents that have informed us that they will have children either starting with us, or leaving Seatoun to attend another school next year. We received considerably more out-of-zone applications than we have places and our roll, both at each class level and across the school, is looking very strong. Teachers are now assuming that all information is up-to-date and will proceed to put together 2011 class lists on that basis.

Regards



From the Board...

The Board is attending the School's yearly strategic planning day on Saturday, along with professional staff and members of the PTA. The School is in the last year of its current three-yearly planning cycle and so the planning day will be as much about reviewing the past as it is planning the future. The Board has a number of focuses for 2011: along with the Board's usual business, we will be involved in the ERO's review of the school and conducting the parent survey. These events allow us to gauge how well Seatoun School is meeting the Ministry of Education's criteria and its community's expectations. We will keep you advised on progress in relation to both of these important matters.

Regards

Richard, Sarah, Mark, Suzie, Justine and Jason.

Library News

Well this is my first entry into Steeple Rock! I'm Gerard the new school librarian and I am doing my best to try and fill Laurina's shoes! Judging from what I have seen, and know of her I have my work cut out! I've got a few things to bring to your attention



- First off, feel free to pop in and say Hi. And if you're dropping your kids off in the morning you're most welcome to pop in and hang out in the library, read the DomPost or just relax in the cave. I won't bite – well not hard anyway!

I'm looking for some volunteers to help out with covering books, mending and resources. I don't mind when, so if you think you might have half an hour or more to spare, pop in before school sometime and I'll show you the ropes.

Overdue Library books

There are currently 183 books that are overdue. Of these 47 are more than two months overdue. If we figure an average replacement cost of around \$20 that means we have around \$3700 worth of books that are not where they should be. The library simply cannot afford this.

If you know that you have overdue books please return them. If they are returned by the 5th November there will be no charge. Books not returned after that date will have a minimum donation of \$10 levied to allow us to replace the lost item.

This week classroom teachers will be given lists of overdue books. They will remind students to return their books. Letters will go home this week for library books that are over two months overdue. If you have lost the book please pay at the library.

Library purchases

Like Laurina, I'm a big fan of Graphic Novels. The kids love them because they have pictures that go with the words. They might think that they are actually comics – but we know better don't we! Yes, Graphic Novels typically have a lot more words than comics and more complex vocabulary. So they are drawn in by the shiny pictures, but are challenged by the sometimes quite complex language.

Graphic novels tend to be marketed mainly at 8 year olds and above, so consequently there isn't a lot around for our younger readers. You do need to be wary when selecting graphic novels, as some of them are ultra-violent or may have mature themes that are not suitable for our readers. I am always conservative on this issue, and don't stock books that are violent just for the sake of it.

So here are some new graphic novels that will be hitting the shelves this term.

James Patterson's Maximum Ride I & II. It's Manga style, about a group of special children who have wings and can fly. They are being hunted down by mad scientists. These will be Star books.

Medikidz. This is a new series that exploits the graphic novel presentation to explore medical themes that are relevant to kids. We have four titles so far dealing with Leukemia, Food allergies; ADHD, and childhood overweight.

Classics

Classics are often adapted to graphic novel format. It means that when your children study the classics later on that they will already be familiar with the text, the characters and the plot. New to the library are The last of the Mohicans, Gulliver's Travels, Oliver Twist, and Homer's Odyssey.

Library news continued...

We have also got T Minus which presents the story of the race to the moon; Rapunzel's Revenge & Calamity Jack are large format graphic novels – each one would be three times as thick as Tintin or Asterix. These should be hugely popular – Librarians are raving about these two.



Novel adaptations

Brian Jacques' Redwall has been adapted and is a great way in to access this terrific series.

Skeleton Key by Anthony Horowitz is also out, and just like Point Blanc, will never sit on the shelf.

The Top 40

I thought it would be interesting to have a Top 40 each term to let you all know what books have been the most popular. We'll have a Junior, a Senior Top 40, and a Star Top 40 (just for our year 7/8s because they're so special). The Junior top 40 will combine the yellow and green dot collections as well as the picture books. Senior Top 40 will be everything else except the Star books. The Star Top 40 will be – you guessed it- the Star books.

I'll post these in the library so you can check out what's hot!

I'm really enjoying my new job and getting to know everyone a little better. If you need any help with books in any way, just pop in and have a wee chat, I'll be happy to help.

Thanks,

Gerard

From the PTA...

It is great to see the new PTA funded plasma screen in the library being well utilised for a variety of learning programmes across the school. We are currently looking at options for funding further equipment in line with the school ICT strategy and will keep you informed about options and decisions.

Thank you for your orders for art calendars, diaries and cards. These are always a huge hit with families, friends and relatives and a good fundraiser for the school.

Thank you to Cindy, Isobel and helpers for arranging a fabulous sushi lunch for the children.

We have held our last formal meeting for the year. As always, we welcome new members to the PTA. It doesn't matter how little or how much time you have to give.

REMINDER!! REMINDER!! REMINDER!!

Starting School at 5

Parent Information Evening

Thursday 28 October

7pm, School Library

Parents that have students, who have recently or about to, start school are more than welcome to attend a presentation to let you know about our learning programmes and general information about the school.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

Susan Kliffen, Rebecca Power and Louise Noble.



Community Notices (printed as space permits)

St Anthony's School Bazaar

Following in the success of the 'Clothing Boutique' at the Seatoun School Fair, St Anthony's School would like to do something similar at their upcoming Bazaar in February 2011. Can you help us by donating any good quality ladies clothing and accessories. We are more than willing to collect anything from you. You can call Mary Daley on 0274944707 or Tereska on 0275286379 or Ana on 802 5574. Thank you so much for your support.

Worser Bay Life Saving Club Open Day

Sunday 31st October at 2pm (Registration 2-3pm)
Beach events start at 3pm- There will be rides on the inflatable rescue boat, flags, boards and other beach activities.

Child Care

Mature Lady available for babysitting day or night. Own car happy to pick up from school. Good local references.
Call Tina on 3889193 or 0273718478

Seatoun School Sun Hats

Due to increase in supplier costs + GST

the new Sun Hat Prices
will be **\$13.00**

as from 27 October 2010.

Thanks - Admin



Term 4, 11 October—17 December 2010

3	28	Thu	Starting School at 5, Parent Information Evening NZEI Paid Union Meeting for Teachers Steeple Rock
	30	Sat	Planning Day
4	2-4 Nov	T,W,Th	Eastern Zone Trials
	5	Fri	Hui
5	10	Wed	Eastern Zone Athletics
	11	Thur	Steeple Rock
6	17	Wed	Eastern Zone Athletics pp
	18	Thur	Y3-8 School Athletics Day BOT Meeting
	19	Fri	Hui
7	22	Mon	Y3-8 School Athletics Day pp
	24	Wed	Wellington Zone Athletics
	25	Thur	Enviro Group Day Steeple Rock
8	29 Nov - 3 Dec	Fri	Y5/6 EOTC Week Hui
	1 Dec	Wed	Wellington Zone Athletics pp
9	6 - 10		Y7/8 EOTC Week
	8	Wed	Y1 and 2 Athletics Day
	9	Thur	Steeple Rock
	10	Fri	Y1 and 2 Athletics Day pp Class Lists Home
10	13	Mon	Reports Home
	14	Tues	Parent Helper Morning Tea
	15	Wed	Y8 Formal
	16 Dec	Thur	Prizegiving
	17	Fri	Farewell Hui. Last Day of Term 4, 1pm finish.

2011 Term Dates

Term 1 04 February - 15 April			
Wk1	03	Thu	Meet the Teacher
	04	Fri	School starts. House activities in the afternoon
Term 2. 02 May to 15 July			
Term 3. 01 August to 07 October			
Term 4. 25 October to 20 December			

How to Contact Us

Answerphone	388.7600	
School Absences	388 7600	Extn 1
Bulletin Board	388 7600	Extn 2
Principal		
Peter Pointon	388 7600	peter.pointon@seatoun.school.nz
P.T.A.		
Miriam Heycoop	H. 380 8005	heycoop@xtra.co.nz
Board of Trustees		
Richard Abbott	H. 972 5409	richard.abbott@movac.co.nz
Sarah Bacon	H. 388 4487	sarah.bacon@izardweston.co.nz
Mark Bates	H 380 9980	markandnish@xtra.co.nz
Suzie Bognar	H. 388 5953	bognargreen@xtra.co.nz
Justine Bonner	H. 380 8565	justinebonner@msn.com
Jason Cowan	W 388 7600	jason.cowan@seatoun.school.nz

Newsletter

Newsletter contributions and feedback to Anne McLellan at admin@seatoun.school.nz.

Contributions for next issue by **Monday 8th November, 2pm.**