



## From the Principal...

Dear All

Last week we welcomed Elizabeth Servos to our school. Elizabeth's big buddy is Abigail Eiloart. As far as we know Elizabeth will be the last new enrolment for the term. At this stage we are expecting around ten new children to join us in Term Two.

### Congratulations:

- To all the children who played so well and had so much success at the recent Total Touch and Ripa rugby competitions.

### 20 March Hui Principal Awards

R1	Lucy Robertson - <i>being well-organised, pro-active and focused</i>
2	Rose Burge - <i>displaying a responsible attitude and encouraging others to make the right decisions</i>
3	Adam Parsons - <i>positive attitude and risk-taking</i> Vivien Norris - <i>focused work &amp; succinct, well-sequenced writing</i>
4	Lucas Redding - <i>a fantastic first seven weeks at school</i> Emma Burnham - <i>being a reading 'superstar'</i>
5	Harvey Linton - <i>being a positive and responsible class member</i>
6	Jackson Rakena - <i>big effort to present written work neatly</i>
7	Ben Ofsocki - <i>positive attitude and enthusiasm for learning</i>
8	Madison Hanlon - <i>taking responsibility for learning materials and resources</i>
14	Hamish Norrie - <i>taking greater responsibility for his learning</i>
15	Riley Duncan - <i>much improved listening and work ethic</i>
16	Mercedes Barnard - <i>working harder and faster and still smiling!</i>

**Note:** Y3&4 classes were at the Arts Festival last Friday and no awards for R13 as Mr Kong has been on paternity leave. Catch-up awards will be presented at the next hui.

**School Hui:** At school hui tomorrow the Y3&4 team will be leading proceedings. We will also have

a special treat whereby members of the Seatoun Soccer Club will be showing off the Chatham Cup; all part of their Easter Centenary celebrations.

As usual we will hold a brief farewell hui next Thursday to mark the last day of term.

**School Cross Country:** Training is now in full swing; I am even noticing some keen runners putting in additional work early in the morning before school starts. The general fitness levels of our children are very good, as is their attitude to fitness. The annual Inter-House Cross Country is always keenly contested, as teams battle it out for the Humphries Cup. There is also a really good balance between competition and participation to achieve personal bests. It's always great to have parents along supporting all the children.

**Eastern Zone Swimming:** Best wishes to the whole team that will be competing at next week's swimming meet.

**Literacy Quiz:** Laurina has been working the two teams hard as they prepare for this year's quiz. Over the past few years we have come tantalising close, but just missed out on making the Nationals. Ann Vandendungen has been working over-time on behalf of the Wellington Literacy Association to organise the event.

**Personnel:** Special congratulations to Aimee Elliott, and her husband Mason, on the news that they are about to become parents - the drinking water is fertile here at Seatoun School! All things going well, Aimee will be taking maternity leave early in the third term. Arrangements are well underway for a replacement teacher.

**Sunhats:** Teachers will be getting all children to bring their sunhats home on the last day of term. Please give them a wash and store them away safely until the fourth term.

**Teacher Only Day - Revised NZ Curriculum.** Last year all schools were allocated one teacher development day to go towards ensuring they are ready to implement the revised curriculum in February 2010. This day was available to use in either 2008 or 2009. We are confident that what we have worked to develop here is already very consistent with the revised document. However, we will be taking a day in the third term to re-examine our thinking and identify what, if any, areas we need to refine further.

Please note that the school will be closed for instruction on **Monday 10 August**.

**Steeple Rock - change of editor:**

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Deirdre for the huge amount of time she has put in over the last few years as editor of Steeple Rock. Two weeks comes around pretty quickly and trying to get all contributions in on time is not always easy! Deirdre has done an awesome job and will be greatly missed.

Obviously everyone can see that this can be a demanding task and we have received no volunteers to take over! This leaves us with no option but for the school to take over the full publication process i.e. editing and format as well as the 'diary', publication and distribution. Despite our administration team already being pushed to the limit, they are willing to undertake yet another additional task. To have any chance of successfully undertaking all aspects of this publication please note:

**COPY DEADLINE**

ALL copy must be emailed to [admin@seatoun.school.nz](mailto:admin@seatoun.school.nz) by 2.00pm on the Tuesday prior to publication date. There will be NO EXCEPTIONS.

I think it has been a great term. The attitude and commitment of the teachers, the attitude and behaviour of the children and the support we receive from you, certainly makes for a very special and enjoyable learning environment.

Best wishes for a most relaxing break.  
Take care

*Pete Rivlin*

## From the Board...

Hello All

Around March of each year schools are audited for the previous year. In addition to a comprehensive financial audit, schools are required to prepare an Analysis of Variance Report. This report must show the progress the school made against the student achievement targets set for that year.

At the last meeting Pete presented the draft 2008 Analysis of Variance Report, which forms part of the Annual Report which will be presented at the Board's Annual Meeting on May 14.

In 2008, the school set specific achievement targets in Literacy (use of basic punctuation, spelling and reading), Mathematics (basic facts and against national numeracy norms) and a school values/culture target around students taking greater personal responsibility. For some of the targets comparative data was collected in Terms One and Four to show progress made over the year.

Progress and Achievement Test (PAT) data was also provided, as this is nationally normed data. It allows us to compare how we are going against national expectations in reading, listening and mathematics.

The PAT results once again confirmed that, in broad terms, our students fall to the right of the normal distribution curve i.e. very few of our students are scoring in the lowest three bands, whilst significantly more than the norm are achieving in the top three bands. In terms of gender and ethnicity, the data also showed that our Maori students are performing well, as are our boys.

One of our key targets is to provide children with a sound foundation in literacy in the first four years of school. The targets set are high and we exceeded them. This result justifies the high level of resources we allocate to this area e.g. reading recovery, teacher-aide support, our full-time librarian, staff development and purchasing lots of good reading books.

Some of the mathematics targets were set against national results to schools similar to ours (decile 8-10). All but one result achieved, (which was just below) was above the national norm.

Teachers have analysed the data and set 2009 targets as a result. These targets were also shared at the meeting. They are published in our Charter, a copy of which goes to the Ministry of Education. The Charter will also be available at the school office to read on site.

It is with great pleasure that the BOT can report back to the community some fantastic results where Seatoun School is achieving above other school of similar decile ratings and against national norms.

Lots of hard work goes in to producing these great results and as a Board we would like to thank the staff for their ongoing commitment to improving student outcomes.

The teachers put some of the success down to the targeted use of support programmes. Susan Kliffen and Marion Hair presented to the Board a report on how support programmes are being structured in 2009. The first part of this report contains the number of students in different year groups who have been identified as needing support for academic, physical, language, medical, and attendance issues. The second part of the report covers what programmes have been set up to assist these students and staffing needed to implement the programmes.

In addition to the 2009 achievement targets, Pete presented the final version of the completed 2009 Charter to the Board meeting. This document covers the Seatoun School shared values and core belief about teaching and learning.

An important part of our Charter is the updated Strategic Plan for the period 2009-2011. As a result of Planning Day last year, the Strategic Plan now has a new goal of 'Sustainability' added to it. The goal states- "To respect our environment & work towards a sustainable school community for current and future generations."

This links with Seatoun School being an 'Enviroschool'. Some of the 'Enviro' students, Andrea Whitehead and Tina Schmid presented the Green Footprint Report. This highlighted the work that has been implemented by the group and the positive attitude that is around the school relating to environmental issues. The report sets out the way forward, including a garden to be planted and teaching units to be taught in term 3.

Suzie updated us on the Navigator Room extension, where the project is running to time and budget.

The BOT would like to wish you all a happy and safe Easter holiday break.

Cheers

Letizea, Sandy, Simon, Suzie, Catherine, Pete, Jason and Helen

## From the PTA...

Thanks to everyone who turned out for the AGM last month. It was good to see some new faces. The PTA is a friendly group of parents who just do whatever they can do in the time they have available. It's a great way of meeting people and contributing to the school community. New members are always welcome!

Thanks to all the parents who supported the pizza lunch last week. The children loved it and we are sure the parents enjoyed having the day off from school lunch making.

**Wrap n Mats** will be on sale outside the school **Friday 3 April** from 8.30am and again after school from 2.50pm. The mats are a reusable, environmentally friendly, sandwich wrapper. Parents may have seen them in use around the school. Please see the information fliers posted around the school or [www.wrap-n-mat.com](http://www.wrap-n-mat.com) for more information about the mats. We are selling them for \$10 a mat. Please also make sure you name these clearly so we don't end up with lots of them in the lost property! Thank you!

Term 1 is almost over. Next term the children can look forward to the disco and we are also working on a fun evening for adults. More details to follow.

Wishing you all a safe, relaxing and happy holiday.

### COMMUNITY NOTICES

(printed as space permits)

#### Holiday Programme - Painting in French

Come and enjoy an afternoon painting and learning a few words of French.

5-7 years old 14/04 and 21/04 - 2pm to 4 pm \$25

8-12 years old 16/04 and 22/04 - 2 pm to 4 pm \$25

Afternoon tea provided. Courses given by Nathalie Evans

To book please call the Alliance Francaise 04.472.12.72

[alliance@paradise.nnet.nz](mailto:alliance@paradise.nnet.nz)

Have you ever wondered how computer games and 3D movies like Shrek are made? Learn the latest in 3D Animation, Games Design and Movie Making on a Bubble Dome School Holiday workshops this Easter.

Run at Samuel Marsden Collegiate, 21-23 April, with Ultra Computers running in the 1st week, 14-17 April.

T: 0800 GET BUBBLE or E: [info@bubbledome.co.nz](mailto:info@bubbledome.co.nz) or visit

[www.bubbledome.co.nz](http://www.bubbledome.co.nz)



## Celebrating our environmental achievements 2008-2009

Our school has been working hard to be an environmentally friendly school. We have been focussing on

- REDUCE,
- REUSE, and
- RECYCLE.

Below is a brief look at what we have been doing:

### 2008

- School-wide paper recycling
- Year 7 children built penguin nesting boxes
- Environmental education in the classes based on caring for our beaches
- Saving power by turning off lights and computers etc
- P.T.A fundraising selling eco lunch wraps to reduce our lunch waste

### 2009

- Building a veggie garden and compost bin
- School-wide paper recycling
- Environmental education in the classes based on caring for our garden
- Saving power by turning off lights and computers etc
- P.T.A fundraising selling eco lunch wraps to reduce our lunch waste

Make sure you come and see our Enviromap, showing our projects. It will be up in the hallway next to the library early in Term 2.

This year our big project is building a vegetable garden. In week two of Term 2 we hope to construct our vegetable garden. We would love some parent help to assist the Envirokids and staff construct the garden.

If you are able to help please contact Andréa Whitehead (Room 5) or Tina Schmid (Room 9).

[andrew@seatoun.school.nz](mailto:andrew@seatoun.school.nz)

[tinas@seatoun.school.nz](mailto:tinas@seatoun.school.nz)

Thanks  
The Envirogroup





## Netball Update



Netball at Seatoun is looking stronger than ever, with ten netball teams from Year Four to Eight, and the Fun Ferns 'passing off' in Term Two for the Year Threes.

Thank you to all parents and friends of the school, who have volunteered their time to coach, manage and umpire a team this year. We will be calling on more parents to assist with our duties throughout the year, so please show your support.

**Important netball dates to put into your diary are:**

<i>What</i>	<i>When</i>	<i>Where</i>
Umpiring Refresher Course and Basic Introduction	Sunday 3 May <b>Remember:</b> Whistle, Food Drink, Sports shoes	Please view: <a href="http://www.mknetball.co.nz">www.mknetball.co.nz</a> for more details.
Coaching Course - Beginners	Monday 4 May 7pm	Seatoun School Hall
Saturday Netball Begins	Saturday 9 May	Evans Bay Intermediate
Coaching Course - Beginners	Tuesday 12 May	Seatoun School Hall
Coaching Course - Beginner/ Experienced	Tuesday 19 May	Seatoun School Hall
Eastern Zone Netball (Years 4-8)	Wednesday 20 May (pp date 27 May)	Hataitai Netball Courts
Coaching Course - Beginner/ Experienced	Tuesday 26 May	Seatoun School Hall
Queen's Birthday	Saturday 30 May	NO GAMES

Please view the Motu Kairangi website for more details, and the draw: [www.mknetball.co.nz](http://www.mknetball.co.nz)  
The draw will also be put up each week, outside Room 4, on the Netball Noticeboard.

Netball skirts have now been issued. Some more skirts have been ordered and we are awaiting their arrival.

Please ensure your child has appropriate footwear for netball.

Any netballers interested in attending a netball holiday programme are to complete a registration form available from the netball notice board, outside Room Four.

If you have any questions or concerns about netball, please feel free to email me:  
[hannah@seatoun.school.nz](mailto:hannah@seatoun.school.nz)

Term 1 2009 02 February – 9 April			
Wk	Date	Day	
9	3	Fri	Hui Y3/4
10	7	Tue	School X Country
	8	Wed	E Zone Swimming Literacy Quiz
	9	Thu	Hui X Country pp date Last day of Term

### Term 2: 27 April - 3 July

1	Apr 27	Mon	Welcome Back Hui
	30	Thur	Steeple Rock
3	May 11	Mon	Wgtn Zone Swimming
	14	Thur	BOT Annual Meeting - parents welcome Steeple Rock
	15	Fri	Hui
4	20	Wed	EZ Netball
	21	Thur	Y7 Boostrix Immunisation & Gardasil Immunisation for Y8 Girls
5	27	Wed	EZ Netball pp date
	28	Thur	Steeple Rock House Captains Charity Fundraiser—cause TBC
	29	Fri	Hui
6	Jun 1	Mon	Queens Birthday
7	9	Tue	EZ X Country
	11	Thur	Steeple Rock
	12	Fri	Hui EZ X Country pp date
8	16	Tue	Wgtn Zone X Country
9	23	Tues	School Closed - Mid Year Conferences
	25	Thur	Steeple Rock
	26	Fri	Hui
10	Jul 3	Fri	Last Day of Term

Newsletter contributions and feedback to the school office  
or [admin@seatoun.school.nz](mailto:admin@seatoun.school.nz) please

Contributions for next issue by 2pm Tuesday 28th April .

### Term 3: 20 July – 25 September

1	Jul 20	Mon	Welcome Back Hui
2	31	Thu	BOT Meeting
3	Aug 3	Mon	Gardasil for Y8 girls.
3	5	Wed	EZ Soccer
	7	Fri	Hui
4	10	Mon	School Closed - Teacher Only Day
	12	Wed	EZ Soccer pp date
6	26	Wed	EZ Hockey
7	Sep 4	Fri	Hui
10	24	Thu	Talent Quest
	25	Fri	Last day of term

### Term 4: 12 October - 18 December

1	Oct 12	Mon	Welcome Back Hui
	17	Sat	Planning Day
2	20	Tue	School Photos
3	26	Mon	Labour Day
	27-30	Tu-Fri	EZ Athletics Trials
	28	Wed	EZ Miniball
5	Nov 11	Wed	EZ Athletics
6	17	Tue	School Athletics
	19	Thur	School Athletics pp date
7	23	Mon	Gardasil for Y8 girls.
	25	Wed	Wgtn Zone Athletics
9	Dec 9	Wed	Junior Athletics
	11	Fri	Junior Athletics pp
10	14	Mon	Reports Home
	16	Wed	Y8 Formal
	17	Thu	Prizegiving 4.30pm.
10	18	Fri	Last Day of Term

### How to contact us

#### Answerphone

School absences 388 7600 extn 1  
Bulletin Board 388 7600 extn 2

#### Principal

Pete Pinton 388 7600 [principal@seatoun.school.nz](mailto:principal@seatoun.school.nz)  
P.T.A.

Miriam Heycoop 380 8005 [heycoop@xtra.co.nz](mailto:heycoop@xtra.co.nz)

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*Seatoun School values open, effective and regular communication*