

From the Principal...

Dear All

Our thoughts and sympathy go out to Leah Lewis and her daughter Milo Meldrum after their home was destroyed by fire on Sunday afternoon. The speed and intensity of the fire was incredible, thankfully no one was injured.

Welcome: Eva Juriss had her first day at school last Tuesday. Eva's big buddy is Marcus Jackson.

Congratulations:

- And thanks to the PTA for organising another successful disco and the 'Last Friday of the Month Lunch'.
- The Y7&8 Science Fair exhibits look amazing. At the time of writing I had little chance to actually read all the information, but if first impressions are anything to go by then the standard of research looks excellent. Well done everyone.

Mid-year progress conferences: By now you should have received two copies of your Conference Agenda. Please complete both and **return one immediately**. At this stage around 60% of children have a conference booking. Our expectation that all children have a conference has historically been achieved, and it is important that this is upheld. Please book a conference by logging onto www.schoolinterviews.co.nz. Go to 'Parents', enter the school code **TQTEM** and follow the instructions. You will receive an email confirming your bookings.

Buildings: The building project is really beginning to take shape. I am thrilled with how things are looking. Dividing the upstairs Falkirk Room into 3 smaller group teaching spaces looks like it will work very well. Mark Bates has been doing a great job as architect and project manager, ensuring everything is tracking along smoothly and with minimal disruption to teaching and the children.

Influenza A (Swine Flu): With the rapid increase of positive cases in Australia it would seem highly likely that NZ will experience a similar fate. The media is doing a pretty good job of keeping everyone informed of the situation. We can only reiterate the importance of careful personal hygiene, especially hand washing and covering up when sneezing/coughing, and not sending children to school if they are unwell or display any of the symptoms. You will be informed if there is any significant change to the current situation.

National Standards: In accordance with the new government's election manifesto, the Ministry of Education has quickly developed draft National Standards for reading, writing and mathematics for primary and intermediate aged students. Currently there is consultation with principals, teachers and parents to shape the standards into a final form to be used in all schools from 2010. From what I have seen to date, there is very little that we at Seatoun School might need to change to meet the proposed requirements. The Government has looked closely at what is happening overseas and is trying to ensure that same mistakes are not repeated here. For example, there is no intention to introduce a national test per se, or to collect data in such a way as to formulate league tables. Rather schools will continue to use the range of quality assessment tools available to them. Teachers, on balance, will be required to make an informed professional decision on where individual students sit in relation to the standard expected. For further info go to www.minedu.govt.nz/nationalstandards.

Eastern Zone Netball Refund: A refund for all students who paid their \$4.50, will be available from the school office at the beginning of next week.

LOOKING FORWARD

Day/Date	Event	Parent Action
Fri 12 June	Hui	Year 1&2 leading
Tue 16	Deadline - copy of agenda returned	Please ensure one copy of your child's agenda is returned to the class teacher
Tue 23	Conference Day	School is closed except for conferences
Wed 24	Conferences	After school
Thu 25	Conferences	After school Y7&8 only
Fri 26	Hui	Year 5&6 leading
Fri 03 July	Last Day of Term	School closes at the usual time of 2.55pm
Mon 10 August, Week 4, Term3	Teacher In-Service Day. School Closed	To assist teachers to implement the revised National Curriculum, last year all schools were allocated one in-service day to be taken in either 2008 or 2009. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause some families.

Take care



From the Board...

First of all a BIG thank you to the PTA for organising another fantastic disco night. Great fun was had by the children, not only at the disco, but with all that important pre-disco preparation! A special thank you also to those teachers who were able to stay, then went home late to mark home study and plan lessons for the next day.

At the last Board Meeting reports were presented from 3 Curriculum areas. Some key points noted in these reports are detailed below.

a) Physical Education

Children continue to progress in all areas of PE. Most children are self-motivated to challenge themselves and others. Those children that are not, are being identified and new strategies are being put into place. They are setting themselves goals across the school and achieving higher standards in school sports such as cross country. The use and distribution of resources is better organized. Information gathered from previous years continues to be used to run more targeted programmes that meet individual needs, as well as looking to make improvements to this process. There is more input from students when planning new units and having the sports booklet on line has improved communication between the school and the community.

b) Food Technology

All students have regular sessions in the Food Tech room, continuing to have pleasure and pride in the facility, as well as increased responsibility for looking after it. The planned, sequential skills-based approach for each year group is beginning to be evident in the increased skill level of students in subsequent year groups. The facilities have been particularly successful with students on support programmes, providing the opportunity to develop basic reading, maths and practical life skills.

c) Integrated Studies

Overall, teachers value teaching integrated inquiries via the emergent/iCycle and our students greatly enjoy learning about the world around them. Delivery of units range from guided to semi-guided depending on student needs. Across the school the aim is to increase the student-selected/independent inquiry component. Library Information Skills, together with thinking and organiser frameworks, are being used in more independent and versatile ways to support and extend student learning and use of information.

Our next Board Meeting is Thursday, 18th June which will include scheduled curriculum reports on Term 1 baseline data, English, Maths and Effective Pedagogy.

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

From the PTA...

The annual disco was a huge success - the children boogied non-stop and a good time was had by all, from year 1 to year 8. Big thanks to organisers Anji and Iain and their helpers on the night, who also commented on how polite the children were.

The first pie and cookie lunch was a great success, judging by the happy and satisfied faces around the school. Thanks to Marlies, Isobel, their helpers and the year 8 mathematicians who helped to collate the orders. The next lunch is scheduled for Friday 26 June - look out for the order form.

Planning is progressing for the Beat the Recession Bash on Saturday 1 August. We have the band Nudge, of Toast Martinborough fame, confirmed for the night, so book your babysitters now. Tickets will be on sale during the last week of this term. Look out for further details.

Everybody is welcome to join the PTA. Members do as little or as much as time allows. If you're interested, email Miriam Heycoop, heycoop@xtra.co.nz for details of the next meeting.

A CELEBRATION OF VISUAL ART

A huge thank you to those parents who have already volunteered to help out in our upcoming Visual Arts focus. We are still looking for any interested artists or parents who would be able to give two days of their time, on the 15th and 16th of September, to work closely with a group of children to create a piece of art. Ideas could range from: knitting, painting, fabrics, water colour, photography, clay, driftwood art, mosaics.

If you are interested in helping please contact Ansa Kennedy (Rm 14) or Rebecca Power, or email Ansa directly at ansa@seatoun.school.nz.

The Seatoun School Arts Team



THE STARTROOPERS STILL NEED YOUR NEW WORLD RECEIPTS!!

Thanks so much for the docketts that have been dropped at school so far! We have now put a box at the office to make it easier to drop them off. So far we have collected over **300 docketts** - both from donations and also a lot of shameless rubbish bin raiding at Miramar New World! We actually stand a reasonable chance of **winning** and **GETTING SPONSORED LIKE THE SILVER FERNS!!!** The competition closes on Sunday 14th June, so any docketts collected up to that day will be gratefully received. We will collect the last of the docketts on Monday 17th June.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!



Lost...

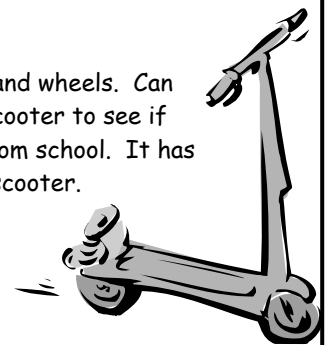
HAVE YOU SEEN POPPY?

He's the beautiful friendly chocolate Birman that's well known for meeting and greeting people outside the Seatoun Surgery. If you have *any* news about this much loved cat, please call Marlies on 3888546 or 0274 595962.



MISSING SCOOTER

X Scooter with green handles and wheels. Can you please check your child's scooter to see if they've taken the wrong one from school. It has 'Sam Rowan' on the bottom of scooter. Please return to Sam in Rm 10. Thanks.



LOST ITEMS

The Hallett family have lost the following items at school:

- Ice breaker - grey & black with 'FH' written inside
- Ice breaker - two toned pink with 'LH' written inside
- Kathmandu red mac - with 'Hallett' written inside
- Brand new dark purple fleece, perhaps not labelled
- Blue Tupperware compartmentalised lunch box, rectangular shape with cracked lid.

Please could you check your wardrobes and see if you have acquired them by mistake. If so, please contact Jessica on 021 02937378.

Term 2: 17 April - 3 July			
7	11	Thu	Steeple Rock
	12	Fri	Hui Year 1&2 EZ X Country pp date
8	16	Tue	Wgtn Zone X Country Deadline—copy of agenda returned
	18	Thu	BOT Meeting
	19	Fri	Deadline—arrange conference time
9	23	Tue	School Closed - Mid Year Conferences
	24	Wed	Conferences after school ICAS Spelling & Writing
	25	Thu	Steeple Rock Conferences after school Y7&8 only
	26	Fri	Hui Year 5&6 PTA Bought Lunch
10	30	Tue	Wn X Country
	Jul 2	Thu	Wn X Country pp
	3	Fri	Last Day of Term
Term 3: 20 July — 25 September			
1	Jul 20	Mon	Welcome Back Hui
	23	Thu	Steeple Rock
2	30	Thu	BOT Meeting
	Aug 1	Sat	'Beat the Recession Bash'
3	3	Mon	Gardasil for Y8 girls
	4	Tue	ICAS English
	5	Wed	EZ Soccer
	6	Thu	ICAS Maths (Additional Test) Steeple Rock
	7	Fri	Hui
4	10	Mon	School Closed - Teacher Only Day
	12	Wed	EZ Soccer pp date Y5-8 Speech Finals 7.00pm
5	19	Wed	ICAS Math
	20	Thu	Steeple Rock
	21	Fri	Hui
6	26	Wed	EZ Hockey
7	Sep 2	Wed	EZ Hockey pp
	4	Fri	Hui
8	10	Thu	NZIS Fitness Testing Y5-8
9	14	Mon	School Arts Festival
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	Tue-Fri	EZ Athletics Trials
	28	Wed	EZ Miniball
5	Nov 11	Wed	EZ Athletics
6	17	Tue	School Athletics Y3-8
	19	Thu	School Athletics pp date
7	23	Mon	Gardasil for Y8 girls
	25	Wed	Wgtn Zone Athletics
9	Dec 9	Wed	Junior Athletics Y1-2
	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 Pointon 388 7600 peterp@seatoun.school.nz

P.T.A.

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Jason Cowan 388 7600 jasonc@seatoun.school.nz

COMMUNITY NOTICES

WANAKA SKI HOUSE

Available in August-October. Sleeps 6-7 comfortably with a sofa bed as well. Wood burner and fully equipped. Mountain and lake view. Call Sue on 977 0959.

HOUSE SITTER

House sitter required from the 1st-21st July, Seatoun area. Suitable for a couple or family. If interested please phone Janine on 3807027 or 0276941205.

Newsletter

Newsletter contributions and feedback to Joanna Simpson at josim@xtra.co.nz

Contributions for next issue by 2pm Tuesday, 23rd June 2009