



## *From the Principal...*

Dear All

A big welcome to Ilana Aharoni and Theo Hardy, both new students to Room 9. Their big buddies are Sydney Rakena and Matthew Carter.

### **Congratulations:**

**School Cross Country:** Another fantastic day – we were blessed with perfect running conditions and the children really did make the event by trying their personal best and by being so supportive of each other. It was a fantastic atmosphere and, as always, it was wonderful to see so many parents supporting their own children, and all the other children as well. Special thanks to Penny Joblin, it was her first major school sports event and her organisation was excellent. Teams are now being selected for the inter-zone event.

**Principal Awards:** There was no hui last week. This term we are aiming to hold school-wide hui every second Friday odd weeks. We are looking forward to having the hall available again at the end of June, at which point we will revert back to our established format.

### **School T-Shirts:**

We now have stocks of the new shirt across all size ranges. For this year, children representing the school in sports or cultural activities may wear the either the school polo or the new T-shirt. From 2012, only the new T can be worn when representing the school. Children can wear either shirt for every-day school attire.

### **Bullying & Rough Play:**

A couple of weeks ago all schools received a letter from the Minister of Education reminding principals and boards of trustees of their obligation under National Education Guideline (NAG) 5 (i) to provide a safe physical and emotional environment for students. This was, in part, a response to the media continually running stories that highlight some particularly disturbing cases of school bullying and violence.

There will always be debate on what actually constitutes bullying and where on the 'continuum of seriousness' any particular incident might sit. Whilst not immune to the problem, any bullying at our school, has to date been at the very lowest end of the seriousness scale. We have always taken a strong, proactive stance against any form of bullying, and spend considerable time talking as a staff about all aspects of student safety and wellbeing. When made aware of incidents, we act quickly, tending towards informing parents early on, and working with them, and the children concerned towards an appropriate outcome. Programmes such as Kia Kaha are also taught to support children and to teach them that there are ways of dealing with bullying, and that there will always be someone 'safe' that they can confide in.

One problem faced by schools is the overlap and blurring between what happens at school and what happens out-of-school. Everyday technologies such as text, twitter and facebook are relatively new and powerful ingredients that add to this age old problem. When added to the behaviour adults (often those with high public profiles such as politicians, sports stars, leading business figures and celebrities) model to our youngsters and it is little wonder that as a society we have a problem that is easy to recognise but complex to address.

We also aim to achieve a balance whereby children can use the tools they learn to work some things out for themselves. This is an important life skill that involves problem solving, resilience and relationship skills. Children, especially our boys, need to play a bit of 'rough and tumble' on the understanding that in doing so, they may get hurt or their clothes might get damaged. It's a fine balance, but worth persevering with, to achieve the dual aims of providing a safe physical and emotional environment, and supporting children to become independent with the skills to interact with a wide range of other people.

*Cont...*

As with other matters, if you have any concerns vis a vis bullying or how your child is treated by other children at school, please contact your child's teacher.

**Teacher-aides and part-time teachers:**

I have spoken before, and want to acknowledge again, how fortunate we are to have such committed, hardworking, flexible and able teacher-aides and part-time/relieving teachers. All of these people work closely with the permanent teaching staff to provide additional support for students; and/or to release teachers with school-wide responsibilities in a way that minimises disruption and maintains continuity of teaching programmes. We appreciate the work these people do and thank parents for your donations that allow us to have significantly more teacher-aide hours than what we could purchase from our government operation grant.



## *From the Board...*

The school's Annual Meeting and most recent Board Meeting were held last week. The Annual Report was presented and will be available on the web site as soon as we receive the final auditor's report, which is expected within the next few days.

At the Board Meeting we reviewed a number of curriculum areas:

- Food Technology
- PE and Health
- Integration
- Library
- ICT
- TRUMP

The teachers responsible for these areas presented reports highlighting progress, student achievement, student attitude and future steps.

One of the key undertakings for the Board this term is the preparation of the School Community Survey. The purpose of the survey is to get feedback from you regarding your perceptions of the school and to use this material when considering our strategic plan for the coming three years. We will also compare the results with previous survey data to gauge our progress in key areas. We expect the survey will be undertaken early in the third term.

*Sarah, Richard, Mark, Suzie, Justine, Susan & Peter*

## *From the PTA...*

We are pleased to report that the interactive whiteboards purchased with the help of the PTA and installed over the holidays are going down a treat with both children and teachers. Sam Broadmore told members of the PTA at our last meeting that the whiteboards are being used daily in classrooms and are already proving to be an educational boost in all sorts of ways. And, over time, as teachers and children become more familiar with them, they will continue to be utilised in new ways.

Our big fundraiser for this year is A Night at the Races, on Saturday 25 June. This will be a fun night, so book your babysitter now and get a group of friends together. You can buy tickets with the booking form sent home with your child. More details are in this issue of Steeple Rock. If you can help before or on the night please email Cindy Crowley, [thecrowleys@xtra.co.nz](mailto:thecrowleys@xtra.co.nz)

Our next meeting is Monday 13 June in the staffroom. All welcome.

### **Netball Update**

Netball games start this **Saturday the 21st of May** at Evans Bay Intermediate. The students are looking forward to it, and have already been practicing hard. Students need to make sure they are wearing the correct footwear and uniform, their fingernails must be short, and no jewellery is permitted. The draw is on the Motu Kairangi website [www.mknetball.co.nz](http://www.mknetball.co.nz). If games are cancelled due to bad weather, there will be a notice on the website from 7.30am.

Thank you very much to all the coaches, managers and volunteers who freely give their time to help support netball at Seatoun School. We all appreciate your support, and couldn't do it without you.

Let's all have a fantastic and positive netball season!

Teresa Keeley, Seatoun School Netball Co-ordinator

[teresa.keeley@seatoun.co.nz](mailto:teresa.keeley@seatoun.co.nz)

## Seatoun School Cross Country Results

Year 1 Girls		Year 1 Boys		Year 2 Girls	
1	Ilaria Stefanidis	1	Jake Davis	1	Madeleine Pickering
2	Lucy Stewart	2	Ciaran McKenna	2	Cara Boothby
3	Ekaterine Zahariadis	3	Phoenix Hague-Smith	3	Pippa Nicol
Year 2 Boys		Year 3 Girls		Year 3 Boys	
1	Ned Bacon	1	Macy Cook	1	Toby Bates
2	Charlie Pothan	2	Eliza Cartmell	2	Wynn Skinner
3	Jayden Kesry	3	Maleah Abbott-Newland	3	Oliver Simpson
Year 4 Girls		Year 4 Boys		Year 5 Girls	
1	Grace Mellsop	1	Jules Appleby	1	Georgina Moore
2	Rosa Findlay	2	Mason Waterworth	2	Olivia Erskine
3	Laura MacKenzie	3	Fionn McKenna	3	Caitlin Gregan
Year 5 Boys		Year 6 Girls		Year 6 Boys	
1	George Sladden	1	Tessa Hunt	1	Sam Bacon
2	Josh Bates	2	Katie Oolders	2	Fraser Waterson
3	Billie Bouzoukis	3	Ella Berkhan	3	Alex Simpson
Year 7 Girls		Year 7 Boys		Year 8 Girls	
1	Meg Crowley	1	Jack Waterworth	1	Laura Heycoop
2	Madeleine Plesocki	2	Anton Jenkins	2	Jessie Moore
3	Jessica Cartmell	3	Al Barratt-Boyes	3	Holly Blakely
Year 8 Boys		<p>Well done to all children who ran on the day.</p> <p>100% effort by all.</p> <p>Check out the website for photos of the day.</p> 			
1	Max Hurd				
2	Gianni Bouzoukis				
3	Jacob Bhula				

### Upcoming Term 2 Sports Clash

Please note the clash in dates for the following sports events:

15 June Eastern Zone Cross Country (pp 17 June)

15 June Y7-8 Ripa Rugby Wellington Competition (no postponement)

Congratulations to students who qualified for both events, unfortunately these students will chose one event to participate in on the day. **Good luck to all students!**

# Library News

## Murph's must-haves from Scholastic Books

Scholastic Book Club Made Easy!

Here's a few of my choice choices to guide you if you feel you need it!

### **ABC**

#103 *Too Loud Lily*. It's only \$3 and it's by an award winning author. Popular illustrator too. Very nice!

#111 *The Very Itchy Bear*. A sequel to the *Very Cranky Bear* which is just a delight!

#133 *1001 Children's books you must read before you grow up*. It's not cheap at \$39 but we will get a copy for the library if you would like to check it out. I find these kind of guides indispensable!

#137 *Three cheers for no-ears!* NZ award winning author Kyle Mewburn (*Every Second Friday, Hill & Hole*) does it again in this story about coping with being different.

#139 *A monster wrote me a letter*. Award winning author Nick Bland makes great use of black & white illustrations dashed with little bits of colour! Fantastic story!

### **Lucky**

Wasn't too impressed with the Lucky selection this time around.

#212 *The Giant Diamond Robbery*, by Geronimo Stilton. If you haven't seen these books you really should they are super attractive! Every page is a visual symphony somewhat reminiscent of Debussy!

#255 *Rascal's Big Day*, by Paul Jennings. You can't go wrong with one of the icons of children's writing. Bound to be entertaining!

#226 *The Legend of the Golden Snail* by Graeme Base. I haven't seen this yet and suspect that it will be good. Base always has lavish illustrations and this would seem to be no exception. At \$32 though I might wait for the paperback.

### **Arrow**

Not too impressed with the selection on offer here either.

#305 *Sands of the Scorpion*, by Bear Grylls. Plenty of action and adventure here!

#314 *Rodrick Rules*. It's *The Diary of a Wimpy Kid* and it's just huge right now. New movie (of this book) coming out any minute. Get in before it does!

### **Star**

#401 *Scorpi Rising*. The final test for Alex Rider!

#413 Michael Morpurgo: *War stories*. Morpurgo is a very well established and highly regarded Australian author. Three books for \$35

#422 *Monster Mania*. I'm always a sucker for monster books and movies. The more B-Grade the better as far as I'm concerned...

#423 *For Boys Only*. Sounds like serious fun, information every boy needs to know.

#436 *The Billy Cart & Trolley Bible*. Ever thought of entering the Ribble Street races? This book might help you on your road to fame and success!

Also, I still need lots of help in the library. So if you are able to spare any time pop in and see me! No experience required, just a willingness to help out! Thanks so much,  
Gerard.

## **Listening to Your Child Read**

### **Parent Information Workshop**

Sandra Petrove (Seatoun School's Reading Recovery Teacher) and Susan Kliffen (Team Leader in the Junior School) will be running a workshop about how to listen to your child read at home.

For: Any parents of children from Year 1 to 8 who would like to know more about how to listen to children read at home.

From this workshop you will develop:

- An understanding of what to expect at different stages as children learn to read.
- Strategies for how to best support children when they come to a word they don't know.
- An opportunity to ask questions about how children learn to read.
- An awareness of the importance of parents supporting their children in their reading.

When: **Friday 10 June**

**9am – 10:20**

Where: **Seatoun School Library**

## Alice in Wonderland Production—Auditions

On Wednesday 1 June (Week 5), we will be holding the auditions for the main characters in Alice in Wonderland. The main characters will be selected predominately from Year 6 -8, with priority for Year 7 and 8. However, every child at all levels will still be fully involved on stage in a singing, acting and/or dancing capacity.

A separate notice for the Year 6-8 students explaining the audition process and getting signed permission from parents is also going home today.

Rebecca Power and Ansa Kennedy

## Envirogroup News

A couple of reminders:

- Starship Mobile Phone Appeal - If you have any old mobile phones collecting dust you can recycle them at school, help the Starship Hospital and help our school earn rewards. There is a collection box at the office.
- Litter-less Lunches – You might remember last year we did a Waste Audit and were shocked at how much non-recyclable plastic gets thrown out each lunch time. To help reduce our lunch waste we will be holding another litter-less lunch challenge. Students who bring a litter-less lunch during our challenge week will earn a green house point. This will be in Week 6 (7-10 June). Our enviorkids will be giving each class easy tips on how to reduce lunch litter over the coming weeks.

We appreciate your support, The Seatoun School Envirogroup



Sushi lunches are continuing every Friday this term . Please see the school website [www.seatoun.school.nz/school](http://www.seatoun.school.nz/school) for further information

Reminder that orders must be at the office by 9.00am Wednesday morning

## Community Notices (printed as space permits)

### BONJOUR! WOULD YOU LIKE TO LEARN SOME FRENCH?

If you are in Year 3 to Year 6, come and have fun with us after school, every Thursday at 3.10pm at the library. A Native French teacher from the Alliance Française Wellington will be happy to come and teach you. Courses are interactive and include learning, while playing and singing.

For any inquiries, please contact the Alliance Française at 04 472 1272, or [schools@french.co.nz](mailto:schools@french.co.nz)

Cost: \$95 per term.

### TEMPORARY HOME NEEDED

Family of 5 wanting home to house-sit for a few weeks in about 1 months time due to own house being renovated. We have two daughters at Seatoun School and one daughter at high school in town.s

We come with great references and a willingness to look after your property while you are away. Ph Lucy 977-6367.

### CLOTHING BUDDIES WANTED

The clothing buddy system is up and running now with Strathmore School. The idea is a simple one. Seatoun families 'adopt' a Strathmore family and donate their good quality, clean, pre loved children's clothes to their buddy family. I will match you up with families that correspond with your children's age/sex. If you are interested in helping our less privileged neighbouring community, please contact me and get your name onto our database. Some of these families can't afford shop prices and are in real need of our help. Clothes are either dropped off on their doorstep by you or collected by the families from Strathmore School, they decide what they would prefer, as obviously transport can be an issue. Phone me for more info or to sign up, thanks for your support. Jessica Hallett 02102937378

**Term 2, 2011 Monday 2 May - Friday 15 July**

4	May 24	Tue	ICAS Computer Skills
	25	Wed	Eastern Zone Netball pp
6	June 6	Mon	Queen's Birthday
	8	Wed	ICAS Science
	10	Fri	Listening To Your Child Read
7	15	Wed	EZ X. Country Yr 7/8 Ripa Rugby Wgtn. Comp.
	17	Thu	EZ X Country pp
8	20	Mon	Y7/8 Science Fair
	21	Tue	ICAS Spelling and Writing Wgtn X Country
	23	Thu	Steeple Rock Wgtn X Country pp
	25	Sat	PTA "Race Night"
	27	Mon	Conference Agendas Home
9	30	Thu	PTA "Kids Disco"
	Jul 01	Fri	Conference Agendas Due Back at School
10	05	Tue	Reg. X. Country
	06	Wed	Conference Bookings close
	07	Thu	Reg. X. Country pp
11	Jul 12	Tue	Progress Conferences. School close for instuction
	July 13	Wed	Y3-8 Swimming
	14	Thur	Y8 Girl's Gardasil
	15	Fri	Last day of term 2

**Term 3 2011 Monday 1 August—Friday 7 October**

1	Aug 02	Tue	ICAS English
2	11	Thu	E. Zone Soccer Y5/6
3	16	Tue	ICAS Mathematics
5	30	Tue	Tackle Rugby Y5-8
	Sep 1	Thu	E. Zone Swimming Tackle rugby pp
7	15	Thu	BOT Wn Zone Swimming
8	22	Thu	Regional Swimming
9	26	Mon	Production Week
10	Oct 07	Fri	Last Day of Term

**Term 4 2011. Tuesday 25 October—Tuesday 20**

<b>December</b>			
1	Oct 26	Wed	E. Zone Athletics Trials Commence
3	09 Nov	Wed	E. Zone Athletics
	11	Fri	E. Zone Athletics pp
4	15	Tue	School Athletics
	16	Wed	E. Zone Athletics pp PTA Gold Tournament
	17	Thu	School Athletics
5	22	Tue	Wn Athletics
	24	Thu	Wn Athletics pp
6	28	Mon	Y3-6 EOTC
7	Dec 05	Mon	Y7/8 EOTC
	06	Tue	Regional Athletics
	08	Thu	Re. Athletics pp
8	13	Tue	Parent Help M. Tea
	14	Wed	2012 class Lists home
	15	Thu	Reports Home
			Y8 Formal
9	19	Mon	Prizegiving
	20	Tue	Last Day. Close 12.00pm

**How to Contact Us**

<b>Answerphone</b>			
School Absences	388 7600	Extn 1	
Bulletin board	388 7600	Extn 2	
<b>Principal</b>			
Peter Pointon	388 7600	admin@seatoun.school.nz	
<b>P.T.A.</b>			
Miriam Heycoop	H. 380 8005	heycoop@xtra.co.nz	
<b>Board of Trustees</b>			
Richard Abbott	H. 972 5409	richard.abbott@movac.co.nz	
Sarah Bacon	H. 388 4487	sarah.bacon@izardweston.co.nz	
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**Newsletter**

Newsletter contributions and feedback to Anne McLellan at admin@seatoun.school.nz.  
Contributions for next issue by **Monday 30 May 2011, 2pm.**