

Community Notices

Community notices are put in this section as a service to our community. The school does not necessarily endorse these community advertisements and parents / caregivers are advised to check the reliability of events, camps and courses.

Hockey School Holiday Programme for Children Years 3—8

Anyone interested in participating in a school holiday hockey programme visit www.harbourhockey.co.nz for more details.

Endeavour Badminton School Holiday Programme

Hobsonville School Monday 12 to Thursday 15 April from 9:30am—12:00pm for children ages 8 - 16. Including tuition, badge work and tournaments. Spaces are still available. Email info@endeavourbadminton.co.nz for more information.

Financial Literacy Academy

Course Number 2 starts in Term 2. For Years 7 - 13 students in the evening at Academies around Auckland and possibly morning Workshops depending on interest. Key topics include goal setting, personal statement of position, debt and asset management, mortgages etc. Cost \$120 per student. Contact Craig 478 7411 or 027 555 8825.

Barnados Kidstart Homebased Care

Do you want to work from home? Want to become a Kidstart Educator or need Home-based care for your child? Please phone 837 5061 for more information.

Kelly Sports East Coast Bays Easter Holiday Programme

Holiday programmes filled with fun filled games and sports as well as arts and crafts. Held at Planet Sports, just 2 minutes from the Tristram Motorway exit in Glenfield. For more information contact Jeremy Brown on jeremyb@kellysports.co.nz

Basketball Holiday Camp at the Trust Stadium

For children aged 7—15 from 9am—3pm. Closing date for registrations 31 March. For more information phone Nicky on 021 657786

Ranui Swanson FC Football Holiday Programme

April 12—15, Royal Reserve, Beauchamp Drive, Massey. For further information go to www.doublehmanagment.co.nz or phone Shelley on 027 4834 284.

Holiday Clinic at West Harbour Tennis Club, Picasso Drive

12—14 April from 1:00- 3:00pm for all children aged 6 to 9 years and 3:00—5:00pm for children 10 years and older. Cost \$60.00. Phone 817 7791 before April 4 to register.



Whenuapai School Newsletter

“Our Students will be Actively Involved in Learning for Life”

The Newsletter for the Whenuapai School Community published every Thursday

NEWSLETTER 8 25 March 2010

Important Dates

BoT Meeting

Monday 29 March
7pm Staffroom

Team 1 Water Week

Mon 29 - Thurs 1 April

Term 1 Ends

Thursday 1 April
3pm

Term Dates

Term One

2 February—1 April

Term Two

19 April—2 July

Term Three

19 July—24 September

Term Four

12 Oct—15 December

Dear Parents / Caregivers

National Standards

There is much debate at the moment about National Standards and their rapid introduction to New Zealand Schools. The Government has required schools to implement the National Standards in 2010 and to report to parents twice each year about how their children achieve the National Standards. Whenuapai School already uses a range of assessment tools that enable us to see how your child is achieving in relation to the national norms for children of the same age. Any test is only a snapshot of how a child achieves in that area on that particular day. Through cross-referencing these nationally recognised tests and using the teachers own knowledge of your child and their professional judgement, we work to develop an accurate picture of individual and whole school achievement. These standardised tests in reading, writing and mathematics help teachers tailor their programmes to meet the needs of all children in their class and give parents an accurate picture of your child's progress with children of the same age level. There have been no trials of the National Standards and academics and educators are concerned about their validity, accuracy and fairness.

Validity—the assessment tools we currently use map progress, they are not 'pass or fail' benchmarks, but instead indicate whether a child is within a norm or level. These norms or levels are generally wider than a single year 'average' because children do not progress in neat steps, particularly in their first years at School. Our current tools are based on research from many years of children's actual achievement. The National Standards were developed in a few months without the input of principals or teachers.

(continued)

Contacts

BoT Chairperson: 448 4258
PTA Chairperson: 416 4740

Offsite Dental Clinic: 417 0235
After School Care: 021 737 147

Email: office@whenuapai.school.nz
Website: www.whenuapai.school.nz
Phone: 416 8779 Fax: 416 7861



Principal: W Spanhake
14 Airport Road
Whenuapai

School Notices

Welcome to our school community the following children and their families...

Zac Swain

School Star Children

acknowledged at the last school assembly for being good citizens...
Brody Dawson
Jaimee Phillips

Principal's Award Certificates this Week

| | |
|-------|------------------------|
| Rm 1 | Jack Grace |
| Rm 2 | Cameron Haskins |
| Rm 3 | Daisy Hart |
| Rm 4 | Ben Owen |
| Rm 6 | Kassidy Allott |
| Rm 7 | Sean Foote |
| Rm 8 | Jazmyn Brogden |
| Rm 9 | Shikaeyla Ortega |
| Rm 10 | Melissa Arnold |
| Rm 11 | Solomon Pomare—Edwards |
| Rm 12 | Olivia Reader |
| Rm 13 | Paul Park |
| Rm 14 | Jade O'Brien |
| Rm 15 | Thomas Watson |
| Rm 16 | Jakob Burton |
| Rm 17 | Conor Flanagan |
| Rm 18 | Holly Frisbie—Moir |
| Rm 19 | Zabrina Schuurman |
| Rm 20 | Jacob Campbell |

Accuracy—With the Standards, children will be reported as 'above standard', 'at standard', 'below standard' or 'well below standard', but it is not clear that the levels the Standards have been set at are accurate. Rather than being based on evidence of what children currently achieve, they are based on 'chunking back' each year from the NCEA level.

Fairness—To be truly 'National' Standards, the Standards must be used and interpreted consistently across all schools. This requires a process called 'moderation' which means results are compared and discussed so that there is confidence that individual teachers and schools are implementing the Standards fairly for all children. Most schools already 'moderate' between teachers and classes, and sometimes between local clusters of schools, but there has been no moderation process yet agreed or resourced for National Standards. The moderation process for NCEA, which includes the use of external moderators, has taken 7 years to develop.

Supporting our Patrollers

We ask parents who park on the Green to please indicate when they turn out onto Airport Road so the pupils on patrol can be clear on the decision to put the signs out or keep them in. Pupils are seeing the car leaving the Green and then waiting to see if they turn left or right. Thank you.

Helpers Needed

We are looking for two more volunteers to help in the Uniform Shop on a Monday or Thursday morning from 8:30—9.15am on a rostered basis (not every week). Please contact Sara or Jo in the office on 416 8779 or email office@whenuapai.school.nz.

Chocolates

A reminder to those that still have chocolates or chocolate money to please hand it in to the Office before the end of the term.

Cake Stall

A really big thank you to the students and parents from Rooms 1, 8, 9, 15 and 20 for providing such a superb array of baking for the cake stall today. It was a great success!

PTA Request

We are looking for a few second hand items for use at future fundraising events such a chilly bin, gazebo (preferably with sides) and a small freezer. If anybody has any of these items that they would be willing to donate to the School, please email linda.zac@xtra.co.nz or leave your details at the School Office.

Happenings and Achievements

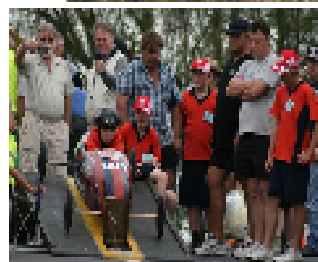
Soapbox Derby

On Sunday nine Year 7 and 8's competed at the annual Soap Box Derby, held at Westgate. The students had spent a number of afternoons learning about the mechanics of the cart and test driving it on some closed off roads. Teamwork was an important factor on the day, especially when there were a few crashes and limited time to make repairs. Unfortunately we did not make the finals but gained a lot of experience, which we will carry through to the 2011 Soapbox Competition. The winner of the heats time was 55.141 seconds. The times of our drivers are listed below. A big thank you to Greg Carrington for his hard work and enthusiasm and to the parents who helped on the day. A special thank you to Metro Roofing located in Albany, for their generous sponsorship.



Whenuapai Team

Taine Carrington
Jaden Carrington (56.49)
Torrin Campbell
Kieran Stockley (56.452)
Logan Hunt
Dominic Jolliffe
Sam Way
Jake Godfrey (56.3)
Ryan McGregor-Panchia (56.113)



Rugby

This week a letter will be coming out regarding the North Harbour School Rugby Tournament held for all Year 3 to 8 students. This tournament was a success in 2009 and we are expecting another big intake this year. For Whenuapai to field a number of teams we need coaches and managers. Please note the dates in the forthcoming letter and if you can give up some time fill out the appropriate sheet and return it by next Wednesday.

Hockey and Netball 2010

All notices about fees and games went home with children on Monday. We are still needing some coaches (listed in the team notices). If you are able to help please see Mrs Mallabar Room 19 by this Friday. Unfortunately we did not have the numbers to field a Year 5 and a Year 7/8 netball team this year. Those children affected could approach local clubs or Waitakere Netball if they wish their child to still play this season.