

21st October 2010 Issue 1: Term 4

From the Principals Desk.....

If you haven't already seen me around the school or out the front at the start or end of the day, I'm back! As most of you know, I was very lucky to receive one of a small number of sabbaticals for school principals and took it during Term 3.

Before I left at the end of Term 2 I had let everyone know what I was doing, but it was still intriguing to run into parents in Pak n Save or West City during the school day. On several occasions I could see them thinking, "What is he doing here? And why is he dressed in jeans?"

It doesn't take long to get back into the swing of things again, however! We are already in the midst of a very busy term, and the last break is becoming a distant memory. Teachers have already started teaching in earnest, taking part in professional development, talking about reports to parents and planning for co-curricular activities. As always the school is a hive of activity.

Welcome back to another exciting term at Swanson School. Make sure you enjoy the improving weather and longer daylight hours!

Kia Kaha

Bruce McLachlan

Timeline

- **25th Oct** - Labour Day - School Closed
- **21st Oct** - Order forms for Calendars go home
- **28th Oct** - BOT meeting
- **3rd Nov** - Last day for calendar orders
- **5th Nov** - Scholastic Book Orders Close
- **30th Nov & 2nd Dec** - Pohutukawa Swimming
- **3rd Dec** - Jandal Day
- **7th Dec**—Xmas Concert

School Closed— Labour Day

School will be closed
on

Monday 25th October

Citizens Awards

Congratulations to the following children for achieving Citizenship awards this past fortnight.....

- Fabien ; Marcella (1)
- Karys ; Dantē (2)
- Janaya ; Georgia (3)
- Erin ; Mesha (4)
- Tyrone ; Sydney (5)
- Riley ; Summer (6)
- Jake ; Tiaki (7)
- Blake ; Estelle (8)
- Rose ; Daniel (9)
- Hannah ; Liam (10)
- Skye ; Cain (11)
- Acacia ; Olivia (12)
- Jessica ; Memphis (13)
- Jordan ; Rachel (14)
- Renee ; Ricardo (15)
- Kailey ; Cory (16)
- Jackie ; Isabel (17)



RSA W Matheson and I Menzies Scholar- ships

Swanson School is once again pleased to be able to offer our Year 8 students the opportunity for financial assistance in 2010. The Swanson R.S.A. has generously provided two scholarships of \$500 to assist with uniform costs, stationery and fees.

Application forms will be sent home with all year 8 students tomorrow. Applications close on Friday November 12th.

A full copy of the procedure and application forms are available at the school office.

Swanson School Emergency Phone No. 027 237 8777

(The above number can be phoned in case of a power cut or nay other emergency where we cannot be reached on our main phone number -833 3500)

Celebrating Learning.....

Wiggly Worms

The New Zealand Curriculum requires schools to involve students in future- focussed issues. Sustainability and enterprise are two key focus areas of Swanson School's curriculum design. Our children have been running their very own worm farm, this has been a great way of teaching them within a real life context. This has been a roaring success with the children's and staffs leftovers being collected and fed to the worms. From this a diligent team of students, lead by Mrs Wray, harvest the 'worm tea', a very nutritious fertilizer which is then given away for people to use in their gardens.

This project has been so successful that our worm farm is chocker block full. We are selling ice-cream containers full of these healthy, happy, well-fed critters for the very reasonable cost of \$5 a container.

On Friday of this week, Mr McLachlan is going to work alongside the team of students to divide the farm and they will be offering the worms for sale to the community.

They can be popped straight into your existing worm farm, into a new one you are developing or into your compost bin.

A great way to improve your garden



Abacus Fundraising Calendars/Greeting Cards

Your child is in the process of finishing artwork for an Abacus Fund raising Calendar and greeting cards. These calendars make great Christmas presents. They are available with the child's artwork , alternatively you can opt for your child's photo in stead. An order form has been sent home with each child today and more forms are available from the school office. The cost of a calendar is \$10 (\$12 photo) and the cost of a pack of greeting cards is \$12(for both). This year we also have diaries available these are priced at \$15 (\$17 for photo). The last day for orders will be Wednesday 3rd November. **All orders must be accompanied with pay-**

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How to Order

1. Visit www.wheelers.co.nz
2. Search and select your titles
3. Select your school at checkout
4. Books are delivered directly to your home.



The Big Bush Read!

Apply for the Waitakere Libraries' Summer reading Programme now!

The Summer Reading Programme is a fun, incentive based programme that helps children to improve their reading habits over the holidays. It is ideal for children with reading difficulties.

If you would like to participate in this years programme, apply online at www.waitakerelibs.govt.nz or call in to your nearest Waitakere library Branch.

The application period is from October 27

We are looking for support

We will shortly be having a new issue of our school's newsletters printed. The newsletters will be used throughout the year to keep our families and school community informed regarding school activities.

The newsletters are to be financed through the support of advertisers whose advertisements will appear on the newsletters for a year. This enables the school to receive the newsletters free of charge.

Should you, or anyone you know, like to place an advertisement on the back of our school's newsletter please contact Dennis or Jeanette Neeve of Newsletters Unlimited, ph (09) 817 3867, or email newsletters@xtra.co.nz.

Garage Sale

At St Pauls School
498 Don Buck Road

Saturday 30th October
8a.m—12 noon

There will be a sausage sizzle and Refreshments.