

# 24th February 2011 Issue 2: Term 1

## From the Principals Desk.....

### Raising teacher expectations, changing beliefs and enhancing student achievement: An intervention study

We are very excited that that our school has been chosen to be part of a major research project to be carried out by Dr Christine Rubie-Davies, Senior Lecturer in the School of Teaching, Learning and Development in the Faculty of Education at the University of Auckland. The study, which will use a training intervention to raise teacher expectations by changing their beliefs and how they teach, is the first of its kind in the world.

Teacher expectations are what teachers believe students are capable of. Research shows that if a teacher expects a child to fail, that child may not do as well as s/he could have. Similarly if a teacher has high expectations of students, they tend to do better. This is especially true of at-risk students.

In earlier research Dr Rubie-Davies found that teachers who had high expectations had certain beliefs and practices in common. "The study will involve teaching a group of primary school teachers the core beliefs and practices of high expectation teachers. It will determine whether the teachers' expectations can be raised and sustained and establish whether such an increase will ultimately lead to enhanced student achievement and social outcomes.


The study will track actual changes in teachers' expectations, beliefs and practices across three years to determine the impacts of the intervention. The long-term consequences for students will also be measured by tracking students for three years.

The potential outcome of this project is that teachers will improve their practice and that students will do better at school. All teachers of Year 4-8 students are part of the study. Their beliefs and practices will be tracked across the three years. All students in their classes will therefore have their progress tracked for the three years. Unless your child's teacher hears from you that you do **not** wish your child to participate, all children in Years 4-8 will be part of the study.

If you would like further information about the project check out the information sheet we have sent home with your child. If you would like another copy, let us know at the office.

Kia Kaha

*Bruce McLachlan*



Hi Kashin here!  
Let me introduce myself to you.  
I'm ASB's "heavyweight" for School Banking and help kids like you understand the benefits of saving.  
Why am I here? Well, I've been asked to share some banking and money tips with you over the coming weeks. So look out for me in your next newsletter, when I'll share my very 1<sup>st</sup> tip with you.

**ASB** Kashin  
ASB Bank Limited PPU00008

### Labelling Uniform

Please ensure all uniform is labelled clearly. We are unable to return lost clothing to children if they are not clearly marked. Thank you

## Timeline

- 24 Feb - Hearing & Vision
- 24 Feb - Public Health Nurse Y7/8
- 25 Feb - Hearing & Vision
- 4 Mar - Lucky Book Orders - **Last Day**

**Citizens Awards.....** Congratulations to the following children for achieving Citizenship awards :-



- Troy ; Chynna (1)
- Zac ; Zane (2)
- Samuel ; Jade (3)
- Anthony ; Aylar (4)
- Myaan ; Trey (5)
- Keely ; Ronan (6)
- Laken ; Jaylee (8)
- Joshua ; Karys (9)
- Caitlin ; Kaira (10)
- Jevan ; Caitlin (11)
- Amon ; Abby (12)
- Sam ; Brianna (13)
- Zack ; Tuhi (14)
- Mason ; Jakeb (15)
- Jordan ; Mikayla (16)
- Chris ; Dominic (17)

## Tuck Shop News

Wonderful to be back this year and looking forward to serving your children over the coming year.

Please always keep an eye on the Tuck shop window for up to date news, menus, prices and specials. This is the only way I can keep in constant up to date contact with you.

Please ensure all cheques are made out to *Generation Foods Ltd*. Please also put on the back your name, phone number and address.

All money is to be in NZ currency—others will not be accepted.

If your child has an allergy—please read menu carefully and choose accordingly. Also, for preparation purposes please state on order the allergy so as no contamination occurs.

*Thanks and Happy New Year*

*Michelle GPL*

Swanson School Emergency Phone No. 027 237 8777

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

# Celebrating Learning.....

Last November a group of our Year 1 and 2 students entered a story board competition, run by the Ministry of Transport.

The task was to create a story board about children getting to school safely,

The students participating were; Laken & Rhys , Eden , Alexander , Scarlett , Maia , Keira , Hansol , Connor , Lorenzo , Riley , Esther , Peter and Talikimuli .They did very well and won for the school two picture books which are now in our library.



Just some of our proud students

## Swanson Sports News

### **We are the champions:**

Swanson School are the Year 5/6 champions in softball!! The team played at the recent Norwest Inter school tournament. Sixteen schools participated. Swanson team won their pool A section and went into the final playoff. The team played Don Buck Primary in the finals. Swanson team won convincingly. The score was 16 runs to 10. This was the first time that the Norwest Cluster had organised a tournament for Year 5 and 6 students. This means that Swanson School have become the inaugural winners of this competition. The ten member squad was made up of:

Zac (Captain); Hayden ; Dylan ; Lee ; De Niroy ; Zachary ; Luca ; Eddy ; Kyran . This team will play in the Henderson Cluster Softball tournament, which will be held on 05<sup>th</sup> April at Ranui Domain.

### **Swimming:**

The swimming at West Wave had become a highly exciting activity and our swimmers are enjoying every lesson at the pools. The instructors are warm and are providing a full intensive coaching session for every student. We have had many parents and caregivers at the pools to support the coaching lessons and providing extra support to ensure that our swimmers are safe. The high ability swimmers will be selected to represent the school at two events. the Norwest competition at Parakai Pools for Years 5-8, and the Henderson Cluster event in March for Years 3-6.

**Creating Peaceful Pathways" Workshop**  
Run by Alternatives to Violence Project Auckland. Open to all adults.

**2011 Schedule**

Learn new ways to communicate with your partner, children, workmates or friends.  
Discover creative ways of responding to conflict.  
Ways to deal with the anger or the violence that you are witnessing or experiencing.  
A place to experience feeling good about yourself.  
Develop and strengthen your skills in leadership, community development and conflict resolution  
Designed for anyone seeking personal growth or wanting to make positive change in their lives.

**Here is what past participants have said about the Creating Peaceful Pathways workshops:**

- *Best workshop I've ever done.*
- *This workshop was a gentle way to take on knowledge and learning about responding to conflict situations.*
- *Relaxed friendly atmosphere made me feel very comfortable.*
- *I was surprised at how much laughing we did! What a great weekend.*
- *I loved the openness and sincerity, plus learning new tools for dealing with conflict.*  
*A highlight was meeting new people in a safe environment.*

**2011 Workshop Dates Include:** March 18-20 , May 27-29, August 19-21 ,September 2-4

**The Cost:** Subsidies are available so pay what you can afford or donate the full fee which is \$100 per person.

**To register or discuss further please contact**

**Darian Smith, AVP Coordinator**  
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Ranui, Waitakere City 0655  
[avpauck@gmail.com](mailto:avpauck@gmail.com)  
Phone: (09) 8383392



**student exchange**  
AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND

**EXPERIENCE ANOTHER CULTURE**

**BRING HOME A BROTHER OR A SISTER**

In June/July 2011, students aged 14 – 19 years from Europe, the USA and South America will be arriving in New Zealand to study at local schools for 2-10 months. Opportunities are available to act as a host family in volunteer/unpaid capacity. Hosting can be on a tempo-

rary, short or long term basis.

Host families help provide each student with the chance to study and experience life in New Zealand. This is a great way to practice another language, share your stories, learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill.

Our students bring with them their own spending money, health insurance and a wonderful attitude and desire to learn about their new host country. Your whole family...and your relatives and friends...will grow and learn as you all get to know your new 'son' or 'daughter' from another land. If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today.

To learn more about this opportunity call Student Exchange Australia New Zealand on 0800 440 079 or visit

**ORATIA UNITED AFC 2011 SEASON**

Vogel School of Dance

JAZZ and HIP HOP DANCE classes

3 year olds and up

Annual exams and concert

Reasonable fees

Waitakere Domain Hall

Registered J.D.N.Z Teacher

Contact:

Suzanne Vogel

Ph 8109112 or

email - [suzannevogel@xtra.co.nz](mailto:suzannevogel@xtra.co.nz)

**At Oratia United we have seen some exciting changes over the 2010 season , with the club appointing our new Director of Football, Steve Cain, the current New Zealand U17 Men's Football Team coach. .Come and be part of our exciting future.**

**For more information please contact either;**

**Colin Dietschin**

**or**

**Ngairé Atherton**

**Head of Junior**

**email: [headjunior@oratiaunited.co.nz](mailto:headjunior@oratiaunited.co.nz) email: [athertofamily@xtra.co.nz](mailto:athertofamily@xtra.co.nz)**

**Phone: 021 899 663**

**Phone: 027 465 7545**