

11th Aug 2011 Issue 1: Term 3

FROM THE PRINCIPALS DESK.....

Many of you will remember the whole school athletics day we held at the end of last year. It was great fun. On that day we were trialling dividing the school into four 'houses'. Students, staff and even parents really got into it, dressing in their house colours, writing songs and chants and carrying banners.

We have now assigned names to the houses: Ruapehu, Tarawera, Aoraki and Taranaki. Check out the story behind them in this newsletter

Kia kaha

Bruce McLachlan

Our school houses (whanau) are named after mountains in New Zealand. Using mountains for our whanau names encourages connections with our whenua, our land. Using mountains located in both the North and South Island encourages children to consider more than the local community that they live in. It encourages them to think on a wider scale and fosters making connections with not just the land but with other people.

Red House – Ruapehu

Red is the colour of fire and heat. Ruapehu is an active volcano located 23 kilometres northeast of Ohakune and 40 kilometres southwest of Lake Taupo within Tongariro National Park. In recorded history, major eruptions have been about 50 years apart, in 1895, 1945 and 1995–1996. The most significant eruption caused the Tangiwai Disaster in 1953. Minor eruptions are frequent, with at least 60 since 1945. Some of the minor eruptions in the 1970s and 1990s generated small ash falls and lahars (mudflows) that damaged ski fields. Ruapehu regularly threatens to erupt.

Blue House – Tarawera

Blue often represents the colour of water. Tarawera sits among many lakes in the Rotorua district. Tarawera is the volcano responsible for New Zealand's largest historic eruption. It is located 24 kilometres southeast of Rotorua in the North Island. When Tarawera erupted in 1886 the geography of the surrounding district was dramatically altered and the size of Lake Rotomahana was increased significantly.

Green House – Aoraki

Aoraki is also known as Mt Cook. The name Aoraki means "cloud piercer". Aoraki is the highest mountain in New Zealand. It is found in the Southern Alps. Aoraki could be considered a living mountain. Thousands of years ago the Southern Alps were formed by the tectonic uplifting and pressure as the Pacific and Indo-Australian plates collided along the island's western coast. Aoraki was thrust up out of the green earth and continues to grow in height by approximately 7mm per annum. Aoraki sits in the middle of Aoraki/ Mt Cook National Park. This area of New Zealand is famous for its flora and fauna. There are more than 400 species of plants making up the green vegetation of the Mt Cook National Park.

Yellow House – Taranaki

Taranaki is also known as Mt Egmont. According to Maori mythology Taranaki once resided in the middle of the north island with the other volcanoes. According to legend all the mountains were male except Pihanga. Pihanga was very beautiful and all the other mountains were in love with her. One night a battle ensued and the sky was filled with smoke, ash, rocks and fire for days. When the fighting stopped Tongariro was clearly the winner. Tongariro had won Pihanga's devotion and the right to stand beside her. Taranaki, consumed by grief and anger, gouged a great trail in the earth as he moved to the west to sulk. As he travelled towards the yellow setting sun the trail he left behind was filled with his tears as he grieved for Pihanga. These great gouges became the Whanganui River. According to legend Taranaki is hiding his tears when cloud covers the mountain. Taranaki basks in his love of Pihanga when he is bathed in the beautiful yellow light of sunrise and sunset.

Timeline

- 10 / 11 Aug - Art Exhibition
- 16 Aug - Pohutukawa Trip (Arataki Centre)
- 18 Aug - Pohutukawa Trip (Arataki Centre)
- 18 Aug - BOT meeting - 7.00 pm Start
- 18 Aug - Last day for photo pre approval forms
- 19 Aug - Speech Competition (Koromiko & Totara)
- 25/26 Aug - PHOTO Days

SCHOOLSHOTZ

We are using a new company for school photographs this year. A pre-approval form has already been sent out with your child please let the office know if you haven't received one. The last day for pre-approval forms to be placed in the collection box is **18th August**.

Photo Days are **25th and 26th August**.

Proofs of individual and sibling photos will then be sent out with a price list and order form on **8th September**.

Citizens Awards.....



Congratulations to the following children for achieving Citizenship awards :-

Shannen ; Chloe (1) Maika ; Regan (3) Ben; Danielle (4) Marcel; Tayne (5) Rannal ; Alexia (6) Baudilio ; Kyra (7) Kaitlyn ; Krystal (8) Will ; Danielle (10) Xander; Dylan (11) Skye; Priscilla (12) Jannal ; Delvin (15) Jessica ; Brooklyn (16) Georgia ; Xandar (17)

Congratulations

To some of our past pupils now at Waitakere College:

Joshua - Recipient of the Pat Hanly Award for "outstanding commitment & passion for the visual arts and community awareness.

Deanna - One of the Students of the Week.

Richard (Son of our own Carole Wilcox) - Senior Sports Captain.

Fleur - presented designs to Tip Top as part of a Food Technology Course.

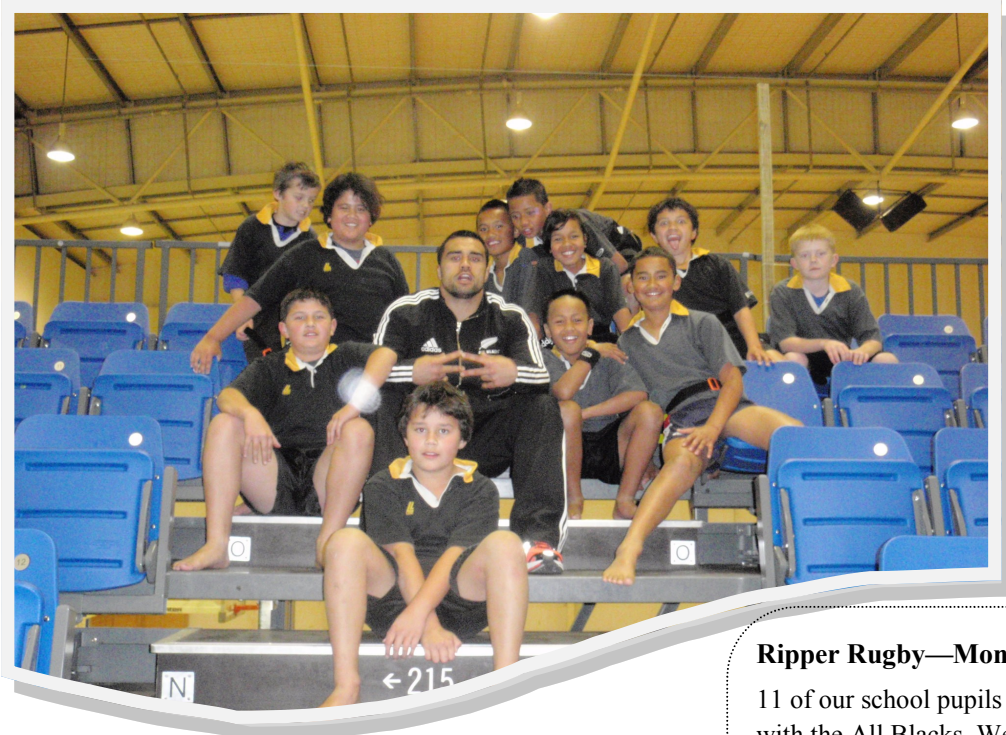
CELEBRATED LEARNING.....

On Monday afternoon Miss Lea took 10 Year 5 and 6 students to the Trust Stadium to take part in a Ripper Tournament with special guests the ALL BLACKS. Swanson School Team was coached by Liam Messam. The students played two games, winning both games. The students had an awesome time and were able to get signatures from most of the All Blacks.

A rugby ball signed by the All Blacks now sits in our Trophy Cabinet in the office if anyone is interested in having a look.

I am so proud of all the students that took part, they were brilliant!!!

Jess Lea



40Hr Famine

Congratulations to everyone who took part in our 40 Hr Famine. Swanson school managed to raise \$450. Well Done everyone!

Chocolate Fundraiser Prize Winners

1st Prize - Joshua

2nd Prize - Liam

3rd Prize - Henry

With a choice of Bike, iTouch or PSP

Also 10 x spot prizes of MP3 players

We still have a large amount of chocolates that have not been paid for. Please send money or chocolates back immediately! Thank you

eCSP

Electronic Community Software Plan
Back by Popular demand

Great News! EdAlive's software is now downloadable on-line!
EdAlive's NEW eCSP will go on line from 8th August 2011.

- 20% of every sale goes as CASH to actively participating schools!
- Easier than ever to run!

For more details go to www.edalive.com/ecsp

Ripper Rugby—Monday 1/8/11

11 of our school pupils were invited to a coaching session with the All Blacks. We left school at 3.40 pm and arrived at the Trust Stadium, to be greeted by More FM. After a long wait we entered the stadium and were given our own All Black, Liam Messam, who gave us some pointers on how to play and became one of our players. We played and won 2 games. A great time was had by all.

Thank you Miss Lea

By Trent R11

Wet Day Clothes

PLEASE make sure your child has a change of clothes in their bag during these wet weeks! There are no spare clothes in the office.

Waitakere College

Open Evening

Year 9 Enrolments for 2012
(Home Zone and Out of Zone)

Saturday (6th and 13th August)

10.00 am—2.00 pm

Tuesday to Thursday (9th—11th, 16th—18th August)

3.30 pm—6.00 pm

Then every Wednesday : 3.30 - 6.00 pm

Out of Zone Ballot applications close 5.00 pm Thursday 1st
September 2011

Prospectus for 2012 is now available .