

NEWSLETTER

12 February 2010 Name.....

Kia ora, Malo e le lei, Talofa, Ni hao, Namaste, Bula,
Kia orana, Greetings.

Welcome to a new school year. A special welcome to our new students, parents and caregivers. I trust your association with our school will be both enjoyable and rewarding.

I am pleased that our school year has begun very smoothly. New enrolments this year total 60 and these pupils have settled in well. Class programmes are underway and I thank all staff for their preparation prior to school opening.

I am pleased to welcome four new staff members to our teaching team. They are Mrs Angela Readings (Room 7), Mrs Trudy Simpson (Room 9), Mrs Briar O'Connor (Room 18) and Ms Sarah Alsari (Room 11).

I trust these new people will find their time with us enjoyable and professionally rewarding.

PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

Parents are invited to meet teachers, share information and hear about school programmes. (See dates below).

However, parents and caregivers are welcome to approach the school to discuss school procedures or children's progress at any time. If you have a matter to ask about please contact your child's teacher.

If you wish you can make an appointment to see the appropriate team leader. These teachers are Miss Janice Lindsay (Years 5 and 6), Mrs Ann Sowden (Years 3 and 4) and Mrs Joanne Schroeder (Years 1 and 2).

Dialogue between home and school is important and we welcome your enquiries.

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENTS

Our Board of Trustees has completed a major renovation of our swimming pool facility. The area now has shade sails and the pool has a new "state of the art" pool liner that should serve our needs for many, many years.

Our students are enjoying swimming in the "new" pool and I am sure you will be impressed when next you visit the pool area. I also thank our Board for their foresight and commitment to water safety and swimming programme.

The next development to take place this term is the relocation of our Literacy Centre to new, purpose

built offices to be situated at the Hill Road end of Room 4. We will then convert the current Literacy Centre into a classroom. (Room 24). This will enable us to keep classroom numbers smaller in the second half of the year when numbers traditionally build up.

SCHOOL FUNDS

Each year I summarise major items of expenditure from our school budget to give parents an idea of how money is spent throughout the curriculum. Examples from our 2010 budget include:

The Arts	\$6,000
Reading materials (including text books)	\$19,500
Library books	\$4,000
Sports equipment (and programmes)	\$8,700
Computer technology	\$59,000
School grounds	\$11,700

The school is only able to commit such a high level of expenditure on learning materials because of the support we receive with local fundraising. This includes:

General Knowledge-a-thon	\$12,000
School donations	\$11,000
Other fundraising	\$ 8,600

The Board of Trustees is conscious of the costs of schooling and has maintained the parent donation at \$40 per child per year. (\$10 per term if you wish) My thanks to those who have already paid.

I wish to stress that the \$40 is a voluntary donation unlike stationery costs and extra school activities which attract an individual cost. However, the donation is appreciated as it allows us to enhance the excellent facilities available to your child/children. Our Board of Trustees seeks to provide the best facilities we can for your children. Indeed I believe we are developing a school with a range of facilities second to none. Your support in this process is much appreciated.

SCHOOL SECURITY

New people may not be aware that in the interests of pupil safety our school gates are locked between 9am and 2.55pm. Day visitors to the school are asked to sign in at the school office and wear identification while in the grounds.

Except in rare emergencies our school day always finishes at 3 o'clock. All children are expected to leave the grounds at that time and proceed home. This way you can expect your children to arrive at the same time each day.



SMOKE FREE

Visitors are reminded that NZ law requires school sites to be smokefree at all times including evening meetings and activities.

Class trips and sports' events off site must also be smoke free. Thank you for helping us comply with this law.

BIBLE IN SCHOOL

This optional programme takes place from 9am to 9.30am each Wednesday from 3 March to the end of November for Years 3 to 6 only.

The lessons are taken by accredited Bible in School teachers and are Christian based. If you do not want your child involved please inform your child's teacher in writing before 3 March.

NATIONAL STANDARDS

You will have read a great deal about this in the news media much of it conflicting.

I want to reassure all parents that we will work to make these procedures work for your children while at the same time meeting the requirements of the new law.

We already use a number of national tests to assess children's progress and teachers will use these as a basis for determining if a child is reaching the expected standard. Senior staff has also begun to revise our student reports to ensure the written information you receive at the end of Terms 2 and 4 meets with our legal obligations and is helpful to your child's progress.

Although the debate on this issue is heated and somewhat confusing I am certain that good teaching coupled with school parent support is the best way to help every child at every level. This is certainly what we are focussed on at Manurewa Central.

BOARD OF TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

Board elections are held every three years and this is the year parents and caregivers are given the opportunity to stand for Board membership and vote for the representatives you would like to represent you on the school Board.

Dates: 15 March nominations open
23 April (noon) nominations close
7 May voting closes
13 May votes counted
14 May new Board takes office

More information will be forthcoming. However, now is the time to consider if you would like to further your support of our school as a Board of Trustees' member. If you would like to discuss aspects of this

work please feel free to phone me on 269 0250 or our current Chairperson Chris Ward on 272 0258 (work phone number).

NEWSLETTERS

I consider our newsletters to be a very important part of our home/school communication. Indeed our parent survey last year found that newsletters are our most important form of communication.

You can expect a newsletter every three weeks usually on a Friday. Newsletters contain important information, dates of school events for your calendars and student news. The student news provides an excellent overview of the many exciting activities and programmes happening at school. I trust you will find newsletters interesting and informative.

Thank you.

L Thew - PRINCIPAL

IMPORTANT DATES

February

16 Meet the teacher evening. Years 5 & 6
7pm in school auditorium.

17 Board of Trustees' monthly meeting 7pm.

25 Senior school (Years 5 & 6) swimming
sports 9.30am.

25 Cricket – Central versus Clendon Park

26 Middle school (Years 3 & 4) swimming
sports 1pm – 2.30pm

March

1 Meet the teacher evening. Years 1 to 4
7pm in school auditorium.

2 Interschool swimming

3 Bible in school programme begins

3 Junior school swimming carnival

3 Cricket - Central versus Hillpark

5 Next newsletter

7 NZ Children's Day (Sunday)

12 Literacy meeting for parents 2pm

15-19 Outdoor education week (senior school)

Term 1 finishes on Thursday 1 April at 3 o'clock
(prior to Easter).

Welcome

To pupils who have joined us recently

Bhavandeep Kaur, Aman Preet Kaur, Dedrick Sione, Shivnil Lal, Kristika Lakshmi, Chloe Mane, Diya Ciji, Hamish Trembath, Jaswin Kaur, Tisha Naicker, Philippe Benedito, Valeti Lousiale, Annalyn Leatuau, Christian Cooper, Cheyenne Kanivatoa, Daylahn Walker-Hemana, Astyn Smart, Llexis Trembath, Marcel Ikihagai, Taylor Maskell, Prisca Wang, Denise Falelogi, Evaine Falelogi, Malachi Pikaahu, Faleola To'a, Fekita To'a, Solomone To'a, Nathan Delany-Huriwai, Rhiannon Floyd-Crabbe, Mitchell Bull, Sonatane Kaufusi, David Anderson, Aviu Aviu, Rhyan Kett-Marshall, Cole Readings, Zellas Uatisone,

Rongokino Ngatai, Ansh Raj, Dante Ihaka, Jacob Honey, Samuel Honey, Bailey Hall-Danilo, Silvana Warren, Ramsina Shaba, Ebonie Lambert, Tru-Mercedes Mita, Anna Tran, Aidan Koh-Limatau, Madisyn Martin, Andy Huang, Filemoni Faasavalu, Alza Puthenpurackal, Krishan Prasad, Alishia Williams, Reason Cooper, Summer Urquhart, Nishchal Goundar, Vika Sina, Victoria Te Rore-Watt.

Happy Birthday

To people who have a special day about now.

February

1 Madisyn Martin	2 Aidan Koh-Limatau
4 Alanna Burke	4 Dylan Maaka
4 Ninveh Marwan	4 Isaiah Sola
6 Zenith Ross	6 Vika Sina
6 Gurleen Singh	7 Nathan Delany-Huriwai
7 Conor Scott	7 Khaine Park
10 Lovejyot Mahay	11 Kavish Kumar
12 Gulab Yadav	13 Logan May
14 Maddison Simmonds	
16 Dipshika Prasad	17 Holly Dalbeth
17 Marcel Ikihaagai	
19 Ayensha Goundar	20 Quinn Motuliki
20 Jennifer Rose Kara	21 Ganeev Sethi
22 Talia Sloane	22 Prisca Wang
24 Jason Phung	25 Leighton Croft
26 Diya Ciji	27 Jasroop Gill
27 James Groves	28 Jaswin Kaur
29 Ayush Chandra	

MARCH

1 Mitchell Bull	2 Stavrow Karimo
3 Zane Hills	3 Paris Newson
3 Joseph Oti-George	4 Brooklyn Baker



The following students have been recognised by their class teachers for showing diligence and achievement in all aspects of their school and classwork.

R1 Aviu Aviu	R3 Bhavandeep Kaur
R4 Levi Rota Leggan	R5 Angel Sipeli-Muriwai
R6 Ayush Chandra	R7 Jorja Malesala
R8 Steffi Webb-Butler	R9 Steven Zeng
R10 Joseph Carter	R11 Angeline Ball
R12 Jasmine Faust	R13 Ariki Taka
R14 Mitchell Bolton	R15 Jade Maaka
R16 Stanley Brabazon	R17 Lana Bradley
R18 Prisca Wang	R19 Raven Bourke
R20 Aimee Lew	R21 Hadassah Wharawhara
R23 Harkirit Dhaliwal	

ROOM NEWS

ROOM 1

We are very excited to be able to swim in our school pool. The water feels cold and it makes us shiver until we splash under the water. We are learning to use the flutterboards and move fast in the water like fish. We are having so much fun and learning lots of new things at school.

ROOM 3

We have had a wonderful holiday and are excited to be back at school. We have been busy writing lots of interesting information about ourselves, our likes and dislikes, things we are good at and our favourite food. We have also been creating graphs in maths about our eye colour, our favourite ice-cream and birthdays.

ROOM 5

Our pool looks new – the water is sparkling blue and the new shade sails keep us lovely and cool and safe from the sun. We are in swimming groups and we are all practising water confidence and swimming skills.

We have tadpoles in our room and some are already changing into frogs. They are growing legs. We will need to catch some flies and bugs for them to eat.

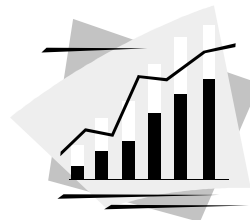
ROOM 7

We have all settled in well after our holiday, including the ones with four legs (our guinea pigs) and our latest arrivals (the four tadpoles and our teacher, Mrs Readings). Last week we learnt why we celebrate the Treaty of Waitangi and then we made our own treaty for our room.

When we went for a walk around the school we saw some monarch butterflies and caterpillars and we will be using them as a focus for some of our learning in the next couple of weeks along with our topic, "I'm Glad I'm Me". We have already started this topic and have some of our fantastic work displayed in our classroom.

ROOM 9

We have made a fabulous start to the year. We are excited about making new friends and are keen to learn new things! We are also very eager to show our teacher (who is new to the school) all the wonderful things we can do when we are at school. We have been decorating T-shirts to display in the classroom. We are learning about statistics and how to use tally charts and graphs using the information we have learnt about each other.



ROOM 11

Hello everyone! We have been busy bees. We have met our new teacher. Her name is Ms Alsari. She's kind, helpful and always organised. We have been learning about the Treaty of Waitangi. Waitangi is north of Auckland.

For the last few days we have been doing spelling. For our spelling we are learning to do alphabetical order. You have to put a list of words in alphabetical order by looking at the first letters of the word.

Chantelle Tamati

ROOM 13

Already we have started our art in our classroom. We have been busy learning about the colour wheel.

Did you know there are only three colours plus black and white? These three colours are yellow, red and blue. You can make all the other colours in the world by mixing these colours. These three colours are called primary colours. From these primary colours you mix your secondary colours. We have created a piece of artwork based on our names by mixing colours. Already they are up on the wall in our classroom.

We have enjoyed being in Room 13 because it has been very different from our old classrooms. We hope the rest of the year will be just as much fun.

Charm Harvey and Alexis Kaing

ROOM 15

2010 has begun and we are glad to be in Room 15 with Mrs Le-Mamea and our student teacher Miss Baker. We have been working hard on our "All about Ourselves" activities and sharing about our family. One of our favourite activities is doing our portraits of ourselves using pastels. They look bright and colourful. After lunch Miss Baker is reading a book called The Twits to us and we are enjoying listening to the story because there are many funny parts. It feels like it's going to be a great year for us being in Room 15.

Victoria Black & Jade Maaka

ROOM 17

We have all made a dossier to share information about ourselves. For art we made collages in the shape of our heads. We have got a new student teacher. Her name is Miss Fearnley. Every day she brings a new book to share. Storytime is exciting – we love listening to stories! Our favourite thing that we are doing is swimming. We are learning to put our faces into the water when we swim. It is so much fun! We have all signed a class treaty – even Miss Walker and Miss Fearnley!

*Gabrielle, Kallani-Jayde, Immanuel,
John & Darren*

ROOM 19

What a great start to 2010. The weather is great and we are pleased to be able to try the swimming pool out. It looks amazing now. We are lucky to have a student teacher called Miss Singh to help us for the first two weeks. We are looking forward to doing our self portraits. We are using an artist called Amedeo Modigliani to get ideas for our portraits. They will

look fabulous because they will be a little bit different from a normal portrait.

Dylan Maaka

ROOM 21

We have had a terrific start to 2010. We have been writing about our wonderful holidays and sharing lots of interesting stories in our groups.

Our class has started swimming and we are all confident in the cool, refreshing water. It won't be long before we are all swimming a length.

Room 21 has been designing shields which show our interests, hobbies and our family and pets.

We are all settled in and looking forward to an exciting year.

ROOM 23

We are enjoying being in our new class. We have been very busy doing writing, reading and maths. We love swimming in the school pool. We like using the noodles and the flutterboards to move around the pool.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

TEACHER AIDE VACANCIES

Two positions will soon be available for teachers' aides in our school.

i) Senior School 25 hours per week

ii) Special Needs 20.5 hours per week

Inquiries to the office or hand your CV to the Deputy Principal. Applications close on 19 February. Positions commence on 1 March.

deputy@mancent.school.nz

SOCCER REGISTRATION

Manurewa AFC – Gibbs Road Manurewa

Registration for both girls and boys of all ages on Saturday 13 and Sunday 14 February 10 – 4pm and Wednesday, 17 February 5 – 8.00pm.

Clendon United AFC – Mountfort Park (Entrances off Dr Pickering Ave or Weymouth Road) Registration Saturdays 13 and 20 February 10am–12pm and Thursday 18 February 6 – 8pm. For more information phone Steve 267 5624.

Jellicoe Park Tennis Club

Tennis Open Day 14 February. All welcome. Please phone Kristian for more information 267 2136 or 021 1469674.

Helen O'Grady Children's Drama

Enrolment for classes for students aged 5 – 17 years are now being taken. Phone Debbie 836 0233 for further details.