



# The EBIS Bulletin

Phone: (04) 939 3247

Email: [principal@ebis.school.nz](mailto:principal@ebis.school.nz)

Fax: (04) 939 3248

[secretary@ebis.school.nz](mailto:secretary@ebis.school.nz)

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2009

## **Dear Parents and Caregivers**

Welcome back to the new term.

I hope that you have had a nice time with your children over the break. It has certainly been lovely weather and the overdue rain we now have makes for a change!

At the end of last term we had a visit by Mt Sommers School. This visit involved us billeting students from the school. The Principal, Mr Murphy has phoned me to say that in Term 3 they will offer to our school a scholarship for two students. This will be an all expenses paid week at their school being billeted by families.

The week he suggests is the one when they are all skiing so whoever we send will get to go skiing as well. This is a most generous gift from their schools' Board and we are thrilled to be able to offer this to two students. The selection of the two students for this will be done later this term.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

30<sup>th</sup> April Otago Maths

1<sup>st</sup> May Mufti Day

5<sup>th</sup> May Special talk to the Year 8 girls about the Cervical Cancer Vaccination.

6<sup>th</sup> May Parent Interviews 3 – 8pm and 7<sup>th</sup> May 3 – 5pm

## **NETBALL**

It was great to reach the end of the term and to have almost all netball fees paid. The season gets underway this weekend. It is always a lot of fun going to Saturday morning sports with your children. My own daughter who is 26, starts her season on Saturday too and I must confess that I am most excited at being back to the netball courts once again! (The routine mince and cheese pie and real cream donut at the Hataitai bakery prior to the game, is also an added attraction.....) It is always a hard job being the coach of any team too because, no matter what you do there will always be someone who thinks they have not been given the right position or team to play in. Can I urge you to support your coaches and if you do have any issues at all during the season please contact them first and foremost to talk things over. If you have any queries regarding the general overall school organisation then please contact Sue Melville.

## **BLANKET PERMISSION SLIP**

Last term we received from most of you the new *blanket permission slip*. Can you please get this back to the school as soon as possible if you have not done so already. With the various things on again this term that involve students going out of school, this will make things a lot easier for you and for staff too.

## **FFFF FUND SCHOLARSHIP**

Late last year we were offered a very exciting new Scholarship for any student in Years 7 – 10 in the eastern Suburbs. This is in the process of being set up and will be ready for applications next year. The fund is being provided by an ex-parent of the school. He is putting \$100,000.00 in an investment and the interest each year will be used as a scholarship for three students. The amount will depend on the investment interest made each year. The money would be used for students to extend their abilities in an area of the Arts. Once the details are fully completed, I will let you know more. The Trust met last Friday evening and we are in the process of finalising the details for the application process etc.

## **Year 8 Girls Vaccination**

You will have already heard a lot about this through the media and from the flyer we sent home last term. The Year 8 girls will be talked with about this on May 5<sup>th</sup> and they will bring home further information for you. Like any vaccination, you will be given the choice as to whether your daughter has this vaccination or not. Some parents may prefer to go to their own GP to do this. Once the information comes home you will know more about this and so you will be able to make an informed decision about this.

### **Parent Interviews**

The forthcoming Parent Interviews are very important for you and your child. These interviews provide a specific meeting time for you to come along with your son or daughter and set their specific learning goals for the rest of the year. Staff will share with you your child's test results from the National Standardised Tests that were done in Term One. These tests show you where your child is achieving at alongside their age group nationally. If for any reason you are not able to attend either date, then please make another time to do this.

### **Variety Sport**

This is one of the fun things that students get to do at EBIS! Over a period of 4 weeks, (four one and a half hour sessions) students get to take part in a selected sporting activity. This is a great way to let them have a go at a sport that may be of interest to them. We want all our children to leave intermediate feeling confident to take part in some sporting code. Physical activity is a critical ingredient for a healthy mind and body. When children are studying as they are now, it is so important that they are physically active! Taking part in a sport, no matter what it is, helps to keep students focussed and positive about life. **For now please do not send any money. Students simply need to choose an option and once groups are finalised, money will be sought.**

### **TEACHER ONLY DAY**

Last Friday staff had a Teacher Only Day. As part of the day we looked at finalising our work on our EBIS Curriculum Statements. We want you to know exactly what we will be providing for your child in their two years at EBIS. We believe that you need to know what you can expect your son or daughter to be learning in the time that they are with us. I have attached this document for you. I would welcome feedback from you about what staff have come up with.

The School Targets this year as mentioned to you at the start of the year are: Reading for Understanding, Competence in Basic Facts in Mathematics, Providing better feedback to students in their learning. Staff also in the Teacher Only Day shared the various strategies that they are using to help students in these areas.

### **TEXTING AND BEBO**

Just a reminder - last year we had a special talk in an assembly from Youth Aid about the use of texting and the Bebo Site in a negative way. Can you please talk with your children about what they are texting and what they are writing on their Bebo Site. We want all our children to feel safe and happy and I know that you do too.

### **UNIFORM REDUCED PRICES! Fleece Tops \$40.00 and PE Tees \$20.00**

### **TEACHER AIDE – 15 HOURS A WEEK**

Further to the note I sent home at the end of last term, I would like to hear from anyone who would enjoy working with 5 students this term.

Please contact the school if ever you need to. If I do not get back to you the day you called then the message may not have got through. Please call again. Emailing me will also always get an immediate response that day too! We enjoy the partnership that we have with you! I welcome your calls at school on **939-3247**, cell phone **021- 252-1383** or at home on **234 – 8724 anytime the need arises.**

Best Wishes



Mrs Wendy Esera

**ON BEHALF OF THE EBIS STAFF & BOARD**