



# The EBIS Bulletin

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Tuesday March 31st 2009

## Dear Parents and Caregivers

The trip that students have just had to Capital E was simply superb! I have no doubt that your son or daughter will have come home full of excitement at what they saw last week.

Next term our students start a unit on Refugees and one of the shows that students saw at Capital E was about Refugees in the NZ playground. It was a very powerful drama which would have given our children a lot to think about. One of the things that our children face today is the variety of different ethnic groups that are in the playground. Now is the time to be teaching our children about tolerance, understanding and inclusion. You may like to ask your son or daughter about this particular show they saw. I found it to be very moving! It was very close to the heart and really did give a perfect example of just what goes on under our nose in our own school playgrounds. Of course, those playgrounds are also a reflection of the streets in our neighbourhood. As a school we feel very strongly about the way that we model and encourage good citizenship.

It was very nice to see Mr Murphy last week. He left our school a year ago to head South and become a Principal in his own school. His students had a really great time with our students. Many thanks to the parents who hosted children as billets in their home. A big thanks to Mr Gittos who did a huge amount of work organising this exchange visit. The school received a lovely book for our library as a thank you from the Murphy Family.

The school wide Value that we are focussing on over the next two weeks is, **RESPECT**. This is certainly one of the most important of all the values that we teach! We need to have respect for self, for others and for our environment.

### IMPORTANT DATES

1<sup>st</sup> April Board Meeting

3<sup>rd</sup> April Mufti Day

**9<sup>th</sup> April Final day of Term 1 at 2.50pm!**

**27<sup>th</sup> April First day of Term 2 at 8.50am!**

### NETBALL FEES – 3<sup>rd</sup> APRIL FINAL DAY FOR PAYMENT.

Final reminder please that fees must be paid by April 3<sup>rd</sup> in order for students to play. If payment of this is an issue please remember you can call Suzanne ( Executive Officer) and this can be paid by instalment.

### SCHOOL FEES & DONATIONS

Many thanks to the number of you that have already paid your child's school fees and donations. As of today, we have 75% of the school roll that have paid their children's school fees and donations. This is just wonderful! The fees are only for the consumable things that your son or daughter use in the technology area. This is the only area where we are able to, as a school, ask parents for payment.

The donation is the voluntary amount. These can be paid at the office and can also be paid by instalment through the school's internet banking facility. Donations paid by the end of this week will be dated March 31<sup>st</sup> and can be used as a tax deduction.

## **ROAD SAFETY**

Can you please talk to your son or daughter about crossing the road. We have an ongoing issue with students running across the road without looking. They are not using the crossings provided in Kilbirnie.

## **BLANKET PERMISSION SLIP**

Last week you all received a blanket permission slip. Can you please get this back to the school as soon as possible. This will mean that in future we will only be sending out a notice about the cost of an event ( if any) and your permission will already be a given.

## **Behaviour Management - according to the Experts.**

In Auckland recently there was a national summit day to look at the issue of behaviour in schools.

I thought you may be interested in some of what was said in this Summit.

Schools need to create *telling cultures*. We are doing this and in order for this to be really successful we need your help. Often children do not speak up when things happen that upset them at school. They are often afraid of what may happen if they *TELL*. Please talk with your children about the importance of them speaking up. If they say nothing they are allowing a bully to continue to be a bully. If they tell an adult then that adult will and must, do something about it.

This summit talked about how restorative practices are successful. We do our best here to make sure that we get children to apologise to people they have hurt in anyway. We believe that students need to *PUT IT RIGHT* with a person who they have not treated well.

While teachers play a key role in management of students at school, the Summit spoke of how important it is for parents to manage behaviour that is not acceptable too. When a parent knows that their child is doing things that are not okay then they need to deal with the issues. In my dealings with families over 33 years in teaching, I see whenever a parent shows how unhappy they are with their child's behaviour, that child is far more likely to change their behaviour. When a parent tries to blame other students rather than making their child accept responsibility for behaviour that is not okay, the child almost always goes on to continue to behave inappropriately. This tough love approach is not easy and that is where the school can help you.

Do not hesitate to call us anytime when you need support with this.

It is not easy for children growing up in the world today. Staff are well aware as you are too, of the many negative influences that there are out there. Peer pressure that children are up against is hard for them and they need all the support, encouragement and love, that they can get. We need to be there for them!

## **NOTICES**

**Capital Football Holiday Camps** - To register email [ian.rogers@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ian.rogers@xtra.co.nz)

**Craft House Holiday Programme** - For further information contact 499 -4499. (47 Hutt Road, Thorndon)

**YMCA Holiday Programme** - To enrol call Donna on 568 – 3252

**Wellington United Football Coaching Clinic** - Further details about this call Ian Rogers 021 – 843 – 024 This will be run from April 14 – 16<sup>th</sup>

**Children's Pottery Classes** - 4 mornings from 20 -24<sup>th</sup> April. Contact Rosemary O'Hara 233 – 0003

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

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**