



The EBIS Bulletin

Phone: (04) 939 3247
Fax: (04) 939 3248

Email: principal@ebis.school.nz
secretary@ebis.school.nz

Monday 12th October 2009

Dear Parents and Caregivers

I hope that you have had a very restful break with your children! The big drop in temperatures is certainly a bit of a shock to the system isn't it.

As we start the new term it is good to just reflect a bit on the fantastic way that we ended the last term. Thank you so much for all your support with the school Musical Production. This was simply a wonderful event for us as a school. It was a great celebration of the talent that our children have. The dancing, the singing, the acting, the work done back stage and with things like the costumes, the backdrops, the lighting all made for a huge school celebration. Mary Sagato who was our producer, really did an incredible job with co-ordinating all the necessary things to make it the success that it was.

Over the holidays we have had new carpet and a repaint done in Rooms 10, 11 and 14. These rooms are looking lovely and it is now only Rooms 15 and 16 that still need to be modernised. The Kimi Ora building project is still going to happen but this has been delayed. Included in this project, Rooms 15 and 16 are possibly going to be relocated by the interchallenge and so we will not be doing anything to these rooms until this project is finalised. As soon as I have information about this I will let you all know!

The school value that we are focussing on over the next two weeks is: **whanaungatanga**. As a staff we care about our students - your children! We want them to grow up knowing how to care for others too. They need to be taught how to care about and think about others and how to feel for others who are less fortunate than they are. We live in a community together and we need to be able to relate positively to those around us. I had a wonderful experience recently at the celebration of diversity which took place at Te Papa.

A Year 13 student from Wellington College spoke to the gathering about his life growing up with neighbours in Kilbirnie. He spoke of how they all came from many different countries. He shared of how much he learned about people through the fun and great times that they all had together. Our children are growing up in a world where they need to be able to work alongside people from different backgrounds. They need to be able show compassion for others, show understanding and tolerance.

It is very appropriate that we start the term with the focus on this value with the tragic Tsunami in Samoa. You may well already know through your son or daughter, that it was our teacher Mrs Pearse who was on TV in the hospital bed in Apia after the Tsunami. She is now back in New Zealand and at home here in Wellington. Charlie had in fact gone to Samoa to stay with Mrs Sefulu Calvert who was a teacher at our school last year. Sefulu and her husband went to Samoa in January to have a year living with her family. Fortunately she was not in the same area with Charlie at the time the Tsunami

hit. Charlie has had a hugely traumatic experience. She has had surgery on one of her legs and she has also injured her back. We are not expecting her back at school, for at least another two weeks.

As we have such a huge number of our students who have family affected by this tragedy we are going to be using the Mufti Day money on October 21st as a donation to the Red Cross for the Tsunami victims. I believe our students would like very much to do something like this. We will arrange for someone from Red Cross to come in to our assembly so that the School Reps can present them with the money on behalf of our students.

IMPORTANT DATES

20th October Interschool – Hockey and Volleyball

21st October Mufti Day: Funds to Red Cross for the Tsunami victims in Samoa

SWIMMING PROGRAMME

This was a hugely productive learning time for our students. In the report home to you at the end of the year, you will receive a report on the progress that your child made in the swimming programme. The pool staff who took the programme have provided very good reports on what children were able to do by the time they completed the programme. I surveyed the whole school in the last week of the term to find out what students felt about how successful the programme had been for them.

The statements that students had to respond to were:

My confidence in water has improved with the programme.

I learned new skills to help me swim.

I thought you might be interested to know just how positive students were about the programme.

My confidence in water has improved with the programme – 83% said yes!

I learned new skills to help me swim – 80% of students said yes.

The **Beach Education programme** later this term, will be a good follow up to this. Students will be able to build on their new swimming skills as well as becoming confident and safe in and around the sea.

Last week all staff did their **First Aid Level One Certificates**. This was a great training for us to do together as a staff. It is a hugely useful skill to have not only when working at school when accidents can and do happen, but also in life outside of school hours.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

- Rongotai College Adult and Community Education Enrolments for T4 classes are open - pick up a programme booklet at your local library or community centre, email comed@rongotai.school.nz or ph 9393056 for further info.
- Artsight, Term 4 Art Classes For more information and to book go to: <http://www.artsight.co.nz/> or call Fiona on: 04 3862908 or 021 786629 Email: fiona@artsight.co.nz.

We are looking forward to another great term working with you and your special young person!

Don't forget to contact the school if you ever need to. 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

