



# The EBIS Bulletin

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Monday November 7<sup>th</sup> 2011

## Dear Parents and Caregivers

Last week we had a wonderful time as a school with us hosting the launch of a new health resource called, “**BE HEALTHY, BE ACTIVE**”. This is a special resource designed just for Year 7 and 8 students. The resource teaches the importance of exercise and eating well. The matter of healthy eating and exercise has become a national and in fact, a global issue. We are dealing with so many health issues that are linked to poor diet and lack of exercise. We want to help our children to have the right attitude about food and exercise now, so that they will grow into adults that are less likely to face serious health issues.

This new resource puts fun into learning about these things. What makes it so appealing for students is that they are at a computer and the resource is highly interactive! Nestle New Zealand has been the major sponsor in making the resource. They very generously have given our School a wonderful interactive whiteboard as a thank you for us allowing them to use our School to host the Launch. The whiteboard is in the MMR Room and the learning resource is going to be used by all students across the school next year. Two members of our teaching team were involved in making the resource. Christine McKinley was one of the teachers used in the actual making of the activities. This involved Christine going in and working at Learning Media. Chris Cordell’s class was used to trial parts of the Resource as it was being constructed last year. On the day of the Launch 10 year 8 students were chosen by Chris to be the demonstrators of the Resource. We had 40 teachers from other schools here that day, watching students working with the Resource. We are very thrilled to have been able to have this event at our School.

The **tarsealing** issue around the grounds is now at long last competed. This morning we arrived at school to find machines and a team of men all ready to get started. This work on the playground is long overdue and so we are very pleased to at last have it completed. It is going to be so much tidier and so much safer, with no holes and uneven ground to trip on!

The value that we are focussing on right now is **SUCCESS**. At EBIS this is about teaching our children to believe in themselves. At this age and stage, students need to be encouraged to believe that being successful is actually “COOL.” Part of this lovely stage is that being successful is seen as not being cool. Students will often tell their teacher to simply slip them an award rather than calling it out and presenting it to them publicly.

We tell students that to be successful they need to have the right attitude, be proud and strive for excellence! Thinking is believing! We know as adults just how important self belief is!

As the saying goes too.....*it is attitude, not aptitude that will help you reach, the altitude!*

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

16<sup>th</sup> Nov Interschool Touch Rugby Tournament

17<sup>th</sup> Nov Ethnic Parents Meeting

## **2012 CLASSES**

At this time of year we always ask parents of our year 7 students if they would like their child to have a change of homeroom class for the next school year. As well as asking parents about any changes, staff also contact parents where they feel that for one reason or another, a change would be good.

If you would like your child to have a change of homeroom class in 2012, then please email me about this.

We care about the well-being of our students and so if a change is in their best interest, we will ensure that this happens.

### **REPORTS POSTED HOME**

In the last week of this term, End Of Year Reports will be posted home. Can you please make sure that the Office has any change of address that you may have had since June when the last lot of reports were posted home. This is always an issue and we get reports sent back to school because of the fact that the address we have is the wrong one. We want every family to receive the end of year reports.

### **FACEBOOK AND TEXTING**

We continue to find ourselves having to deal with issues about texting and Facebook. Can you please remind your children about what they write to other people. They are young and learning about all these things and so they need our guidance. What is written is very hurtful and we are well aware of how much this can cause great unhappiness. We have had situations this year where students have chosen to not come to school all because of what someone else has written about them, or to them, on Facebook. It is extremely hard for us to stop this sort of thing, because this is something that children are not doing at school but on home computers. Schools are required, where things impact on student well-being or attendance at school, to act on information they are given. This is the only time when we will get involved with what students may be writing about other students on these sites, out of school hours.

### **MT SOMERS STUDENTS - BILLETS**

You may remember that two of our students went down last term, to be hosted by families from Mt Somers School. The two students who went, had a wonderful time. On November 28<sup>th</sup> we are expecting to have two students from that school coming up to be with us. If you would like to billet one of these students, then please let me know. The students are here from Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November until Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December.

**We appreciate the phone calls we have with you - whether they be to give us a bouquet or to raise a concern you have.**

**The more we work together with you the more successful your special young person will be at school.**

**When parents are engaged with the school, their children are far more likely to have learning success.**

**I welcome your calls at school on 939-3247, on my cell phone 021- 252-1383 or after hours on 234 – 8724 anytime the need arises.**

Best Wishes



Mrs Wendy Esera

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