

# Newsletter



**Kuranui School**

*Striving to be the best we can*

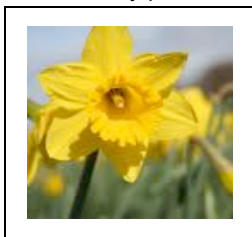
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1<sup>st</sup> September 2010

Welcome to SPRING – the daffodils are certainly blooming as seen by our colourful display last Friday (see the lovely photos below).

Welcome to the wider school community, hope this newsletter finds you all fit and well and surviving the perils of calving and lambing.

I'd like to say a big thank you to Gilly Alexander who has been 'manning' the office over the past four weeks while Karen van Waveren has been busy chasing our four-legged friends around the paddocks; you've done a wonderful job as usual. A warm welcome back to Karen ..... until the next calving season ☺.



### **Kura Kid Focus: Making the most of any opportunity**

Well done to the following students who have been demonstrating they are keen on maximising any opportunities presented to them.

R. 1 – Conor Goodwin, Calais Wetere-Chais, Rion Hearn  
R. 3 – Jordan "Rogers, Sinead Liddell-Anderson, Joshua Hearn, Danni van Gog, Isaiah Howell  
R. 5 – Jade Howell, Luke van Gog, Alana Sunkel, Paige Watkins

### **Week 7, 8 Focus: Being responsible for the environment**

This is very timely as it coincides with conservation week. As an Enviro School, we are always conscious of doing our bit for the planet, so will be busy planting 22 new shrubs/small trees in our native area. These are courtesy of the 'Paper for Trees' initiative, which encourages the recycling of paper. Remember, you are more than welcome to deposit your paper/cardboard in the fadges located at the rear of the van shed.

I look forward to sharing the names of students who actively demonstrate taking responsibility for the environment in next week's newsletter.

One suggestion I would like to encourage is the reduction of 'packaged' foods in school lunchboxes – if at all possible, can you try to reduce this by using reusable containers for food items please.

### **Student Achievement: Australian Spelling and Writing Competition**

At assembly last Friday we were able to celebrate the achievement of a number of students who did very well in the Australian Spelling Competition:

Beckie Leigh (Y. 4) – credit  
Kayla Rogers (Y. 6) – credit  
Luke van Gog (Y. 6) – distinction (top 5% in NZ)  
Alana Sunkel (Y. 6) – distinction (top 5% in NZ)

This week, the writing results arrived – wow, what clever students we have.

#### Writing:

William Leigh (Y. 5) – credit  
Hayden Aiken (Y. 5) – credit  
Cameron Leigh (Y. 6) – credit  
Kayla Rogers (Y. 6) – credit  
Paige Watkins (Y. 5) – distinction (top 5% in NZ)  
Luke van Gog (Y. 6) – distinction (top 5% in NZ)

We are all very proud of your wonderful achievement. Congratulations. Just remember, behind every clever student there is also a clever teacher and a supportive family. ☺

On that note, good luck to the four students who are representing Kuranui School at the upcoming Spelling Bee in Hamilton on 11<sup>th</sup> September. The students are Paige Watkins, Jade Howell (Y. 5) and Alana Sunkel and Luke van Gog (Y. 6).

### **Otago Problem Solving: Maths**

This is a competition run by the University of Otago, targeting competent problem-solvers in Ys 6 – 8. A series of five 'tests' are sat over a period of five months, with the questions varying in difficulty level, from challenging to mind-boggling. Have a go at this one:

In this long multiplication, all '8' digits are shown, but all of the other digits (shown as \_) are missing.

When the multiplication is completed correctly, what will the final answer be?

$$\begin{array}{r} \_ \_ 8 \\ \times \_ 8 \_ \\ \hline \_ \_ \_ \\ 8 \_ \_ \_ \\ \hline \_ \_ 8 \_ \end{array}$$

The students have 30 minutes to complete the five questions. This year, Luke van Gog scored the perfect 100%, a very rare thing for a Y. 6. To put his achievement into perspective, during my teaching in the 'Extension Class' at Matamata Intermediate, I only ever had one other student achieve the perfect score; a Y. 8 student too, so Luke's result is outstanding. Well done. Now, Luke will be invited to compete against other like-minded students who scored at least 80% throughout the competition. I will keep you posted.

### **Daffodil Day – Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> August**

What wonderful, creative people we have in our school community. Well done for getting behind the children and helping them to support Daffodil Day last Friday, we had an exciting array of outfits. Our efforts raised a creditable \$106.50.

The students arrange themselves into the shape of a daffodil to display their creative efforts.

Brendon Oostinga (Y. 1) and Sean Watkins (Y. 1) share their creativity .....  
maybe Mum may have been pretty useful in helping out too ☺. Well done  
boys.

#### **School Network Upgrade (SNUP)**

You may be aware that the Ministry of Education has recently announced that all schools will be receiving 'ultra fast broadband' by the end of 2015. After registering for this upgrade last year, I am happy to say that our school has been invited to participate in this SNUP.

What does that mean for us?

Fibre optic cabling will be available to our gate; our responsibility, along with the MOE, is to get the fibre optic cabling from the gateway into our server. The MOE will fund 80% of this cost with Kuranui School funding the balance; this may mean approximately \$100 per student ( - just as well our very efficient treasurer has set aside funds for an upgrade!)

We will be working with the MOE over the upcoming months to ensure our upgrade happens as soon as possible to allow our teachers and students access to the best 21<sup>st</sup> century learning tools available. Fingers crossed!

#### **Book Launch**

*History of  
Tapapa Trout Hatchery  
by  
Joan Stanley  
Book Launch  
Saturday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
11.00 am  
at  
Tapapa Hall  
Bring along some lunch to share  
For any information phone:-  
Eileen Barker on 883 1839  
ALL WELCOME*

#### **Agricultural Day Trophies**

All Ag. day trophies need returning please. Please ensure they are clean and please only use silvo to clean them. Thank you.

#### **Rugby Representatives**

Congratulations to Hayden Aiken and William Leigh for making he Y.5 rugby reps. Budding All Blacks of the future?? ☺

#### **Dates to remember:**

6 September: Last day for Scholastic Book Club orders  
9 September: Technology Challenge – R.3 at Te Waotu  
9 September: Fundraising Committee meeting – 2 pm  
21 September: School cross-country & BBQ (for camp)  
24 September: End of term 3  
11 October: Start of term 4  
14 October: Calf Club and Gala Day  
29 October: "Hoe Down" at the Okoroire Hall

A thought.....

#### **Knowledge**

*He who knows not, and knows not he knows not, he is a fool,  
shun him.*

*He who knows not, and knows he knows not, he is simple,  
teach him.*

*He who knows, and knows not he knows, he is asleep,  
awaken him.*

*He who knows, and knows he knows, he is wise, follow him.*

**-Kipling-**

And the students have the final say ..... goodbye until next time.

**JENNY CLARK - Principal**