

19th February 2010



## From the Principal's Desk

Dear Parents

### Triathlon

Our very first **HPS Triathlon** will be held on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April**. The aim of this event is for children to participate with enjoyment and to complete the course without an emphasis on placings. The participants will be swimming or walking in the pool, scootering and running. Each age group, from Year One through to Year Six, will be in separate sessions and the non-participants will support their classmates as spectators. The whole event will be held in our school grounds using the school pool and our fields. To hold this event we will need to borrow 15 scooters, including helmets, from families. All participants will be provided with a 'paper hat' to ensure helmets remain hygienic. Parent helpers are also needed to 'man' the various stations, so please contact the school office if you are able to assist. Children will begin the course in small groups to ensure safety. This is not a fundraising event and there will not be any fee for participation.

### School Camp

Camp fees must be paid in full prior to the children leaving for camp on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2010. Camp, which is to be held at Totara Springs in Matamata, is currently costed at \$280 per student. However, by sourcing less expensive buses and with some fundraising, it is hoped that we will be able to bring this cost down. A special camp notice will be going to all parents of Year 5 & 6 students.

### Bible in Schools Programme Begins

Bible in schools starts on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March. If you wish for your child to attend the alternative supervision programme in the library, please email the school or inform us in writing.

### Fundraising to Support Riya

This is the fifth year we have sponsored Riya Sarker, our World Vision child. Each year we receive a report card telling us about Riya's life in Bangladesh. A photo of Riya and a copy of her Annual Progress Report is on the noticeboard in our reception area. Riya's favourite subject is Bengali and she has also been learning English and Mathematics. She also enjoys sports at school. She likes playing with her doll and gardening. At home she helps with the cleaning. Her desire is to be a teacher.

Riya is currently in Grade 3 and she has very good health.

A **\$2 Mufti Day on Tuesday 23 February** will raise funds to support Riya for this year.

### Walkathon

The school walkathon is on **Tuesday 16 March**. We will be leaving school at 11:00am. This event will follow exactly the same organisation as in previous years. You should have received the walkathon details in a special notice sent home yesterday. This event is our main fundraiser for the year and it has the dual purpose of focusing on health and wellbeing, as well as being a fun community event. The funds

raised will support the PTA goal to fund the purchase of ICT equipment, including digital cameras and a data show for our hall. We look forward to everyone enjoying this annual HPS event.

### Family Barbecue

The family BBQ is tonight. Mums and Dads can take an evening off cooking and come along to purchase BBQ food or bring a picnic dinner. The swimming pool will be open from 5:00pm to 6:00pm and teachers will assist with pool supervision. Sports equipment will be available and families can join in the games. The PTA newsletter sent home on Wednesday has also outlined this event.

### Aquatics

All teachers have spent the last two weeks involved in professional development focused on aquatics teaching and learning. The aquatics programme involved teaching children water safety and the basics of swimming. It is hoped that the weather will be warm enough for this programme to be taught through to the end of Term One. Thank you to the many parents who are supporting the Year 1 & 2 children with their aquatics lessons.

### New Programme: Kapa Haka and Te Reo

Emerson Nikora has begun his teaching programme with the Senior School. The children are enjoying their involvement in singing, learning about Maori culture and increasing their knowledge of the language.

### Parent Interviews

The teachers' booking schedules for the Three-Way Conferences show that many of you have now used our online booking system to secure an interview time. We encourage you to complete the booking process soon so you are able to get a time which suits your schedule. As outlined in previous communication, if you are unable to book for yourself please call in at the school office, preferably between 8:30am and 9:00am, so we can assist you with this process.



### Lantern Festival

Parents who pick up their children from school are welcome to come a little earlier on Monday 22 February to see the lantern exhibition in the HPS hall.

### Student Leaders for 2010

Congratulations to our new team of student leaders. Our HPS student leaders are:

|                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Breeana Barker  | Rory Cavanagh     |
| Nikita Deva     | Gabrielle Fields  |
| Danielle Gamlen | Timothy Griffiths |
| Kevin Guo       | Sivaan Naicker    |
| Liam Nicholls   | Tamara Potts      |
| Megan Scrivener | Khorshed Tarapore |

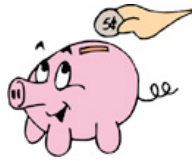
### Camp Fundraising

To raise funds for camp:

- \$1 ice blocks are being sold at lunchtime on Fridays.
- Middle & Senior School children can swim during lunchtime each day for \$1.

## Banking

Every Thursday morning from 8:15am to 8:50am in the boardroom (next to the office) your child can bank at school with their own Howick Primary School Tellers. This is a great way for your child to learn about the essential life skills of savings. Each child who opens a School Plus Account will receive an Opening Pack and a Deposit Book. Application forms are available at the school office or you are welcome to come along on Thursday morning at 8:15am to meet with a staff member from The National Bank. There is a benefit to the school from your child using this banking system.



**If you open a new School Plus account in Term One and have a minimum balance of \$25 by 31/3/10, you will go into a draw to win a family pass to either Kelly Tarlton's or to the movies.**

## BOARDSHORTS

The next HPS Board of Trustees meeting will be held at 7:30pm on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010 in the staffroom.



In 2010 there will be elections to select five parent representatives for the HPS Board of Trustees. Election date is 7<sup>th</sup> May 2010. School trustees have a very important role in making sure every child achieves their potential at school. Here are some of the things they do:

- Work with the principal and consult with staff, students and the community.
- Set the educational goals and strategic direction of the school.
- Monitor progress and let parents know how the school is progressing against its annual targets and how well students are achieving.
- Decide how the school's funding will be spent.
- Select the school's principal and support the development of all staff.
- Oversee the management of staff, property, finance, curriculum and administration.

The school staff and parents elect Boards of Trustees every three years. If you think you would like to contribute to the HPS community by standing for election in 2010, please contact the school office to find out more about standing for election, nominating someone else and voting in the election – they will be happy to help.

### ***Vision, Virtue and Habits of Mind***

This term the Vision focus is 'Excellence', the Virtue is 'Purposefulness' and the Habit of Mind is 'Striving for Accuracy'.

## KBB Music Lessons

Have you always wanted to learn a musical instrument? Do you want to be part of a cool band? Call Barbara at KBB Music on 623 8028 about the KBB Music School Concert Band Programme for 2010. Learn to play saxophone, flute, clarinet, trumpet, trombone or percussion! You'll love it!



## Manukau City Council Notice!!! Road Safety

Due to the continuing rise in complaints regarding illegal and dangerous parking at schools in our area, Manukau City Council Parking Services have advised that they will be doing regular school enforcement patrols. Parking Officers will no longer be asking parents/guardians to move vehicles from illegal parking areas, but will instead be issuing infringement notices in respect of the offence and will then post tickets out to the registered owner of the vehicle.

**We remind you that there is a sign-posted P2 (2 minutes only) parking zone immediately in front of the school on Willoughby Avenue on school days at the following times:**

8:30am to 9:00am  
2:30pm to 3:30pm

**Please also note that there is a 'no parking' zone on Willoughby Avenue by the Link Road from Monday to Friday at the following times:**

8:30am to 9:30am  
2:30pm to 3:30pm

## HOWICK PLUNKET BABY FAIR

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2010 - 10:00am to 12:00noon

Howick Recreation Centre

For further details: [www.howickplunket.org.nz](http://www.howickplunket.org.nz)



## Spanish Courses

Spanish courses for children and teenagers by experienced Latin American teacher. Affordable fees. Highland Park area.

For further info contact Carm on Ph. 533-1253

## Term 1, 2010, Art Classes for Children

**Days:** Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs. 4:00pm-5:30pm  
Saturday 9+ yrs. at 9:00am  
Saturday 5+ yrs. at 11:00am  
Begins Saturday 6 February

**Dates:** 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> April and 12<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> April

**Where:** Children's Art School  
Visual Arts Studios  
Faculty of Education (incorporating the Auckland College of Education)  
University of Auckland, Epsom

For a brochure or further information phone 623-8858 or email [c.gunnell@auckland.ac.nz](mailto:c.gunnell@auckland.ac.nz)



## HOWICK HORNETS RUGBY LEAGUE CLUB

Junior registrations will be held at our clubrooms on Paparoa Road, Howick, from 5:00pm to 7:30pm on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> February and on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

## Howick Pakuranga Junior Hockey Club Inc. MUSTER DAY

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> February  
4:30pm to 7:00pm  
Lloyd Elsmore Park

Have a go in a 6-a-side team, win prizes and enjoy a bbq. Open to all ages. \$2.00 donation at the gate.

