



## Year 5/6 Parent Letter

8 February 2010

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the school students and families for the commencement of our 2010 school year. The students have settled in very well during the first week of school to the routines and expectations of the classroom and we are looking forward to an exciting term ahead.

Joining our Year 5/6 team this year is Miss Needleman who will be teaching a Year 5 class in Room 12 and Miss Malan teaching Year 6 in Room 24. Mr. Nevalagi and Miss England will be teaching Year 5 classes in Rooms 14 and Room 17 respectively and Mrs. Abela and Mr. Young will be teaching in Rooms 18 and 23.

During the first two weeks of school the focus will be on establishing the routines and expectations of the classroom and reminding the students of our school values. Our Social Studies topic for Term 1 is *Citizenship – Today's Citizens*. We will be looking at the significance of the Treaty of Waitangi as the founding document of our nation and our bi-cultural heritage. This will lead into our term topic of Citizenship.

In Mathematics we will be looking at the mathematical strand of statistics – probability and statistical investigation for the first 5 weeks of the term before beginning a unit on number - addition and subtraction. We will be gathering, analyzing, displaying and interpreting information as part of statistical investigations.

The NZ Mathematics Curriculum Homework book has been ordered for the students and will be distributed upon payment of \$15. A notice will be sent home to parents when this homework book arrives at the school. The homework book will provide students with learning activities that match the mathematics strand and numeracy stages being taught in the classroom.

In English we will be focusing on persuasive writing and character descriptions. Reading activities will be integrated with our Social Studies topic and involve reading newspaper reports related to our topic.

Physical Education in term 1 will concentrate on small ball handling skills and the fundamentals of the team sport of softball. The Year 5/6 Bay Suburbs Softball tournament is scheduled for Week 6 and, as in the past, we intend to enter a number of boys and girls teams to participate. As part of our physical education programme we have arranged for the students to have 6 tutored swimming lessons at Sacred Heart Pool beginning on Wednesday, February 10 until Wednesday, March 24. Please return the permission slip notice and \$45 as soon as possible to your child's teacher.

Parents please remind your child to bring their sports uniform on PE and Sports days as follows;

Year 5 – Tuesday and Friday.

Year 6 – Thursday and Friday

## Important Dates to remember for Year 5/6

- Week 2: Meet the Teacher Evening Wednesday, February 10.  
Tutored swimming commences at Sacred Heart Pool on Wednesday, February 10.
- Week 4: Year 5-8 Merit Assembly - Friday, February 26.
- Week 5: School Swimming Sports – Friday, March 5 at Glenn Innes YMCA Aquatic Centre.
- Week 6: Year 5-8 Merit Assembly – Friday, March 12  
Bay Suburbs Softball tournament – Wednesday, March 10
- Week 7: Bay Suburbs Swimming – Wednesday, March 17  
Citizenship Assembly – Friday, March 19
- Week 8: Excellence Assembly – Friday, March 26  
Senior Disco – Friday, March 26
- Week 9: Last Day of School – Thursday April 1

We look forward to the many learning opportunities offered in Term 1 and meeting you at the Meet the Teacher evening on February 10 at which time the classroom teachers will cover classroom practicalities related to homework expectations, timetable, topics for the year, and literacy and numeracy overviews etc.

Sincerely,

Mr A Young - Rm 23 - Year 6 - **Team Leader**  
Miss K Abela - Rm 18 - Year 6  
Miss C Malan - Rm 24 - Year 6  
Miss A England - Rm 17 - Year 5  
Mr J Nevalagi - Rm 14 - Year 5  
Miss J Needleman - Rm 12 - Year 5