



P T A N E W S L E T T E R

PTA Calendar 2010

November

13 House and Garden Tour

Next PTA meeting

Wednesday 1st September at 7.30 pm in the school staffroom.

New members welcome!

Next Board meeting

Wednesday 22nd September 7.30 pm in the school staffroom..

PTA Newsletter Contact

Mireille Vreeburg
mireille.vreeburg@hetnet.nl

New members needed!!

It would be great to have some new PTA members! Everything we do helps your child, so come along and become involved.

If you would like to meet us, you are welcome to come to one of our monthly meetings on the 1st Wednesday of each month in the staffroom at 7.30pm.

If you have any queries feel free to contact Andrew Lamb
andrew.lamb@xtra.co.nz

What is the PTA?

A lot of people have asked what the St. Heliers School PTA is all about – so we thought we would tell you.....

PTA stands for Parent Teacher Association. It is a group of dedicated parents aiming to achieve two main objectives:

- 1 Raise money for the school for equipment or resources that are not funded elsewhere.
- 2 Arrange events to bring parents and guardians of school pupils together at fun and entertaining events – I am sure a lot of you remember the recent Trivia Night!!

We have a Constitution that can be viewed by clicking through to the PTA page on the School website.

We meet on the first Wednesday of each month for about 1-1½ hours and sometimes enjoy a wine during the meeting if anyone happens to bring some!

The meetings consist of:

- Discussion around events and activities to raise funds – with most broken into sub-committees to plan and run and report back to the wider PTA.
- Discussion around requests for funding, the benefits to the School and voting to approve or decline the request

At a wider level we also have teams of Friends of the PTA and Class Coordinators that help raise awareness of our activities, arranging people to assist with events or activities, or sending requests out for miscellaneous items the School or teachers sometimes need. These two groups are very valuable and without them the PTA would not be anywhere near as effective as we are.

We also liaise with the School staff and Board of Trustees to ensure our efforts align with the School strategy. We have representatives from both at the PTA meetings.

Over the past couple of years, during the economic recession, it has been a lot harder to raise money and gain sponsorship for events – on top of a very busy schedule from other schools and organisations in the area. This has meant we have needed to work harder and smarter, and look for new ideas to raise funds. Thankfully with this extra effort and the amazing support from you all we have continued to raise a lot of money for the School.

Some of the areas where we have helped the School recently are; Year 7 & 8 Classroom Refurbishment \$30,000, Band Equipment for the Music Room \$4,000, Technology for the new building \$30,000 (which was raised purely from the last house and garden tour in 2008).... plus many smaller amounts to various groups/teams around the school.

St Heliers School PTA.....working for your children's future

We also spend time on additional activities, like providing dinner for the Teachers during Parent/Teacher Interviews and serving refreshments at Meet and Greet evenings - all on top of spending many, many hours planning and running the events we all hope you attend and enjoy...

As you can see we are all very busy working to help the School deliver a better environment for your children, so please continue to support us and, as always, feel free to pop along to one of our meetings soon to see what we are all about – we can always do with more help and ideas.

Andrew Lamb, PTA Chairman, Email andrew.lamb@xtra.co.nz

Update House & Garden Tour 2010

The planning of our biggest fundraising event for this year is coming along nicely. At the time of going to print we are waiting on confirmation for our final house! We do however still require 3 silver sponsors (which gives you naming rights to one of the houses/gardens) – if you are interested please contact us.

We have also presold just under 100 tickets!!!!!! Congratulations to the first 50 people that ordered and received the DISH magazine 12 month subscription. Order forms will come home during September or you can order on our website: www.stheliershouseandgarden.co.nz A reminder that tickets will be limited and unfortunately children are not allowed at the event. We will also be advertising in other schools' newsletters so book your ticket soon!

A big thank you again to our 'GOLD' sponsor 'Tansy Grant and Barfoot and Thompson St Heliers' – they have contributed \$6,000 towards this great fundraiser. And of course a thank you to all our 'SILVER' sponsors to date: Iain Stephens Floral Design, DISH magazine, Rinke Design Furniture, Natural Collection Flooring, Glass By Design, Master Trade Lunn Ave and Jackie Jones Interior Design. And our 'BRONZE' sponsors: Robert Cunningham Construction, BIG TIME Productions, Hammock World, Babylon Gardens, Christine Clark Photography, Metrix, Cavalier Bremworth, Kitchen Architect and Contours Glen Innes. Without all these generous companies this fundraiser would not be possible. To learn more about each company visit our website and click on their logo.

If you have any questions or if you can help with donations, items etc for the day contact Sheree Garden: torre@ihug.co.nz 021757222 or 5754233

*St Heliers School House & Garden
Explore the World of Possibilities...*

Seeking volunteers to help on Saturday 13th November, 10am to 4pm!

We have 10 houses for viewing on the House and Garden tour and require need 60 people to assist with looking after the house and security. Times will be divided into 2 hour slots and I need 2 people per house per two hour session from:

10.00am – 12.00am
12.00am – 2.00pm
2.00pm - 4.00pm

Those who are able to help please email Linda Treuren with your preferred time at linda@exothermic.co.nz
If you come as a pair please indicate this also!

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PTA Chocolate Fundraiser

Thanks to all those who have been busy selling and eating lots of chocolate and getting their money back to school! All money from the sale of chocolates was due back at school last Monday August 16th, so if you have not returned your money please do so as soon as possible. Prizes will be awarded to those individuals who have sold the most chocolates and also to the classroom who have sold the most chocolates. These prizes can not be awarded however until all money has been returned. We are on target to raise \$8,000 for the school this year, so lets make it happen!

Teachers Dinner

Teachers Dinner - Parent Interviews August 4th

Thank you to all those parents who provided a wonderful spread of dishes for the Teachers on Parent Interview day 4th August. The teachers were very touched with all the lovely and varied dishes and were very grateful for the sugar hit at lunchtime of the Chocolate Brownies!! We had enough food left over to fill the Staff Room fridge for lunches for at least 2 days.

Many thanks for making life easy for our wonderful teachers.

Charlotte Horan

Entertainment Books 2010

A big thank you to everyone who supported the school by purchasing the 2010/11 Entertainment Book. I know you will be enjoying the fantastic deals this book offers, especially on those family favourites such as The Zoo, Climbzone, Butterfly Creek, Kelly Tarltons and so many others!

This was a great fundraiser, generating over \$800 for the school. I look forward to being involved in this project again next year, and will let you know how you can pre-order your new book in March to receive exclusive bonus offers.

Don't hesitate to call me if you would still like a copy of this year's book.

Thanks again.

Kathy Harding

Ph 5211-828. kathy@theolympic.co.nz.



A friendly but urgent request from Gordie Palmer to all parents who attend the Merit, Citizenship or Excellence Assemblies. Please do not come any earlier than 1.50 pm to our Assemblies which start at 2.00 pm to give teachers and children sufficient time for their preparations.

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