

## Term 1 Week 1 2010

### IMPORTANT DATE

On **Wednesday 31 March** our students will be going home at **12:30**. Parent interviews will be held on this day. This early notification will allow you to make suitable arrangements for your child/ren. **The date of 25 March may appear in number of our class newsletters.** These were printed before the change to the date of 31 March. This change had to be made due to factors beyond our control.

**Welcome all students and families to the 2010 school year, particularly students and families new to our school.**

#### **Principal's Comment**

Two days into the new school year and things are moving along nicely. It was great to see the happy smiling faces on many of our students as they arrived at school yesterday. We have had a number of new enrolments, some expected and others not. The start of a school year is a time of change as students and parents adapt to new teachers, new classmates and often new ways of doing things. One thing that will not change is the high expectations we have for our students and our commitment to do the absolute best for them. After all Education is Central!

#### **Reporting of student achievement and progress in 2010 – National Standards**

Some changes have been made to our reporting of student achievement progress for 2010. Changes are based on the commitment of staff to report progress in a specific, timely and regular manner. A full breakdown of what you can expect in terms of what will be reported, how it will be reported and when it will be reported will be communicated shortly. There has been a real focus in the media in recent days on **National Standards**. As a staff we will be taking a cautious approach and will not rush into anything. The Ministry of Education has assured schools of full support to implement the standards, so it would be remiss of us to make wholesale changes before we have benefitted from this support.

#### **Parent Support Group (PSG)**

This group meets tonight in the staffroom at 7:30pm. Everyone is welcome. The PSG is a great way to meet other parents. Be assured that you will not be lumbered with a load of jobs!!

#### **School roll**

Our school roll is in a healthy state with 342 students in classes yesterday. That is approximately 15 more than this time last year. Our class sizes are favourable, with no classes exceeding Ministry of Education funding ratios. The projected intake of 5 year olds for 2010 is also very positive. **Full details of our school structure can be found on our website.**

**Website** [www.gisbornecentralschool.co.nz](http://www.gisbornecentralschool.co.nz)

At the end of 2009 our site was re-launched. This newsletter and all others will be posted on the site each Wednesday. You will still receive a paper copy, but have this as alternative reference point. A website is never finished and we aim to make additions and fine tune the site as we go.

### **Cybersafety permission form – one per family**

Today the eldest child in each family at our school should have handed you a form regarding this very important aspect of their schooling. This form has two parts. The first relates to the use of Information Communication Technologies (ICT) which is essentially computers and the internet. The second relates to the publication of student images and work in an online environment. Please complete these forms, one per family and return to the school office. Thanks.

### **Personal details form – one per family**

It is important we have current information regarding your child/ren. Today the eldest child in each family at our school should also have handed you a form regarding these details . Please complete these forms, one per family and return to the school office. Thanks.

### **Class newsletters**

These have gone home today as well. These are an important reference point for the start of the year with information about your child’s class and unit/syndicate. It will also contain dates and school events

### **Calendar**

Please note these date in your diary.

February	Wednesday, 10 <sup>th</sup>	Little Acorns Intake	1.15 – 2.45 pm
	Friday, 12 <sup>th</sup>	Fun Run	To be confirmed
	Monday, 15 <sup>th</sup>	Explore the Junior Unit	3.10 pm
	Tuesday, 16 <sup>th</sup>	Explore the Senior Unit	5.30 pm
	Thursday, 18 <sup>th</sup>	Middle Unit Swimming sports	Postponement – 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb
	Friday, 19 <sup>th</sup>	Senior Unit Swimming sports	PD – 24 <sup>th</sup> Feb
	Monday, 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Explore the Middle Unit	5.15 pm
	Thursday, 25 <sup>th</sup>	Junior Unit Swimming sports	PD 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb
March	Thursday, 4 <sup>th</sup>	Rooms 8, 9, Wai to Museum	
	Friday, 5 <sup>th</sup>	Rooms 10, 11, Wai to Museum	
	Monday, 8 <sup>th</sup>	New Entrant intake	
	Tuesday, 9 <sup>th</sup>	Middle Unit historical walk	
	Wednesday, 10 <sup>th</sup>	Little Acorn intake	1.15 – 2.45 pm
	Friday, 12 <sup>th</sup>	Middle Unit triathlon	
	Wednesday, 31 <sup>st</sup>	Parent interviews	12.30
April	Thursday, 1 <sup>st</sup>	Last day of Term 1	

**Regards**

**Peter Barker, Principal**

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