

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2010

Volume 10, Issue 04

# Beaconsfield School



Kia ora, Beaconsfield School

## “LEARNING TODAY, TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF TOMORROW

### Key Events to put on your calendar:

- RURAL CLUSTER SWIMMING SPORTS AT CENTURY POOL FRIDAY 19<sup>th</sup> MARCH
- TOP SCHOOLS SUNDAY 21<sup>st</sup> MARCH 10.30 – 3.00
- BoT MEETING MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> MARCH @ 7.00 p.m. IN SCHOOL STAFFROOM.
- GALA Fri 26<sup>th</sup> March 3 - 6 P.M.
- SOUTH CANTERBURY SWIMMING SPORTS WEDNESDAY 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH
- LAST DAY OF TERM THURSDAY 1<sup>st</sup> APRIL

MAUNGATI TRAILRIDE SUNDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

START OF TERM 2 MONDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL

“Look on our school website for our Events Calendar”

We have Room 5 away on camp at Wainui, near Akaroa, this week. We all hope that their weather will be great and they will learn many new and exciting skills and have many awesome outdoor experiences, while there.

We also have many other exciting programmes operating in the school for 2010. An example of this would be the school's first ever Triathlon, a few weeks ago. This was a great success. This then led to the school selecting 16 students to represent Beaconsfield School at the South Canterbury Triathlon, in Temuka, on Friday. Of particular note was **Sean Wills coming 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Year 7 / 8** competition and a special mention / recognition was made at the event, of **Hamish Lamb for his great sportsmanship**. It is great when our children shine at these events.

### Stars of the Week:



**Room 1:** Pippa Thomson, Kyal Dickson and Hunter Henderson

**Room 2:** Alex Hutton, Molly Devries, Zoe Earnshaw and Neve McDougall

**Room 3:** Grace Lamb, Alex Robertson, Rosa Westgarth, Finn Courtis and Mitchell Thomson.

**Room 4:** Ryan Cowie, Claire Munro, Ella Reeves, Hannah – Paige Kearney and Sophie Lewis – Roker.

**Room 5:** Jacob Anderson, Alex Codd, Mathew Brownlie, Henry Thomson and Laura Eady

### Special Principal's Awards:

**Dougal Gibson, Tessa Williamson and Katie Winter.**

**Congratulations everyone – well done!!!!**

Have a good week  
Sandi Abel  
Principal

## **Also of special note at our assembly on Friday:**

A special thanks to the Timaru South Rotary, for their kind donation of dictionaries, for our Year 4 children to use in class. This will be an ongoing donation to our Year 4 children over the next 5 years.

Also Ella Reeves has won \$100.00 for the school when she entered a Colouring - in competition of the Phar Lap statue – well done Ella.

Also well done to the Room 5 children who presented their Spanish Learning at assembly to the parents and school - Gracias



## **TABLE TENNIS SOUTH CANTERBURY** **Primary and Intermediate Competition**

Each team will consist of three players from your school. Years 6, 7 & 8 only. Closing date for registrations is March 23. Competition will run for 10 weeks with a break during the school holidays.

**Competition begins Monday afternoon, March 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Time: 4 – 5.15pm Primary & Intermediate Team Competition**

**Cost: \$15 membership + \$2 a night  
(table tennis bats are supplied)**

**Location: Table Tennis SC Stadium, 96 Coonoor Rd, Timaru**

### **For Parents:**

There is a senior grade table tennis on Monday nights from 8pm, beginning on March 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **St Andrews Hockey Club**

St Andrews Hockey Club primary registration day is on Monday 22nd March, 3.30 to 4.30pm at the No 1 (Water) Hockey Turf, on Morgan's Road. We have players from Barton Rural, Beaconsfield, St Andrews and a number of other schools in Timaru, aged from 6-13 years. We welcome new players, spare sticks are available, come and have a go. More information will be sent out next week. If you have any queries please contact Barbara on 612 6068 after 6pm or Marion on 6126688, or Steph on 6885526.

The Beaconsfield School Website can be found at  
[www.beaconsfield.school.nz](http://www.beaconsfield.school.nz)

**Keep sending back all those forms.**

### ***GUIDING SOUTH CANT***

***Girls aged 5 – 18***

***Be prepared for new adventure***

***Come along for a visit at one  
Of our units***

***Contact: Ngaire Nicol  
Phone 6844304***

## Fundraising Gala Details

Some of the activities we have planned we will need parents help with donating goods, for example bric-a-brac, items for grocery raffle and Easter Raffle, ingredients for baking, sweets etc. Each week we will be asking for certain items and we would appreciate your help when you are able to.

See below for details:

<u>Week</u>	<u>Gala Item</u>
7	Easter Raffle items
8	Mystery bottle – e.g. a bottle of grape juice, sauce, Produce – baking, veges, fruit, etc

We have decided to open the gala to outside stalls, that is they will pay a stall fee and keep any money they make. Already we have some interested stall holders, if you know of anyone who would like to have a stall, ask them to contact us here at school.

Any queries please contact Kay, Kirsty, Sue, Danielle or Annette.

# Beaconsfield School

## Mini Gala

**Friday March 26**

**3pm - 6 pm**

**Beaconsfield School**

To fundraise for School Camps & Education Outside the Classroom Activities

**Raffles**                      **Games**  
**Mystery Bottles**              **Pony Rides**  
**Bouncy Castle**              **Food Stalls**  
**Produce stalls**  
**Used clothing, books, toys**  
**Bric - a - brac Stalls**

# Beaconsfield School Mini Gala Organisation

15 March 2010

Dear Parents

The date for our gala is set for March 26<sup>th</sup>. We have had an initial organization meeting with lots of ideas for stalls and activities. We need your help to ensure this gala is a success. The following is a list of the stalls and activities we need help with. Please indicate which one you are able to help with and return to school by Wednesday. Organisation will involve arranging for tables and signs, arranging for the goods to be made (if necessary), ensuring you have everything you need and running the stall on the day. We will hopefully have more than one parent organising each stall.

Any queries please contact Kirsty.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

BBQ – sausage sizzle	
Books stall	
Bric – a brac – white elephant stall	
Used clothing stall	
Sweets stall (Jo Larkin is already on this but needs help)	
Auction – mystery bottle, cakes?	
Chocolate wheel	
Pony rides	
Plants/produce stall	
Quad bike & trailer rides	
Helping set up (Friday 1.30pm)	
Tidying up after 6 pm	

## OLD BOYS JAB

Welcome all new and returning players.  
Registration / sign up days:

- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 4 - 6 p.m.
- Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March 10 - 12 noon



at Club Rooms, Quarry Road

Under 6 and new players to the Club, please bring a copy of your Birth Certificate.

Subs include affiliation to Union, a mouthguard and a laminated photo of the team.

1 player = \$36.00      2 players = \$62.00      3 or more players \$87.00

Enquiries to Dave Wood ph 027 4944027

### LOST SCHOOL SWEATSHIRT

WELL NAMED  
OLIVIA SEYB  
SIZE 12  
PLEASE SEND TO SCHOOL

### PAREORA JUNIOR RUGBY

**JUNIOR RUGBY PLAYERS**

**ALL CHILDREN WELCOME**

**Registration:**

**Wed 17<sup>th</sup> March, after school  
at the Pareora Rugby  
Grounds**

**Bring a friend – everyone  
who registers, gets a free  
rugby ball.**

**PLEASE PHONE:**

- **TIM** 612 6661
- **BRENT** 612 6220
- **STEVE** 612 6991

## T BALL / SOFTBALL PRIZE-GIVING

Beaconsfield Bashers – played Pleasant Point Panthers. A great end to the tee-ball season, with more home runs and outs scored on the field. The children have been superb, representing Beaconsfield excellently and showing fantastic sportsmanship throughout the season. All the team have shown great skills that have earned them player of the day throughout the whole season, well done to you all.

All the children want to say a **big thank you to Peter Black** for giving up his time to come and coach during lunch times and being there on Friday nights to organise and encourage them when they are on the field.  
Kirsty White

On Friday afternoon, the 2 teams (Beaconsfield Bashers and the Beaconsfield BigHits) had their last game for the season, followed by their Prize - Giving. Both teams have had an outstanding season of games both in 2009 and 2010.

The Bashers only lost 1 game by 1 point and the Bighits didn't lose one game for the entire competition, so the children can all be extremely proud of themselves. Well done to **Oli Anderson for receiving the Player of the Day Certificate** for the Bighits last game.

Of special note is the sportsmanship seen by all the players, who sometimes had to play for other teams to make up numbers – well done. Many thanks to the coaches and managers of the teams and a special thanks to all the parents who came to games to support the teams – we all appreciated your support.

**At the Prize – Giving on Friday night, the Bighits won a spot prize of a new softball bat, which will be used in future training sessions – well done guys.**

Sandi Abel

## **School Donation for 2010**

The Board of Trustees has set the school donation for 2010. This will remain the same as previous years, as the BoT acknowledges that we had 100% of parents donate this money to the school in 2009 and we appreciate your financial commitment in this way. We also wanted to acknowledge that most parents support the school with other fund-raising activities, which helps the school to provide for your children's education.

### **School Donation:**

**\$40 for the first child**

\$30 for each child thereafter

The school donation allows the school to provide extra resources above what is provided by the Operations Grant from the Ministry of Education.

### **Technology Fee ( Year 7 & 8 only)**

**\$60 per child**

Accounts can be paid quarterly or in a lump sum at the beginning of the school year.

**Invoices / statements will be issued later in the term.**

## **WAVE REPORT**

On March 22<sup>nd</sup> the new WAVE team for 2010, Tess Williamson, Hanna Devries, Sam Williamson, Ella Reeves, Oli Anderson, Grace Black, Sophie Wills, Olivia Seyb, Sarah Waldron and Olivia Waldron went to Highfield and Oceanview Heights Schools to exchange ideas.

At Oceanview Heights we were able to see the resources available to all schools participating in the WAVE programme, including sports equipment, a food pyramid, orienteering equipment etc that we will be able to borrow.

At Highfield there was a new kitchen for students, WAVE had organised along with a new drinking fountain. In the afternoon, all the WAVE teams came to our school to have a look at our gardens and our worm farm. We also talked about our spud in a bucket competition and our pumpkin growing competition. At the end of the day we were all presented with a participation certificate by South Canterbury WAVE facilitator Carmen Chamberlain.

By Olivia Waldron

## **RUBBISH AT SCHOOL**

The staff have decided, that as part of our promoting recycling, in the school, we would like the children to bring home all their school playtime and lunchtime rubbish.

We will have a bucket for food scraps for our school worm farm, however your children will from today onwards be bringing home their "home" rubbish in their lunch boxes.

**Thanks for your support in this recycling endeavour.**

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS**

The Board of Trustees Triennial Elections takes place on 7 May this year nationwide. Nominations will be called for on the 15<sup>th</sup> March and close on 23 April. The current Board's term is coming to a close. Trustees are active leaders in our school and we need people willing to use their skills and experiences for the benefit of our students. I am pleased to be able to advise that there will be some continuity as some of our trustees have indicated that they will restand for re-election. However, the school will be looking for some trustees who are focused on supporting the strong professional leadership, effective teaching and learning and the ongoing improvement of student achievement through informed governance. Parents and people from throughout the wider community can be school trustees. It is important the boards represent the diversity of their school communities to ensure a bright future for our children. The elections also give parents the opportunity to vote for candidates who will make a difference in our school. If you are interested and want to know more, please make contact with myself or Lynda Robinson in the school office.

You would also be very welcome to come along and observe at a Board Meeting.

Learning Today to Meet the Challenges of Tomorrow.

Sharon Dahlenburg - Board Chairperson

Phone 6846933

## **Hadlow to Harbour Fun Run**

Thank you to all the children who participated in the Hadlow to Harbour fun run/walk. These children were:

Sarah	Hanna D	Naeve D	Ben Th
Ben R	Callum	Sam W	Laura S
Jack Y	Sophie L-R	Ella	Josh A
Oli A	Jacob	Hamish L	Hannah-Paige
Henry T	Laura E	Cheyenne	Patrick
Maddy	Harper	Caleb	Rachel
Conor	Jared	Daniel D	Luke
Alice	Robert	Nikita	

(There were also other Beaconsfield children participating, these were the school representatives, congratulations to the ones who did it on their own as well).

You displayed amazing attitudes as you all completed the run/walk without giving up and you made your teachers and parents very proud – WELL DONE!

Also a big congratulations to Mrs Abel, Miss H and Muriel, Lynda, Mrs Stephenson, Miss Young and all the parents who ran or walked with the children.

**Well done to Ella, Sarah, Neve and Molly D for their linked walking and winning a \$100 for our school!** We also picked up 6 prizes in the Spot Prize Draw, so not a bad scoop for us. I will let you know how much we made in sponsorship when we have collected up all the forms and money. Thanks to those who have handed it in already.

Thanks Kirsty (A special thanks to Kirsty for organising this event & for a great run as well – Sandi!)

Dear Principal

I represent a large group of parents from around New Zealand who have significant concerns about National Standards. We have recently launched a petition to call for the government to delay the implementation of National Standards. I have attached a cover sheet explaining the primary causes for parental concern. I have also attached a Petition Signature Sheet.

This petition is independent of the NZEI petition. It endeavours to give parents a voice in the current debate. We would encourage parents to sign both petitions.

I respectfully request that you print both of these documents and attach them to the next edition of your school newsletter.

The closing date of the petition is Monday 22nd March. This is not binding but I would like to present the petition to the government in the second school term.

I will contact your school the previous week to arrange collection of signed signature sheets. Late signature sheets may be posted to the address on the form. My details are below if you would like to contact me for further information.

Yours faithfully

Monique Watson  
PO Box 22283 Khandallah  
Wellington 6441  
Ph 04 9389196  
Mob 021515714

## ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL PETITION

As a parent of a school aged child I am very concerned about the introduction of 'National Standards' into New Zealand's Primary Schools. My concerns arise from the following observations:

Parents are not being given sufficient detail as to what 'National Standards' are. Only 11.9% of readers in a recent New Zealand Herald survey said they have a full understanding of the policy.

### WHAT NATIONAL STANDARDS ARE NOT:

The process 'National Standards' does not in itself boost children's attainment or give them anything new. Our children are already tested and have their own 'child specific' goals. There will be no new tests or experiences available in the classroom. National Standards is a process whereby your child is given a mark to indicate where he/she lies against a standardized norm. This mark takes no account of abilities in any field other than literacy and numeracy. A sense of failure will be inevitable if children do not meet the standard for their age.

Just as infants do not all crawl and walk at exactly the same age, children do not attain a standard of literacy and numeracy at the same age. If a child displays a talent in a

certain area, they are better to explore this talent in a setting that will allow them to transfer their skills to reading and writing when they are ready. That is why our best schools expose our children to a wide range of activities.

Several principals of well-performing schools have stated National Standards will create a greater administrative workload. This will reduce the amount of time teachers have to expose our children to a wide range of lessons and experiences within the classroom.

'Under achievers' will be given extra tuition in literacy and numeracy that they may not be ready for. All of our bright, talented and gifted children will suffer from the deployment of resources away from nurturing their strengths to highlighting their weaknesses. Children who are identified as poor readers are already well catered for with our Reading Recovery programme which was developed in New Zealand and exported world-wide.

## ALTERNATIVE MEASURES

Pre-school years have a great influence on children's performance at primary school. To achieve a lift in literacy and numeracy, the solution may be greater support for parents and validation of the important and productive role that parents fulfill in society. Tax measures such as income splitting and universal funding of Parent-Infant programmes such as Parents As First Teachers would complement 20 hours ECE.

## CONSEQUENCES TO COMMUNITIES

If collated information is available to agencies outside the Ministry of Education irresponsible third party reporting will control how our schools are viewed in the media. Our schools and communities will suffer as schools are ranked. The inevitable 'league tables' will lead to an educational elite from primary school age, overhang our children's transition to secondary school and perhaps their careers.

We as parents have a right to know how schools are performing, but league tables are not the way to achieve this.

## IDENTICAL POLICIES ARE BEING DISCARDED IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

The introduction of "National Standards" must be delayed until parental concerns have been satisfied.

**Please sign the attached petition** to show your support for this cause. Anyone in your household may also sign.

Other actions you may take:

- Sign the petition circulated by NZEI also – a teacher and parent initiative.
- Request that your children's information not be passed along from the school to a third party: The Ministry of Education. This will prevent accurate collation of data leading to 'league tables' but allow your school to assess your child's performance with all the tools available.
- Talk to your Principal or Member of Parliament about what improvements might make a positive difference to your child's education. As parents we are key stakeholders in the Education Industry.

To the House of Representatives

ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL – NATIONAL STANDARDS PETITION

We request that the House of Representatives

delay the introduction of National Standards until all the following parental concerns are satisfied:

1. That all possible causes of primary school children failing to attain satisfactory levels of literacy and numeracy have been explored, including factors entrenched in the preschool years.
2. That funds will not be diverted from the diverse range of lessons and activities currently explored in New Zealand's classrooms; while literacy and numeracy are essential basic skills, more attention needs to be paid to drawing out each child's unique skills. In New Zealand we do not just raise professionals and academics. We also produce philanthropists, Master Chefs, entrepreneurs and All Blacks. This diversity contributes to the rich social fabric of New Zealand and enhances New Zealand's political and economic standing on the world stage.
3. That collated information not be available to agencies outside the Ministry of Education.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this petition to Monique Watson, PO Box 22283 Khandallah Wellington 6441 or to your school office for collection by Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2010.