

**WAIKOWHAI INTERMEDIATE***.....Developing Life Long Learners.....***SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM**

Developing Life Long learners

Greetings, Kia Ora, Fakalofa lahi atu, Malo e lelei, Talofa lava, Kia Orana, Ni Hao, Buenos Dias, Chao, Malo ni Habari, Dobar dan

**DEAR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS****S**chool Swimming Sports

The school swimming sports will be held next Tuesday 23 February at the Mt Roskill Grammar School pool. The teachers will walk the students down to the pool, departing Waikowhai at 8:45am. The first event of the sports is scheduled to commence at 9:10am. The sports will conclude at 12:00pm.

A condition of our use of the Mt. Roskill Grammar Pool is that we do not allow the any food or drink into the facilities. There are taps available for thirsty competitors to

rehydrate; however, they will not be able to have any food. Therefore it is extremely important that all our students have a good breakfast on that morning as their next intake of any food will not be until at least 12:30pm. With the weather being what it is at the moment all students should prepare for a range of weather conditions. There is very little shade, if the sun should be blazing down then hats and sunscreen will be an absolute must. It should be known, however, that more times than not when we run this event it rains, so a light jacket could be a good idea as well.

**Bi-Weekly Events****23rd February.****School Swimming sports & CZ Tennis Girls**

Our School will be at Mt Roskill Grammar to use there pool for our School swimming Sports. Also on that day our CZ. Girls Tennis team will be competing.

**25th February.****Boys Tennis**

On the 25th of February Mrs Power will be taking the year 7 & 8 Boys Tennis Team To compete in the CZ competition.

**2nd March.****Softball**

Mr Saw and Mr Ganda will be taking the Girls Softball team to compete in the CZ competition.

**4th March.****Boys Softball**

This coming Wednesday Mr Newmark and Mr Leete will be taking our boys softball team to compete in CZ competition.

**10th & 11th March.****Meet the Teacher**

On the 10th & 11th of March Waikowhai will be having its very first Meet the Teacher for 2010 . This will be a great opportunity to get know your child's teacher.

# NATIONAL EDUCATION STANDARDS

**G**iven the enormous amount of media attention, although most of it ill informed, that has been dedicated to the new National Achievement Standards, I thought that it was about time I wrote to the parents of our students, regarding what is happening with the standards at Waikowhai Intermediate School.

Let me be clear from the outset, the National Standards as introduced by the National led government is bad policy, furthermore the introduction of the standards into schools as been clumsy and poorly thought through.

It is bad policy because it overrides the successful use schools like ours have made of assessment tools such as aSTtle and other nationally recognised programmes. For many years now our school has twice per year published for parents their child's aSTtle console, which has clearly indicated where the child sits for literacy and numeracy as compared to a national mean.

We have used these assessment tools to improve learning, to inform the learner and to guide future teaching. We have also reported to parents, twice per year, against the national curriculum levels

and clearly indicated to parents how their child sits in relation to national expectations for students of their year level.

We now have to deal with another layer of assessment bureaucracy, where teachers take all the afore mentioned data, triangulate it and then apply something called 'Overall Teacher Judgement' to say whether a particular student is at, above or below the national standard. For what added value I fail to see.

This process itself is flawed in that I can foresee huge variation in 'Overall Teacher Judgement' between schools. This is similar to the early days of the inception of NCEA, when moderation indiscretions were common. You would have thought that MOE/Government would have learnt something from that.

There is no doubt that a teacher in this school has just had their workload significantly increased and as I mentioned above for very limited, if any increased advantage for the student.

The National Standards arrived in the mail very close to the end of last year. The only training my staff has had is that which we arranged on our Teacher Only Day this year. We have been promised more, when

is yet to be clarified. We have been promised a number of resources, which are on the way, not here yet though. The phrase 'cart before the horse' comes to mind immediately.

However, the standards are now law and we will do our best to provide all families with the best possible analysis of their child's progress towards the standards at the mid -year interviews and their achievement against the standards at the end of the year. In the meantime we will be working to understand them ourselves and make sure our processes present valid and reliable information to parents.



Howard Perry  
Principal



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Emails:

General enquires to:  
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Finance enquires to:  
[admin@wai-int.school.nz](mailto:admin@wai-int.school.nz)

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## **N**IT-END ENDS NITS

It's so easy New Zealand made 100% customer satisfaction and certified organic. Eliminates the need for combing when used as directed half the price of other natural head lice products available in New Zealand Crazy Critters, New Zealand's first head lice removal clinic, exclusively use the Nit-Enz product range for their head lice treatments.

22ml Certified Organic Shampoo \$15.00

Should you wish to purchase a bottle of this shampoo, please contact Mrs Leaning on 621-0460.

### **Waikowhai Scouts**

Join Scouts and meet the challenge.

Learn to exercise leadership skills, have fun, friendship and adventure while learning new skills in the outdoors.

New members both boys and girls are welcome.

Where:  
1325 Dominion Road  
(behind kindergarten).

Cubs aged 8 - 10 1/2 years meet Tuesday nights  
Contact Paul Thomas  
625-3804

Scouts aged 10 1/2 - 15 years meet Friday nights  
Contact Kathy Turner  
629-3777

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### **MARIST COLLEGE Catholic School for Girls Years 7-13**



**31 Alberton Ave, Mt Albert  
Ph: 846-8311**

**OPEN DAY  
Tuesday 9 March 2010  
3.00pm - 6.00pm**

Prospective students and parents are warmly invited to view the school facilities and meet the teaching staff. Students will be available to give guided tours.

### **Uniform Shop Hours**

The Uniform Shop is open on Monday and Thursday mornings 8.15am - 9.00am in the school hall.

Outside of these hours you may purchase uniform from:

**School Uniform Centre  
553 Remuera Road  
Remuera**

Phone: (09) 524 6270 or

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

### **AMI Netball Centre Auckland Netball After School Programmes**

Our after school programme promotes learning new skills, up skilling, extending existing skills in a fun and energetic learning environment, with skilled coaches.

Years 1-9 Mondays AMI  
Auckland Netball Centre –  
St John's Venue

8 weeks starting in February.  
Terms 1-4

Years 1-9 Wednesdays  
Terms 1 & 4 at Windmill Rd  
Mt Eden venue. Terms 2 &  
3 at AMI Auckland Netball  
Centre St John's. 8 weeks  
starting in February. Terms  
1-4

\$90.00 per student per term.

For further information and registration forms go to our website

[www.aucklandnetball.co.nz](http://www.aucklandnetball.co.nz)  
or phone 09 570-0030



# EXTRA-CURRICULA PROGRAMMES

## **E**xtra – Curricula Programmes

Many of our extra-curricula programmes are beginning to get started. This includes summer sports, arts and cultural groups as well programmes of a Science, Maths and Technology basis.

The usual process is for staff to call for expressions of interest from the students; s o m e t i m e s recommendations from other teachers are required. The communication process for this is via our daily television notices broadcast.

Following the collection of interested names, there will be some form of trail and selection process, dependant upon what the activity is. Not all students will make a team or be chosen for the activity, however, we track participation and endeavour to ensure as many students as possible are able to participate in a wider curriculum.

### **FINANCIAL LITERACY ACADEMY**

The Duffy Twins, founders of the online Financial Literacy programme (Entrepreneurs' Club), are running an Academy in 2010 with evening workshops where your children can learn face-to-face with other like-

minded students, and further develop their life skills with a focus towards remaining debt free.

There are six Academies across Auckland (Papatoetoe, Mt Eden, Te Atatu, Parnell and two on the North Shore). There are eight one-hour classes covering topics including Goal-Setting, Budgeting, Debt and Asset Management, Mortgages, Preparing for Tertiary Education and the Workforce, and plenty more. All material is delivered in a simple and enjoyable way so your children can start their journeys to a prosperous future.

The twins hope you consider this personal invitation for your children to join the Academy. They have priced the Academy at \$120 per student for the first 8 week course.

If you wish to discuss anything with the twins they are contactable on:  
0 2 7 - 5 5 5 8 8 2 5 or  
[twins@duffyclub.co.nz](mailto:twins@duffyclub.co.nz)

### **INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES**

In recognition of the fact the our students will be part of a global community and workforce, we place value on being able to put our students in face to face

contact with similar aged students from other countries.

This year we have several opportunities to do just that. From Friday June 11 to Tuesday 15 we will host students from Riverside Secondary School in Singapore. From 21 July to 31 July the opportunity exists for our students to visit our sister school in Japan, via two nights in China. From 20 August to 27 August our Japanese sister school will also visit us.

For the hosting of our two visiting schools we will require offers to homestay these students from families of our school. This is a really enjoyable and interesting experience.

In addition to these opportunities we are in the process of establishing a link with a school in Spain via the use of webcam. The interesting aspect of this relationship is that the two schools are antipodal. In other words if you drew a line from Waikowhai Intermediate School through the centre of the earth you would come out at the school in Spain, exactly opposite on the globe.



# MEET OUR STAFF



## The 2010 Waikowhai Intermediate Staff

In 2010 we welcome new staff members; Mrs. Sarah Hetherington teaching Room 14, Miss Cobey Bennett teaching Room 13, Mrs. Julie Collard teaching Room 8 and Mr. Haydn Daniels teaching Room 7.

Our staff are organised into various teams as illustrated in the photos opposite. Those teams are; Year 7, Year 8, Specialist Subject Teachers, Support Programme Teachers/Teacher Aides and Administrative Staff



## Board of Trustees Elections

The Board of Waikowhai Intermediate School has set 7 May 2010 as the date for the elections to be held for a new board. This is the common date for most schools.

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, please contact Mr. Perry ([principal@wai-int.school.nz](mailto:principal@wai-int.school.nz)) if you would like to find out more about becoming a member of the school's Board of Trustees.

## Home Stay 2010 Korean International Students

Home stays are required for International students who will be studying at Waikowhai Intermediate in 2010. This is not necessarily for a full year but for at least 1 term at a time. Good weekly rates are paid for the care of each student. For further information please contact Mrs Dawn Wing in the office on 621 0460.