

Quote:

There are two rules in life: Look after number one, and remember your number.

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Country Day, wow. I have never been involved in a Country Day of this size before, not having taught in a farming community. The huge enthusiasm of the children and families in participating in the day was amazing. The children without animals were equally enthusiastic about the day and all the children with the radishes and decorated cakes.

Thanks to you all for your support with the grocery raffle, the profit count last Thursday was up to \$934.00 with still tickets to be sold on the day and money to come in from some families. Your generosity with grocery donations and the selling of the tickets has been much appreciated. WINNER for every grocery item a family donated, their name went into the draw to win a \$25 Warehouse voucher i.e five items brought by someone, their name went into the draw five times. The winner of the Warehouse voucher drawn at assembly last Friday was James Macaskill-Smith AND the grocery raffle drawn at Prize giving yesterday WAS the Macaskill-Smiths. Congratulations, well done.

Even though there were a couple of little showers, this didn't dampen enthusiasm, it was such a great day. Thanks to everyone helping on the day. A huge vote of thanks must go to Mrs Karin McFetridge for the huge amount of pre Country Day work involved in the organisation for this, Karin said that for the practical jobs parents really worked as a team and she had huge support. Thanks to everyone who helped before the day and on the day. It was also wonderful to see so many parents here with their children even though their children didn't have animals. The decorated cakes were amazing and SO many entries. Well done. We have lots of very smiley proud faces at school today.

Results will be sent out in next weeks newsletter and will be available soon on our website.

After School Care

Apparently there was some confusion about how I worded the future of After School Care with you, my apologies. The Board and myself did want to know if you wanted it to continue with arrangements made by the school OR whether you wanted professional After School Carers i.e. OSCAR. Thanks to those who returned their slips to let us know your preferences, which was overwhelmingly for someone that the school organized. We have the best of both worlds as it turns out, as Mrs Sharon Porter, (Hocus Pocus Costume Hire) has taken up the After School Care position. Sharon works at the YMCA crèche in the mornings and will provide After School Care at her home, which is just across the road from the school. 65 Rukuhia Road. Sharon holds a first aid certificate and qualifications for child care. I have sent out the information to our families who are involved with regular After School Care as to care information, but please enquire at the office for the details if you think you may require after school care at anytime. It can be on a casual basis.

Many, many thanks to Cath, Knapton, Christine van der Hulst and Rebecca Berridge who helped me with after school care last week in the interim, it was much appreciated.

Thank you

A huge thank you to Mrs Sharron Goodey who has donated three bean bags to the school for the children to enjoy in the library. Sharron's generosity is much appreciated.

Classroom Release Time

Again my apologies, I assumed parents were aware of the implications surrounding this. Classroom release days were awarded to teachers by the Ministry of Education about three years ago, each teacher has two release days a term to: a) complete classroom paperwork b) carry out testing with their students in Maths or Reading c) visits to other schools to observe an area of the curriculum they nominate, or some professional development they choose so they are able to up skill.

Because classroom release only involves two days a term in each classroom, the appointed reliever for the class is often asked to work in specialized areas for this day i.e. art, drama, physical education etc. Currently Mr James White is the classroom release teacher and the staff will let you know via their staff notes as to whether Mr White will be in their class in a particular week. This week Mr Zac Taylor has classroom release on Wednesday and Mrs Jenny Scott on Thursday. So for two days of this Term Mr White will be in each class in the school. James is also the release teacher in Room 3 every Friday.

Principal Appointment

The applications for the position of Principal at the school closed last Thursday and the Board of Trustees now begin the process of appointing a Principal to commence in the 2011 year. The Board has appointed an experienced Secondary School Principal as an advisor on the process. The advisor does not make recommendations as to who to appoint, but is an integral part of guiding them through the process. The appointing of a Principal is a huge responsibility for the Board and probably the most important job they will ever undertake for the school.

The Board DO want to know from parents, what attributes they see as important in their school Principal. If parents could PLEASE take the time to drop a note to the school addressed to Cath Knapton the Board Chairperson or email the Board at bot@rukuhia.schoolzone.net.nz it is important they know what you see as important attributes, with someone who has your children in their care. This can be completely anonymous and confidential. Many thanks for this, it is a huge decision for the Board to make on your behalf.

PTA

The RSCC met last Wednesday to make final arrangements for Country Day and the decision was made at the meeting to rename the organisation the PTA "Parent Teachers Association" so that it related more to the school situation. While there hasn't been a Chairperson appointed Mrs Andrea Ward has offered to take up the position of Secretary and has included the minutes of the meeting on the school website and a summary of the meeting included with this week's newsletter. It will be great for this PTA to plan to not only fundraise but to organize some fun events and I am certainly looking forward to the picnic fun night in November for all the families and the community that has been planned.

Sport Waikato

Next year our school are to be part of a health survey as part of "Help us to help your children keep active and healthy". This is being conducted by Sport Waikato and is part of the Energize Programme Sport Waikato which has been running in schools this year.

Wendy our Sport Waikato Energizer person will be talking to the children who will be part of the active/healthy evaluation programme on Friday as only THIS year's 6 year olds and 9 year olds will be involved in the evaluation, remembering that this means ALL 7 year olds and 10 year olds next year are the children being targeted.

Information and consent forms will be sent home to all the 6 year and 9 year old children in the School for them to take part next year when they will be 7 years and 10 years.

The information and consent pamphlet does have an envelope attached to enable you to return this safely to the school PLEASE whether you give your consent or not, Wendy would like each form to be returned to the school. Many thanks.

1. Friday Wendy to discuss the energize evaluation programme with 6 year/9 year olds who will be 7 or 10 next year.
2. Consent and information pamphlet delivered home next Monday


Well now that Country Day is over we move forward to the rest of the terms events.

Just a reminder that school closes on Wednesday 15th December at 12.00pm and school reopens in 2011 on Thursday 3 February

Have a great week

Kind Regards

Lynne Wilson



Staff Notes...

Room 1 Jane Coles janec@rukuhia.schoolzone.net.nz

Country Day was a huge success...well done to all those involved. Room 1 children enjoyed watching and touching all the animals. It was lovely to have Melville Kindergarten visit our room and explore some of our activities as well as work alongside Room 1 children.

Our letters for this week are: t p n c, and our high frequency words are: to a an can. Our blends/diagraphs are tr pl and cl.

Thank you for continuing to listen to your child read at home. Remember as your child's reading level goes up so does the amount of words in their home readers - feel free to listen to them read *part of the story, or a favourite page*. Your child can read some of his/her story independently.

Remember to send your child's spelling book on Friday.

WANTED—Room 1 would like some wool, please drop some wool into Room 1 if you have any. Thank you.

Room 2 Leanne Adam ladam@rukuhia.schoolzone.net.nz

What a fantastic day yesterday. It was great to see so many of Room 2 involved. We have been working on days and months for maths. It would be great if you could reinforce this at home as some of the children are not very confident at reciting or ordering their months. This week we are writing recounts of country day. We will be putting up a country day display in the room 1 and 2 cloak bay as soon as we can.

Would you please check that your child brings home their homework book home today. Some children say they have lost theirs, so please have a good look at home.

Congratulations to Monique who won the class prize draw on Friday.

Room 3 Jenny Scott jscott@rukuhia.schoolzone.net.nz

A big thank you to everyone who came and supported Country Day yesterday. It is an important day for us and it provides a unique opportunity for all the children at our school.

This week I will be testing the children for the end of year reports and Mr White will be teaching on Thursday, my classroom release day and Friday. We are beginning our reports today on an athlete and their sport. This will wind up our unit on the Commonwealth Games.

We are working through our Fractions unit and I am really pleased with the amount of knowledge the students have retained from last year.

Can you check that your child/children have a reading book each day please? It is still important for them to be reading daily at home as well as school. Could all children bring their homework books back on Friday please.

Have a great week.

Room 4 Zac Taylor zact@rukuhia.schoolzone.net.nz

What a successful country day with well over half of room four competing, the remaining students were valuable runners, café staff and helpers.

In maths this week and for much of the term we are starting to look at multiplication strategies again, and measurement (perimeter, area and volume). Keep up with the basic facts learning and practice.

We will be starting quite a big ICT project this week which will carry well into the term, with the help and knowledge of Sam and Alex, we will be making our own stop motion animations

I will be out of class on Wednesday this week for my classroom release day, Mr White will be covering the class for the day.

Coming Events

- 22 Oct Group Day
(please let office know by TOMORROW if you are entering)
- 26 Oct BOT Meeting
- 3 Nov PTA Meeting 7.00pm
- 8-12 Nov Book Fair
- 18 Nov Jump Rope
- 25 Nov Family Fun Night
- 6-9 Dec Room 4 Camp

Awards 15th October

Principal Award

- R1 Joshua Bowler
For excellent effort in all areas
- R2 Paige Elliott
For motivated and self directed learning
- R3 Savannah Williams
For excellent effort in all curriculum areas
- R4 Ada Nelson
For a fantastic start to the term with lots of effort and enthusiasm

Class Awards

- R1 May Nelson, Kelly-Joe Scandlyn and Aga Tahau
- R2 Sky Taylor-Eynon and Savannah Bright
- R3 Ryan Marshall, Leyton Elliott, Kate Pudney and Pearl Nelson
- R4 Brodie Chitham, Nikita Gagiano, Kerin Riches and Alex Pudney

Playground Star Winner

Tonya Gagiano

Certificate Draw

Pearl Nelson

Jump Jam Draw Winner

Abigail Pratt

Grocery Item Draw

James Macaskill-Smith



Community Notices

GROUP DAY—Friday 22nd October

Those interested in entering PLEASE let the office know by Wednesday this week so names can be forwarded to Ngahinapouri School. Thank you.

Airport Garden Centre

25% off deciduous trees, Hostas, Roses & Camellias
Selected Natives \$5
Strawberries \$1 each
Worm Farm with worms \$160
Hurry in while stock lasts
Ends October 27th

SOUTHNET SPORTS CLUB

If you are interested in playing Touch Rugby or Teeball/Softball come along to Melville Park and put your name down! We provide Touch Rugby teams for boys & girls year 1&2, 3&4 & 5&6 and Teeball/Softball teams for boys & girls year 1&2, 3&4, 5&6 & 7&8 For more information about Touch Rugby please contact Rou on 027 6999 622 or Teeball/Softball contact Kirstin on 843 2006 or 021 431 696