

Community Newsletter 013

Kia Ora

As I write we are 272 days into the year, this leaves 93 days until Christmas... just in case you were wondering.

The third term of the year has seen the usual busyness of learning, sport and a huge range of opportunities for Otautau kids. Term 3 is speech term. All year 3 - 8 children prepare a speech and present it in their own class. The best of those present in the School Speech Competition. The best of these present at the Western Speech Competition, the best of those present at the Northern Western Competition. Success there means competing with the best of the best at the Southland finals. These occurred on Thursday evening, our representative who leapt all the previous hurdles was Martha Broughton.

The last week of term we hosted a team from the Education Review Office, ERO. They were on site for the regular three year review of our school and how we operate. It was a very successful week and really, a stamp of approval as to how well all who have contributed to the growth of the school in the last few years. The full report is still being written and will be published in due course. Suffice to say we think our considerable success will be recognised.

Until Christmas
Kia Kaha
Ben Witheford

Thanks...
It's an old cliché I know but... without the support of the sponsors on the back of this newsletter it wouldn't be possible to produce such an esteemed publication, in my humble opinion. Please support them where possible.

New Toys...
The Southern Trust this term granted our application for funds to purchase some new technology. This was part of our interactive technology project. Therefore we were able to purchase 2 more digital teaching stations and 2 more Mimio interactive whiteboards.



Westgate Poetry

Over the past five sessions, students from over the Western District came to Otautau School to contribute in the Westgate Poetry Class. Lynley Dear, a well known Invercargill poet came and visited us. She spoke about what makes a good poem, and taught us interesting writing features such as: assonance and extended metaphors. We thought that the past 5 sessions were great and hope we can do it again, sometime.

By Carley Foy

Young Achievers - Term 3

During Term 3 these Otautau School students have achieved outstanding results in a variety of sports and cultural activities.
Emma Andrew earned three gold medals, one bronze and a trophy for the most points in the Under 12 Classical Piano competition.
Caleb Madden is the 2010 Southland Under 11 Squash Champion and gold medal winner of the South Island age group Under 11 teams event.
Martha Broughton has been selected to compete in the Southland Primary School's Speech Competition during the last week of term.
Jordan Youngman was selected to play in the Under 38kg Southland Country Rugby team.
James Dickson was selected to play in a Southland Rugby Team - Under 48kgs.
Excellent work guys!



(Top row) Emma Andrew, Caleb Madden, Martha Broughton
(Bottom row) Jordan Youngman, James Dickson

GYMNASTICS

A couple of weekends ago the Otautau Tumblers competed in their first gymnastics competition against other Southland Schools. **Crystal Wilton, Brigitte Simpson, George Burnett, Josh Saul and Jimmi Knapp** swapped their mufti clothes for leotards and black shorts. They spent the morning competing on a range of apparatus, some of which they had never practiced on before. The team achieved an average of 7.5 to gain a B grade rating, but they weren't even half a point from reaching A grade! They looked great and performed well - CONGRATULATIONS!



Room 5

Room 5 has been working on using similes to make their writing interesting for their audience. Here's a sample of some they wrote about the recent earthquake in Canterbury:-

The ground split like a piece of paper.
The bricks fell to the ground like rain pouring down.
The split in the road was like pieces of ripped paper.

By Lyndal Cameron

The earthquake shook Christchurch like shaking our hands to warm them up.
The ground shook like a herd of elephants coming to town.
The bricks fell like a ball falling off a roof.

By Paige Brown

The ground shook like a volcano about to blow up.
The building cracked like an old rotten tree.
The bricks fell from the buildings like lightning from the sky.

By Brooke Bekhuis

The buildings smashed like dinosaurs crushing houses.
The ground shook like a washing machine spinning out water.
The earthquake roared like rockets blasting off.

By Kane Pickett

Room 4

Reduce, reuse and recycle. Room 4 are learning how to turn our trash to cash. We have been busily collecting empty bottles to make our bird feeders, which are hanging up in the trees and we have created our own piggy banks and Rainbow fish using reused fizzy bottles, which we are wanting to sell at our Market Day next term. We also discovered how to reuse our old crayons, instead of throwing them out, as we melted them down and made our own



Otautau School Helps Christchurch

We decided to have a BBQ during the Top Bike competition last Thursday, at Otautau School and a Mufti Day last Friday.

Our Young Leaders supervised both of the events to make sure they were successful. In the end we raised \$552.50, we have sent the money up to the Red Cross with a letter explaining what we did to help Christchurch get through the disastrous earthquake.

Otautau Young Leaders
By Emma & Brigitte



Earthquake

A jerk and a bump
Then a sudden thrust,
The earth shook violently
A sharp jar, and a shake
Trembling buildings, quivering cars, vibrating roads
A deep resonant sound, a loud grumble
Buildings topple over, bricks plummet,
A rough and violent moment,
The earth is physically disturbed,
Moving downward,
The building jolted forward
A wall smashed to the ground
A reverberating echo
Strong and powerful, Earthquake
By Jake DeClifford Year 8

Room 8



Room 8 have been busy making Scarecrows.



Exam answer....

What is a vibration?

There are good vibrations and bad vibrations. Good vibrations were discovered in the 1960s

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