



3 September 2009

## "To Be All I Can"

### FOR YOUR DIARY

9.9	Year 6 Parent Evening, 7.30pm
10.9	Parent Interviews, <b>school closes at 2pm</b>
11.9	Assembly, 2pm - Room 1 leading
14.9	Years 5-6 Nelson Schools cross country
15.9	Motueka Winter Tournament, Years 5 - 8
17.9	Motueka Winter Tournament postponement date
17.9	Passion for Plants, 7pm at the Mapua Hall- PTA fundraiser
18.9	Years 7-8 Interschool cross country
22.9	Board of Trustees Meeting, 7pm in the staffroom
24.9	Years 5 - 8 Inter-regional cross country
25.9	End of Term 3
12.10	Start of Term 4

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The measure of a school's effectiveness has to be the growth and relative success of its students. In partnership with families we are in the business of raising children and with these families we share the responsibility of developing a child's academic, social, and physical development. When this partnership has been effective we will see children succeed, relative to their potential, in many and varied ways. That's our measuring stick, and that's what motivates us daily.

In recent weeks we have seen such growth and success in children here at Mapua School. There were several very impressive results achieved in the ICAS Science and Computer Skills exams – congratulations to Haydn and Catherine for their Credit Awards, and Oliver for his Distinction Award (top 2% in NZ) in Computer Skills. In Science Peter, Cameron, and Jamie received Credit Awards, Haydn a Distinction Award (top 2% in NZ), and Oliver a High Distinction Award (top 1% in NZ).

Last week a Year 7 and a Year 8 team from Mapua School battled teams from across the Nelson region at the annual Mathix Competitions with fantastic results, and students entering the annual Science Fair also came away with some very impressive awards. Details regarding these events are included elsewhere in this newsletter. We wish to congratulate all of these students on their success.

Over the last few days I have had the pleasure of reading the reports of every child here and wish to say that, as a group, they are not only achieving well but are, in fact, achieving incredibly well. And it's not only that their results are impressive, the fact is they, on the whole, have a positive attitude to learning and are putting in the effort needed to succeed.

And if you came along to last Friday's assembly I'm sure you will have enjoyed the children's creativity and talent. Thanks Room 5 for encouraging and facilitating this entertaining assembly.

It's a pleasure to work with the great students and families that make up the Mapua School Community and it's my belief that that ancient African proverb 'It takes a village to raise a child' is relevant and alive in this community.

A very warm welcome to new students Isabella, Anya, Sam and Kate. We wish you every success here at Mapua School.

Wednesday saw Mandy Stephens head off to Hira School to share how Mapua School developed its Vision and teaches the Key Competencies which are a significant aspect of the New Curriculum Document. Following a recommendation from the University of Canterbury Nelson based Literacy Adviser all teachers from Brightwater are visiting Mapua over the next weeks to observe how we teach writing here at Mapua. This week it was the turn of the Junior School to be observed and share their skills in the area of writing.

Reports go out this Friday and we wish to encourage parents to read, discuss, and celebrate the success your children have made. Interviews are available next week, as outlined in Tarnia's letter to everyone. We are keen to ensure that these interviews meet the needs of families and encourage parents to use this time to discuss issues and establish 'next steps' regarding the progress of children. The interviews earlier in the year focused on goal setting, these interviews are very much about progress made to date and where we go next. If you would like to have a longer interview with any teacher then please approach them to arrange an alternative time to do this. We can only afford to have ten minute slots on the scheduled night for interviews but teachers are always open to meeting with families should they, the families, so wish.

Best wishes for the week ahead.

Neil Chalmers

Principal

### **Superb Student Achievements....**

#### **Nelson Science Fair**

Four groups of students were selected to work as a GATE extension opportunity with Mrs Stephens for three half days early in Term 3. These students then gave up their own time both at lunchtimes and after school to complete the scientific investigations and produce boards to display at the Nelson Science Fair.

We entered four projects and three of them received awards. They are now on display in the school foyer for you to view.

#### **Gold award (top 6 projects)**

Georgia and Georgia – What assists with the growth of a plant the most?

#### **Judges Highly Commended Awards (top 15%)**

Libby – Is mopping just another way of spreading bacteria?

Jake and Kaleb – Full Fat vs Trim – Which lasts the longest?

#### **Participation Award**

Kynan, Cacilda and Jessica – What does green have to do with greenhouses?

Congratulations to all these students for their amazing efforts.

#### **Nelson Mathix Competition**

These teams have been practising over the past month at lunchtimes for the mathix competition, which is where you work in a team of four to answer problem-solving questions as quickly as you can in a set time.

Year 7 team – Alice, Storm, Keegan, Samuel and Patrick performed extremely effectively as a team and finished in the top half of the smaller schools section.

Year 8 team – Oliver, Libby, Haydn and Kaisa performed exceptionally well to finish 2<sup>nd</sup> equal out of all the teams at the Mathix. This is a major achievement by this team and it was nail biting all the way to the end.

Congratulations to all these students as well for your outstanding achievements.

Mandy Stephens

We require your help to acquire auction goods!!  
Nothing too big or small - your efforts would be appreciated.

A lot of local businesses have once again generously donated fantastic goodies –  
but do you or your contacts have something that can be donated,  
the more the merrier as we have a captive audience!!

### Bakers Wanted

We also need some keen bakers to make up a slice or two for the evening -  
please contact either Justine Millar 5403779,  
Mary Duncan 5402992 or Jackie Hall 5402770.

Planning is well underway for this evening which will be  
a major fundraiser for Mapua School this term.  
This event proved very popular last year and a great deal of money was able  
to be raised for the school through both ticket sales and silent auction goods.

Passion for Plants – guest speaker Jack Hobbs  
Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September @ The Mapua Hall  
Tickets available now \$25/person

### MAPUA SCHOOL T SHIRTS AND HATS

A reminder that T shirts and sun hats are available for purchase from the office. The T shirts range in price from \$12 for X Small (size 6) to \$16 for Large and X Large sizes (12's and 14's). Sun hats are either \$10 or \$11 depending on size. New stocks are on order but we have been advised there will be price increases.

With various sporting events coming up, we do not have enough sports uniforms to issue to everyone so those children who have school T shirts can assist by wearing their own.

### Book Binder Wanted

Room 6 is publishing a book this  
term and we would like to have it  
professionally bound.

Can you help?

We would love to share our  
wonderful stories with you...

Thanks

Whaea Aroha

[aroaha.hohepa@mapua.school.nz](mailto:aroaha.hohepa@mapua.school.nz)

540-2806

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

**Rangers Softball Club – Tee Ball and Play Ball League** For 4 – 13 year olds on Tuesday nights at Upper Moutere starting 20 October, 4pm and 5.15pm. Information sheets available in the office.

**Tee Ball Skills Holiday Camp** at Moutere Hills sports field on 1 and 2 October for 4 – 13 year olds. Free entry for registered players, \$30 non registered. Further information in the Office or contact Marty Grant 021 490 738.

### **TASBAY KIDZ:**

Hi all....! holiday time is looming again! Our holiday programme is running for the first week of the holidays Monday September 28th - Friday October 2nd from 8.30am - 4.30pm daily. ALL children 5-13 years are welcome. Fees are \$14.00 per half day and \$28.00 whole day. We are CYF approved so WINZ subsidies can apply. Our programme will be advertised in the next edition of the Boredom Busters magazine. We have some awesome activities planned including Bowling and Boxing! Spaces are limited though so book early to avoid disappointment. Interested? then contact Sal 0274068109 for further info and don't forget our After school programme running daily 3pm-5pm in Tasman School hall (transport from Mapua available). Fees are \$10.00 per session (WINZ applies).

**Tasman Makos - Kids get in free.** Makos vs Manawatu, Saturday 5 September 2.35 pm. Makos vs Auckland, Sunday 27 September 2.35pm. Take a Kid to Footy: 1 adult \$15 and 2 kids free. Take a Family to Footy: 2 adults \$30 and 3 kids free.

### **Tasman Mapua Art Escape Weekend, 12-13th September 2009**

*Come and join the friendly Tasman and Mapua Art Groups for a fun weekend of art and creativity at Teapot Valley Christian Camp. Two workshops to choose from: Portraiture or Mixed Media, run by talented local artists. Also a talk by a local artist, art movies, and art books. \$100 for all tuition, all meals, and two nights accommodation (Not compulsory to stay). Limited places left. Please phone Lisa on 540 3933 asap to book.*

**[www.mapua.school.nz](http://www.mapua.school.nz)**