



"To Be All I Can"

FOR YOUR DIARY

3.12	Aquatics Trip - whole school
8.12	Class and Responsibilities Assembly, 11am at Hills Community Church
10.12	Year 8 and Formal Awards Assembly, 11am at Hills Community Church
14.12	School closes at 12.30pm
2.2.10	Start of Term 1, 2010.

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The last weeks of Term IV are now rushing by and the staff team are busy with both programmes and events that bring 2009 to a positive end, and also planning for 2010. Mapua students have been busy in a number of areas and we wish to congratulate them on their efforts and successes. Today, Wednesday, there is an air of excitement around the school as children prepare for the annual Talent Quest. Using the Hills Community Church as a venue for this event will, I believe, give added quality to the acoustics for all concerned and make this event even more special.

On Tuesday the school choir performed in the TDC chambers to new citizens as a part of the citizenship ceremony and, according to the very positive feedback from those present, did themselves and their choirmaster Warren Taylor, proud. Congratulations to them all and our thanks to those parents who provided transportation and supervision on the day.

House Leaders did a great job of setting up, promoting, and running last week's discos that were a real success. Our thanks to them and DP, Mandy Stephens, for their input into this great event. The opportunity to learn sound leadership skills through such activity is a real bonus for our Intermediate Team students.

The Board of Trustees met last evening, Tuesday, and attended to a number of significant matters in regard to the school. A BOT SPOT will be coming out in the very near future but we did wish to let parents know that whilst construction of our new classroom has taken some time to begin, the Board, and its property sub-committee, have been very busy planning out the next steps and they are acutely aware how important it is that we get all of the proposed (classroom upgrades, library, resource room etc) buildings underway asap.

Thank you for your input regarding student placements for 2010. At last evening's BOT meeting a proposal was approved that will see us begin the new school year with eleven classes and potentially a twelfth (new entrant class) mid-year. With support from the Board this proposal allows class sizes to be reduced across the school next year and this has to be good for the students concerned. Details as to classes for 2010 will come out in the near future once finalised.

Regards and best wishes for the week ahead,

Neil Chalmers
Principal

TRIP TO FIRE STATION BY THE JUNIOR AND MIDDLE SYNDICATES



On November 11, the Junior and Middle Syndicates visited the Fire Station as part of our Safety Unit.

The Junior Syndicate also took the opportunity to test the boats/rafts they made for their art topic on Multi Media. The criteria for the boats were that they had to float, keep a clay person or animal safe, and they had to be made of natural materials. It was wonderful, setting the boats off into the tide and watching them float up the Mapua Channel. I wonder if any of them will be found around the beaches?

Our thanks go to the three firefighters who were so patient with the students, showing them the station, clothing, breathing apparatus, the fire trucks, and letting every child try their hand at the pumps. We all learnt what to do in the event of a fire. This has certainly been a great unit, learning about road, water and fire safety.

Reports from some Room 3 students about the trip

We got to squirt the hoses and it was good fun. We went upstairs and it looked like a house and there were lots of trophies. Wills

We watched Ged put the fire gear on that they wear when they go to fires. We squirted hoses. Josh

We had to see how long it took Mrs Egarr to put the fire clothes on. We went into the fire truck to see what was inside. Jake

We made boats to sail and had to make them out of material and sticks. We had a race and we won. Jessica

The boats floated to Rabbit Island. At the fire station we had turns squirting the hose. Iszalea

We had to keep our clay person safe on our wooden boat. At the fire station we had to go under a black blanket. There was pretend smoke. Jaydn.

A Huge "Thank You"

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the staff, parents and students who have helped my family over the past few weeks. Thank you for the huge effort that you made with the setting up and catering for Ross' funeral and for all the love and support that has continued to come.

Thank you for the beautiful rose, "Loving Memory", presented by the school. The name says it all!

As you can imagine it has been a very difficult time for us but knowing that we are part of such a caring and giving community has meant a lot to myself and the boys.

Thank you again!

Fiona, Samuel, Nicholas and Jamie Wilson

SWIMMING POOL KEYS

Pool keys will be available for purchase from Monday, 7 December at a cost of \$30. This will enable you to have use of the pool outside of school hours and during the school holidays. Due to regulations outside of our control, there will be a responsibility for all key holders to be trained to test the chlorine levels of the pool (even if you completed the training last year). This will be held at the pool and will only take 10 minutes. Training is being held at the following times:

Monday, 7 December 9am and 2.45pm

Tuesday, 8 December 9am

Wednesday, 9 December 9am and 2.45pm

Key holders will NOT be able to purchase a key without the training being completed. As parents need to sign a keyholders agreement, keys will not be given to students. Due to keys being available on a first in, first served basis, no keys will held. They will not be available after 12.30pm on 14 December.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

After School Art Programme Art Exhibition ASAP has had a successful start at Mapua School. We have learnt and had fun making monoprints, cartoon books and painting, drawing using conte pencil, ink and charcoal, experimental and observational drawing, clay work fired in a kiln and much more. A collection of this work will be on display in the school foyer during the last week of term. For more information about the exhibition, enrolments for Term 1 2010 or the ASAP holiday art programme, phone David 5267772 or email: asapartprogram@yahoo.com

KIDZ KLUB AFTER 3 CHRISTMAS SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAMME

16 December - 22 December at Upper Moutere School Hall from 9.00am - 3.30pm. Send your primary school age kids along to have a whole lot of fun!!! \$100 for 5 days / \$25 per day for casual bookings. For more information and a full programme contact Cindus Colonna (03) 543 2033 / (027) 358 7233 or get a brochure from the Upper Moutere School office. Be in quick as spaces are limited.

Gillian Francis Academy of Dance presents "Christmas Time". This includes excerpts from the Nutcracker, contemporary dance, elves and reindeer. It will be held at the Suter Theatre on Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th December at 7.00pm and Saturday 5th December at 1.00pm and 7.00pm. Tickets are \$15 from Everyman Records.

Nelson Yacht Club Learn to Sail Courses Brochures and application forms are available from the Office if you are interested.

CAVILL CRICKET DECEMBER 2009 HOLIDAY PROGRAMME Ideally suited for five to thirteen year olds, the 'junior' programme teaches participants the fundamentals of cricket in a fun, learning environment. The basics of batting, bowling and fielding are taught in an action-packed, informative three hour session over two days. Games, drills and expert coaching are combined to give participants a quality and exciting introduction to the sport of cricket. Dates - 21, 22,23,24 December from 9 - 12 pm at Greenmeadows. For more information contact Andrew Cavill "Cavill Cricket Coaching".

"Recycled Christmas Challenge - Reduce, Reuse, Rejoice" Send photos of your recycled Christmas creation to Mapua Country Trading. Include your name and contact details and if entering the childrens' or adults competition. The best entry in each category wins \$50 gift voucher. Entries close 15th December and the best entries will be on the website - www.mapuacountrytrading.co.nz