

Campbells Bay School Board of Trustees

Newsletter, Term 1 2010

Dear Parents/Caregivers

2010 has seen a very busy start of the year. We would like to thank the whole school community, and in particular the PTA, for the wonderful family fun fair that took place on Friday 19th March. It was a major event which was the result of many hours of planning and much hard work from all members of the school community, and the result spoke for itself. It was an excellent celebration of the best of Campbells Bay School – a strong supportive community, well-prepared and contributing students, a high calibre of teacher commitment and professionalism, and an enthusiastic and energetic volunteer body. We all had fun, and at the same time made a significant contribution to the school. Thank you all.

Academically the school has also made a great start to the year. Data from 2009 has allowed teachers to group students and have reading and maths programmes in action from Week 2. This means we have been able to maximise teaching time, based on the assessments provided by 2009 teachers. Analysis of further assessments this year have further reinforced that we should expect higher levels of achievement of **our** students than simply the national average. Our target and goal setting reflects this.

This year has also seen the introduction of the new school uniform. We appreciate the support with which this has been introduced throughout the Year 0/1 – Year 4 students. The standard of attire has been impressive, and the implementation has been very smooth, with the assistance of the School Uniform Company. We will evaluate the uniform at a later stage this year, with a view to continuing to refine it, as required.

Board of Trustee Elections

The election of the next Board of Trustees is looming. These elections are held every three years and provide an opportunity for interested parents and a staff member to become part of the school governance structure. Nominations have opened and will close at noon on April 23rd. If there are more nominations than vacancies for parent representatives, voting, by postal ballot, will commence on or about 26th April 2010, and close on 7th May at 12 noon. Results will be available at school. The Returning Officer is Karen McNair. We urge you to consider becoming involved in the school in this way, and welcome any queries to any of the current Board members.

The new Board will commence its duties at the BOT meeting on 19th May.

Financial

The school is very grateful to the high commitment of its parent/caregivers to the voluntary contributions for students. We recognise these are challenging economic times, and that this is an expensive time of year. The ongoing support of families is greatly appreciated, and is critical to the level of resources we can provide as a school to our students.

As an example, this support has meant the school has been able to implement a fast transition to additional technological equipment in classrooms. This is to ensure our students have access to what they need to communicate in a relevant and purposeful way using the technologies of their time. We have recently purchased 49 new workstations and 16 laptops to provide Years 3, 4 and 5 with 4 laptops per room, as well as access to sets of laptops computers on wheels or COWs. The balance of the school now has 2 PC's per room, and these will be upgraded.

To support the expansion of the school computer network, cabling and switching have been upgraded. Eight short throw projectors and four new Mimio boards have also been acquired, meaning that all but one class from Years 3 – 6 has an interactive whiteboard. We have two Mimios and projectors available to Years 1 – 2. We have also gone onto a new high speed wireless internet network, the increased data speed meaning a huge improvement to programmes such as Mathletics, Reading Counts and Ultranet. Classroom furniture has also been replaced to meet the changing needs of the new classroom.

Property

You may well have noticed the removal of the row of acmena trees from the upper boundary of the school field. These will be replaced with rows of titoki at the field level, and grislinea at the fence line. The 85th anniversary of the opening of Campbells Bay School is approaching and a plaque will commemorate this in conjunction with the tree planting.

The school has undertaken an energy audit of its operations. As a result, policies and strategies will be developed to minimise energy use at CBS, where possible. Also, the decision has been made to install more heat pumps to provide for better learning environments for students – both in summer and winter.

2010

We look forward to yet another challenging and rewarding year ahead. We are enriched by the support of such a huge body of people staunchly standing behind the school, and this has never been so well demonstrated as at the Family Fun Fair. We thank you all again for your contributions. We welcome your input and views, and hope we see your representation in evidence at the forthcoming BOT's elections. Thank you all.

Campbells Bay School Board of Trustees
March 2010