

NEWSLETTER MARCH / APRIL 2015

TEACHER ONLY DAY

The Teacher only day scheduled for Tuesday 7th April has been postponed. This means we will be open on that day.

REDCLIFFS SCHOOL

As you will all know by now, the Minister of Education has issued Redcliffs School with a Proposal for Closure. Whilst the school, parents, and larger community will do everything to oppose this closure, we would like to make you aware that if it does happen, Moa Kids could suffer loss if families leave the area to be closer to school or indeed not move into our area because they have no school to attend. Therefore, we ask each and every one of you to support the school in any way you can to help keep it open. If you would like to make a submission the Board of Trustees of the School have given out a guideline on how to do this. The closing date for all submissions is 4pm 1st May 2015. A Facebook page has been set up in support of the school, please like this page (search for Support Redcliffs School on Facebook).

ERO REPORT

We have just received our unconfirmed Education Review Report and we have come out at the "Well Placed" category which means that we are "well placed to provide positive outcomes for children" and ERO will not be back for another three years. Our report states that

"Children benefit from a wide range of curriculum experiences including a focus on literacy, mathematics and music"......"Teachers often work with children in ways that extend their thinking, language and play ideas..... They provide opportunities for children to problem solve and make their play more complex."

The nursery team "provide nurturing and caring interactions and a responsive programme. A flexible and individualised programme supports families as they begin at the centre and when they move through to the preschool area."

Altogether a pleasing report with two areas of non compliance that we have already fixed and that is

1) the appointment of a designated privacy officer, Abigail Wills and 2) the police vetting of Anne our long serving teacher of 25+ years who now relieves for us, whose police vet had run out a year ago. She is now in the system awaiting her police vet.

NICKY THOMSON

It is with deep regret we have to inform you of the decision that Nicky has made. She has tendered her resignation to the Governance Committee which has been accepted. We wanted to share with you a few things that Nicky said about her life at Moa Kids.

"I would like to thank you for the wonderful support that was given to me after I lost my husband David and will always hold the families and staff at Moa Kids close to my heart. It was through this support that enabled me to get through a very difficult stage of my life." ...

"Every time I have popped in for a visit I felt the love and warmth of the place and the children always made a big deal of my visiting...felt like a rockstar."

We wish Nicky every success in finding a new position close to home.

PARENTS WITH SKILLS OR HELPFUL CONTACTS

We would like to get a list together of parents with skills who might be able to help us out for various tasks eg. plumbing to help fix dripping taps, graphic design to help with flyers etc. If this is you can you please let Frances W know your details.

NO WASTE LUNCHES

Just a reminder that we are working towards no waste lunchboxes for our children, that includes glad wrap and plastic wrappers on food. Can you please start using reusable pots or sandwich bags for your children's food. Thank you to everyone who has already taken this on board, the change has been noticeable.

A4 PAPER

Unfortunately, nobody has been able to help in replenishing our A4 paper supply. If you are able to help please let a teacher know; we don't mind if it is used on one side or if it isn't white.

EMERGENCY FOOD

We need just a few more items to replenish our emergency food box, could you please bring in one item of a long life food product for the box please.

NEW TSUNAMI SAFE HOUSE

Unfortunately, we no longer have a tsunami safe house following Leo Love-Smith leaving Moa Kids. If you live on the hill near to Moa Kids and would be willing to help us can you please have a chat with Frances in the office.

NEW WEBSITE

The Governance Committee have been working hard to update our website and we are pleased to say that it is now live. Please feel free to check it out.

FUNDRAISING "MURDER MYSTERY DINNER"

We had a great Murder Mystery fundraising evening on Saturday 7th March with close to 100 Poirot and Agatha Christie wannabes.

A huge thank you to the script writer Richard Hill, the Sumner Amateur Dramatic Society actors (Steve Morris, Fiona Boodee, Marc Boodee, Rachael Morris and Sally Willcox), plus standing ovations to Shay Jenkins and Matt Crowder (both of whom it turns out were innocent, of murder at least).

All of the ingredients (skilfully combined into lasagnes, salads and desserts by parents and teachers) and raffle prizes were generously provided by:

Fresh Choice, Merivale
The Mad Butcher, Riccarton
Physiotherapy and Pilates Evolved
Blackcat Cruises
Jane Parratt, Nu Skin Enterprises
Mankind Barbers at The Tannery
The Footwear Factory, Woolston
The Rock Café, Sumner
German Master Bakers, Mt Pleasant Market

Grown, Mt Pleasant Market St Andrews Church, Redcliffs Linwood Salvation Army Party Warehouse Bush Road Salad

Also, our thanks go to Jude Coombs who went above and beyond to make this evening such a huge success. The evening raised just over \$3,000 for Moa Kids.

HOT CROSS BUNS

Thank you once again for supporting our Hot Cross Bun fundraiser, the foyer still smells of freshly baked buns! This fundraiser has raised \$231 for Moa Kids. We bought 330 packets of buns between us!

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK

Over the next few weeks, we will be handing out information as to how you can get hold of an Entertainment Book and help support Moa Kids. Please keep your eyes open for the leaflet.

SUNHATS, SUN BLOCK AND SPARE CLOTHES

As autumn approaches, the temperature is a bit up and down, therefore can you please make sure you provide a named jumper/warmer clothes for your child. As we are still getting sunny days can you please ensure that your child is still bringing their named sunhat along.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

We are looking for new members of the Governance Committee as we are going to be losing a couple of people this year due to their children leaving to go to school. Please keep an eye on the board for the next meeting and come along. They are held every 3rd Monday of the month.

CHILDREN LEAVING FOR SCHOOL

We would like to wish the following children Happy School Days as they start the next stage of their learning adventure.

Leo Love-Smith has recently gone to Redcliffs School
Oak has recently gone to Sumner School
Delphi is going to Mt. Pleasant School
Monty is going to Mt. Pleasant School
William is going to Heathcote School

ECOSHOP LITTLE PETALS FLOWER COMPETITION

Have you seen what the children won by taking out first prize in the Ecoshop Little Petals Flower Competition? The competition was to create a flower/s by using recycled materials and under the expert guidance of Sharleen, the children came up with the fantastic show that is on display in the foyer. Didn't they do well? and the centre has lots of new craft bits and pieces to use at the art and collage table. We also won a new camera and a voucher to take the children to Chipmunks. Well done everyone!