

STRATFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL



"A great place to learn and a fun place to be. We are a Quality School."

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NEWSLETTER

Guten Tag / Kia Ora / Hola / Hello / Konnichi Wa / Halla / Talofa

Thanks to the *Taranaki Electricity Trust* and to the *TSB Community Trust*

Once again Stratford Primary is extremely fortunate to have received funding from both of the above to provide additional programmes and resources to support teaching and learning; without this support we would not be able to provide your children with the quality of programmes and resources that we do; whenever you are in a position to do so please thank both the *Taranaki Electricity Trust* and the *TSB Community Trust* for their support.

Taranaki Electricity Trust (TET): Late last year we received 2 cheques from the TET, one for projects (\$ 25 867) & one to be spent at the principal's discretion (\$10 994) within the guidelines provided by the TET.

The project money has gone towards such projects as: Additional security sensors, the installation of an Interactive whiteboard in Room 13 and the upgrade of administration computers.

The discretionary principal's grant has been used to offset the travel costs of *Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC)* and will be used throughout the year to help defray some of those costs that children and parents incur.

The TSB Community Trust provided \$8 300 for Numeracy Initiatives; and \$16 600 for Literacy Initiatives. This money has been provided based on the targets submitted to the trust at the end of 2009. Both sums of money have been targeted at supporting teachers to lift student achievement at Years 1-3. We will report on the outcome analysis of these programmes at the end of the 2010 academic year.

Congratulations: To Cameron Trethewey Year 5 who was selected to represent Taranaki at the recent New Zealand Junior National Swimming Championships; well done Cameron. It is great to see Cameron's hard work and commitment rewarded. Cameron is now ranked as the third fastest 9 year at 50m in NZ and he is 5th in NZ over 100m.

Paid Union Meeting: Please note that the scheduled paid union meeting has been postponed. Normal school hours will resume.

National Standards (NS): The National Standards are currently law. Accordingly all primary schools are expected to comply with the intent of that law. Stratford Primary is law abiding however like all laws there are some rough edges that require smoothing. We will continue to assist to smooth some of those rough edges whilst getting on with the business of teaching and learning.

You will remember that as part of the 2009 *Learning Journey; He Haerenga Akoranga* process all students were measured against the draft standards; I believe we were one of very few schools in New Zealand to have attempted this. We were able to do this because at Stratford Primary we have had our own standards in place for well over 10 years; we call these standards our Milestones. Teachers at SPS have always reported to parents against our Milestones using their ***Overall Teacher Judgment*** - to inform their judgment they have used a raft of assessment tools; this has included nationally normed tests. Over the next few Newsletters I will share our milestones (with the new National Standards linked to them) with you.

We will start with the Milestones for Level 1 i.e. Year 1 and 2. i.e. 5 / 6 year olds

READING - MILESTONES / NATIONAL STANDARDS LINK

OBJECTIVE: The children at Stratford Primary School will be able to read, respond to and think critically about a variety of increasingly challenging texts in print and electronic forms. They will select and read texts for enjoyment and personal fulfillment.

Milestone 1a: By the time the children are 6 years old they will be reading for meaning at level 12 -14 (green) 6 yrs (approx). They will be able to apply their knowledge of letter sound relationships to accurately decode words.

Milestone 1b: By the end of Year 2 the children will be able to read successfully for meaning with appropriate phrasing and fluency at level 19 - 22 (purple) 7-7.5 yrs approx. Students read silently, but when asked to read aloud can read known text with fluency and expression.

NS: After 1 Year	<i>After one year at school, students will read, respond to, and think critically about fiction and non-fiction texts at the Green level of Ready to Read</i>
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NS: After 2 Years	<i>After two years at school, students will read, respond to and think critically about fiction and non-fiction texts at the Turquoise level of Ready to Read</i>
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WRITTEN LANGUAGE MILESTONES / NATIONAL STANDARDS LINK

OBJECTIVE: The children at Stratford Primary will write texts that have an impact on the reader. They will record accurately and communicate clearly their thoughts, ideas, and information for a variety of personal, social, and transactional purposes using a range of text types, forms, structures and media.

Milestone 1: By the end of Year 2, children will be able to use an oral, visual or written plan to turn ideas into several connected sentences that make sense to the reader. Their writing will demonstrate some sense of sequence and include detail or personal comment. Students will be able to write simple sentences with increasing accuracy and with some variation in beginnings. Their word formations and approximations will show sound knowledge of initial/final sounds and some common spelling patterns. Students will be able to spell words accurately from Spelling List 1 – 3 in their writing. They will use sentence punctuation correctly. Children will begin to recraft their writing by revising and proofreading with increasing independence.

NS: After 1 Year *After one year at school, students will create texts as they learn in a range of contexts across the New Zealand Curriculum within Level 1. Students will use their writing to think about, record, and communicate experiences, ideas and information to meet specific learning purposes across the curriculum.*

NS: After 2 Years *After two years at school, students will create texts as they learn in a range of contexts across the New Zealand Curriculum within Level 1. Students will use their writing to think about, record, and communicate experiences, ideas and information to meet specific learning purposes across the curriculum.*

MATHEMATICS (NUMBER) – MILESTONES / NATIONAL STANDARDS LINK

OBJECTIVE: The children at Stratford Primary will be able to write and solve story problems involving whole numbers and decimals which require the use of the four operations by the end of Year 8.

Milestone 1. By the end of Year 2 children will be able to identify all of the numbers in the range 0 – 100, including the forward and backward number sequence, and symbols for halves, quarters, thirds and fifths. They will be able to skip count forwards and backwards in 2's, 5's and 10's to 100. They will know addition and subtraction facts to ten, recording results, and doubles to 20. They will be working at the **Advanced Counting** strategy stage and beyond.

After one year at school, students will be achieving at early level 1 in the mathematics and statistics learning area of the New Zealand Curriculum.

NS: After 1 Year ***Number & Algebra:** In contexts that require them to solve problems or model situations, students will be able to:*

- *apply counting-all strategies*
- *continue sequential patterns and number patterns based on ones*

***Geometry & Measurement:** In contexts that require them to solve problems or model situations, students will be able to:*

- *compare lengths, areas, volumes or capacities, and weights of objects directly;*
- *sort objects and shapes by a single feature and describe the feature, using everyday language;*
- *describe personal locations and give directions, using everyday language*

***Statistics:** in contexts that require them to solve problems or model situations, students will be able to:*

- *investigate questions by using the statistical enquiry cycle (with support), gathering, displaying, and /or counting category data.*

After two years at school, students will be achieving level 1 in the mathematics and statistics learning area of the New Zealand Curriculum.

NS: After 2 Years ***Number & Algebra:** In contexts that require them to solve problems or model situations, students will be able to:*

- *apply counting-on, counting back, skip-counting, and simple grouping strategies to combine or partition whole numbers;*
- *use equal sharing and symmetry to find fractions of sets, shapes, and quantities;*
- *create and continue sequential patterns by indentifying the unit of repeat;*
- *continue number patterns based on ones, twos, fives, and tens.*

***Geometry & Measurement:** In contexts that require them to solve problems or model situations, students will be able to:*

- *compare the lengths, areas, volumes or capacities, and weights of objects and the durations of events, using self-chosen units of measurement;*
- *sort objects and shapes by different features and describe the features, using mathematical language;*
- *represent reflections and translations by creating and describing patterns;*
- *describe personal locations and give directions, using steps and half – or quarter- turns.*

***Statistics:** In contexts that require them to solve problems or model situations, students will be able to:*

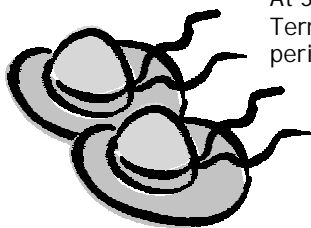
- *investigate questions by using the statistical enquiry cycle (with support), gathering, displaying, and / or identifying similarities and differences in category data;*
- *describe the likelihoods of outcomes for a simpler situation involving chance, using everyday language*

Our focus however has always been on working with the learner and their whanau to use the assessment information gathered to develop “next steps” learning goals; it has not been focused on telling children and their parents whether or not their children were: a. Well above the standard b. Just above the standard c. At expected standard d. Just below the standard e. Well below the standard. We have always tried to inform parents about what their children can do and what they can't do and what we all need to do to build on the strengths and address the weaknesses.

I would encourage all parents to read my blogs on our school website www.stratford-primary.school.nz click on Principals Desk and take the time to give me feed back.

I have dedicated my life to educating the **whole child**; this I will continue to do.

SUN HATS - Having fun in the sun.



At Stratford Primary we have an expectation that all students will wear a sunhat from the beginning of Term 4 until the beginning of Queen's Birthday weekend in the following year. After an initial warning period we enter into a **NO HAT NO PLAY** phase - we are now in that phase.

We always have a number of children who try us on by saying they do not own a hat. In this day and age I cannot believe that we have children who do not own a hat. A reminder that hoods are not hats.

It is really neat to see the vast majority of children wearing hats without having to be asked - well done!

Cell Phones at school: What is the process?

In the vast majority of cases there is absolutely no need for children to have a cell phone at school. However there may be special cases where it is necessary.

In these cases we require a **written explanation** from the parent clearly explaining the circumstances justifying the need for their child to bring a cell phone to school. Once the application to bring a cell phone to school is approved by the home, and the school, the child must immediately, on arrival at school, hand the cell phone to their class teacher who will then secure it. Teachers will either: Lock the cell phone away or hand them into the office for safe keeping. **Please note that school will take all care but no responsibility for cell phones.**

Wearing jewellery to school:

Our school expectations have not changed. Guidelines are:

- no necklaces or chains
- no rings
- No ear rings or sleepers
- Studs. The small studs are acceptable but the large diamante studs are not.

A good premise to start from is if you think that the jewellery you are wearing is unacceptable then you are probably right!

2010 Teacher Only Day:

For those of you planning ahead please note that we will once again be having a staff professional development day on the Friday 5 March i.e. before the 2010 Taranaki Anniversary Day which is on Monday 8 March.

All staff (40) successfully completed a practical First Aid course on Friday 29 January; if you have the opportunity to participate in such a day please do so; so much has been modified since I last completed the course.

Our school roll is: 387

EFTPOS is available at the school. Home & School fundraising events, e.g. sausage sizzle are cash only basis.



Dental Clinic Roadway

*Already we have had cars driving around the cones to collect children. Please note that this **is not** to be used as a means of collecting/delivering your child/ren, even if it is raining.*



SUBWAY STRATFORD

174 Broadway North

Ph: 765 5566

Present this coupon at Subway STRATFORD when you buy any Sub/Salad/Wrap and receive a Free Medium Drink. [Conditions apply]

Subway Lunches available on Tuesdays and Fridays. Order forms available in the corridor outside the main office.

TERM DATES FOR 2010

- Term 1: End of Term 1: Thursday 1 April:
Teacher Only Day Friday 5 March; Taranaki Anniversary Day Monday 8 March; Good Friday 2 April
- Term 2: Monday 19 April - Friday 2 July; ANZAC Day Sunday 25 April; Queen's Birthday Monday 7 June
- Term 3: Monday 19 July - Friday 24 September
- Term 4: Monday 11 October - Friday 17 December:
Labour Day: Monday 25 October

Problem to Ponder: Sarah's father gave her some money to go to town. After spending \$5 of it having lunch at McDonald's, she still had 75% of the money left, which was exactly enough to buy the T Shirt she saw in the sale at Just Jeans. How much was the T Shirt?

Last Newsletters problem: The number 6 has four factors 1, 2, 3 and 6. The number 16 has five factors 1, 2, 4, 8 and 16. What is the largest number less than 55 which has exactly 3 factors?

Answer: 49

- Kelvin Squire Principal

BOARD OF TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

Elections are drawing near and hopefully some of you will allow yourselves to be nominated for the elections. We need people who are willing to contribute some of their time towards shaping the direction of the school. It is a team effort and people from all backgrounds are required. Training is given. We require people who value education and your experiences and knowledge from the workplace may be useful in contributing towards the team. It is important to have a cross-section of our community represented so if you think the Board does not represent you then put your hand up. Nominations will be called for on the 15th March.

Don't forget-BOARD OF TRUSTEES ELECTIONS-GET NOMINATED!

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ASSOCIATE PRINCIPALS' CORNER

Parent Assistance Required . . .

At present we are updating our Math's resources in the Junior School. We require some parents who are able to assist with updating this new resource. It mainly requires putting sets of activities in to bags. This is a job that could be done at home or at school. If you think you could help out please see: Kim Waite - Associate Principal.

YIPEE - MATHS - Here's an activity you can do at home with your children. . .

Times Tables Practice

Purpose:

The purpose of this activity is to help your child to instantly recall their times tables.

What to do:

Two players sit opposite each other and like the game Rock, Scissors, Paper they hold closed fists and count together to 3. Then they open their hands and show a number of fingers. The first person to correctly multiply the number of fingers each person is showing wins a point. Make sure numbers over 5 are displayed using all the fingers on one hand and some from the other hand.

What to expect your child to do:

- To instantly recall the times tables up to 10 x 10.

Variations:

You can also play where each player uses only one hand, or where only one player uses both hands. The same game can be played to practice addition facts.

He Kupu Māori:

multiply	whakarea (-tia)
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The next Komiti Matua meeting will be held in the Wharenui on 4th March, from 9 - 10 a.m.

Please come.

Swimming Timetable:

Swimming has begun and finishes with swimming sports on Friday 12th March.

Please make sure your children have their gear with them and a plastic bag to keep wet towels etc in.....AND NAME EVERYTHING. It is so much easier to find an owner if everything is named.

WEEK 5 1 - 4th March

	MONDAY 1 ST			TUESDAY 2 ND			WEDNESDAY 3 RD			THURSDAY 4 TH		
	LARGE	MIDDLE	SMALL	LARGE	MIDDLE	SMALL	LARGE	MIDDLE	SMALL	LARGE	MIDDLE	SMALL
10.00-10.40	7	4	9	2	19	14	6	15	13	2	20	11
10.40-11.20	5	15	11	3	6	9	1	18	14	4	6	13
11.20-12.00	6	18	13	1	20	11	7	19	9	3	19	14

WEEK 6 8 - 11th March

	MONDAY 8 TH			TUESDAY 9 TH			WEDNESDAY 10 TH			THURSDAY 11 TH		
	LARGE	MIDDLE	SMALL	LARGE	MIDDLE	SMALL	LARGE	MIDDLE	SMALL	LARGE	MIDDLE	SMALL
10.00-10.40	Taranaki Anniversary Holiday			2	5	14	4	15	13	2	19	11
10.40-11.20				1	7	9	5	18	14	3	20	13
11.20-12.00				3	4	11	7	20	9	1	5	SPARE

Kerry Nancarrow & Kim Waite; Associate Principals

HOME & SCHOOL

We are pleased to continue our offer of only \$5 for a quality jacket from Farmlands. Just fill in the slip below and return it to the office with \$5, or call in and pick one up.

Our next Home & School meeting will be Tuesday 2nd March at 2pm in the staffroom. All parents are invited to come along to join or simply meet the team. Our fundraising activities have been set out for the year.

YARROWS BAGS For those families new to Stratford Primary, please keep any "Yarrows" bags, give them a shake and drop them off at the office. Yarrows pay us \$40 each month we are able to send 250 bags back to Yarrows.

Jo Patterson: for The Home and School team

JACKET ORDER FORM - To be returned to the office with \$5.00

Please may I order one Jacket for _____ in Room _____
I have enclosed \$5



Circle Size: 8-10 10-12 12-14

[Samples are available to view in the foyer]

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Children's Day 2010: The Stratford District Council working with Stratford Plunket and Police are celebrating national Children's Day on Sunday 7 March for local families with a community event to be held at the TSB pool. Free Entry from 1.00 - 3.00pm at the TSB for children and their families with a bouncy castle, free sausage sizzle and of course lots of fun in the water. The Mayor has challenged all those who attend to ride bikes to the event and prizes will be awarded to all who do.

Stratford Athletics Club: Continues Monday Nights: 6.30-7.15pm 2-6 year olds: 6.30-7.30pm 7yr & over

Citizen's Advice Bureau Inc Would you like to be a volunteer? Time requirement is only 3hrs once per week 10am - 1pm, plus one afternoon training per month of 1 hour from 1-2pm. We would so appreciate your help.
Bernice Mitchell/Chairperson: 270 Broadway, phone 765 5250, email: cabnet.stratford@xtra.co.nz

Dance Lessons available: Jazz, Hip hop, Adults aerobic class; Tuesdays in Stratford and Wednesday in Eltham; after school and evenings for all ages. To enroll: phone: Sharlene Duthie 764 7391

Stratford Hockey: If your child is interested in playing hockey this year please get their name and contact details to the SPS Office. We will hand this information to the organisers of Stratford hockey so draws and teams can be made up. As is usual the teams need coaches and supervisors so please add your name and contact details and how you are able to help.

COMING UP

Tuesday 2 March Room 5 Camp at *Top Ten Park* in Fitzroy commences
Thursday 4 March Komiti Matua Hui: 9.00 - 10am in the Kopa Kai
Friday 5 March Teacher Only Day
Monday 8 March Taranaki Anniversary Day
Tuesday 9 March Shakespeare Day - note to follow with details
Wednesday 10 march *National Standards Community Forum* 9.15am in school hall.
Annual **Turnbull Cup** Swimming Carnival 6.30pm at TSB Pool
Friday 12 March Swimming Sports. Next Newsletter

Kelvin Squire
Principal

BOT ELECTION COUNTDOWN

Section 92 of the Education Act 1989 defines the term “parent” in relation to any person, as meaning someone who is the person’s father, mother, guardian or immediate caregiver. Any one student may have up to a maximum of three people eligible to vote. Both parents are entitled to vote, even if they do not live with the child. The Roll of eligible voters closes at noon on 7th April 2010 and a copy of the roll is available for inspection during normal school hours. Please check that the school has up to date names and addresses of eligible voters.

J Hartley, Returning Officer

YEAR 3 & 4 enjoyed their overnight camping experience in the school grounds recently.

