



VICTORIA AVENUE SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER Term 3 No 9
Our Best - Always 17 September 2009

ADDRESS: 282 Victoria Ave, Remuera, Auckland.
 PHONE: 09 520 0602
 FAX: 09 520 1943
 EMAIL: v.a.s@victoria-avenue.school.nz
 WEB SITE: <http://www.victoriaave.com>
 DENTAL CLINIC 5200104

Dear Parents

"Dance like nobody is watching..."

I have read this quote in various places, it is even the title of a poem, but I think the original source was Mark Twain. The advice is clear enough but putting it into action is another matter, as all those of us who have succumbed to the temptation of the music, or the insistence of a partner, will know.

For many of us getting onto a dance floor can be challenge enough, now imagine that it is a stage, or a catwalk, the spotlights are on, and you have a hall full of people...all watching you! That was the challenge put before each and every child over the course of this week.

Our Wearable Arts shows have been stunning. The children's ingenuity and creativity has been a joy to behold and each audience has clapped, cheered and thoroughly enjoyed an artistic feast. With the last show tonight we will literally bring down the curtain on a wonderful celebration of the talents of the most amazing people, our children. I mentioned last week just how important performance is as a key element of building self-confidence. This week we have seen the results...each child seemed to come off the stage a few inches taller. I must again thank everyone, particularly our wonderful drama teachers Fiona Flynn and Megan Jennings, who have enthused and inspired each and every child to perform with confidence.

A few weeks ago I quoted Rob Waddell when he was talking to a group of students about trying to be the best they can possibly be. Another, more pertinent reflection this week is taken from Mikhail Baryshnikov, the famous Russian dancer.

*"I do not try to dance better than anyone else.
 I only try to dance better than myself."*

I think that it aptly reflects our goal for each and every child at the school...to metaphorically 'dance' better than themselves, whatever the challenge is that they are faced with. To be reflective; to know themselves; and to strive for the excellence which is within. This week our children have really achieved that, literally and metaphorically; well done everyone!

School Directory

On page 5 in this newsletter you will find some information from the PTS regarding our proposed School Directory. The purpose of the directory is twofold:

- to provide a daily resource for parents and caregivers to obtain information regarding the school and be able to contact other parents within the school to arrange for play dates, school related activities etc. In essence taking our class contact list a stage further.
- to advertise and support local businesses. In the same spirit that recently we have been urged "...if you are going to do business, do business with an Aucklander" we feel that school families might very well find it useful to contact other members of our school and local community when seeking services.

More information and consent for inclusion of contact information will be forwarded to school families next term.

Kind regards

Allan Short
 PRINCIPAL

Grandparents Day ~ Tuesday 27th October

On Tuesday 27th October we are holding a special Grandparents Day here at Victoria Avenue School. We have chosen this day as it is the day after Labour Weekend, which is often a time when extended families get together, and we hope as many Grandparents as possible will be able to visit with their grandchildren on that day.

As a large number of grandparents may attend we will run separate morning and afternoon sessions in order to accommodate everyone comfortably. Grandparents of Middle and Senior pupils will be invited to our morning session and those with grandchildren in Years 0-2 will be invited to our afternoon session, of course some may qualify for, and wish to attend, both sessions!

The day will begin with an assembly, lead by the Principal, followed by a small concert where the children will perform a number of items for grandparents. After this grandparents will accompany their grandchildren back to their classrooms to meet their teachers and look at their work. Children will then give their grandparents a tour of the school, finally arriving back at the hall where we will have morning/afternoon tea together.

There is a very special bond that exists between grandparents and their grandchildren and the opportunity to share time together is very important. I know from previous experience that some grandparents will travel quite some distance to attend such days and it is always a pleasure to welcome them to school. We hope that this will become an annual event for us.

In order to arrange adequate seating for the day and also to assist with catering arrangements, can all families please return the slip attached to the school office indicating numbers of grandparents who will be attending.



Grandparents Day Return Slip

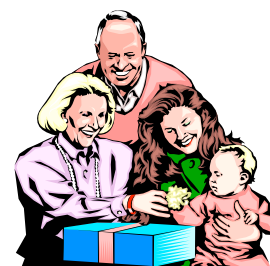
Child's name(s) _____ and class (es) _____
 _____ and class (es) _____

We will/will not (delete as appropriate) have Grandparents attending on Tuesday 27th October.

If Grandparents are attending:

Number of Grandparents attending morning session (Years 3-6) _____

Number of Grandparents attending afternoon session (Years 0-2) _____



COMING EVENTS ~ please see the calendar on the website

<http://victoriaave.com>

Week 10

Mon 21st Sept APPA Speech Competition Finals, 7.00pm
BOT Meeting, 7.30pm
Tues 22nd Sept Pre-Schoolers Visit to VAS, am
Fri 25th Sept Term Ends at 3.00pm

Week 1 Term 4

Mon 12 Oct Term 4 starts at 8.50am



EVERY THURSDAY THERE WILL BE A NEW ORDER FORM FOR ORDERING ONLINE - PLEASE FORWARD YOUR ORDER TO ORDERS@VEGESCHOOLS.CO.NZ

THE ORDER FORM CAN BE ACCESSED USING THE FOLLOWING LINK: [HTTP://WWW.VEGESCHOOLS.CO.NZ/ORDER.HTML](http://www.vegescchools.co.nz/order.html)

DOWNLOADING INFORMATION FROM THE WEB.

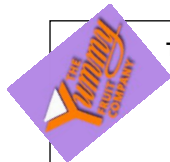
If you have difficulty using internet links from our newsletters please copy and paste the link into your browser. Most links come from our website.

www.victoriaave.com.

Slap Cheek

Recently a number of children from our school have been diagnosed with Slap Cheek and parents have asked about this illness. Auckland Regional Public Health Service have produced the following fact sheet from their website.

www.victoriaave.com/files/lgarrett/SlappCheek.pdf



The race is on - get those stickers into school!! Room 16 is in the lead!

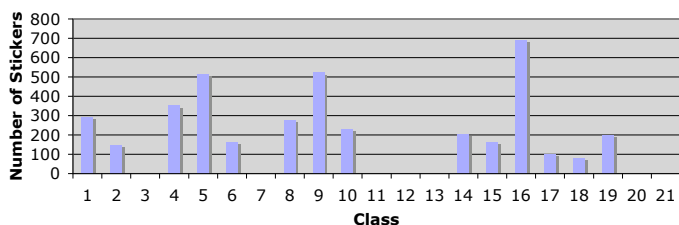
All stickers must be in by the 25 September 2009.

Please keep collecting!!!

Winning class will receive a cake for morning tea!

<http://www.yummyfruit.co.nz/>

Yummy Stickers Tally



SKORTS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR GIRL'S SUMMER UNIFORMS

We are taking orders for the skorts. Information and order forms are available on our website:

<http://victoriaave.com/our-school/newsletters>

New Walking School Bus ~ Victoria Ave.

If you live in the Victoria Ave area and are interested in a walking school bus route please email stella.joe@paradise.net.nz as soon as possible. An information sheet is available on our website.

<http://victoriaave.com/our-school/newsletters>

If you wish to register your interest please contact Stella Joe via email: stella.joe@paradise.net.nz or let the office know.

ROAD SAFETY TIP

ENSURE YOU ARE WEARING YOUR SAFETY BELT BEFORE STARTING ON YOUR JOURNEY.

REPORT ABSENCE BUTTON ON WEBSITE

You are now able to report lateness and absence via email directly from our website by pressing the Report Absence link on the top right hand side of our home page. Please include your child's room number.

<http://victoriaave.com>

MEDICATION ADMINISTERED AT SCHOOL

If your child needs to take medication at school please ensure the medicine comes to the office together with this completed form:

<http://victoriaave.com/files/lgarrett/%20Medication.pdf>

After School and Holiday Community Based Programmes and Activities

Community based groups have approached us to inform parents of various activities available locally. Information for these activities is in the basket in the foyer and on our website:

<http://victoriaave.com/our-people/our-community>

Car Free Day is Coming!! Next Tuesday

On Tuesday 22 September it is World Car Free Day and the Auckland City Council is hoping to get people involved in their 'Go Car Free For Me!' promotion. Obviously the best way to support this worthwhile event is to leave the car at home and encourage your child to walk to school. Our Walking School Bus departure times are listed below:

- **Bell Rd Bus** departs from 10 Bell Rd at 8.10am.
- **Spencer St Bus** departs from cnr Aldred and Spencer St 8:20am
- **Manawa Bus** 8:25am departure from cnr Manawa and Mahoe.
- **Martyn Wilson Bus** leaves the carpark on Martyn Wilson Field at 8:20am
- **Hapua Reserve Bus** departs Hapua Reserve cnr Shore Rd and Hapua St 8:20am.
- **Shera Rd Bus** departs 12 Shera Rd at 8:10am.

Get LOUD and give deaf children a voice!

"Loud Shirt Day" this Friday 18th September ~ Gold Coin Donation Please

Loud Shirt Day is the annual appeal of The Hearing House and the Southern Cochlear Implant Paediatric Programme, two charities who are dedicated to enabling deaf children with a cochlear implant to listen and speak like their hearing peers. For more info please go to

<http://www.loudshirtday.co.nz/>

Children can come to school with a very brightly coloured shirt or dress on and a gold coin for a donation for these charities. If you don't want to dress up in LOUD clothes then you can buy a Loud Shirt Day sticker from the office with your donation.

Wear your
LOUDEST SHIRT

ONCE UPON A TOY BOX

ROOM 4 - YEAR 6



The costume I had was basic and simple. It was not hard to make, but it turned out alright, a box and yoghurt cartons painted green. The point is "Wearable Arts" was a blast, it was fun and exciting.
By Vernon Taylor Rm 4



abcde

The Wearable Arts Performance

The Wearable Arts performance was colourful and unique. Every class had something different to present. I, personally thought it was a good way for everyone to get creative. It was very enjoyable to perform in front of everybody.

By Jessica Samson Rm 4

While Wearable Arts has been going on I have found it very entertaining. My favourite part was making my dice costume. Everybody put a lot of work into it. It was hard but it was all worth it, it turned out great.

By Sophia Moodabe-Smith Rm 4



Come and look in the office foyer there is a professionally made wearable art!
"Last Dance at Huka Falls"

WINTER FIELD DAY

The final end to the winter exchanges took place on Tuesday with each team playing away at various tournaments around Auckland.

Competition was tough at each meet with schools playing their best of the best players. There was some outstanding placings with the hockey teams finishing 1st and 2nd overall in their Pool and the rugby team finishing 2nd over all in their pool. Just beaten by a very well drilled Cornwall Park side.

The soccer and netball teams also competed very well with some wins and some losses.

Thank you to the staff and parents who helped coach and support the teams, your help is always appreciated.

Could all team kits please be returned to Miss Whittington's office by this Friday please.

Baseball

Next Wednesday two teams from school will be taking part in the 2009 Bayside Westhaven Interscholar Baseball Tournament. The day promises to be a great day of fun and games. Good Luck to the Year 4 and Year 6 team.



Basketball

The senior basketball league starts next Monday at the ASB centre. The team representing Victoria Avenue School has been committed to training on a Wednesday morning. This will continue into Term 4 with the training day being a Tuesday. Thanks must go to Donna Robertson who has been getting the team ready.



Any more seniors who are keen to play need to sign up with Miss Whittington before the end of this term.

The year 3 and 4 team who has also been training hard start their games on the 23rd September.

AFTERSCHOOL ACTIVITIES Soccer Club

There are still places for the after school Soccer club on a Monday for Year 5/6 and a Wednesday for Year 3/4. If your child is interested can you complete a registration form that can be collected from the office.

or downloaded from our website.

<http://victoriaave.com/our-school/newsletters>

The closing date for registration has been extended until:
Monday 21st September.

In the news this week

Champion of Champion Gymnastics

Our Year 6 Gymnastics team competed in the Champion of Champion Gymnastics competition on the 11th September at the Tri Star Gymnastics Centre. The team consisted of Rebecca Hazard, Ella Mayhew, Isabelle Haines and Ilma Dzebhanic. Special congratulations to Rebecca Hazard who came 2nd overall!

Flippa Ball

A good weekend in the pool - VAS A beat Meadowbank, 4-0. In the 5/6 Grade our VAS Year 6 team beat our Year 5 team 7-0, and while this did leave our Year 5 team in seventh place after a hard term, it must be remembered that they were playing in the Division One of this grade and so were up against the top teams.

So now to the finals weekend - here is the draw. Best of luck to VAS A who will be defend the trophy again.

440pm St Heliers Dolphins will play VAS A in the Championship Final Also at 7.20pm VAS B will play Diocesan Red and VAS C - has a Bye

Please also note that the entries for next term close on October 10th. I will need to know who wishes to play in this last term. My intent is to play the B and C team again, but this time I will drop the C team back into Division Two to give them a fighting chance after what they have learnt this term. I would also welcome some more kids out of year 2 or 3 who can form the basis of our 3/4 team next year - so if you know of any kids that are interested in playing, please let me know.



VICTORIA AVE SCHOOL 2010 DIRECTORY BUSINESS ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY

Next year VAS will produce its very own School Directory, co-ordinated by a group of school parents. Every family and staff member will receive a free copy of the directory in Term 1 2010.

The purpose of the directory is to provide a daily resource for parents and caregivers to obtain information regarding the school and be able to contact other parents within the school to arrange for play dates, school related activities etc. More information and consent for inclusion of contact information will be forwarded to school families shortly.

In order to cover the costs of the directory we are including advertising from local businesses. So if this is you, please consider supporting the school and obtaining some advertising at the same time. The directory will be a reference for every school family and so will be used regularly. The back of the publication will include an index of all advertisers so people will easily be able to find that retail store, plumber, electrician, accountant etc that they need!

The Directory will be A5 in size, and adverts can be ¼, ½ or full page. In addition we have a glossy colour cover with space on the inside front and inside back covers.

If you are interested in listing your business in the 2010 VAS School Directory and would like more information you can contact Kim or Bronwyn (contact information below) or complete the form below, hand it into the office and we will contact you.

Kim Hamilton on 021 727 058 or email kimrob@xtra.co.nz
Bronwyn Trevenen on 0212 879 618 or email ivantottle@xtra.co.nz

To help us with planning the layout it would be great if you could let us know of your interest by **Friday 23rd October 2009**.

VICTORIA AVE SCHOOL 2010 DIRECTORY ADVERTISING REGISTRATION OF INTEREST FORM

I would like to register my interest in advertising in the 2010 Victoria Ave School Directory.
Please contact me to discuss pricing and options.

Company Name	
Contact Person	
Contact Phone Number	
Contact Email Address	