

Phone: 871 6025 Fax: 871 6036  
NEWSLETTER No: 1/2009—Fortnightly  
25 February 2009

Dear Parents and Caregivers

## ***PRINCIPALS COMMENT***

Many thanks to those parents who have paid this years school donations. As you may be aware school donations are not compulsory but they do make up an important part of the schools income. This has always been the case but it has become even more significant over the past few years due to a sharp decrease in funding from the government. Funding paid to schools by the government are based on two things, roll numbers and decile ranking. The decile system is difficult to explain so I will quote you from the Ministry's web site.

### ***What are Deciles?***

A school's decile indicates the extent to which the school draws its students from low socio-economic communities. Decile 1 schools are the 10% of schools with the highest proportion of students from low socio-economic communities, whereas decile 10 schools are the 10% of schools with the lowest proportion of these students. A school's decile does not indicate the overall socio-economic mix of the school.

**Census information is used to calculate the decile.** A school provides its student addresses and these are used to determine which areas its students come from.

As you can see decile ranking has nothing to do with a schools performance. From this the Ministry ranks the schools from 1—10. The lower the ranking the more money you receive. For many years we were a decile 3 school but in 2007 we went up to a decile 4. This change cost the school \$36,000 of government funding. Yes \$36,000!! Through careful spending by the staff we have managed to keep all our programmes running but as you can imagine it is a struggle. Every cent counts so hence the importance of our school donations. So if you haven't yet paid them it would be a really huge help to the school if you could.

We also have a very active and successful fundraising committee. If you would like to help out in any way please come to the meeting on Tuesday, 3 March or if you cannot attend this meeting please leave your name and number at the office.

We have had a great start to the year. We have been very impressed with the way the children have settled down and are enjoying their learning.

Yours in Learning  
John Cubitt  
*Principal*

## ***Pekerau School Coming Events***

|                              |                 |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Fundraiser Committee Meeting | 3 March         |
| Interschool Swimming Sports  | 4 March         |
| Mufti Day                    | 12 March        |
| Parent / Teacher Interviews  | 18 March        |
| BOT Meeting, 5:15am          | 19 March        |
| Year 4 Whakamaru Camp        | 1 April—3 April |

## ***School Term Dates***

Term 1 finishes: 9 April  
Term 2: 27 April—3 July  
Term 3: 20 July—25 Sept  
Term 4: 12 Oct—

A warm welcome to the following new students to Pekaeru School:

Room 2: Jessie Peterman

Room 6: Carlton Lyttle

Room 7: Mikaela Nui-Goldsmith

### **School Fees 2009**

School Donation is \$50.00 per child, \$65.00 2 children or more from the same family and paper fee \$15.00 per child.

All families will receive an invoice but you are welcome to pay at any time to the office. Eftpos available.

**Have you moved address or changed either your land line or mobile number during the holidays could you please update your details by either calling into the office, phoning the office or sending a note with your child. This is an urgent requirement for when we need to contact you for any emergencies or sickness.**

### **Student Absences**

A reminder to phone the office in the morning if your child/children are going to be absent from school.

### **School Fundraising Committee**

We are looking for new people who would like to be part of the School's Fundraising Committee. It would be great to have some new faces and ideas to help raise the funds for special projects and for items not covered by our funding.

As some of the current fundraising committee members are not able to continue this year, we desperately need new people keen to help. If you can help please leave your name and phone number at the school office.

If you can attend a meeting there is one being held in the staff room on Tuesday, 3 March at 2:00pm.

### **For Sale**

Pentax Zoom Camera  
Espio 738, 38mm \$20 ono  
Excellent condition



2 x Phillips Computer 105\$ Screens, Offers  
Please contact the office on 871 6025  
if you are interested in either of the above items.



### **Kickstart Programme**

The Kickstart to School Programme will:

- ◇ Ensure a smooth transition to school.
- ◇ Build children's readiness for school.
- ◇ Introduce children to school routines, rules and expectations in a safe environment.
- ◇ Give parents guidance with their children's learning.

Where: Room 8, Pekaeru School

When: Every Wednesday from 1:30pm till 2:30pm

Please phone the school on 871 6025 to enrol your child in this Programme. Children may attend for up to 10 weeks before they start school.

### **Community Notices**

#### **Te Awamutu Sports Junior Rugby**

Registration Dates:

March 4th, 11th, 18th at 6:30pm—8:00pm  
6th—13th grade \$40.00 per player, ID required  
All grades to wear boots in 2009

#### **Balloons Over Waikato**

Te Awamutu will host three balloons based at Selwyn Park to celebrate The Balloons Over Waikato Festival 2009

An early start to the morning,  
starting at 7am on 27 March

Dear Parents/Caregivers,

The time has come again where we need to put our plans into action for some fundraising. We thought instead of going ahead with normal ideas ie.. pizzas, chocolates, we would ask you, as parents/caregivers what your thoughts were? Would you rather do small raisers or a few big ones, ie.. Quiz night?

If you have any ideas please jot them down on the slip below and get your child to return them ASAP to the box in Room 9 or the office please.

Also if you wish to be part of the fundraising committee, please come along to the staff room at 2pm next Tuesday 3 March.

Thank you  
Fundraising Committee

|                   |     |    |
|-------------------|-----|----|
| Small Fundraisers | Yes | No |
|-------------------|-----|----|

|                 |     |    |
|-----------------|-----|----|
| Big Fundraisers | Yes | No |
|-----------------|-----|----|

Ideas Please \_\_\_\_\_