

# PARKSIDE SCHOOL



*"HOMAI TE AROHA"*  
*TEACHING PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS*

## *Newsletter* November 2011

### **Kia ora Koutou. Greetings to everyone.**

Welcome to term four! A very short term - and so much happening. High on our agendas are the Cultural Festival, End of Year Concert, and other mainstream school performances that our students are involved in. This term always has a little tinge of sadness as our senior students graduate. This year we have welcomed twenty-two new students and their families. We have been really pleased to observe how well our new students have settled in to the programme – all credit to their families and to the staff.

Grace Payne, a member of our Pukekohe Intermediate Satellite, decided to audition for the Pukekohe Intermediate School Performance. With beautiful singing and great acting, Grace won a role! The Pukekohe Intermediate School welcomed Grace and she excelled!



*Grace Payne starred in the Intermediate School's performance of Aladdin. We are very thankful to have such supportive host schools. Well done Grace!*

**View Road Satellite** students performed in the View Road School production: "Through the decades."

The Students performed a dance to "The Loco-motion music" representing the sixties decade. All students enjoyed learning their dance and performed beautifully. Thank you View Road School!



*View Road Satellite students "do the locomotion".*

### **Cultural Concert 16<sup>th</sup> November:**

Megan and other Staff have coached a fabulous group of Students and their performance will be a "wow moment"! Their act includes our Ukelele Group accompanying our Maori Poi, Mau Rakau and Haka Group. A bus will take our performers plus staff and Whanau to the Auckland venue

### **School Concert 2011:**

All Staff have again worked hard to ensure that we will have another scintillating programme for your edification!! Please diarise:

**Date: Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December.**

**Time: 11 am**

**Venue: Pukekohe High School Hall**

### **Ten Pin Bowling:**

Our teams achieved extremely well at the final event in term three. The Intermediate Team brought home the trophy. The High School Team really deserved the overall honours as the three members bowled averages

in excess of any other team – but because one of their team was absent, it was not to be. Johan has recognised their achievement by also awarding them a “cup”.

**The 2011 School Magazine** is going to press and will be printed in time for the end of the school year. Always such an extravaganza of student achievement!

**Property:**

1: Re-development at Base School. The project is progressing. The first aspect will be two new classrooms beside rooms 5/6.

2: New purpose built spaces at the High School: two relocatable classes will soon arrive.

**We attend as much professional development as we can in the school “holidays”:**

\*During the October break, I travelled to England to attend the Leadership in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Special Education–UK. I delivered a Keynote presentation, attended seminars and lectures and visited many UK Special Schools.

It was particularly interesting to note that the UK is strengthening its network of specialist schools and that they too, have extended their Outreach Services to mainstream schools.

**Other PD:**

\*Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November: Smart Board Training at Wairau Valley Special School.

\*Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November: SPEC training at Parkside. We have decided to change from ASDAN to SPEC. Most NZ Special Schools have made the move because SPEC addresses the issue of the NZ Curriculum and is NZ based (whereas ASDAN was initially from the UK).

\*November 9, 10, 11: Hennie, Karen and Sheryl will attend the SEPANZ Conference in Tauranga. On the 10<sup>th</sup> November, Devs, Natalie and Rebecca (SEIT) and Jill (Teacher Mentor) will attend Conference.

\*November 11: Neil Jourdan will attend a Music Therapy Conference in Wellington.

**Work Experience:**

This opportunity led by Alan Harris is having profoundly positive outcomes for our young people. The on-going skill development – such as how to write a C.V. – is resulting in job offers to some of our students - certainly our young adults have grown in confidence and self esteem.

Apart from the many business-based work experiences we offer, Alan coaches students in the construction of items such as the “hobby horses” pictured below. The horses were built at the request of Base School staff needing additional activities for their students. As well as the horses, Sam, Tom, Wimoke and others built great “ride on” vehicles, with real steering wheels.

*Sam and Tom before the horses were painted!*



**Graduations:**

**Tom, Lucas, Morgan, Jesse, Liam, and Richard** transition to adult life this year – we are going to miss all of those young folk so very much. Good luck and great success for all of you.

The 2011 School year concludes on: **14 December.**

**2012 School Year Dates:**

<b><u>Term 1:</u></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> February</b>	<b>– 4<sup>th</sup> April</b>
<b><u>Term 2:</u></b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	<b>– 29<sup>th</sup> June</b>
<b><u>Term 3:</u></b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>- 28<sup>th</sup> September</b>
<b><u>Term 4:</u></b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>– 19<sup>th</sup> December</b>

**Please note that in 2012, Term 1 ends on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> April, (mainstream schools may end 5<sup>th</sup> April).**

**Our Teaching and Specialist Staff will attend a conference on the 5<sup>th</sup> April as a Teacher Only Day. The Support Staff will make resources at Base School on 5<sup>th</sup> April.**

**To make up for that day, school ends a day later on 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2012.**

Please remember we/I am a phone call or email away, should you require any support concerning your child.

Regards

Judith Nel, Principal.