

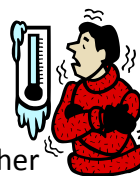


# Dear Parents and Caregivers

Kia ora tatou

A special welcome to our new students and their families:

Ali Alghanim, Kayo Findsen, Madison Fajardo, Christopher Sykes, Finn Darrow, Samma Habib, Leighton Hendricks, Mike Cross, Rayaam Amath, Salman Khawaja, Edward Anderson, Michael Wang, Yitong Lou, Lily Shanley, Trevor Teniseli, Maluatonga Piukala, Timote Piukala and Sophie Scott



## Newsletter

12th August

### 2011 Term Dates

☺ **Term 3**

Monday 1st August to  
Friday 7 October

☺ **Term 4**

Tuesday 25th October to  
Thursday 15th December

### P.A.T. (Progress and Achievement Tests)

In Weeks 4 and 5 the Years 3-8 students will be involved in a series of tests. These are Progress and Achievement Tests that all New Zealand schools are recommended to administer and analyse. We used to administer these tests in February/March. We are now trialling them in Term 3 and seeing if they are more useful to be analysed at this time of year. The results, correctly interpreted, are valid data on a child's progress regardless of the school community, rural or urban, that a child attends. We spend a lot of time at Ellerslie using the data for each child's benefit. Senior Management will report this data with 'global patterns' and trends to the Board of Trustees in graph and written form. Every child's progress is carefully monitored at this school.

*Note* – these tests are only one form of information that a teacher has to assess pupil's strengths and learning needs. It can be misleading to isolate one test result.

The tests are in Maths, Reading Comprehension, Reading Vocabulary and Listening Comprehension.

At Ellerslie School we use a variety of assessment strategies including tests to formulate a complete picture of each child's progress and to enable teachers to plan future programmes appropriately.

We are primarily concerned with monitoring a child's individual progress from one point to another, not comparing a child with others.

## MEASLES



In the past week, 12 cases of measles have been reported in the Waikato region.

The Ministry of Health have asked that we remind parents of the importance of the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine which is free for all New Zealand children

Measles is a highly infectious disease and is more serious than many people realise. Symptoms include fever, cough, red eyes and a runny nose, and then a rash which develops after about three days. Complications can include middle ear infections, pneumonia, and, more rarely, encephalitis or brain inflammation. About one in ten people infected need to be hospitalised.

We ask parents and caregivers to make sure that children's immunisations are up-to-date and any student or teacher with measles must stay away from school for seven days from the appearance of the rash. Further information can be found at the Ministry's website : [www.moh.govt.nz](http://www.moh.govt.nz)

### CHARTER

Thank you for your many responses and evening focus group session. The staff and students (Years 6, 7 and 8) have also contributed in their own forums. The data will now be collated with trends and patterns noted, helping the Board of Trustees write the new Charter "Positively Moving Forward"

Some Student Responses:

"Our motto means that Ellerslie School is very serious about learning. It means we are crediting yesterday, getting a great education today and we are preparing ourselves for the future. I agree with our motto 100%"

"This means to me that even if something bad happened the day before, we should acknowledge and move on. We should make the most of every learning opportunity and prepare as best we can for the day ahead."





