



Dear Parents and Caregivers

Kia ora tatou

Thank you for a great year. 2011 will be remembered for many reasons and we will celebrate some of these at our prizegiving ceremony on Thursday at 10:00am at the ASB Stadium in Kohimarama.

In recent weeks, many of our students have represented Ellerslie School in a range of activities—sporting, cultural and outdoor education. I get many emails, letters and comments from people around Auckland who positively praise the performance, behaviour and general politeness of our students.

I am therefore very proud of Ellerslie School and our students and its place in the city of Auckland.

We have completed our first year of targeting student achievement based on the National Standards and we will report this data to you via the Board of Trustees and from newsletters. The Board of Trustees will set new 2012 academic targets based on 2011's results at our 21st February 2012 meeting.

Our roll continues to grow with a peak this year of 574. On Tuesday afternoon the students spent 30 minutes in their new classrooms with their 2012 teachers. Our "stable" staff allows us to do this and gives us the time to prepare class lists carefully while considering all of the educational and social factors.

Setting a new uniform for the school, especially the Year 7 and 8's, has been an important process this year and we look forward to the "new look".



Newsletter

13th December 2011

2012 Term Dates

Term 1

Wednesday 1st February to Thursday 5th April

Term 2

Monday 23rd April to Friday 29th June

Term 3

Monday 16th July to Friday 28th September



REPORTS

2011 has had many cultural, sporting and academic successes which reinforces my belief that the standard of teaching and learning is high here at Ellerslie. Your child's school report has been distributed Monday 12th December, mentioning in many cases these successes.

Our reports use the National Standards in Reading, Writing and Mathematics and show your child's progress and achievement as above the standard, at the standard or below the standard. To work out where your child is at, teachers will make an overall teacher judgement using a range of assessments, including:

- results from formal tests
- what they have seen in the classroom
- talking about learning with students
- children's assessment of their own and each other's work

All students are assessed against the National Standards once a year—for some this may have occurred in the Mid Year Report



SANTA PARADE

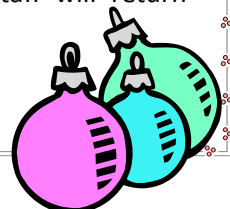
A huge thank you to all involved in the 2011 Santa Parade—it was a great success!!

Thank you to Nina Holding and Jo Luker for making the float and Diane and Keith Wright for the use of their truck

THANK YOU


I would like to thank Jane MacLennan, Elva Taylor and Joanna Laing for their valuable contributions with the new entrant classes this year and we wish them well.

All other teaching staff will return next year.





CALENDAR 2011

12th December	Reports go home (includes 2012 classes and room numbers, expenses form and general information).
13th December	Prizegiving Practice for all students
15th December 	Prizegiving Ceremony at ASB Stadium —10:00am to 12:15pm (approx) All children will return by bus to school and be dismissed at 1:00pm from their classrooms. School closes at 1:00pm for 2011



CALENDAR 2012



Wed 1st Febru-	School opens at 8:30am for all students
9th February	Meet the Teacher Evening
14th February	PTA Meeting
21st February	Board of Trustee Meeting 6:30pm
22nd February	Family Fish and Chip Night
28th February	Whole School Picnic
29th February	(Reserve Day)



Stars for Starship



Room 2 were invited by Mercury Energy to visit Starship Hospital. On Thursday 8 December they went and worked together, with staff and patients, to decorate giant Christmas stars for the different wards. They took almost 500 stars, decorated by the children at Ellerslie School, to decorate the Christmas trees in the atrium at Starship.

ATHLETICS

On the 29th November 33 students from Years 7 and 8 entered the Eastern Zone Intermediate Athletics Tournament. The competition was extremely challenging and three students (Annabelle Pakieto, Lucy Francks and Eva Hoeberigs) made it through to the Auckland Championships.

Congratulations to Annabelle Pakieto (Y8) who achieved **FIRST PLACE** in High Jump (1m45cm).



Results from the annual Remuera Zone Athletics Championships for Year 5 & 6 students held at Mt Smart Stadium .

Ellerslie students who won their Heats were:

- Mason Leaver Year 5 Boys 60m
- Nivarni Gounder Year 6 girls 60m
- Chay Fihaki Year 6 Boys 100m

A semi-final win went to Chay Fihaki in the Year 6 Boys 100m

Year 6 Girls showed their excellent Team work by qualifying for the 4x100m relay final.

The Team was Nivarni Gounder, Ashleigh Cheer, Amykar Sirisao and Rhianna Windle.

Best performance of the day goes to Chay Fihaki for his **FIRST PLACE** in the High Jump.



The Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon is celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2012. It's a lot of FUN for kids aged 7 to 15 and consists of a swim followed by a bike ride and a run.

The 2012 event in Auckland is on Sunday 25 March at Vellenoweth Green, St Heliers. Every child receives a Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon medal, a t-shirt, an official certificate, a complimentary Weet-Bix breakfast, plus the chance to win awesome spot prizes and meet their sporting heroes.

Ellerslie School will be entering this event as a group, with a meeting place and support for all athletes on the day. If you want to give it a go have a look at the website www.weetbix.co.nz and look out for notices early next term.



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY

CHRIS MAGNER
PRINCIPAL



IMPORTANT DATES—2012

The Uniform Shop will be open on Thursday the 26th of January 2012 from 9:00am to 12:00pm. The uniform shop will also be open on Tuesday the 31st of January 2012 (the day before school starts) between 8:30am and 12:00pm and the office will also be open this day for new enrolments.