

# Room Two Science

As part of our science topic we have been looking at movement and forces. We went to the playground and looked at different ways of moving. Here are some pictures of Room 2 climbing up, sliding down, balancing, swinging, jumping and moving from



Dear Parents/Caregivers, Tena Koutou Katoa

## 1) End of Year Production 2016

This year we will be holding a full school dance production. The theme for the production is Wizard of Oz. Classes have started practicing and developing their item this week under the guidance of Nadia Pitchford and Ellen Koland. I believe we will be in for another fantastic night. We are being approached by various groups to provide food stalls for the evening, so if you are interested, please contact the school (as it is on a first in basis).

## 2) Chess

Thank you so much to Mrs Barry and her maths group for their mahi in painting a chess board onto the playground court. This was a great authentic learning activity with lots of measuring and the need to be accurate. They have done a fine job. Thanks so much to the PTA for funding this. Check out our new chess set-anyone for a game?



## 3) Student Absences

Does it affect student achievement? The evidence shows that it does! Over the last few weeks of term three our class numbers were down due to a bout of nasty winter bugs. However, the **absentee rate** of some pupils in our school has become **extremely alarming**. Research shows that the amount of time off school is directly linked to the achievement levels of these individual pupils. It is very noticeable that many of the children who were under achieving in our

core curriculum areas had significant amounts of time off school this year. Another major factor that has become glaringly apparent has been the patterns that have started to occur with some children. Over the next week or two I will be contacting parents of these children to **try and find out what we can do to support them to get these children to school. On a positive note we have a very large number of students with 100% attendance.**

#### 4) Western Zone athletics

These take place next **Tuesday 25th October** at the Kaitaia Primary bottom field. Your child should have a permission slip if participating and this needs to be returned by tomorrow. Good luck to all our competitors.

#### 5) Security Cameras

Arohamai for the delay in letting you know that we have now installed security cameras on the external walls of buildings. These cameras are motion activated and are there as part of our safety and security review. I do want to assure whanau that the monitoring of these are only for security and we will only need to access this footage if required after serious incidents eg break ins. I have also just been informed that the bus company is installing cameras on some of the school buses.

#### 6) School Camps

Next **Wednesday 26th October** our Year 5 and 6 will be attending their camp with Miss Broadhurst and Ms Peters. They will be camping at Te Aroha Island. It is an absolutely amazing spot and will provide the students with an awesome camp base for this year's EOTC programme. Mrs Takimoana is currently at The Farm in Whangaruru. Our Year 7 and 8's are having a fantastic time and the weather has been kind for all the outdoor activities they are taking part in.



#### 7) Books in Homes - Caught Being a Good Grandparent

The 'Caught Being a Good Grandparent' acknowledge the special relationship grandparents share with their grandchildren. We encourage all pupils to nominate their special person who will go in the draw to win a copy of **Our New**

#### **Caught Being A Good Grandparent**

I nominate \_\_\_\_\_  
because \_\_\_\_\_  
Person Nominating \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_

**Zealand - A Celebration of our National Treasures & Pleasures.** Please fill in the form at the end of this newsletter and hand it into the school office. The official draw will be held on Friday at the morning assembly. Good luck to all!!!

#### 8) School Closure

The school will be closed this **Monday 24th October** for Labour Day. School will re-open again on **Tuesday 25th October** at the normal time. We hope everyone has a safe long weekend (and that the weather is kind).

Kia Ora,  
Jackie Osborne  
Tumuaki/Principal

## **PTA Term 4 Update**

### **Next Meeting**

At our next meeting we will be focussing on **Gala 2017**. We need lots of helpers to spread the load and make this a success. If you would like to volunteer that would be fantastic! We are all busy with family, work, volunteer, sport, study commitments etc, but if we all do a little bit we can get so much accomplished for our children, and it shares the load between our busy whanau already involved. Follow our FaceBook page for regular updates - *Parent Teacher Association of Ahipara School*.

**Fundraising Goals** We are currently working on raising funds to improve the junior playground and remove the concrete water tank. The PTA recently bought chess pieces for the children and aim to have a board painted this term. A toaster was also bought for the Breakfast Club.

**Disco** The disco is fast approaching and we will need help with making decorations and decorating the club rooms on the afternoon of Monday 31 October. Let us know if you can help with either of these activities. We will also be asking for food donations to sell as this worked very successfully at the last disco. See flyer attached.

**Sausages** We are currently asking for donations of precooked sausages for school camps and end of year gatherings. Any donations can be handed into the office.

**Gala 2017** We are now working towards a date in Term 1 for a Gala to allow time to apply for grants for rides, etc. This will be discussed further at our next PTA meeting. If you are interested in helping to organise this event please let us know.

