

Kia ora, Talofa, Malo e lelei, Fakalofa lahi atu, Min Glar Bar, Annyong ha seyo, Ni Hao, Salam, Ene demin, Alachehu, Vanakkam, Namaste, Bonjour, Tungjatjeta, Gia sas, Pozdrav, God dag, Greetings.

Mad Town – 2nd Place - Battle of the Bands

What an exciting week it has been with Mad Town competing in the finals of the Battle of the Bands and placing a well-deserved second. Doug Grant was also voted 'Best Keyboardist' on the night. They were up against some amazing groups from eight other schools. A comment from one of the judges puts the performances into perspective when he said "the quality of playing in this competition is the equivalent of Rock Quest a few years ago". Rock Quest is the secondary school competition and the skill level of the students playing in the intermediate section is of a very high standard. This is a reflection of the hard work that the children have put in, and the support from parents and their teachers. A special thank-you to Mr Grayson for his hard work and to the huge support crew that turned up on the night. We all looked fantastic in our Mad Town T-Shirts and were by far the best supporters and the most vocal.

A Message from Ian Appleton - Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees continues to support the improvements that our staff are making in the core learning areas. In September the Board agreed to put more funds towards the purchase of Numeracy and Literacy resources including new mathematics textbooks and resources to boost the performance of low level readers. Options continue to be explored for the improvement of the schools IT resources. During the first term of 2012 decisions will be made on ways to improve the speed and accessibility of the school's computer network, these have been identified as a priority to improve the schools learning environment. As you may be aware, the Government has made a decision to stop specialist RTLB classrooms, of which NIS has 1 – Room 5. The Board realises the inevitability of this decision, and to enable a smoother transition of special needs children into mainstream classes has agreed to support the transformation. Property projects will be an important part of the coming months: the new tech block development will gather momentum once funding has been confirmed; revitalising our existing classrooms has also been identified as a priority, as has a revamp of the hall. The Board of Trustees wishes to thank parents, students, staff, and the wider community for the hard work and support that has been put into our school during a year of change. We look forward to working with you all next year.

School Athletics Team

Congratulations to the school athletics team who performed well at the zone day a few weeks ago. Special mention to Tehokingamai Tohu-Smith and Xavier Wingfield who made it into the Auckland Championships on the 8th December at Mt Smart. Tehokingamai will compete in Discuss and Shot Putt, and Xavier in the 100m, Discuss and Shot Putt.

Reports

The second school report for the year will go home on Monday. Please keep an eye out for the report and let the school know immediately if you do not receive one. Year 7 students will have a stationery list included, as well as a letter from Mr Taani, for students to express interest in sports and /or cultural groups for next year.

Last Day of School

Some children have asked whether they will be allowed to get their school uniform signed on the last day of school as a souvenir of their years at Northcote Intermediate. Ultimately this is up to parents to decide if they will allow their child to do this. We do ask that students bring a spare uniform shirt for friends to sign that they will not wear. If children are wearing signed shirts they will be asked to change.

Kia kaha

*Craig Holt
Principal*

Coming Events 2011

December

Thursday 8 th	Last day for tuck shop Graduation Dance 6.30 - 9pm
Friday 9 th	School picnic at Narrow Neck Beach
Monday 12 th	Formal Prizegiving 7pm
Tuesday 13 th	Awards Assembly 9am
Wednesday 14 th	School finishes 12.30pm

January 2012

Wednesday 25 th	Uniform Sale Day 10am – 3pm
Thursday 26 th	Uniform Sale Day 10am – 3pm
Tuesday 31 st	School starts 8.45am

Sports Results

Touch Rugby – Northcote Steppers lost to Northcross Pencil Cases 1 – 2. POD the whole team

Waterpolo – lost to Northcross 1 - 13. POD Luca Samios

Please return all basketball singlets to the school office.

Uniform Sales

The uniform sale days are Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th January from 10am – 3pm. We would appreciate assistance from parents with fitting of new students. If you are able to help, please call the school office on 481 1400.

If you are unable to attend the uniform sale days we are taking appointments until Friday 9th December between 9.30am and 11.30am. Please call Gemma on 481 1400 to make an appointment.

Homestay Families Wanted

We will be hosting Korean students from 9th January to 25th February 2012. If you are interested in being a host family for all of this period or from 30th January to 25th February, for one or more Korean students please contact James Park on 523 2114 or 021 853 282 or email nz.edu@hotmail.com.

Homestay families receive \$240 per student per week.

Music Lessons at school

Enrol now for 2012, lessons on drums, piano/keyboard, guitar, flute or violin. Enrolments can be made through the website www.musiceducation.co.nz, email; lessons@musiceducation.co.nz or by completing the enrolment form that will be available at the school office in 2012.

New students pay an enrolment fee of \$55.00 before lessons commence. This is included in the first invoice. In term one there will be 5 weeks of lessons charged for in the first invoice. The lessons will begin during the week beginning 27th February. Group lessons (where available) will be \$70 (\$14 per half hour lesson). Individual 20 minute lessons will be \$100 (\$20 per lesson). Individual half hour lessons will be \$137.50 (\$27.50 per lesson). Parents receive a term invoice at the start of each school term, payable to the Music Education Centre.