



Browns Bay School

9 February 2012

www.brownsbay.school.nz

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

All Browns Bay School Outdoor Education Programmes will be held in Term One as follows:

- **Junior Outdoor Education Day** Friday 16th March (Y2 sleepover that night).
- **Year 3 Outdoor Education Day**—Camp Maynard— Wednesday 21 March
- **Year 4 Camp** —Camp Maynard—Mon 19 March / Tues 20 March (Rooms 14/17 and Thurs 22 March / Fri 23 March Rooms 24/25/22)
- **Year 5 Camp** — Peter Snell Youth Village — Mon 26 — Wed 28 March
- **Year 6 Camp** — Carey Park—Wed 28 March — Fri 30 March



Classroom teachers will send home relevant information about these programmes shortly.

PUPIL INFORMATION UPDATES

The pupil information sheets will be sent home tomorrow. It is extremely important that we have current information for each child in the school, especially should any emergency situation arise. The updates show the information we currently hold.

Please amend where necessary and return to school as soon as possible, (even if there are no changes).

We would also ask that where details change throughout the year, the school is notified at the earliest opportunity.

UNIFORM

- **The school has a well defined school uniform that is both functional and attractive.**
- **It is noticeable that a number of students have returned to school wearing 'additional' clothing items. This is often in the form of extra layers of shirts (some with long sleeves under a short sleeve school shirt) and a variety of multi coloured tights or similar.**
- **These items are not part of the school uniform and should not be worn. Staff have been asked to bring this to the attention of the students concerned.**

SCHOOL LUNCHES

The school lunch room is open for orders from this week. The lunch room will operate on a Monday Wednesday and Friday with orders being placed through the classroom. Lunch room menus were sent home last week but are also available through the school office and on the school web site.

EZLunch

The EZLunch programme offers an excellent alternative lunch programme. This also operates on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday with orders being placed on line— www.ezlunch.co.nz— have a look to see what they are offering.

Subway

Subway offers a lunch alternative each Wednesday as well with orders placed through the classroom.

SCOOTERS

With scooters being a popular mode of transport at present, a reminder that in the 'scooter users protocol', scooters are not to be ridden in the school grounds before school or after school till 3.30pm. We ask parents to ensure this applies to pre-schoolers as well. There have been several accidents of late (especially after school).

TERM DATES 2012

Term dates for 2012 are as follows:

Term 1	Tuesday 31 January to Thursday 5 April
Term 2	Monday 23 April to Friday 29 June
Term 3	Monday 16 July to Friday 28 September
Term 4	Monday 15 October to Friday 14 December

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday 15 February	Board of Trustees meeting 7.30pm	Tuesday 21 February Wednesday 22 February	Year 5/6 swimming sports Year 4 swimming sports
Saturday 3 March	FOTS Fishing competition	Tues 6 / Wed 7 March	Student/parent/teacher conferences

QUALITY EDUCATION

Having sufficient funds to provide the quality education our families rightly expect is always a difficult proposition. Despite statements by some politicians, over 50% of the school funding for many years has come from our local community in various forms and if we relied solely on Government funding, the students would be seriously disadvantaged. The notion of 'free education' applies to access rather than cost. The Board of Trustees expresses it's sincere thanks to those who have paid the school donation for 2012. The Board realises that it is an extremely expensive time for families but the school relies heavily on the input from school donations. The Board has been conscious of this in making it's decision to not increase the donation figure for this year and to include for the first time, a concession for families with more than two students at school. As indicated previously, this amount is less than the average for schools between Takapuna and Long Bay. The Board also thanks the many families who have donated amounts well in advance of that requested.

Roger Harnett, Principal

SCHOOL START

We have had a wonderfully settled start to school and I would like to thank parents for their support in ensuring that students have all they require for school and that programmes can get underway at the earliest opportunity. Uniform and stationery sales have been at a high level as has the number of families forwarding school donation/fees.

Please note: that stationery purchases will now be handled through the school office rather than the classroom.

'MEET THE TEACHER'

Thank you to those who took the opportunity to attend Meet the Teacher sessions this week to get an idea of routines, expectations, etc from your child's class teacher. We trust you found this to be a useful start to the year. We would stress however that these are not intended as opportunities to report on children's progress. (see below).

GOAL SETTING CONFERENCES

Goal setting conferences for the start of the 2012 school year will be held on Tuesday 6 March and Wednesday 7 March. Conference notices will be sent home shortly and we encourage you to return them promptly as times are issued on a first in /first served basis. The main focus of this conference opportunity is to review the start of the school year and, in particular, set goals for remainder of the year. We are continuing with the 3-way conference format for our Goal Setting conferences which have been well received. We would like the children to attend and they will have a role to take in outlining learning related aspects in the conference situation. It is important that they are present and understand the goals that are set for them.

'LITTERLESS LUNCHES'

In our attempts to minimise school rubbish and encourage recycling, we are looking to continue with our 'Litterless Lunches'.

This means that:

1. Any compostable material is collected at school in our designated compost bins.
2. Any recyclable material e.g. yoghurt containers, tins, plastic water bottles goes home to be recycled there.
3. Any rubbish—i.e. gladwrap and paper is dealt with from home.

Please ensure your child's Lunchbox can 'contain' the materials they will be returning home.