

Newsletter

‘Supporting parents as they lead their children in spiritual growth and educational excellence by teaching and living Biblical truths.’



322 Sawyers Arms Road
CHRISTCHURCH
Phone (03) 359 3595
Principal: Mrs Jill Garrett

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Psalm 11:7

" For the LORD is righteous,
He loves justice;
upright men will see His face." (NIV)

“Walk as children of light”

Would it be true to say that every child is blessed in some way?

My mother blessed me often. I heard her. Whenever I walked across her recently polished floors with my grubby feet, or splattered sticky fingerprints on her freshly sparkling windows I would hear, "Look what that blessed child's done now." I jest. Mum and Dad truly blessed me daily with their Godly influence on my life. It's a blessing that remains.

In His sermon on the mountain Jesus promises us God's richest blessings, His greatest favour. In Bible lessons we've been studying the Beatitudes as they're called

From Matthew 5:

*Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*
*Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.*
*Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the earth.*
*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be filled.*
*Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.*
*Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.*
*Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called sons of God.*
*Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

It's an interesting, enlightening and rewarding experience trying to see these statements through the eyes of a child. Quite the way Christ would have it surely. God be with you and encourage you as you strive to teach your children His ways.

There is a website which children may find interesting as a follow-up to our study of the Beatitudes. It is gardenofpraise.com/bibl42s.htm

School News

Fantastic Friday raised \$227.10 for the Christian Schools effected by the bush fires in Australia. What a fine effort.

World Day of Prayer: The Year 7 & 8 students were a joy to take to the service and their presence was well received. Many people expressed the thought that they brought a new dimension to the event.

Junior School Trip to Eco Depot: On Wednesday, March 11, the children in Rooms 1, 2 and 3 will be visiting the Eco Depot as part of their Science study about recycling.

Christchurch Schools Music Festival: Applications for special groups are now open. Apply online – see Mrs Hawke for entry code and further details. Applications close April 3. The Festival will be on August 11 this year.

Swimming: Lessons this year will be at Jellie Park, March 16 – 27. The first group of swimmers (Rooms 1,2,4 and 6) will leave school at 12:00pm and return at approximately 2:00pm. The second group (Rooms 3,5 and 7) will leave at 12:30 and return at 3:00pm. Please note the later arrival back at school for the second group. Those of you who are staying to use the opportunity of pre-school swimming may keep older siblings with you at the pool. Because several of our families have not yet paid for last year's swimming, we are asking for pre-payment this year. The accounts were sent out last week. Please pay before swimming begins.

Garage Sale: Instead of a fair this year we will be having a Garage Sale/Sausage Sizzle etc on March 28. We are now accepting any donations of articles. Please put contributions in the first covered parking bay in the big shed. Thank you to those who have already contributed.

Garage Sale Meeting: Thank you to those who turned out for the last meeting. That was great. **Your ideas and opinions are much appreciated.** The next meeting date is Wednesday, March 18 at 9:00am. We are still looking for people to help with:

setting up on Friday morning, selling on Saturday,
packing up afterwards, more supermarket bags for purchases
putting up signs on lamp-posts around the district

Baking/Sweets Trays will be given out on Tuesday, March 24 to be returned full of lovely fresh baking on Friday, March 27. If you are unable to do any baking please return the tray. A small monetary donation instead of baking would be gladly received. Baking and/or sweets are to be left on the table which will be set up on a table in the hall on Friday morning, March 27.

Mailbox Pamphlet Drop: The children will be issued with pamphlets on Tuesday, March 17. If you cannot complete this task please return the pamphlets to school for others who would like more to deliver.

Hand Sanitiser: In Term 2 the University of Canterbury will be putting a hand sanitizer in every Year 1- 6 classroom for children to use before eating. This is part of the University's research as to whether this makes a difference to attendance during the winter terms.

The Reading Crusade: This was launched earlier in the term in every classroom via homework assignments. The mission is for every child to read six books (at their level of ability) over the period of the Crusade. The final day for students to return all the necessary documentation is Thursday, March 19. Please encourage them to read.

Celebration Assembly: There was no assembly this week because of Fantastic Friday.

At the conclusion of our very happy day, Anna B and Abigail were each awarded to tickets to the Crusaders game this Saturday. Congratulations girls.

Coffee Morning: It's on again at Sub Zero in Bishopdale. Those of you who want to go to Celebration Assembly are welcome to meet the others there after assembly. We will be starting our schedule of speakers next term on Friday, May 1 with the Anne Braid our school's Health Nurse talking about immunisations.

Also next term: Anne will be offering an early evening meeting with our young adolescents and their parents. More about that later.

Fundraising Committee Message: A big "thank you" to Fiona, Dione, Vicki, Tania, Vivien and Yvonne who helped out as kitchen hands at three different functions last month. You helped to raise \$360. Great Work! If other would like to know more about what we do, please contact Desiree on 3549 650 or Georgette on 3542 900. We'd love to hear from you. Many hands make light work.

Mary Kay Cosmetics and one of our Mums who sells them have kindly offered us an especially good deal. Until the end of March Mary Kay will donate, to the Victorian fire victims, \$5 from every mascara wand sold by us. Our generous Mum will give \$10 to the school and there's a discount of \$2 for you too. Please see the order form with this newsletter.

Term 1 Calendar

Date	School Event
March 11	Rm's 1, 2, 3 trip to the Eco Depot
March 12	Special guests in Assembly
March 13	Room 4's Celebration Assembly
March 14	Board of Trustees retreat 8:30am to 12:30noon
March 18	Garage Sale meeting at 9:00am
March 19	All Reading Crusade forms to teachers please.
March 16 - 27	Swimming every afternoon 12:30 – 2:30pm
March 27	Setting up for the garage sale from 9:00am
March 28	Monster Garage Sale
March 31	Sample Books go home
April 3	Room 5's Celebration Assembly Applications close for inclusion in special groups at the Christchurch Schools' Music Festival
April 7 & 8	Parent Interviews
April 9	Term Ends

Term Dates for 2009 are:

Term 1: Tuesday, February 3 to Thursday, April 9

Term 2: Monday, April 27 to Friday, July 3

Term 3: Monday, July 20 to Friday, September 25

Term 4: Monday, October 12 until a day in December that assures that we are open for the required number of half days.

Community News

Earth Hour Saturday March 28 2009 – 8:30 p.m. Switch off for an hour and see your world in a whole new light. www.earthhour.org

eTime is an education centre in Christchurch that works alongside schools, providing children with the opportunity to develop 21st Century skills. eTime has spaces available in the following 2009 programme. **Silent Film:** This programme is suitable for children aged 8 – 12 and is from 9am – 3pm each day. Dates: 15 – 17 April. Cost: \$180 incl GST. To register, or for more information go to: www.etime.co.nz or call Charlotte at eTime on 366 9876. **Spaces are limited and registration is on a 'first in' basis.**

Art Exhibition: The father of one of our new children, is having an exhibition of his water colour paintings. This will be held at the Arts Centre, Gallery O, upstairs in Boulevard Shop and Galleries from Tuesday, March 3-16.

Mountain Safety Canterbury are running a TAKE A KID TRAMPING WEEKEND. It is designed to be an introduction to the outdoors to encourage the use of and enjoy the outdoors safely. The child recommended age is 10-14 yrs and the course consists of two evening sessions (30th March & 2nd April 09 at the YMCA Bishopdale) and a weekend away (4/5 April 09). Course costs are \$25 per pair (Adult and child), food and transport are additional.

Email l.cox@xtra.co.nz

Citizens Advice Bureau: Help is as close as the phone. No problem is too big or too small. For free, confidential information, advice & support, phone 0800 FOR CAB/0800 367 222