

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 17 March 2009

God is so wise and so mighty.
Who has ever challenged Him successfully?
Job 9:4

“Walk as children of light”

From the Principal's Heart

“Without warning, God moves the mountains,
overturning them in His anger.
He shakes the earth from its place,
and its foundations tremble.
If He commands it, the sun won't rise
and the stars won't shine.
He alone has spread out the heavens
and marches on the waves of the sea.
He made all the stars—the Bear and Orion,
the Pleiades and the constellations of the southern sky.
He does great things too marvelous to understand.
and to His miracles there are no end.”
Job 9: 5-10

School News

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. That's this week. Please encourage your young people to read and return the information

Swimming: Lessons this year are 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 12:45 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. **Please make sure your children have their swimming gear at school every day.**

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: Today the children have been issued with pamphlets to put in the mailboxes around where you live. Please work with other families living in your area. If you cannot complete this task please return the pamphlets to school for others who would like more to deliver.

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.

Coffee Morning: We will be starting our schedule of speakers next term on Friday, May 1 with 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.

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. Order forms are available at the office.

From the Bursar: A deposit of **\$300** was made to the proprietors account on the 6th March and the depositor has not identified himself or herself. Please check your accounts even if you think this couldn't possibly be you. Please email jmckone@clear.net.nz or phone 351 0890 if you recognise this payment.

A reminder : PLEASE identify payments using your NAME.

Joseph McKone

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY:

Room 1: Ben M, welcome to school.

Dominique for caring for our classroom in a very positive manner.

Room 2: Adam for great sharing in our rubbish unit. **Nathan** for working hard in reading.

Room 3: Grant for great thinking in topic. **Shavaughn** for well presented work.

Room 4: Natasha for fantastic checking in writing. **Joel** for great focus.

Room 5: Ashley and Gabby for always working diligently.

Room 6: Luke for writing using technical terms when describing and explaining.

Olivia for learning with a positive attitude.

Room 7: John for setting the class standard in eloquent writing.

Daniel, the quiet achiever, especially in Maths.

Lighthouse Awards: Brooke, Hannah I

Principal's Awards: Cora, Khalib, Aaron, Rose

After School Care: Information has been sent home about after school care. Further inquiries are welcome and pamphlets are available, at the school office, giving further details.

Term 1 Calendar

Date	School Event
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

From the Board of Trustees

Hi, Richard Moot here. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, a very warm welcome to you all at Emmanuel Christian School for 2009. It's hard to believe that we've been back over a month already! A special welcome to new families to the school. It's great to have you with us.

The Board of Trustees had our first meeting of 2009 on February 26. Our first task for each year is to elect the different roles on the Board. The result of this is that we have a new Chair (as in person, not the sitting kind). For seven years, Marianne Reinders has filled this role admirably and we are grateful for her faithful service. She has stood down for the first time and now I have the privilege of leading this fantastic team. For me it is an honour and a privilege to take over the baton.

We welcomed two new trustees – John van Ameyde and Mike Vannoort. John will be known to many of you as a parent at the school and for the work he does keeping the computer network going. Mike is a Deputy Principal at Papanui High School and was previously the Head of Physical Education at Middleton Grange. They replace Vaughan Langford and Mandy Donne-Lee as proprietor representatives. Welcome on board, Gents.

Prior to the board meeting we received the resignation of David Ward, and subsequently that of Veronica Hoyt – both parent representative trustees. We are very grateful to these trustees for their service and contribution. They have been valued parts of a great team.

The Board is currently composed of:

Parent elected trustees: Richard Moot (Chair)
Marianne Reinders

Two vacancies

Proprietor appointed trustees: Eric Janssen
John van Ameyde
Mike Vannoort (Deputy Chair)

Staff elected trustee: Dale Read

Principal: Jill Garrett

Because of the two parent vacancies we now have, Canterbury Education Services have been contracted to run a...

Board of Trustees By-Election

...for two new parent trustees, and you will be hearing from them very soon. As they call for nominations, please consider prayerfully whether this is an area of service the Lord is calling you to. These positions are for one year only, with the triennial elections taking place early next year. Being a trustee is a rewarding role and there is plenty of training and support provided. The time commitment for most is not major. The role of the board is to set the vision and strategic direction of the school, and to monitor progress in reaching strategic goals. It is legally accountable for everything that happens in the school. It is the employer of all staff.

Essential qualities of a good trustee are: support special character, team worker, servant heart, ability to process & analyse tabled information, reliable, willing to take responsibility, able to maintain confidentiality. **Desirable qualities** are: visionary, curiosity, strategic, courage, communication/interpersonal skills, practical, analytical. **Additional skills** which would be useful are: legal, finance, people management, risk management, knowledge of education field.

Yes, being on the Board of Trustees takes commitment and energy. Yes, it will make you think. But the excitement of being part of a great team that share a common vision for the school, under the guidance of our sovereign God, is very real. If you think this is your calling, and you would like to know more, please feel free to contact myself or any of current trustees.

This coming Saturday morning, the Board will receive training on the new NZ Curriculum, with respect to our governance role. If you are thinking about putting your name forward, then feel free to join us as an observer and meet the team.

Please pray for our by-election. Please consider this opportunity to serve on the Board. Please contact us if you would like know more information. Finally, please vote for your new parent rep trustees.

May God continue to bless Emmanuel Christian School.

Richard Moot

Board Chairman

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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