



# Newmarket School News

## 3 February, 2012

From these roots  
will strong trees grow

### ***Tena koutou katoa*** ***Dear Parents/Caregivers***

Thank you to families for ensuring children were well ready to start school this week. We have had a great first week and children were very quickly underway with learning programmes.

### ***Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February - Family Picnic, Meet the Dragons and Games Evening***

On Tuesday evening we are holding our annual family picnic. This is a chance to informally meet the class teacher and class parents. Teachers will be able to answer questions about class organisation, activities and the school camps. Board of Trustees and Parent Support Group members will also be available to answer any questions you may have.



Bring a picnic dinner or purchase sausages and drinks at school. The Flippaball Team and PSG will be selling sausages and cake slices and tea and coffee will be available. Picnic parking - Please note that there will be limited parking available in the bottom car park. Please use surrounding streets or 277's car park. We will provide some big mats to sit on. Senior students will organise some games. The timetable for the evening is as follows:

5:30 - 6:00	Parents and teachers meet and greet
5:30 - 6:30	Dragon dance and games organised by our senior students
6:00 - 7:00	Picnic and general play
7:00 - 7:30	Tidy up



### ***Swimming starts Week 3 for Rooms 8/9/10/11***

All students are involved in the school swimming programme. We start with Rooms 8, 9, 10 and 11 on the 13<sup>th</sup> February. The lessons are fast paced and meet the individual needs of our learners.

We will need a few adult helpers to walk with classes to the pool. Please let class teachers know if you can help. Students need to bring their swimming suit and a towel in a plastic bag. Children may bring goggles or use those supplied at the pool.



### ***2012 Camps***

Our Education Outside the Classroom programmes (EOTC) allow children (and adults) to experience challenging learning experiences, develop new skills and participate in activities that they may not have experienced before. All activities are thoroughly vetted and staff and the Board of Trustees complete very thorough risk analyses.

Our annual Term One EOTC focus starts Thursday week (16<sup>th</sup> February) with a junior Year 1-2 sleepover in tents on our school field. This is our



23rd year of school camping in tents on the field. This is followed by the two Zoo sleepovers for our Year 3/4 students on the 27 Feb – 1 March. Year 5 and 6 three day camp at Chosen Valley in Ramarama on 26, 27, 28 March completes our programme.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the teachers, parents, helpers and support crews who make our EOTC programmes possible. We are fortunate at Newmarket School to have teachers who are prepared to organise and supervise such events and many parents to support and actively participate in the programmes. Special thanks need to go to Eileen Dixon for the many hours she spends overseeing the school EOTC programmes.

### ***Treat Food at School***

I have asked teachers to talk to children about healthy choices in lunchboxes. Children who are full of sugar and processed foods are unlikely to be sharp and focused learners. Can treat food be saved for home please. We want children to have healthy food choices at school. Please do not send (or bring) McDonalds and other similar food to school.

### ***Parking***

Thank you for using the **lower car park** when dropping off and collecting children. Please do not beckon children from cars, or double park blocking access. Children's safety is paramount. If the car park is full please drive out and return later. Or please park on the field if the car park is full, taking care with children crossing the entryway.



NO drop off in the top car park please. Do not block the drive or drop children on the driveway. This is very dangerous and unsafe for children.

### ***Flippa Ball Term 1 for Years 4, 5 and 6.***

We are still keen to have new players join the squad. Practice is on Thursday after school at AGS pool and the first game is Sunday 12th February, time to be advised. Please email Libby on [jules.libby@clear.net.nz](mailto:jules.libby@clear.net.nz) or phone 021 99 33 09 if your child is interested.

### ***A Message from the Ministry of Social Development***

As you may know, the Government is asking for feedback from all New Zealanders on its Green Paper for Vulnerable Children, a discussion document released last year.

With New Zealand very low in the OECD's rankings for child wellbeing, the document suggests ways government practices and policies might be changed, and our communities strengthened, so our children are better protected. But nothing has been decided, and all New Zealanders have until **February 28** to give their opinions on what the Green Paper proposes, or how they think our country's woeful record on child abuse can be improved.

## The Green Paper for Vulnerable Children: Norm Hewitt asks us to “Say something and change children’s lives.”

*Like me, as parents I’m sure you feel angry and sad every time another child is deliberately hurt – or worse – by their caregiver. Each year, around 10 of our children – our own tamariki – are killed by the very people they are supposed to rely on for protection, while at least 160,000 children are living in conditions that mean they are unlikely to reach their potential. We know the factors that make these children vulnerable – the big question is how can we fix them? What needs to change to make New Zealand a great, safe place to bring up kids?*

*These are the types of questions the Government’s Green Paper for Vulnerable Children asks. Released in July last year, this discussion document is asking what we think should be changed to ensure all children reach their full potential. We need as many New Zealanders as possible to answer – it doesn’t matter what you say; you just need to say something. We aren’t powerless to stop child abuse – this is something we can all do to help.*

*Please take the time to go to [www.saysomething.org.nz](http://www.saysomething.org.nz) and have your say. You can also mail in a submission, or post comments on Facebook or Twitter. After the submissions are read, a Children’s Action Plan will be developed and released during 2012. As parents, you know what it’s like to raise a child in New Zealand; you are the experts. So, please, do your part to become part of this critical conversation. **Submissions close on February 28.***

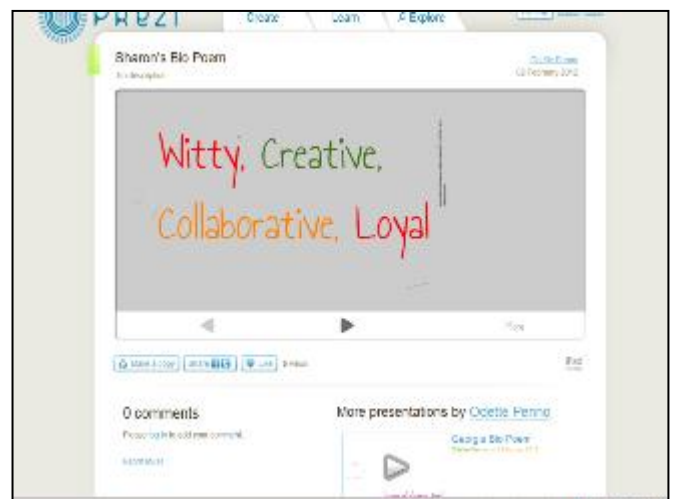
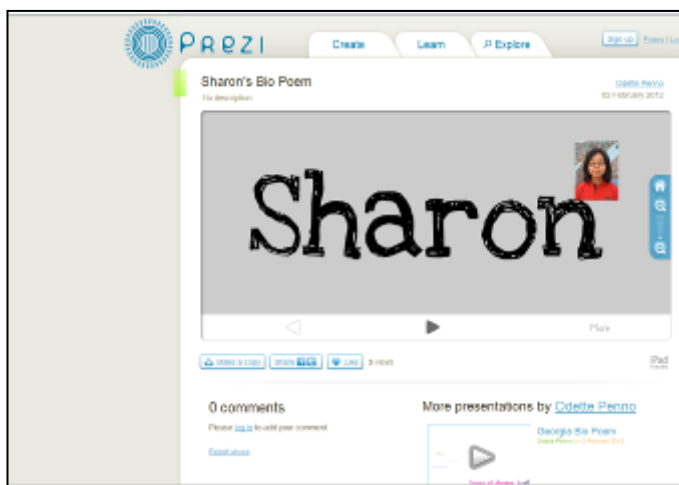
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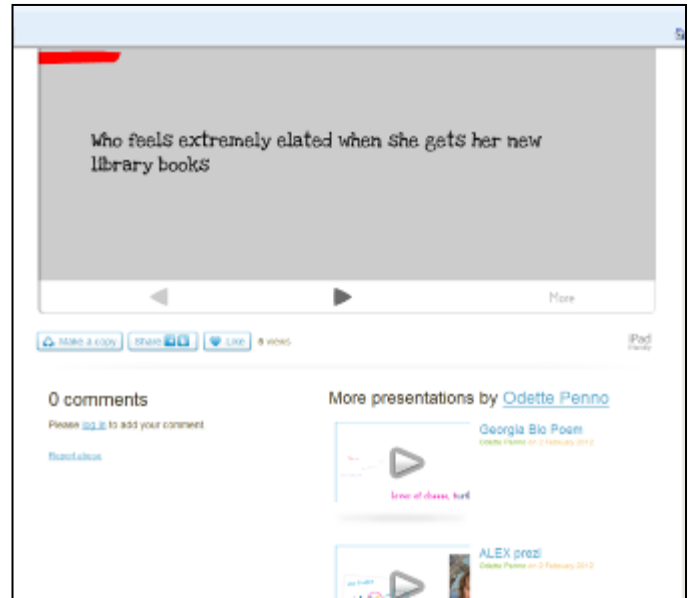
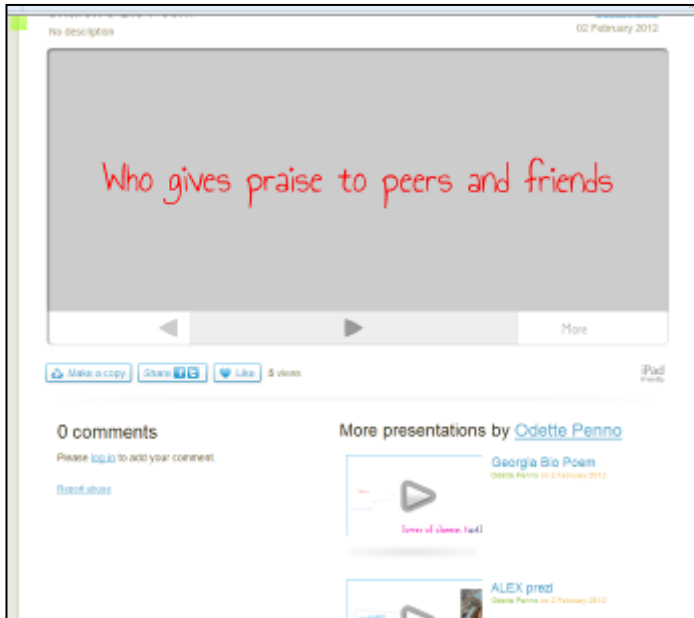
Norm Hewitt  
Champion. Green Paper for Vulnerable Children

## Student Work

Some of our students have been using the programme PREZI to make interesting power point type displays. Here is a link to Prezi.

<http://prezi.com>. The static images displayed below do not do justice to Sharon’s presentation as it is the movement of the text and images that makes this programme very engaging.





With kind regards

*Wendy Kofoed*

Dr Wendy Kofoed  
Principal

## Community Notices

### **Newmarket After School Programme**

***Taking care of your children until your work day is done.***

- Daily 3pm – 6pm, with homework, fun activities and a healthy afternoon tea included.
- Children will be supervised in a safe and stimulating environment by experienced and highly-motivated Parnell Trust staff.
- Part or full weeks, WINZ subsidies available.
- Contact Jan at Parnell Trust on 555 5194 for more information.

### **Before School Programme**

We now offer a before school programme in the school hall from 7.30 each morning – breakfast provided.