



CORNWALL PARK DISTRICT SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Friday 19th June 2009 - No: 215



From the Principal's Chair

Last week we had our community forum. Toni Casrells and Kay Penniall took us through the aspects of the Assess to Learn contract and what we are doing here at CPDS. They explained that formative assessment is based on evidence—so teachers have evidence of the learning needs of children before planning teaching, then using formative strategies in teaching.

Black and Wiliam are authors who explain the five factors well. Formative Practice is about:

1. Providing effective feedback to students.
2. Students active involvement in their own learning.
3. Adjusting teaching to take account of the results of assessment.
4. Recognising the profound influence of assessment on students' motivation and self-esteem, both crucial influences on learning.
5. Ensuring pupils assess themselves and understand how to improve.

Assessment is not necessarily a mark at the completion of some work. It can be about the successfully taken formative steps in the learning process.

Guiding student learning effectively involves:

Clarifying, sharing and understanding goals for learning and criteria for success with learners
Engineering effective classroom dialogue - questioning -and tasks that show evidence of student learning
Providing feedback that moves learning forward
Activating students as owners of their own learning
Activating students as learning resources for one another

The Teachers' Voice

By providing the students with good models of writing, using the students' work and exemplars, helps the students to see what they are working towards and what is expected.
The students appear more focused and when the models are broken down with the children they can clearly see how they can achieve their learning intention.
The students can refer back to the models when they are reflecting on their own work and can easily locate their own, where to next goal.

The Teachers' Voice

Since I have started using a wider range of exemplars and success criteria with my students the quality of their work has improved greatly.
They are now able to talk about what a good piece of writing needs in it and they can assess their work or that of a peer against the agreed standards.
For unmotivated writers it has made a difference because they now have an achievable checklist to guide them.
Overall ATOL has helped create a classroom environment based on quality not quantity. Amber Jackson Rm 14 Yr 6

The Teachers' Voice

Atol has provided me with the opportunity to develop and practice my understanding of assessment tools and how to use them to benefit each child.
The use of the Learning Intentions and Success Criteria have ensured that lessons are more focused towards the children's learning.
Over the past few weeks I have been particularly pleased with the interaction of children when conferencing in groups - their honest comments that allow their peers to go forward in their writing or reading. Erica Mackenzie-Browne Rm 17 Yr 5

To those who came to the forum: thanks very much. For those who missed, this is a short summary. Please do not hesitate to ask us if you want to know more.

John Houston, Principal

Calendar Items

Term 2 2009 Dates

Jun	
19th	Zone Gymnastics Y4-6
19th	Awards Assembly - 2.15pm
23rd	Yr 6 Exchange
24th	APPA Choir Rehearsal
26th	Plastic Fantastic - Sharing time in classrooms

Jul	
1st	Year 5 Dance Performance
3rd	Awards Assembly - 2.15pm

Term 2 Ends 3 July 3.00pm

Eukanuba
Dog and Cat Foods

The Best You Can Do For Your Dog & Cat



School News

Influenza A (H1N1) - Swine Flu

We are continuing to receive daily updates on Swine Flu pandemic. CPDS is closely monitoring all children and sending children home who are showing flu symptoms. There has been an influx of illnesses this week. We urge you to please keep sick children home.

Parking in the School Grounds

A reminder that at the beginning and end of the day the Wheturangi Road school entrance is closed to all traffic. Please do not drive into the school grounds to drop off or pick up children.

Enrolment into CPDS

If you have children or know of children that will be starting in 2009 we should have received a completed 2009 **pre-enrolment** form by now. If this has not been received please arrange for completion as soon as possible.

We are now also accepting all pre-enrolment forms for children starting school in 2010. An **Out-Of Zone Ballot** will be held on 23 October 2009 for enrolment in 2010. The out-of-zone enrolment application forms are now available from the school office or are able to be found on the school website.

Stands for Time Zone Map



Room 24 have been working with Melanie Tomes to create a visual mapping board highlighting areas/locations that are within 5 minutes, 10 minutes and 15 minutes walking distance to the school. The children walked in teams with pedometers and cameras taking photos at the various stops. When completed the map and their photos will be displayed on the Travelwise notice board outside the Information Centre. Great work Team!!



Weekly Hot Tips for Parents!



Everyone has a part to play

Giving children age-appropriate chores helps them to feel part of the family team, with the knowledge that they are valued and significant for their contribution to the household.

Younger children may be easily distracted, and teenagers may grumble, but don't let that put you off! A happy child has had experiences which allow positive self-labels to grow, like "I am helpful", "I am capable", "I am trustworthy", so keep providing those opportunities.

The rewards will be evident in the long term; remember that your child will be someone else's flatmate and workmate in years to come.



PTA News

Here we are, nearly half way through the school year already and it seems that time is passing very fast this year. We had a great PTA meeting on Wednesday evening, thank you to all who braved the cold winter air to come along. We were very pleased to be able to support the school by purchasing a set of 35 ukuleles for Judy Inkster to use in her music programme. We are looking forward to seeing some exciting performances using them!

Thank you to everyone who supported the Starship Phone Challenge by donating old mobile phones. We had 82 old phones donated which was a great effort.

Ian Grant – Growing Great Kids – 30th July at 7:15pm – Buy your tickets now!

The PTA is proud to bring you popular and well respected parenting speaker Ian Grant, sharing his ideas on how to grow great kids. This will be an inspirational and entertaining evening; a night full of strategies, ideas and encouragement for parents, presented in a positive, practical and fun way. The information presented will particularly be focused on parenting children aged 8-12 as well as general parenting topics. Tickets will be \$15 per person (including supper) and are on sale NOW – please let friends and family know about this wonderful opportunity and buy your tickets as soon as possible – don't miss out!



End of Term Sausage Sizzle

Once again we will be having our very popular end of term sausage sizzle on the last day of term. Sausages will be \$1.50 each and we will be offering a choice of meat or vegetarian sausages. Order forms will be sent home as usual. We need lots of helpers to make this run smoothly, it's a wonderful way to meet other parents and experience teamwork at it's best! If you can help on Friday 3 July from 10am until 1pm please call Kelly Stephens on 524 0555.

Quiz Night – 8th August

The Annual Quiz Night is fast approaching - this year's theme is 'Party Party'. Come along dressed up as your favourite party, whether it's a social, political or whatever party! A flyer will be going home next week with details of the Night and table tickets will be on sale Monday 29th June. Tickets are \$150 for a table (each table can have up to 10 people).

WANTED Helpers on the Night... We are looking for people who are happy to forgo the quizzing and help behind the scenes for the night. If this sounds like you please contact Helen Nelson 523 2646 or Lisa Mandic 522 8780.

PTA Meeting dates in 2009

Term 3 – 5th August and 9th September
Term 4 – 28th October and 2nd December

PTA Email Lists for 2009

We have two email lists for the PTA, one for meeting minutes and agendas and the other for the Friends of the PTA newsletter. To join these lists just email pta@cornwallpark.school.nz. If you are on these lists and your contact details have changed then please let us know so that we can update your details.

Margaret Anderson
PTA Chairperson
pta@cornwallpark.school.nz



40 HOUR FAMINE



Books are steadily coming in but there are still a lot outstanding. These must be returned to the office immediately. Remember ALL book must be returned even if you did not complete the famine or if you did not collect the money. Return to the school office. If you have lost your book please let us know.

If you have any questions please contact Ashleigh on 524-6574, or email admin@cornwallpark.school.nz.



Learning intention: We are learning to put our point of view across in an argument by raising a sensitive issue and finding a credible solution.

Learning intention: We are learning to use personal voice, conversational and colloquial tone when creating character sketches.

The problem with lollipops

Lollipops aren't they great? They are aren't they? They have been around for years and think everyone in the world must have had one or two in their lifetime. They come in all shapes and sizes, in fact if you are a teacher you could have a math lesson on lollipops, don't get me started on the colors and brands!

Lollipops are so great there is only one problem with them, but it is pretty big. It is the packaging, the wrapper, the stick, and the fact they come in a PLASTIC BAG! I think this could be improved on a lot! In fact I don't see why they have plastic packaging at all.

I wonder if the companies that make the various brands of lollipops realize how much they are polluting the earth. Those wrappers, they take ages, up to hundreds of years to decompose. Some brands aren't so bad and they have paper sticks but many have those plastic sticks.

I have a few things to suggest to you. Firstly, have paper wrappers because they biodegrade, and secondly, have paper sticks, as they also biodegrade.

I suggest these two ideas because they will cost roughly the same amount and will save the environment, which might give you a competitive edge if you write it on the packets for us the consumer to read.

Michael

My cousin Tyler

Her big blue eyes twinkle under the sunlight as we walk to Foodtown needing to get ice cream and bananas. Her straight wavy blonde hair moves side to side as she walks in the breezy wind of the outdoors.

This best describes my cousin Tyler. It's hard enough having three brothers one is 11 or 12 one is 8 and one is still a few months old. (Not to mention she is the only girl aside from her mother), he is a unique girl in many ways.

She has a great talent for sport, her sport is gymnastics. She is the best 10-year-old gymnast I have ever seen. She wins every time she is in a competition; she even went to Hamilton and competed against them!

The way she walks is the way I have to try to keep up. She is the type of person who earns a lot of money for her hard work with her littlest brother. I love the way she laughs when she does something to me and I start to go "ewwwwwwwwwwwwwwwww!" Once she even dropped a lolly in my mouth while I was sleeping and I had to do my teeth again!

Every time she comes over, my mum and dad are always delighted to see her and have her for hours and hours and hours. She's my cousin and she's a scream.

Alex

My Interesting Person

I have an interesting person I know it sounds boring but this person is extraordinary and yet he's just like you and me. I think he's interesting because he's dedicated, determined, enthusiastic and modest.

He is definitely not the brightest academically but he is never jealous of his endless amount of siblings (the only male child out of seven!).

He has achieved some amazing things in his short life such as winning endless amounts of medals and trophies for his one and true passion-rowing but he is never a sore loser nor is he ever a sore winner. He has to be extremely fit and healthy to be a rower and works out everyday to stay fit.

His body may be broad but his face is much softer with big, bold, blue eyes so perfect that they look almost painted on when they shine in the light. His hair is not something he takes pride in but somehow every hair always seems to be in place.

He sees life in a different way and people in another light rather than being so one dimensional and negative towards life and like he always says, "Life carries on past all the bad times." So what exactly is interesting? Pretty much my cousin Nick.

Tessa

Have your say! Reporting to Parents on National Standards

Reporting to parents on children's achievement against the National Standards in reading, writing and maths. Parents, family and whānau members can now have their say about the most helpful ways schools can report to them on their children's achievement against the National Standards in reading, writing and maths.

Having your say. The Ministry of Education wants to find out the most helpful ways to report to parents and how you think you can be supported to be involved in your child's learning. Have your say by visiting the Ministry of Education website – <http://www.minedu.govt.nz/theMinistry/Consultation/NationalStandards/ConsultationPackParent.aspx>. View the reporting examples and provide your feedback by completing the online feedback form or download a copy to complete and return by post. All feedback will be due by 5pm, Friday 3 July 2009.

Formative Assessment Parent Forum

It was wonderful to share our Formative assessment journey thus far with parents last Wednesday at our Parent Forum. The student video and teacher perspectives that were shared on the night, communicated the picture about what formative assessment looks like in our classrooms.

If you have any further questions or would like further information please contact your classroom teacher or Alicia Whata leading this journey through our school.

What is Formative Assessment?

- Formative assessment is evidence based.
- It is about identifying from the evidence collected, what the students need to learn to improve.
- Students are actively involved in their own learning.
- Students have opportunities to assess themselves and they understand how they can improve.

Teachers share the learning with the students; including the goals for learning and the criteria for success.

Conversations about the learning at home Ask your child about his/her learning:

"What are you learning in writing at the moment?" "How are you going?" "How do you know?" "What do you need to learn next?" "Terrific! How did you know how to do that?"





Children's Work

Room 4—Mrs Jenkins.

We have been learning to write reports. We have written reports about animals, bees and our trip to Motat. Here is some of our work.

Learning Intention: We are learning to write a report.

Success Criteria: We need:

- a title
- to tell what the thing is
- to say what it can do (thing)/what you can do there (place)
- to have an opinion, say what you think about it

Buzzy Bee

A bee is an insect. They have yellow and black stripes and 6 legs.

You can find bees in flowers. They get nectar from the flowers.

Bees can sting you. They can fly.

Bees are cool because I love insects.

By Jimmy Xu

Going to Motat

Motat is a museum where you can look at old things.

There is a Mirror Maze and sometimes you might get stuck and bump your head. At Motat there is a Challenge Zone.

In the Challenge Zone there is an Earthquake Room.

You can sit on the chairs or under the table. When you press the button the room will wobble.

Motat is a great place to visit.

By Maria Lee

Motat Museum

Motat is a museum where you can see old and new things.

People can ride on a tram. Motat is a great place to go because you can play with lots of different toys.

By Sarah Boswell



Sharing our Learning

The children would like to invite all parents to school on Friday June 26th at 2.15 so that they can share with you their learning about our topic this term, "Plastic Fantastic". We would like to ask all parents to meet in the hall first at 2.15 for a short introduction before you join your children in their classroom/s.



UNIFORM NEWS

Open every Tuesday and Wednesday
8.30am or order through the office.

Email: uniforms@cornwallpark.school.nz
www.cornwallpark.knowledge.net.nz

Phone: 524-6574 Ext 721

DRESSES ON BEHALF

If you have a dress or culottes in good condition that your child has outgrown, we would be happy to sell them for you **On Behalf**. Phone the Uniform Shop to discuss. We also accept donations of regulation uniform at any time. Please leave in a bag at the office.

WINTER UNISEX POLOS

These long sleeved polo shirts are designed for girls and boys from year 4 up to wear for extra warmth.



They are a great option for this cold weather and look exactly the same as the short sleeved polo when worn under the polar fleece or jacket.

TRACKPANTS

From size 8, 10, 12, 14 and 16 these warm trackpants have a small cuff at the ankle and knee pads for extra wear on the knees.

We also have trackpants with an elastic ankle to ensure they do not drag in the wet in sizes 4, 6, 8.



SOCKS

We now stock a wide range of boys and girls socks and tights in the school regulation colours of white or navy.

- White fold-over girls ankle socks
- navy tights for under the dress or culottes;
- unisex white low cut sports liners,
- navy/gold knee socks for sports training
- navy ankle socks for all occasions.

These are priced from only **\$5.00** per pair.

White Fold Over

Order forms are available at the office or uniform Shop.



Payment by Cash or Cheque Only