

**14 July 2011 - Week Eleven - Term Two**

Dear Friends and Families

I am excited to be back at school with our staff and students after my 10 weeks on sabbatical. This week I have been catching up with the busy-ness of the term and looking at the preparations for Term 3.

My sabbatical was a wonderful experience. I visited schools locally, in Taranaki, Auckland and Melbourne, had time to complete a lot of professional reading and think, uninterrupted. I took time to refresh myself and was lucky to be able to spend some time caring for my mother who has been sick.

While I have learnt lots, which will influence some of our practices, I also know that the education we are providing at Marton School is of a very high standard.

I thank Mrs Low for her great leadership of our school during the term. Fiona demonstrated the wonderful skills she has in a wide range of situations and opportunities. She led with great professionalism, commitment and enthusiasm. I also need to thank Miss Keyes who stepped up as Acting DP and the staff for their ongoing dedication and teamwork. Finally, my thanks to the Board of Trustees for allowing me this time to learn and refresh myself.

It has been another long term and Fiona will share the highlights with you in this newsletter.

I hope you have a good holiday with your children and that the weather improves for them.

I am looking forward to a very exciting Term 3.



**Highlights of the Term**

As per usual this term was busy, busy, busy. Our students learnt many new skills in the area of science and carried out some interesting investigations. For the past two weeks they have been undertaking our school assessments and we will use this data to report to you at three way conferences next term. The weather had been kind and we enjoyed our gardens and playground but we were also lucky enough to participate in the following events:  
 Arbour Day  
 Young Leaders Day  
 Year Eight Tree Planting  
 Book Character Day  
 Maths Evening for Parents  
 Rangitikei College Taster Day  
 House Singing Performance and Competition  
 Paraparaumu Music Road Show  
 Kapa Haka festival in Palmerston North



**Netball Draw** Holidays—No Netball  
**Hockey Draw**  
**Friday 15 July**  
**11 aside** 7.30pm vs St Matthews FHS  
**Saturday 16 July**  
**4 Aside & 6 Aside** Holidays—No Hockey  
**Basketball Draw Tuesday 2 August—Year 5 & 6**  
 4.15pm Jaguars vs Junction Jets  
 Bye Tigers

**Overdue Books**  
 The Library has been chasing quite a few overdue books for some time. A number of notices have been given to the children concerned. Please check with your child/ren if they are one of these.

**Cookie Fundraiser**  
 Thank you for making an effort to get all of the outstanding money into us this term. We still have \$610 not handed in. If you do have any money or biscuits at home then please ensure that they are returned to the office by 3pm Friday 15 July - thank you.

**Fundraising Prizes**  
 At our end of term assembly we will be handing out our fundraising prizes. These will be awarded to the child/family who has sold the most boxes. We also have three other prizes; these are for the other families who sold three or more boxes. Congratulations on all of your hard work, we really appreciate it.

**Student Council—Water Fountain**  
 This term our student councillors have worked very hard investigating costs related to purchasing and installing a water fountain in our senior students cloak bay area. I would like to acknowledge Briann for all of the work that she did in order for this to happen. Our BOT approved the purchasing of this and we had the fountain installed last week. When we do our next building upgrade we will be placing another one in the junior block. In order to fund this our councillors will be in charge of selling the remaining boxes of biscuits that we have, so please support them in this venture.

**Deputy Principals Awards**  
 ★ Congratulations to all of you who tried to 'Be the BEST' all term. It was really hard to select students who shone like Marton School STARS as many of you did. My last awards for the term went to two students who I have seen 'shine' all term and they made me feel very happy. Well done to:  
 ★ Rawinia —for making sure all of the people around her were Marton School STARS and would 'Be the BEST'  
 ★ Ricky —for always being his 'BEST' in all situations all of the time.

**IMPORTANT TERM 2—3 DATES**  
 \* **Friday 15 July:** Term Two Holidays Begin  
 \* **Monday 1 August:** Term Three Starts

**Music Road Show**

On Monday we were lucky enough to see the Paraparaumu Music Road show perform for us, as well as other schools in the cluster. The talent that was on show was incredible and it was hard to believe that a third of the performers were only 13 - 14 years old. At the end, one of the students talked to us about setting goals and working hard to achieve them, be they in The Arts or on the sports field. All of the students we saw had worked incredibly hard and I hope that one day many of our students experience as much success as these ones did.

**'Be the BEST' Quote**

"How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant with the weak and wrong ... because sometime in your life you will have been all of these".  
 George Washington Carver

**Facebook**

I have had a number of requests from members of our school community to be friends. Although, I signed up to Facebook I am not a regular user (in fact I do not even remember my password) so please do not be offended if I have not accepted you.

Regards Brya Dixon  
 www.marton.school.nz  
 Cell:(027) 211 3009