

PTA update

We thought it was time we let you know what the PTA has been purchasing for school this year.

- ICT items have been purchased with the remaining funds from the 2010 gala. The school ICT team have worked closely with the PTA and 2 more interactive white boards and 3 data projectors will be installed across school soon. This is in addition to the \$18,000 the PTA donated for the school to purchase a new set of 12 laptops last year
- 75% of the 2011 gala profit has been distributed to 4 schools in Christchurch. A sub-committee of the PTA was set up to facilitate this and after careful consideration of their findings the PTA approved the donations. The schools we have donated to have been overwhelmed by the generosity of our school community and there are some lovely thank you cards and letters on display on the notice board outside the new staffroom.
- The remaining 25% of the gala profits from 2011 are for “the enhancement of lunchtime play activities”. So far we have purchased a number of games and other indoor and outdoor activities. The teacher coordinating this is Christina Darney and the feedback we have from the children is awesome. The shade cloth which was removed during construction of the junior playground will be re- installed alongside the junior playground using gala funds. Plans are underway to build a stage area under the shade cloth which will also double as a seating area. We are awaiting construction quotes and our intention is to have this installed for summer.
- We have been actively fundraising to allow us to purchase 80 scooter bays which will be installed in the next month in different locations around school. The scooter bays will provide safe scooter storage away from the school corridors.
- The PTA is in the process of applying for grants for black-out blinds for some classrooms to enhance the effectiveness of the new ICT purchases, and also for a set of rugby uniforms.
- Approval has been given to purchase gardening tools and vegetable plants for a garden project using money from an Enviro fund that the PTA holds.
- The Arboretum has been noted as an area for redevelopment. Liz Millar is going to work closely with the children and the staff to find out what they want for this area. We are going to look at grant options to help fund this redevelopment, and some of the 2011 Gala money will contribute to developing a “Master Plan” for the Arb. We are also hoping that keen families may roll their sleeves up and get stuck into working bees. This redevelopment project is in its infancy so any keen volunteers can make themselves known the PTA or come along to one of our monthly meetings.

As you can see we have been busy. All the discos, sausage sizzles, quiz nights etc we run contribute directly to improving our school environment, so please support them! We welcome new members to our group and we meet on the first Tuesday of each month at 7.45pm in the school staff room. We can also be contacted on pta@ngaio.school.nz.