



# NEWSLETTER

## AN EVENING WITH ROSEMARY CATHCART

In September Explorers had the pleasure of hosting an evening with Rosemary Cathcart. The Topic: How to cope with your gifted child's teacher.

The evening was started with the comment that if parents suspect that their children are gifted, they are correct 84 % of the time.

Ways of approaching your teacher involve becoming involved in school life and school activities way before you approach your teacher about your child's needs. Make sure the school knows who you are by the help you provide to them.

Then make an appointment with the child's teacher. Teachers are so busy so rather make a date and time suitable to both parties to ensure optimum communication time. Discuss your needs and come to some agreement that may suit your child's need.

Then go home and write up a short summary of the discussion and share it with the teacher to ensure that you both agree to what has been written.

Set a date for review.

If you find no improvement, remember that there is a school board who represents parents of students attending the school. Try to approach the school board and find out what the school policy is on teaching the gifted students. Remember the board serves parents – make use of them.

Furthermore, we need to understand that teachers are still not being trained to identify the gifted, to teach the gifted, or to understand the gifted. Please do not be harsh on the teachers. They will need to be guided to help your child reach his potential.

There are also other educational opportunities available through One Day School, home schooling, or internet linked extension programmes. Find out if any of these could be suitable to your child.

Many gifted children are very lonely at school and one of their basic rights is to be able to associate with other individuals like them to form friendships. Most other school children have this need met easily. ....



*See inside story for details of our recent Explorers Camp at Ohiwa Beach*

## DATES TO MARK ON THE CALENDAR

**Bethlehem College Gala Fireworks Extravaganza**, Friday 26 October 2007, 4:30pm onwards

**Advent Fair**, Tauranga, 18 November 2007  
Welcome Bay Rd

**Next EXPLORERS Club Day** - the final details are yet to be confirmed but will be all about yummy honey. We hope this will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend Nov & will be in touch shortly about that.

## ROSEMARY CATHCART CONTINUED...

Hopefully these points will help us as parents to work more closely with our children's teachers, and therefore give the gifted and talented children of today the best education and start in life that we can.

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## WE MADE HISTORY AT OHIWA – EXPLORERS FIRST EVER CAMP

Labour Weekend 2007 and its Explorers first ever Camp. Excitement had been building for some time. It's been months in the talking and it was finally time to go. The weather gods looked to be on our side. Everyone was packed (to the gunnels!) with tents, food, sleeping bags, sun block, buckets, spades. Ohiwa here we come. Explorers began arriving from lunchtime on. Tents going up, some quicker than others! Our official Explorers banner was hung in the tree and it was time for the fun to begin.

What a fantastic weekend we all had. We weren't going to let the windy weather dampen the spirits. We even managed a trip down to the beach (although it was like sitting through a sand storm). Some of the kids even had a swim! All the kids got on well and really enjoyed each other's company. The jumping pillow got plenty of use, as did the playground, and the rope swing up the hill. There were some impressive injuries on display over the course of the weekend too.

### OUR UPCOMING AGM

It is coming to that time of year again when the AGM is just around the corner. Being a voluntary organisation we rely on our members and families to take on various positions to assist with running our Branch. It is fun and there are various roles that suit different talents. These include:

- President** (currently Ingrid Booyesen)
- Treasurer** (currently Kimberly Jones)
- Secretary** (currently Tanya Johnson)
- Membership Secretary** (currently Mellissa Mikara)
- Activity Co ordinators** (adult currently Kevin Walters and children currently Prathima Rao)
- Library** (currently Janene Cowles)

There are other roles such as applying for funding/grants, newsletters, the website etc that you may also be interest to you.

Feel free to ask any of the existing committee what's involved with their job if it's of interest to you.

Many hands make light work and here's a good opportunity to get more involved with the branch.

I can honestly say it is a fabulous bunch of people and most of us actually look forward to getting together once a month! It's not very often you hear that about a committee!

The facilities were great. The games room had a TV and there was quite a gathering there to watch the Rugby World Cup final on Sunday morning. Lots of laughs were had by all and no one really wanted to leave (although the oldies in the caravans were hoping we would!! We can't have been too bad though because the park has invited us back.

So thank you to everyone who came and made history for Explorers. Sorry to those who were unable to make it this time round. You can be sure there will be more Explorers camps in the future. Thanks again to Janene for all your work pulling this camp to the post. It really was awesome! GO EXPLORERS!



### BIRTHDAYS IN AUGUST/SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN AUGUST TO:

Cameron Johnson  
Celine Walters

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN SEPTEMBER TO:

Georgia Hacker  
Thomas Hacker  
Milford Mikara

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN OCTOBER TO:

Joel Collecutt  
Trey Housham  
Janet Reid