

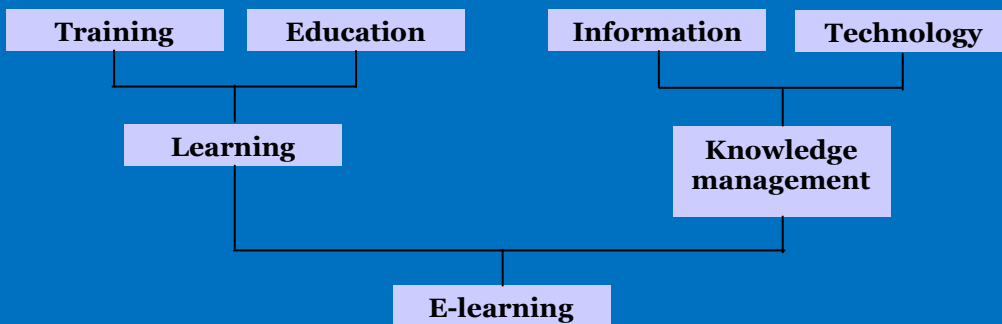
Dear Maranatha Christian School Community,

We had a successful Science & Technology Challenge Day last week. Some found it more challenging than others! It was very interesting to see which students worked very well in their team, and which did not. It was pleasing to see over 95% of students working together in unity throughout the whole challenge. For the “Emergency Stretcher” challenge, it was very difficult to distinguish between the teams because they all did so well. However, we eventually narrowed down the top team and stretcher (see page 3 for more details and photos.)

Students found the ‘Earthquake Shelter’ challenge more difficult to solve.

So if we have an emergency at school we can rely on our students to work together in unity and to move the injured; however, we will have to rely on forms of shelter more conventional than newspaper!

And now to a different form of technology! Our lead teachers have been working hard on organising Maranatha’s e-learning parent evening this coming Monday. I recently found this helpful answer to “What is e-learning?”



We look forward to seeing you on Monday night; and if you can not make it but are interested in learning more, please let us know. If we do not see you before the school holidays I wish you a blessed Easter and holiday with your family.

Debbie Middleton

**May His covenant promises be fulfilled in your life and
in your family.**



MARANATHA
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connecting

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Board of Trustees Connect

BOT Connect will be a regular feature in the school newsletter, and is aimed at keeping you informed of the Board's roles and responsibilities, as well as what the Board is doing to keep on track. We welcome your feedback on this feature.

Who is doing what?

In the last newsletter you were informed of who is who on the Board of Trustees. In addition to this there are four subcommittees of the Board, made up of Board and non- Board members. They are Marketing (Chair - Ina Botha), Policy (Acting Chair - Susanna Gilfillan), Property (Chair - Mark Swanepoel) and Finance (Chair - Andrew Reinders). The subcommittees are accountable to the BOT and play a key role in ensuring the Board stays on track in meeting its obligations and goals.

Why are we here?

Our role, as trustees, is to make sure that the school is run in the best interests of our students and our community. The key role of the Board of Trustees is *ensuring improved progress and achievement results for your child*, as a student at Maranatha Christian School. The special character of the school allows us to ensure this role is undertaken in a way that meets the mission of the school, which is *'to provide a sound education within a Christ centred environment that will prepare young people to live and function to God's glory in society.'*

What do we do?

We have the overall responsibility for the governance of the school, including meeting certain legal obligations, responsibility for property, personnel, financial management, reporting to the Ministry and school community, and meeting national requirements set by the Ministry of Education.

The BOT has authority over all areas of the school and it is our responsibility to set the direction of:

- the curriculum in the school
- staffing - issues and appointments
- school property
- health and safety within the school
- the school's finance and administration.

The BOT must also monitor and report annually on its progress towards those goals. The BOT makes decisions that the Principal and staff then put in place.

We ask that you pray for us regularly, asking for an abundance of grace, wisdom and guidance in meeting our responsibilities.

Sandy Bhawan
Board of Trustees



Mark your calendar:

7 April	9 a.m. Prayer meeting in staffroom
11 April	E learning/ICT parent evening 7.30 p.m.
12 April	Welcome Assembly 2 p.m.
14 April	9 a.m. Prayer meeting in staffroom
15 April	Maranatha Mini Festival Fundraising day
15 April	9 a.m. End of term Thanksgiving assembly
15 April	Term ends School closes 3.00 p.m.
02 May	Term 2 starts



Mini Festival Fundraising Day—15 April

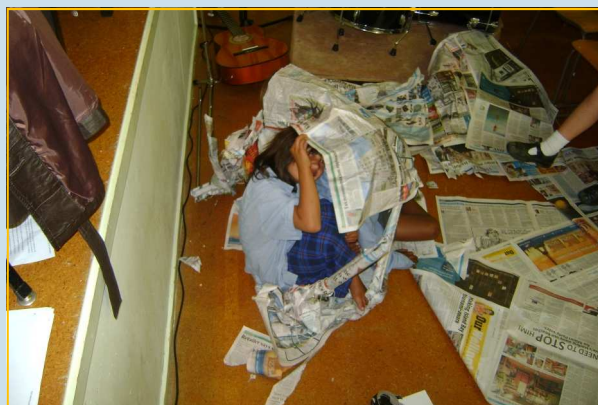
Maranatha's very own mini festival. There will be pets, games, food and mufti, so bring a few \$ with you. A whole day's fun for everyone! All proceeds will go to the victims of the Japanese earthquake and tsunami. So this term will go out with a big bang! Hope to see you there! *Phoebe Bugtong Room 7*

Maranatha's Science & Technology Challenge Day:

Congratulations to Team 10 (David N, Kundayi, Sara B and Tim K)

They managed to make a stretcher out of newspaper that was strong enough to support a 10kg sack of potatoes and a small container of water, and carry it over a 10 metre obstacle course without collapse or spilling any water, all in a record time of 25 seconds!

The second and third place getters were team 15 (Caitlin Fl, Joshua F, Megan & Richard) & 9 (Gemma S, Johnny K, Mysha & Tristan).



Meet some of our new families:

Avia Family

Rioga Family



Fletcher Family



Buttenshaw Family



LaPlanche Family



Sherwin Family



Gordon Family



Car Park:

All parents and caregivers who drop off and collect students need to comply with the rule that no vehicle is to drive down to the school building. We are concerned about the safety of our students, especially on a rainy day. Students must walk down to the school building; on rainy days they should use umbrellas or wear raincoats.



Registration forms:

International Competitions and Assessments for Schools (ICAS) registration and EdAlive Software order forms.

Closing date on **Friday 8 April** . Please return the forms to the school office.

Voluntary Donation Receipts:

We will be emailing to you the Voluntary Donation receipts for the tax year, 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011 during the first week of the school holidays.

PTA Fundraiser:

Entertainment Book

The new flickbook for Wellington is now available at http://www.entertainmentmedia.com.au/Wellington_20112012/.

See all the exciting new content in the 2011/2012 edition. There are some great holiday activities in the book.

The book is selling for **only \$60** and you'll receive \$15,000 worth of valuable offers, valid until 1 June 2012.

Plus, \$12 of your Book purchase goes towards our community fund-raising!

Winter Uniform:

Winter uniform will be compulsory from week 2 in Term 2. Please make sure your child has the correct uniform and it still fits. Uniform shop is open on Wednesdays from 8.40 a.m.



School Attendance:

We are committed to ensuring that all our students get the most out of their education, and we want to help support students in attending school regularly. Students who attend school regularly learn more and achieve better results.

Therefore the Board of Trustees is closely monitoring all absences whether explained, justified or unjustified absences, as well as lateness to class.

The only justified absence from school is for medical reasons. Please ensure that your children attend school every day during term time and are in class at 8.55, when the first bell rings.

ICT at Maranatha— E Learning Information Evening

Monday 11 April - 7.30

- Discuss recent Parent survey on ICT @ school
- Show you how Google Docs works
- Show you how e-asttle works
- Show you how My Portfolio works
- Outline the plan for student ownership of computers



Hope to see you there!

Netball



We would like to enter at least two netball teams into the local Saturday morning competition for this season (term 2 and 3). We already have a Y3/4 team but need umpires for the Y5/6 and Y7/8 teams.

Cost for the season is \$35 Y3-6, \$40 Y7/8

Please email craigm@maranatha.school.nz if...

- ♦ your daughter would like to play for the school this season
- ♦ you can umpire on Saturday mornings (or know somebody who can)
- ♦ you can coach during the week and/or on Saturdays

If we can't find umpires at least for the older teams, we will not be able to enter them into the competition.

Church Gala: "Your junk, our treasure!"

The Reformed Church of Wainuiomata is having a gala in September. They are looking for any goods you could donate, big or small. Goods may be given either to Wilma Reinders or Ellen Fransen at school, or arrange for a pick up on 564 4904.