

	<b>Kimi Ora School</b>	PO Box 35017, Naenae 5041 Ph: 567 5834
		10 February 2015

## Kimi News, Week 2, Term 1, 2015

### Camp 2015

With Term One now well and truly underway, we are excited about our upcoming camp being held for our Year 9 and above students, from **Tuesday 24th till Friday 27th March 2015** at El Rancho Holiday Park in Waikanae.



We are working hard at fundraising for camp which includes our Quiz Night being held on **Thursday 5 March 2015**.

In addition to our fundraising, we are also asking parents to pay for some of the camp costs. The payment would be **3 carer relief days** or the equivalent (\$225.00)

We would appreciate payment for camp by **Friday 13 March 2015** (payment by instalments is also welcome if this suits you) If you are paying by carer relief days, please return your form to the School ASAP.

If payment by carer relief days or the cash equivalent is going to cause difficulties for your family, please contact our Principal, Shirley Jones at [principal@kimiora.school.nz](mailto:principal@kimiora.school.nz) in confidence.

Payments can be made by:

Direct Credit to: Kimi Ora School Board of Trustees  
Account No: 12-3174-0298840-00  
Reference: Camp and your child's surname

**Student Records** - Having up to date contact and medical information for your child is crucial. If any of your contact details including address, home and work phone numbers, emergency contacts or medical information has changed recently for your child please let us know. For Evans Bay families please email [heatherl@kimiora.school.nz](mailto:heatherl@kimiora.school.nz) and for Naenae families please email [barbaraj@kimiora.school.nz](mailto:barbaraj@kimiora.school.nz) alternatively you can give the information to your child's teacher.



#### Upcoming Events

Quiz Night  
Thursday 5 March

Camp  
24 - 27 March

Staff Only Day  
Tuesday 2 June

#### Term Dates

Term 1  
4 Feb - 2 April  
Term 2  
20 April - 3 July  
Term 3  
20 July - 25 Sep  
Term 4  
12 Oct - 16 Dec



#### **Cup Winners**

Congratulations to Daley for great listening, responding to instructions and fantastic success on the toilet!

Congratulations to Siobhan for completing her pool session independently!



## Ronald McDonald Retreat - Rotorua

In January Phoenix and his family went on holiday for a week at the Rotorua Ronald McDonald Retreat and it was easily one of our best family holidays ever. There are two units in Ngongotaha (just north of Rotorua) where families can book in for a week - we wrangled a week there with friends who also have a special need kid so we collectively had the run of the place. The unit is bigger than our house (it can sleep 7 or 8 people) and it is beautiful, well maintained, peaceful, and located straight on Lake Rotorua (with gated fence in between). The place has is stocked with books, games, dvds, towels, bikes and a barbeque, and the people who look after the place are lovely.



One thing we found though was that the place wasn't entirely set out for special needs. There was a bedroom

downstairs with a double and single bed which could be closed off from the living room with a large sliding door (which was great). But then the house also has two bedrooms up some stairs with an inner balcony which could



be dangerous for some kids. There is a lip to catch wheelchairs or walkers at both the front and back door which seemed odd given the thought and design which went into the rest of the house. There is a roll-in shower and a bath and two toilets, but bring your own gear like lifting devices or any special seats you have for the shower/bath/toilet (just so you know).

In addition to the retreat house itself you are given a book full of discount coupons (half price off, or special deals) to a wide range of Rotorua attractions, plus a \$50 McDonalds voucher. The people we met, without exception, were wonderful. They all knew about the Ronald McDonald House, were disability-friendly and were more than happy to help figure out how to accommodate your kid's mobility or other issues. For example the people at the luge offered to meet you at the bottom with a van if your kid couldn't do the chairlift. The people at Rainbow Springs were happy to stop the log ride to help you get on or off. The people at Agroventures Swoop never questioned Phoenix's ability or enthusiasm to defy death on the 40m head-first giant swing. With our accommodation taken care of and cheap entry prices, we were able to do all of the tourist-trap stuff that we normally wouldn't have considered, and we had a blast.

If you do go, be sure to put in your application about 6 months ahead of time as there is a waiting list; try to start your days early to beat the crowds; and be sure to stop in and say hi to the lovely woman who runs the hedge maze...

Cheers!

Nat (Phoenix's dad)

