



Association franco-néo zélandaise pour une éducation bilingue

NEWSLETTER

August 2005

Issue 29

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A few words from the President

Seeing our children talk, read and write both in English and French (often better than me!) is very special.

For this we have to thank our teachers Maryse, Vesna, Michael, and Valerie, but also for the work done by the Association without which none of what we have today would be possible. A lot of work is done in the background by committee members, and I take this opportunity to thank past and present members who offered their help to make it possible.

For the first time since its creation in 1994, the Association Committee is composed of non-founding members. Looking forward for the next decade, several threats have been identified: it is more and more difficult to get people involved in the committee and the reliance on funding from France and the French Embassy needs to be reviewed because either funding has stopped or it is diminishing year after year.

With this in mind, several actions have already taken place:

- A description of each committee member's function and duties has been written, in order (between other things) to try to balance the work load between members.
- The rules of the Association have been modified to allow people or organizations that could bring their knowledge and skills to help the aim the Association, to be part of the committee.
- We have applied for grants to finance the salary of a part-time administrator. We see that position as a fundamental step to the survival and growth of the Association. We really need to diminish the workload off volunteers to leave them more energy to concentrate on the governance of the Association.
- To compensate for the loss of revenue historically coming from France, several strategies have been devised: develop a Sponsorship program with corporate companies, develop a Fundraising program by approaching all Trusts and other organizations which distribute money to non-profit associations and develop a program of Fundraising Events.

To be effective, these strategies require time and need to be continued over the years in a professional manner, which reinforces the need for an employed Association administrator.

Two fundraising events are been planned for this year: a Movie Evening at the end of August or mid September (date to be confirmed soon) and a Cocktail Party at the 'Tribeca' restaurant in November. We are trying to focus now on events where organization can be kept as easy as possible!

For these coming and future events, please try to "invite" and get as many friends and acquaintances as possible and spread the word around for it. These events should be seen as good opportunities to see each other socially and have a good time, but also to raise money for the Association.

Vincent Commarieu

Art Festival:
whereas the juniors
paint the Van Gogh 's
sunflowers , the se-
niors illustrate the
farm universe.

News from Röpü 5

Röpü 5 wants a new name. We are looking for something that will carry the idea of our community, our family to represent the feeling of our classes. What do you think of words like: *le Village, le Foyer* or else *la Maissonette*? Help us, share your ideas, your advice with us. We could always talk about the *Section* of course which translate the word Unit, but in French it sounds too much like an operation ! It is the word I will use today for lack of a better one.

Our unit is growing. We welcomed back the three children of the Schwarz family: Jack, Louis and Corrèze back from their one year stay in France and Valentine Mouradian. Three of them should end up in Maryse's class. We wish all the best to Emmanuelle Bardet who is leaving us. This brings the total number of children in the unit to 50. Thank you to those among you who are able to generously donate some of their time to help in class. With more children, your help is precious!

Once again our school community greatly appreciated the Art Festival which took place at the end of

the second term. Family members were able to admire our young artists' talents as they strolled through the school. Work related to the theme studied so far and each classroom expressed their personalities: me and the others, plants and their cycle, farms.



The Senior Class was lucky to go on two outings. The first one was a visit to Ambury Farm where our farm boys and girls of the day fed the chickens and the pigs, groomed the huge cart horse, witnessed the shearing of a sheep and the milking of a cow. The second trip was on the French naval boat *La Moqueuse*, among uniforms and canons.

Bad weather postponed the Junior trip to Arataki. They went instead the first week of this term and explore New Zealand's native bush early this term.

During the third term, your children will look at racism and its implications in values such as tolerance, patience, equality, liberty, etc... Maryse will explore the issues through the study of the French revolution. Towards the end of the term, every classroom will concentrate on the school production: the Sneetches which will illustrate the topic. Parents, be prepared to turn over little "sans culottes"!

Valérie Levergne



Frenz School Inc and the French Embassy

Since the creation of the Association, the French Embassy has provided both financial and human resources.

This year, we received a visit from M. Gilles Stern, the French Consul, and M. François Lucas, the Cultural Attaché, at a meeting to discuss bursaries for children with french nationality, attending the French bilingual unit at Richmond Road School (RRS). The two dossiers presented received approval from the commission, with the final decision to be made in Paris. A further meeting will be held in the third term, to address the dossiers which arrived too late for this round. We would like to thank the Embassy for their flexibility in these instances.

At the time of this visit, M. Lucas renewed the subsidy, BCLE for 2005, to an amount of 2000 euros (\$3500), which must be used to buy resources for the classroom (manuals, exercise books, etc) and educational resources (books, cassettes, DVDs). Frenz School Inc. provides the Embassy with a detailed yearly account of where this money is spent.

Also on this visit, M. Lucas indicated that Mr John MacColl, representing the ADFE (agency for the ex-patriot



french community) was interested in presenting and supporting the Frenz School Inc. projects to the Senate, in the hope of raising a supplementary grant for us. This type of funding is given out very rarely!
A complete report explaining the current situation of our association, our projects and strategies has been submitted to M. MacColl via M. Lucas.

In May, Mr Marlaud, the French Ambassador in New Zealand, organised a luncheon, uniting representatives of the French Associations in Auckland, with Mr. Hubbard, the mayor of Auckland, and Ms Diane Clayton, the new French Honorary Consul. The aim was to introduce the french community to the mayor.

The lunch was also an occasion for each of the associa-

tions to get to know each other better.

After a meeting between Nadine Plet, The Frenz School Inc. Honorary President and Diane Clayton, the Honorary Consul, a visit to the French naval vessel, 'La Moqueuse' was arranged for our senior children in the bilingual unit at RRS.

This visit followed after a cocktail evening the night before, to which representatives of Frenz School were invited and attended.

We are delighted with the interest that Diane Clayton is showing in our association, and are thrilled to have a new intermediary with the French Embassy as efficient as Diane has shown herself to be.

Vincent Commarieu

Maryse's class is discovering La Moqueuse, vessel of the French Naval Army.



Frequently asked Questions (F.A.Q.)

Having noted a demand for information from a number of our members, we have included this new section in the newsletter. Don't hesitate to add to it with your questions and responses.

THE COMMITTEE for 2005

President:

Vincent Commarieu

Vice President :

Stéphanie Fonteneau

Secretary:

Joanne Commarieu

Treasurer:

Joanne Kendall

Members:

Shona DeLuen, Cathy Carter, Monica Mac Fadyen, Annie Bourvis

Ex officio:

RRS represented by Marryse Varaine
Nadine Plet, Honorary President

Q: What does the donation we make to Frenz go towards paying for?

R: Frenz School Inc. has signed a contract with Richmond Road School (RRS) in establishing the French-English bilingual unit. The public schools in New Zealand receive funding from the Ministry of Education (MoE), calculated on the number of students, the number of hours taught, and the decile of the school (1 = total funding, 10 – very little funding).

Frenz School Inc. pays RRS for extra teachers, not funded by the Ministry.

The table below, lays out the amounts that have been paid over the last 5 years :

The amount has decreased as the number of students in the class has risen.

Year	Amount
2001	\$24.000
2002	\$28.815
2003	\$26.800
2004	\$24.000
2005	\$16.200

This year, Frenz School Inc no longer receives funding from France, and primarily uses the parents donation to pay the school.

Q: Is the donation obligatory?

R: Yes and No !

We would prefer the term 'contribution' which is less ambiguous.

We received the status of a 'charitable non-for-profit association' so as to allow our members to declare this amount on their tax returns under 'donations', and therefore be eligible for reimbursement.

It is not possible to enforce payment of this sum, but without it the class will be in serious difficulty.

Q: What is the membership fee paid to the Frenz School Association?

R: Frenz School Inc is a not-for-profit society, who by law must be comprised of paying members.

The association, in the name of it's members, is able to engage in contractual relations with various organisations, such as schools, the French government, sponsors, banks etc.

When asking for funding, the number of affiliated members is a decisive factor.

The membership fee also helps to cover the general administrative costs of paper, stamps, etc.

F.A.Q.

Q: I have friends whose children do not attend RRS, but would like to borrow books, videos and DVD's from the French library.

R: This is not a problem. These resources are available to all members of the Association, and everyone is welcome to join Frenz School Inc.

Extra-curriculum classes

Drama Class:

Taken by Michel Cassin for children aged 7 years and over.

Each Friday afternoon from 3.15pm to 4.15pm in the Richmond Road School hall.

Cost; \$ 50 term.

Homework class:

We thank Valérie for taking the class the first two terms.

Family obligations make it impossible for her to carry on. We welcome Charlotte Piot. Who will replace her on Wednesdays 3.15 – 4.15 pm. She has excellent relations with children and her experience as a teacher aid in Australia make her the perfect candidate. Charlotte is well known and appreciated by the children of Vesna's class where she donates her time to help once a week.

Welcome Charlotte!

For those children from the age of 5 years

Each Wednesday afternoon from 3:15pm to 4:15 pm in the Richmond Road School hall.

Cost; \$ 50 /term

Please see the appropriate teachers for enrolment in these classes.



Frenz Library's opening hours:

Every Tuesday (except during the school holidays) from 3:00 to 4:00 pm at the Richmond Road School library.

Next Committee's meetings.

The committee meetings take place at Vincent and Joanne Commarieu's place: 24 Elizabeth Street, Mt Eden, from 6:00pm. These meetings are open to all Frenz School Inc members, please join us.

Monday 8th August
 Monday 5th September
 Monday 17th October
 Monday 21st November
 Monday 12th December

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Sporting achievements

Inter-school Cross Country

Well done to all the children who competed in the inter-school Cross Country this year. It was a very competitive field with 13 schools competing. The French Unit made up the largest component of the Richmond Road School team, and they contributed to a good result

for the school which came third in the teams event for the 10-year-old boys at the Grey Lynn Park event.

Theo Hewlett finished 5th in the ten year old boys, followed home by Riwan Berquin, (6th) Along with Franck Kurtovich (23rd) and Julian Ravell finishing well, the team produced a great result.

Also competing from the French unit in their events were, Chantal Stewart (19th) Charlotte Pomier (23rd), Madeline Cassin, Zoe Bourvis, Camille Richard, for Richmond Rd School. Hamish Stewart who was good enough to race at 8 yrs old in the 9 yrs old boys event did outstandingly coming in 15th.

Cathy Carter

Aussie Rules

Another sporting highlight was the French unit's participation in Roger's lunchtime Aussie rules competition. The children were taught the rules of the game over a number of

weeks, and then played in an inter-class competition. The final was between the French unit and the English unit with the French unit winning this encounter.

Thanks to Roger for his time

spent teaching the children this fun code, and for organising a competition that the children focused on and really enjoyed.

Cathy Carter

www....click and play !

A few french sites from the internet to occupy your children.

<http://www.uptoten.com/>

Free on-line activities (despite it being free, take note that this site offers sales), hang-man, mazes, car racing.....the 2 people who narrate the activities for children under 6 years, speak in french.

<http://championmath.free.fr>

On-line maths games for all levels from year 1 to year 6 with an easy and a difficult level for each class.

The time limit for a reply may be frustrating for some children and will require perhaps a bit of practice and/or help from a parent.

<http://auxpetitesmains.free.fr>

On-line games, activities to print, and craft ideas for the long winter evenings. The activities are classed by age, and the site is wholly in french.

Some ideas from Sandrine Ellis

Ritimana's Wananga

The school and more accurately Parehuia and Fatu Enare organised two *Wanangas*, two meetings. The first one was intended for members of the school community and the second one for the school staff. The meetings took place over two days and aimed to educate us about Maori customs and specifically about *Marae* (community houses) and *Powhiris* (welcoming

ceremony) protocol, but also aimed to bring us together as a group to look at the future of our school.

We met on the last day of the term at Orakei Marae on Bastion Point and the next morning at *Ritimana* (Richmond Road school) for emotion packed sessions: surprise and outrage for history's injustices; honesty and sincerity of the items

shared; laughter and tears; songs and prayers. Two busy days which tightened the links among us.

Thank you to the school management team, board of trustees, Harvey and his wife and to Parehuia and Fatu and her *Iwi* (tribal group) for making this event possible.

Valérie Levergne

Advertisements

THE FRENCH SOFT DRINK ICON IN NEW ZEALAND : ORANGINA

Under the name of Naranjina, a pharmacist of Valencia, in Spain, Dr Trigo, conceived in 1936 a new product ready to drink, an orange and citrus blend with pulp and peel extracts, fruity and sparkling.

Introduced in France in 1951, renamed Orangina, it became a great success, quickly aided by Bernard Villemot's famous poster depicting a parasol made from orange peel. Visually powerful, this orange peel set against its blue background was to become the future hallmark of all Orangina's advertising. A fantastic and modern advertising story was created, supported by famous artists. In 1972 its advertising strategy based on the concept of shaking the bottle "Secouez-moi" was created and is still going strong today.

Nowadays, Orangina is the leader (maybe the best), of the fruit soft drinks in France.

One can now find the Orangina in New Zealand! Cute round glass bottles of 25 cl are available in all good bars and délis. You can contact the importer Eurodis Ltd for all distribution enquiries. Eurodis Ltd, ph 09 816 8964 fax 09 816 9228 email eurodis@ihug.co.nz



Come and be one of the first to discover Orangina at the FoodShow (stand I 12, Auckland Showgrounds) from the 5th to 7th August 2005

Sold directly by the Importer only during the show.

While visiting the stand, say 'secouez moi' which means 'shake me' - Orangina's trademark slogan - and you will receive a free pack of four when buying a full box of 24 x 250ml bottles.

See you soon,

The team from Eurodis.



Every Sunday from 6:05pm to 9:05pm: "Amuse-Gueule": French language radio programme on Planet FM (104.6)



craft



The logo for Eiffel Tower Patisserie Bakery Delicatessen CAFE features a stylized black silhouette of the Eiffel Tower. To the left, there are three small flags with the words "EIFFEL", "EN", and "EDEN" on them. To the right, the word "EIFFEL" is written vertically in a large, black, serif font. Below the tower, the text "Patisserie Bakery Delicatessen CAFE" is written in a smaller, black font, followed by the address "985 Mt Eden Rd Three Kings, Auckland" and contact information "Tel: 624 0660 Fax: 624 0662" and the website "www.eiffel.int.co".

TINTIN.co.nz



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