

Discount Recreation a Boom for Cashmere Primary

Cashmere Primary's Year Eight students wanted to find a way to make recreation activities more accessible for young people. Their 'big idea' was to publish a book containing discounted recreation vouchers for 'tweenagers' (10-14 year olds).

The Cashmere Primary students signed up 12 businesses to participate in the scheme. Activities offered by these included mini-golf, skating, bowling, a video parlour and Science Alive. The Spreydon-Heathcote Community Board agreed to fund printing of the booklet, which was distributed to all 1,300 Year Seven and Eight students in the Spreydon-Heathcote area.

Depending on feedback from the students and retailers involved, the Community Board may look to develop the project further in the future, with a possibility that it will be extended to cover the whole City.



Chisnallwood Pupils Push for Park Improvements

The 'Big Idea' for Chisnallwood Intermediate's Room 2 was to improve facilities at Avondale Park.

The class researched facilities at the park, finding improvements could be made in seating, shading for play equipment, new rubbish bins and fencing to make the park safer. Designs were prepared to improve the Breezes Road park, traffic surveys were carried out, local people were asked for their input and pupils made a model to show how the concept would look.

Considering the Chisnallwood 'big idea' the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board found that the proposed improvements for seating, fencing and rubbish bins could be introduced to the park from within the Council's existing budgets. Shading over the play equipment was more of a problem, however, as the Community Board believed it could become a target of vandalism. Planting trees to shade the playground was an alternative option.



Co-ordinating Sport for Intermediate Schools

Research by Kirkwood pupils identified a lack of organisation and co-ordination of sport for intermediate age children. Reports from the Hillary Commission support the Kirkwood pupil's findings, and also that this is a crucial age for children to begin taking part in organised sport.

The Kirkwood research found that students want more coaches, more teams, a wider variety of sports and opportunities to play new sports. At present the overall co-ordination of sport at Kirkwood is the responsibility of one teacher.

The Kirkwood pupils' 'big idea' was to establish a school sports co-ordinator for intermediate schools. The 'big idea' was presented to the Riccarton-Wigram Community Board, which was in favour but regards an initiative such as this as primarily the responsibility of the Ministry of Education.

The Community Board has committed to work with Kirkwood to develop and present the proposal to the Ministry and the Hillary Commission.

January 2000

