Dear Parent or Guardian

The Rugby World Cup is about to kick off with NZ firm favourites.   If you like rugby, now is the time for your children to read more about the game that is capturing their imagination. Websites. Fiction. Non-fiction. Newspapers. Magazines. **Rugby can help your children enjoy reading for pleasure.**

Here are my **ten top tips** to encourage your rugby mad children:

1 **Set** your home page on your computer to a decent rugby website like
http://www.nzherald.co.nz/news/headlines.cfm?c_id=80

2 **Get** your children on form for the year with one of the guides to playing the game. *Know the Game: Rugby Union* is a great book to start with. Ask if your local library stocks it.

3 **Deliver** a newspaper rugby supplement to your child's room on Saturday or Sunday morning to get them used to reading previews, match reports and other speculation.

4 **Buy** them a copy of one of the popular rugby magazines, like *NZ Rugby World.*

5 **Read together** a child-friendly player autobiography full of statistics, pictures and stories. Richie McCaw's *The Real McCaw* is a good one to start with.

6 **Play** one of the fantasy rugby games running in newspapers, requiring a close eye on who is injured and who has been dropped from teams. Another reason to read the rugby pages.

7 **Discover** superb fiction in libraries and bookshops : *Rugby Zombie* by Dan Anthony, *Rugby Spirit* by Gerard Siggins and my own *Rugby Academy* series.

8 **Leave** rugby newspaper articles and match reports in regular places like on the fridge door.

9 **Check out** the New Zealand Rugby website: www.allblacks.com .

10 **Try** reading more yourself. You'll enjoy it and your children will want to join in too

Best wishes

Tom Palmer, author of *Scrum!* and the *Rugby Academy* series published by Barrington Stoke

"A dyslexia friendly … lively rugby tale" The Daily Telegraph..

www.tompalmer.co.uk