



What's the Bzzzzzzzzzz?



June 2009

Hello all! This will be short and sweet as it hasn't been long since my last newsletter.

I had heaps of fun at Bayswater School, Glenavon School, Belmont Primary, Kaukapakapa School, Bucklands Beach Primary, Willowpark School, Monte Cecelia School, and Wilson School. All great gigs, cool kids and some new song ideas too! Here are some examples of ideas I've been given: "girls putting too much makeup on", "animals", "feelings", "muffins" (I like that idea...chocolate chip muffins, lemon and cream cheese muffins, spinach and feta muffins.....mmmmmm, now I'm hungry!), turtles, running/exercise, forgetting stuff (good one for me!).....the list goes on....I'll never run out of ideas! And thanks to those of you who have emailed me with ideas later.

While I was at Kaukapakapa School, one of the teachers asked me if I had any songs about medieval times (with Knights 'n stuff). Well, I had to say "no" but I offered to help her class write one once I'd finished my performances. We wrote a pretty cool song as it turns out – I'm struggling to remember it now, but it was a bit like a chant and some of the kids did the "stamp, stamp, clap" from "We Will Rock You" by Queen, as it was being chanted. I hope they performed it at assembly that week! I think part of it went "We are the Medieval Knights, fighting furiously for our rights....." That's all I can remember.

I've also sung at some lovely preschools including Stepping Stones, Murray's Bay Childcare Centre and Small Miracles. I really love interacting with the littlies. Their enthusiasm and honesty is always refreshing =)

I have two new retailers. "**Next Page Please**" in Takapuna is a great little bookshop, with an amazing range of books and a wee play area for the kids with a CD player. Which was lucky for me, because Maria the owner, decided to put my CDs on.... which I left with her.... and she played non-stop for a week! She was very keen to have them for sale in her shop after that and found that kids would be bopping around and parents' toe tapping when they came in. Some recognised the songs either from Kiwi Kidsongs CDs or because I'd visited them recently. She's kindly selling them at book fairs in schools this month, which is awesome. She also said this "*Kath Bee's music is a refreshing change from what we've been listening to, and loved, for years. Kid's in my shop LOVE it!*" She has invited me to do a 'shop gig' on **Saturday 13th June around 1pm** – so if you live on (or know anyone who lives on) the North Shore or like to drive over the Harbour Bridge, come along for some free entertainment!

"**The Hive of Activity**" in Epsom also now stocks both CDs. It's a great toyshop, which has a huge variety of educational games, hobbies and books.

I'm in the midst of writing a song for a short film. I'll let you know more when I know a bit more about it myself! It's not a children's film/song and I've enjoyed the process so far. It's something I've always wanted to do and hope to do more of in the future.

I'm heading to Wellington on 27th June for a few concerts. Jo Hodgson who runs "**Moving 2 the Beat**" – music sessions for preschoolers - has successfully owned and run the business now for 10yrs. I'm lucky enough to be the 'special guest' at her celebrations for children and parents who have attended her classes over the past 10yrs. Jo uses loads of kids CDs and knows loads of songs and I'm looking forward to spending some time with her to discuss ideas and talk music!

I'll also be performing at Heretanga Kindy and Capital City Preschool that week.

I'll be doing a special shop gig at "**Story Time Books for Kids**" in **Queen St, Petone on Tues 7th July from 11am**. It's school holidays, so again, if you are in the area or know anyone who is in the area, come on down for a free concert! I'll remind you closer to the time too. Malcolm, the owner is a really lovely man, passionate about children's books and his shop is big and bright - one you could spend *hours* in! He's sold a lot of CDs for me over the past couple of years so this is a way of saying "thanks" and having fun at the same time!

I'm also crossing the ditch for a wee "Hi family and friends" holiday in Nelson and hopefully performing with the juniors at **Central School** on the last day of term, **3rd June**. Yay!! Central School choir are having a "winter performance" in the church next door on 23rd June – go along if it's open to the public, it'll be superb. Tanya (who's last name escapes me), the very musical and skilful choir teacher at Central School is putting in hours of work to make it special =) They'll be singing all sorts of songs including one written by Sarah Lewis – another very talented and musical volunteer at Central School – and "Seasons", one of my own favourite songs. I wish I could be there.

OK, enough is enough – short and sweet I said!! Here's a link to my blog www.songsforkids.blogspot.com and for the kids www.kathbeeforkids.blogspot.com

Oh and if you're familiar with "The Nancies", our live CD will be ready in the near future – we have all had a listen and are picking our favourite 10 songs. If you're keen to get hold of a copy, email me songs4kids@gmail.com

Take it easy on the road.....

A handwritten signature that reads "Kath" in a cursive style, followed by a simple line drawing of a bee with a smiling face, wings, and antennae.

"Well there are times, when it's just me and me and it's OK, cos I know I can be where I like, what I like, when I like, who I like and how I like you see, when it's just me"