



St Mary's
Catholic School
Tauranga

newsletter

ISSUE 8: 30 August 2017

Our Vision

At St Mary's we aim to be Christ-like through prayerful hearts and willing hands. With reflective and creative minds we challenge ourselves to be the difference.

Our Learning Vision

To develop assessment capable students, teachers, school leaders and parents.

Our People Our Place

be. informed

oxforddictionaries.com / informed.

adj: having or showing knowledge of a subject or situation.

Message from the Principal

Nga mihi nui ki a koutou

Greetings St Mary's community, at an extremely busy and exciting time for our school. A very warm welcome to our new students Declan Finlay, Claire Ma and Tomas Hooper. There is always a reason to be excited and this term we have not been without reason!

As I write we are counting down to our school's 75th Jubilee Reunion event. Enclosed in this news letter is some specific information regarding the reunion weekend later this month. Please take some time to look over this information as it is going to be a great event for our school and one that we all should be looking to take part in. I would definitely encourage all to look at putting a table together for the dinner on Saturday night as a follow up to the family day of fun we have planned at School during the day.

Last week was an extremely proud moment for our school and particularly for myself as Principal. We opened what is the first purpose build Innovative Learning Environment on our school site. The Sister Gabrielle O'Neill Learning Environment. The suggestion to name our new building after our special Cluny Sister was a great one and one that I am extremely pleased our Board approved.

Being able to honour Sr Gabrielle as we did on Friday was one of the most rewarding moments of my time as Principal of this great school. For those who were not able to be present below is a small excerpt from the dedication I made on behalf of our school community past and present.

Everyone who enters into our school community brings with them skills, commitment and a love for St Mary's. This is what leads people to contribute in the many ways that makes what happens at St Mary's great. You have heard me describe this in many ways, I talk about all of us combining to create the fabric of St Mary's. However, Sr Gabrielle as a Cluny Sister and as a Principal has not just been a part of the fabric or contributed to it, she helped weave it and though our school today may be very different to the one you led Sr it is still very much connected to your work and the work of your order.

In keeping with a focus on how lucky we are to be a Cluny School, earlier this term we host 18, yes 18! Cluny Sisters from around the Pacific region. They all attended Mass on the Thursday and treated us with some of their singing. An amazing treat for us all and a reminder of the amazing gift the Catholic Community of Tauranga has received from these awesome ladies.

New Gold Group Sponsor - First National

As a father and daughter team, Rod Sampson and Tammy Francis have blended their love of family with their passion for property - combining their strengths for a fresh approach to benefit all their clients.

Rod, and his wife Lyn raised their family in the Bay of Plenty and as such, has a real passion for the region and a broad knowledge of what it has to offer.

Tammy with her tenacity and determination has made real estate a natural transition for her, one that she is enjoying very much. With her son, Mason, at St Marys she is actively involved in the school and loves the sense of community that comes with being a part of that.

They both understand that for vendors and buyers alike, property sales can be a stressful and emotional time. They do their utmost to make things as smooth and enjoyable as possible for all their clients by providing exceptional service, feedback and communication. To them, success is matching the right buyer to the right property, resulting in both a happy vendor and purchaser.

We look forward to working with you and discussing the special offer we have for our St Marys families.

Nga Mihi Nui Kia Koutou

Ben Fuller
Principal

ILE

We are truly blessed in every sense of the word. We are all happily moved into our new innovative learning environment and settling into life in our Maramatanga hub. We wrote some awesome letters to thank Bishop Steve for our new classroom and the children have also been reflecting on our new space.

Donna Vincent

On Friday Bishop Steve came to bless our new Sister Gabrielle learning environment. We gathered up in the centre for a liturgy first. Then the Bishop and the rest of the school came down to our classroom. Maramatanga team got to sit in front of the classroom. The rest of the school sat on the tennis courts.

After that Bishop Steve blessed the water and it turned into holy water and it turned it into holy water. Then he sprinkled holy water all over the classroom so God can be with us. I felt really happy because it was a special day. **Maebh Manning**

Dear Bishop Steve

Thank you for our new classroom and also thank you for the oven. And lastly thank you for the shiny blue trays. I am also grateful for our blue and orange chairs, Last I love that we have got three teachers.

Love from Nelson Santos

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2017 Dates to Remember

Monday 4 September

- Tongan Language Week
- Liturgy - Nativity of Mary 9am
- Music Festival at Baycourt 7pm

Wednesday 6 September

2017 Maori Achievement information meeting 6pm

Thursday 7 September

- Room 13 Class Mass
- South Cluster Speech Finals

Friday 8 September

PTA Sausage Sizzle

Monday 11 September

Liturgy - Social Justice / Peace Day 9am

Tuesday 12 September

Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday 14 September

- Room 4 Class Mass 9am

Monday 18 September

Liturgy - 75th School Jubilee 9am

Wednesday 20 September

- Playhouse Theatre - Puss n Boots
- Aroha Camp Meeting
All parents 5.00pm-5.30pm
Parent helpers 5.30pm-6.00pm

Thursday 21 September

Room 3 Class Mass Exposition and Benediction 2pm

Friday 22 September - 24 September

75th Jubilee / Reunion starts

Sunday 24 September

- Daylight Saving starts
- Jubilee Mass at St Mary Immaculate.
Sursum Corda to sing 10.30am

Monday 25 September

Liturgy - Christ the King 9am

Wednesday 27 September

- Aroha Team Sports Exchange with St Thomas More
- Room 3, 8 and 14 Baking for Merivale School

Thursday 28 September

Room 10 Class Mass

Friday 29 September

Term 3 ends

Monday 16 October

- Term 4 starts
- Liturgy - Rosary 9am
- Aroha Team Camp starts

Tuesday 17 October

Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday 19 October

Room 5 Class Mass

Monday 23 October

Labour Day - Public Holiday

Wednesday 25 October

School Photos by PhotoLife Studios

be.
Christ-like

be.
reflective

be.
creative

SPECIAL CHARACTER

Thankyou

Thank you to the families who returned the community survey for the Catholic Character review and for those who were able to make it to the parent meeting.

Church Strand - Religious Education Program

Currently in Religious Education the learning focus is on the Church.

Year 0-1 learning:

Belonging. We belong to and participate and celebrate in communities such as our family-whānau, our school and our parish. The Church is a community of Christ's followers or disciples called together by the Holy Spirit to carry on Christ's mission in life today.

Home learning ideas:

- attend a parish function as a family
- draw children's attention to other people who belong to your parish

Year 2 learning:

Gathering, Celebrating, Living God's Presence. Our local parish as it gathers, celebrates, lives and prays as a community, is a part of the Church which Jesus founded and is a sign which brings about God's presence and love in the world. Belonging to a parish is both a privilege and a responsibility.

Home learning ideas:

- identify the people who live nearby who belong to your parish and introduce your children to them
- praise each other for responsible behaviour

Year 3 and 4 learning:

Called to be like Jesus. The Scriptures record how Jesus called his disciples and apostles to follow him. Those who have been initiated into the Catholic Church through the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist are also called to carry on the mission of Jesus. They do this by worshipping God and serving and loving others and always acting with tika and pono.

Called to Service. Through Baptism all are called to holiness, lived out through various vocations; single life, marriage, religious life or priesthood. As members of the Church, they are called to carry out its mission of service.

Home learning ideas:

- discuss the ways the Church carries on the mission of Jesus in the world today – caring, loving, helping, being with people in their times of need, showing respect for everyone especially those whose tapu has been violated or hurt
- have a box for family members to collect clothing, toys, etc which can be passed on to the St Vincent de Paul outlet

Year 5 and 6 learning:

The Church Celebrates. Central to the life of the Church is worship of God through prayer, proclamation of the Word and celebration of sacraments. Central to this worship is the weekly celebration of the Eucharist on the Lord's Day.

The Church as a Pilgrim People. The Church is a Pilgrim People on a life journey – Te Wa towards God. Since the time of the early Church, Christians have used their

different gifts to spread the Good News. Within the Church people follow different vocations such as the Religious Life, the Single Life or Marriage.

Home learning ideas:

- pray together that each member of your family will recognise and respond to God's call
- include single people in your family or parish in your family celebrations

Father's Day Prayer

*God of Abraham, Moses and Aaron;
of Zachary, father of John the Baptist,
of Joseph, foster-father of Jesus,*

listen to our prayer:

*Bless all who 'father' and protect new life in any way,
these 'fathers' who teach and guide,
who encourage and lead.*

*Invite them to the table of your eternal feast,
these 'fathers' who work hard to provide for the life
that has been entrusted to them.*

*Embrace them warmly in the intimacy of your love,
these 'fathers' who lift up with strength
those who are helpless and dependent.*

*Bless them today with all good things:
with health, with laughter, with joy and with love,
with pride in their 'children'
and with the support of many friends.*

*May all 'fathers' who have protected and guided the life
of others be themselves held securely one day in your
strong embrace, there, for all eternity, to rejoice with
their families and friends.*

Playgroup at St Mary Immaculate

Thursdays, 9am to 11am. Contact Anna 027 427 9921 or Pam 027 238 3092.

Bishop Denis' Jubilee

Bishop Steve Lowe and the Catholic Diocese of Hamilton invite you to join us for the celebration of Mass on Friday, 8 September 2017 at 6.00 pm for the Most Rev Denis Browne, Bishop Emeritus of Hamilton as he reaches the combined milestones of his 80th birthday, 55 years ordained a priest and 40 years as Bishop to be held at the Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Hamilton East. A light supper will be served in the church foyer after the Mass.

Maori Spirituality – He Rau Toroa Workshop

Tauranga 29 - 30 September & 13 - 14 October (2 Friday evenings and 2 Saturdays). For more information, phone Cynthia Piper: 07 856 6989, or 0800 217 411. c.piper@tci.ac.nz

Teresa Rush

DRS



SCHOOL NEWS

Speech Finals

At St Mary's School we recognise that oral language (both listening and speaking) is vital for students to be able to communicate effectively. In Tika and Maramatanga Teams we use poetry as a basis to recite and read aloud. We talk about voice projection, good expression, modulation and pace. With the students we identify 'what good listeners do' and discuss eye contact and the use of body language.

As the students progress through to Whakapono Team, they are encouraged to take on more challenging types of public speaking with the main aim of writing a simple speech to present.

All students in Aroha Team are supported to prepare and deliver a 3-5 minute formal speech around a topic of their choice. This process includes defining the purpose of the speech and constructing an effective introduction, body and sound conclusion. Original and thought-provoking ideas are encouraged.

This year's judges were Dee Ellwood (Private Speech and Drama tutor), Miss Millie Burton and Miss Abigail Speight (students from Aquinas College). The judges used set criteria that are also used in the South Cluster Finals at the next level. This ensures consistency for all. We are extremely proud of the standard of speeches this year. Congratulations to all of this year's finalists:

Tika Team

First Place - Dominic Leitch
Second Place - Maddie Mear
Third Place - Coco Jacobs
Highly Commended - Sadie Frank
Finalist - Regan Dobbs, Keegan Murphy, Vienna Vale, Arielle Duytshoff and Manaia Brazendale

Maramatanga Team - Year 2

First Place - Tommy Mason
Second Place - Milli Banbury
Third Place - Jake Swanson
Highly Commended- Lucy Greaves
Finalist - Harin Kum and Saoirse Williamson

Whakapono Team - Year 3

First Place - Peter Chang
Second Place - George Hopkins
Third Place - Hugo Palairat
Highly Commended - Ivy Hodgson- Barrett
Finalist - Liae Yang and Indie-Rose Scholes

Whakapono Team - Year 4

First Place - Eva Jeffries
Second Place - Gia Dumbleton
Third Place - Sam Waylen
Highly Commended - Ciaran Manning
Finalist - Georgia Abernethy and Kate O' Halloran

Aroha Team - Year 5 (pictured)

First Place - Nathan Holmberg
Second Place - Finn Richards
Third Place - Briar Grace
Highly Commended - Tallulah Clark and Isla Wills

Aroha Team - Year 6 (pictured)

First Place - Mila Laurie
Second Place - Niamh Manning
Third Equal- Henry Scholes
Third equal - Ferlyn Wijaya
Highly Commended - Jaime Lock and Jorja Smart

Good luck to Nathan Holmberg, Finn Richards, Mila Laurie and Niamh Manning who are representing St Mary's at the South Cluster finals on Thursday 7th September.

Anna MacKinnon
Deputy Principal

SPORTS NEWS

Bay of Plenty Steamers Squad

Thirty students were lucky enough to have some time with the Bay of Plenty Steamers Squad at The Adams High Performance Centre this week. A massive thank you must go to Hobec Lawyers who organised this event for us. We were lucky enough to have a look around the gym, spend some time watching the Steamers train, talk with various staff and hear about the culture and discipline that the Steamers have bought into their training (pictured). Unfortunately due to the weather we were unable to do any drills with the team, however being able to announce the team to play this week on Facebook was a definite highlight.

Rugby 7's

Our Year 6 Rugby 7's team finished third in the Bay of Plenty Rugby 7's tournament. Coaches Mr Schuler and Mr. Broadmore were proud of the great team effort. The team played 5 games, won 4 (lost in the semi-final to the eventual winners) scoring 24 tries and only let in 11.

New Zealand Marist Colts

We recently had a visit from the New Zealand Marist Colts team (pictured). The team spoke about the New Zealand Marist concept, individual players spoke about the importance of each of our school values and the session was finished with a small game and some drills on the field. A particular highlight was the lineout lifting!!! With teachers and students being hoisted high into the air by the players causing great excitement and laughter in the Blessed Anne Marie Javouhey Centre.

Gymnastics

St Mary's students continue to have outstanding success at gymnastics. At a recent Midlands (Mid-North Island) Gymnastic competition in Hamilton. In Step One Olivia Williamson (Year 4) had a fantastic competition, helping her team finish third. Cleo Sands (Year 3) placed second on uneven bars and her team finished second overall. Liae Yang (Year 3) had a number of placings over several apparatus and finished as the third placed individual overall. Addison Sands (Year 2) finished first on vault, second on uneven bars, third on floor and second overall for the competition. She had the highest overall score for the step twos, so was named the 2017 Step Two Midlands Champion!!!

So all in all, another fantastic term of sport of St Mary's. I am looking forward to updating you all in the next newsletter, about our sports exchange with St Thomas More, which will take place before the end of the term.

Steven Finlayson
Sports Coordinator





Our People Our Place

be. thankful

oxforddictionaries.com / thankful.

adj: 1. pleased and relieved. 2. expressing gratitude.

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