



St Mary's  
Catholic School  
Tauranga

## newsletter

ISSUE 16: 5 December 2014

### 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

E Mihi Nui Kia Koutou

It is not quite time to welcome you to the end of the year but it is certainly close enough to both congratulate you, our parent body, and celebrate the many achievements that have occurred during the year.

This week we celebrated our end of year Junior Mass with many parents in attendance. As was the case at our middle school Mass last week. We thank both Father Mark and Father Edwin for leading us in these celebration Masses and look forward to their involvement in our Year 6 Graduation Mass next Thursday.

### End of year dates

There are many end of year dates and events still to occur that I would like to ensure all parents are aware of. Please check all dates and times pertaining to the end of the year. Notably, our school Prize Giving ceremony is to be held at St Mary Immaculate on Tuesday 16 December starting at 11 am. I would also like to draw parents' attention to the time school finishes on Wednesday 17 December, our final day. School will finish at 12 pm on this day with all children required to be collected by 12.30 pm.

### Class placements 2015

Some parents have enquired in regard to class placements for 2015. All information pertaining to this will accompany your child's end of year report. Reports will be distributed to students on the final day of school.

### Summer break projects

Over the summer break a number of projects are going to take place on and around our school site. Our administration and old hall blocks will have their roof replaced under the direction of our Diocese School Manager. In the same block, the interiors of Room 13 and 14 will be repainted and recarpeted. Also, in various areas of the school other maintenance work will take place, including painting and resurfacing.

As a condition of our recently granted consent there are a number of traffic management projects that will bear completion during the same time. These include the construction of a bus bay on 13th Avenue, the construction of a footpath on the eastern side of Grace Road and a number of new traffic markings, including parking.

Also over the summer break we hope to take delivery of new furniture, including tables and chairs for both our junior and middle school.

### Safety around the school

I would like to reiterate again the importance of driving safely around our school, particularly at drop off and pick up time. Please take extra special care that the way is clear when reversing. Please also be courteous to our neighbouring community and do not park in their driveways, this includes our Harvey St neighbours. I would appreciate your support in keeping our children and parents safe.

### School Bus Changes 2015

Information just to hand regarding the service has indicated that there will be no charge during term one for this service but a likely charge after this time.

If you haven't already, make sure you check out the Schoolhopper route information – including the interactive maps which are all available from the Baybus website at [www.baybus.co.nz/schoolhopper](http://www.baybus.co.nz/schoolhopper).

Schoolhopper buses will be replacing Ministry of Education urban school buses from next year and there are some key differences, such as the introduction of a fare, so make sure you are aware of what these changes are.

If you have any questions about the service, please email the Bay of Plenty Regional Council's transport team at [transport@boprc.govt.nz](mailto:transport@boprc.govt.nz) or call them on 0800 884 880.

### BREAKING NEWS our website is now live!

St Mary's new school website launched today! Visit our re-designed website to find all the rich and relevant information you and your family need to fully participate in our wonderful school community. We are hoping you will embrace the way we will use our website as a major form of communication with our community. Please follow us on Twitter, share your thinking as we welcome your participation and feedback.

Many thanks to Jo Allum from Yojo Communication Design for your vision and making our new website a reality for our community.

In closing I would like to say how much I am looking forward to the end of year celebrations, and in doing so welcome not just yourselves as parents, but your wider family and friends. Together we can share how special a place St Mary's is to be.

Nga Mihi Nui  
**Ben Fuller**  
Principal



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## 2014 Dates to Remember

Friday 5 December

**PTA Disco**

Tuesday 9 December

**Middle School Memorial Pool**

Thursday 11 December

**Senior School Waimarino**

Thursday 11 December

**Year 6 Graduation Mass 7pm**

Friday 12 December (date change)

**PTA End of Year Meeting**

Friday 12 December

**Hip Hop & Jump Jam performance 1pm**  
(change of time)

Friday 12 December

**PTA Sausage Sizzle**

Tuesday 16 December

**End of Year Prizegiving 11am**

Tuesday 16 December

**Board of Trustee Meeting 6pm**

Wednesday 17 December

**School ends for the year at midday**

Thursday 18 December

**Coaches Breakfast 7.30am**

## 2015 Dates to Remember

Monday 2 February

**Term 1 starts**

Thursday 2 April

**Term 1 ends**

Monday 20 April

**Term 2 starts**

Friday 3 July

**Term 2 ends**

Monday 20 July

**Term 3 starts**

Friday 25 September

**Term 3 ends**

Monday 12 October

**Term 4 starts**

Tuesday 15 December (TBC)

**Term 4 ends**

**be.**  
Christ-like

**be.**  
reflective

**be.**  
creative

## SPECIAL CHARACTER

The season of Advent has already begun and draws our attention to the need of preparing ourselves to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Jesus, as God's Son, became one with us and we are invited at this time of great celebration to share our lives with the Christ child Emmanuel, which means God with us.

This Christmas season coinciding with the end of our school year is also a time for us to reflect and be grateful to the Lord for the many blessings we have received during the past year. We have certainly had a wonderful year at St Mary's.

### Graduation Mass Thursday 11 December 7pm

You are all warmly invited and encouraged to attend our traditional Graduation Mass next Thursday night. This is a very special celebration where we give thanks to God for our 2014 year, and where we also honour and acknowledge each of our year six students and our families who are leaving our St Mary's School Community.

### Our Priests

We have been very privileged this year to have had Monsignor Frank, Father Mark and Father Edwin care for us and lead us with many Masses and Liturgies all of which have nourished and supported our school spiritual life. A very sincere thank you to them.

Thank you also to our very dedicated staff and committed parents who have throughout the year given freely of their time assisting with liturgical and pastoral activities and our Parish Sacramental Programme.

### Staff Baby Photo Competition

At present we are having a "Guess the Baby Competition" for all staff and pupils of the school. For \$1 you are able to guess the staff member in each photo. All proceeds will be given to our Cluny Sisters as a Christmas gift. Photos are displayed outside the staff room and the BAMJC. A prize will be given to the student who gets the highest number of correct guesses.

Thank you Mrs Cooper for organizing competition.

### Christmas Eve Vigil Mass 5pm

St Mary's School will be assisting with the Liturgy for the 5pm Christmas Vigil Mass. Our Sursum Corda Choir will be singing at this Mass and all families are very welcome to join us for this Mass. With the school year for 2014 coming to a close we take this opportunity to wish each and every family a joyful and Christ filled Christmas.

## 2015 Teaching Staff

### Junior Team 2015 Years 0 - 2

Yr. 1/NE Rm 16 Lisa Broadmore

Yr. 1 Rm 16 Fay Warnock

Yr. 1 Rm 16 Donna Vincent

Yr. 2 Rm 15 Janine Goldsmith

Yr. 2 Rm 14 Liz Driver

Yr. 2 Rm 13 Suzanne Tanner

### Middle Team 2015 Years 3 - 4

Yr. 3/4 Rm 5 Catherine Wood

Yr. 3/4 Rm 4 Pip Berquist

Yr. 3/4 Rm 3 Gerardine Robbie

Yr. 3/4 Rm 2 Deanne Willemse

Yr. 3/4 Rm 1 TBC

### Senior Team 2015 Years 5 - 6

Yr. 5/6 Rm 9 Jacqui Ellen Price

Yr. 5/6 Rm 5/ 8 Megan Akkerman

Yr. 5/6 Rm 7 TBC

Yr. 5/6 Rm 6 Randy Piceno

Yr. 5/6 Rm 10 Gavin Hesqua

### End of Year bus timetable

**Bus 1** - Primary run finishes (noon) on Wed 17th Dec.

**Bus 12** - normal run finishes (12 noon) on Wed 16th Dec. No PM service for St Marys on 16th. No St Mary's service on 17th.

**Bus 18** - whole run finishes 12 noon on Wed 17th Dec.

**Bus 20** - whole run finishes (normal time) on Fri 12th Dec. St Marys students can use bus 22 from Hereford Road after this date.

**Bus 21** - whole run finishes (normal time) on Tues 9th Dec. St Mary's students can use bus 20 or 22 after this date.

**Bus 22** - whole run finishes (normal time) on Tues 16th Dec. No St Mary's service on 17th.

**Bus 23** - whole run finishes (normal time) on Tues 16th Dec. No St Mary's service on 17th.

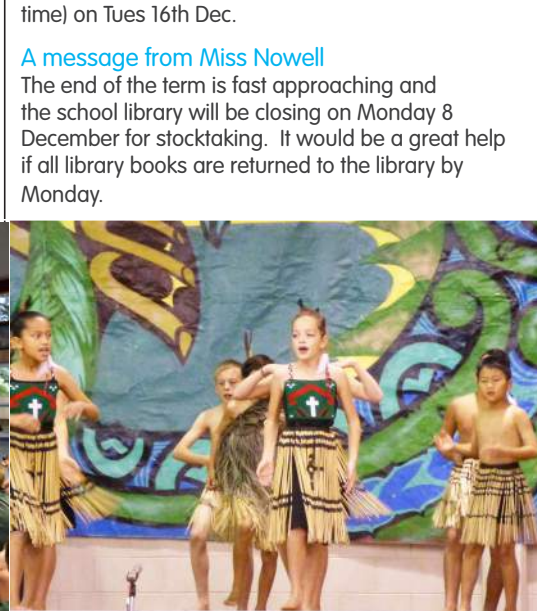
**Bus 25** - whole run finishes (12 noon) on Wed 17th Dec.

**Bus 34** - whole run finishes (12 noon from St Mary's, 1pm from Otumoetai Intermediate) on Wed 17th Dec.

**Mount / Papamoa Bus** - whole run finishes (normal time) on Tues 16th Dec.

### A message from Miss Nowell

The end of the term is fast approaching and the school library will be closing on Monday 8 December for stocktaking. It would be a great help if all library books are returned to the library by Monday.





## School Magazine & School Photos

All families who ordered the school magazine will receive their copy in the last week of the school term. All families who ordered school photos are expected to receive them next week.

## Kapa Haka Extension

In preparation for Ra Whakangahau on 21 November, our Kapa Haka Extension group stayed overnight at Waikohatu Marae in Ruato Bay, Rotoiti, on Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 November.

This marae, twenty minutes east of Rotorua, is Matua Iwi's whanau marae. It is where Matua Iwi grew up. Matua Iwi's tribe is renowned for their master carvers. This was a unique experience for our tamariki to not only learn some of the history of the place, but to learn about this very special marae. It was also an important time to prepare for Ra Whakangahau, a celebration of Kapa Haka, at the QEYC on Friday 21 November.

We were so fortunate to be welcomed onto the marae by members of the marae, Matua Iwi's whanau, his father and grandparents. We slept in the whareniui and ate in the wharekai. During the day we practised our items for Ra Whakangahau. We practised and practised and practised!

Before going to bed, Matua's father explained many of the carvings in the whareniui to us. We listened to fascinating stories, myths and legends.

Finally the day arrived for Western Bay of Plenty students to showcase their Kapa Haka talents, and we were ready! TPrimary and intermediate schools in our area, from Katikati to Paengaroa, took to the stage to perform in the two day festival.

Matua Iwi, Whaea Tamoe and the many parents who attended the day, were extremely proud of the St Mary's Kapa Haka Extension group.

**Lisa Broadmore**

Teacher in charge of Maori

## PHOTOS:

1. Jean Luc-Coffin at Ra Whakangahau
2. Welcome Liturgy
3. & 5. Ra Whakangahau
4. Kapa Haka Extension group at Waikohatu Marae
6. Sean Curragh long jump (senior athletics)
7. Charlotte Madams Tae Kwon Do

## BOARD NEWS

At our year end prize giving on Tuesday 16 December we'll be marking the achievements of our hard working students.

These achievements could not have been realised without the commitment of the families, whanau and staff who support, guide, nurture and develop them.

It is against this background that I'd like to thank all those associated with St Mary's for their support during 2014.

I'd like to pay particular tribute to the contribution of Monsignor Frank and Father Mark and the enduring work of our Cluny Sisters.

The Board extends its thanks and gratitude to all of our hard working staff, thank you for the support of our students and their learning in 2014.

The school is also very fortunate to enjoy outstanding support from its parent community and the many initiatives the PTA put together are at the heart of this – thank you!

The Board looks forward to building on this momentum and strengthening its relationship with the St Mary's community throughout 2015.

On behalf of trustees, I'd like to wish you and your loved ones a very happy, safe and holy festive season.

*Kelly Ririnui*

Board Chairperson

## SPORTS NEWS

### Tae Kwon Do

Congratulations to Charlotte Madams from Room 7 who now has her Black Tip in Taekwondo. She is part of The World Tae Kwon Do Federation. This is a really great achievement as it takes lots of hard work and dedication to get to this level. Charlotte will spend the next 12 -18 months working towards her Junior black belt. Well done Charlotte!

### Surfing Update

James Ririnui (11 yrs) has been selected for the Under 16 yr old boys New Zealand Surfing Squad.

The New Zealand team of four will be named in March 2015. They will compete in South America at the 2015 ISA Junior World Championships. Congratulations James!

## Athletics Success

The interschool athletics season came to a close on Wednesday. After a team of 41 St Mary's students competed against our cluster schools last week, 16 of them qualified to take on the best athletes from the 52 schools in our region. Jess Carey, Lily Richards, Molly Cachemaille, Paige Gregory, Selena Dobbs, Arli Robertson, Sean Curragh, Brayden Dew, Callum Jeffries, James Ririnui, Joe Morgan, Liam Knight, Troy Schneebeil, Tia Powell, Isabella Broadmore and Atawhai Lynch wore orange with pride. Congratulations to Callum Jeffries (1st 800m, 3rd relay), Troy Schneebeil (2nd Cricket Ball throw), Selena Dobbs (3rd Quoits) for their placings.

A special mention to Brayden Dew who won the Year 6 Boys overall champion by winning both the Cricket ball throw and High Jump events. Thanks to our mums and dads for their support of the teams. We can't do this without you.





The St Mary's PTA encourages you  
to support our Gold Group Sponsors



Our People Our Place

be.  
thankful

oxforddictionaries.com / thankful.  
adj: 1. pleased and relieved. 2. expressing gratitude.



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