

# St Mary's School – Tauranga

## Newsletter 7 March 2007

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*Kindly sponsored by: Holland Beckett – Lawyers  
Gold Group Member*

A very warm welcome to Dylan Brooke who joined St Mary's School since the last newsletter.

A liturgy for all new students and their families was held last Monday in the hall. Special thanks to Father Joe and Mrs Washer for organising this very well received liturgy. It was wonderful to welcome 37 new children and 13 new families since week 3 of term 4 2006. I would also like to thank Theresa Dunston for the beautifully handmade cards that each new family received as a welcome gift.

This week is Water Week and our school liturgy had a focus on the importance of water in our lives and what a precious gift it is we have received from God – especially here in NZ. It is very timely for the children to think about the importance of water in their diets and for them to appreciate their role in preserving our water supplies.

It would be wonderful if parents could follow through with this discussion at home and to look at ways that your family could recycle and or stop the waste of good clean water.

In 2006, our student achievement targets were forwarded to the MoE. I am now including the results of those targets for parent information. It has been pleasing to see the growth in student achievement. If any parent would like further information, I would welcome the opportunity to explain the results further if required.

Congratulations to Mrs Prendeville and Mrs Robbie for their highly successful and very well run camps for Year 5 students at Ngatuhua last week. Special thanks must also go to the many parents who took the time and made themselves available to ensure that these camps were the huge success they were.

So now we head towards the planning for the triathlon which will be held on Tuesday 20 March. If anyone is able to assist in any way, I am sure Cathy Dykes would appreciate a call. Cathy has asked me to mention in the newsletter the importance of parents NOT parking in areas where the children will be running/cycling e.g the carparks at the front of the school.

At Principal's assembly last Friday the Head Boy/ Girl and House Captains for 2007 were announced. Congratulations to the following children:



**Head Girl – Olivia Gorman**

**Head Boy – Colm Chambers**

**Pompallier House Captain – Luke Cooper**

**Deputy House Captain – Charlotte Skelton**

**Ryan House Captain – Justin Sangster**

**Deputy House Captain – Courtney McMannaway**

**Viard House Captain – Renee Cotterill**

**Deputy House Captain – Thomas Carter**

**Cluny House Captain – Georgia Childs**

**Deputy House Captain – Finn Agnew**

These students will have a special blessing and receive their badges at the next school Mass.

### School/Parish Mass

A reminder to all parents that this event will be held on Sunday 11 March at 10am Mass at St Mary's church in town. We encourage as many families as possible to come along to show our commitment to the Catholic faith. We ask that all children wear their school uniform as this clearly identifies them to other parishioners.

### School Mass

The next school Mass will be held in our school Hall on Thursday 15 March at 9.30am. Parents are warmly welcomed.

### **BOT Elections**

This vital election for the ongoing governance of the school is now underway. Nominations for elections opened on Thursday 1 March. Every parent has an opportunity to participate in this election either by standing as a candidate and/or nominating a candidate and most importantly, casting a vote. These elections are a chance for everyone in the school community to have a say in who will be on the Board - who will represent them in making decisions for the school. Parents and Caregivers will be given the opportunity to attend a Meet the Candidates evening on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 7.30pm in the school hall. I urge you to come along and listen to the candidates and their ideas for the school in order for you to make an informed vote. Voting papers will be issued by 20 March and close at noon on the 29<sup>th</sup> March.

### **BOT Meetings for 2007.**

The dates for the meetings are:

22 Feb, 22 Mar, 24 May, 28 June, 26 July, 23 August, 25 October, 22 November.

Unless otherwise notified, these meetings take place in the staffroom at 5.30pm. All school community are warmly welcomed.

### **Job Vacancy**

St Mary's BOT are seeking an office assistant to work 2 days a week from 8.30 - 4.30pm. Some flexibility of days may be required.

If you have had recent office / financial experience, possess excellent computer skills and a personable manner please forward your CV with a covering letter to:

**The Principal**

**St Mary's Catholic School**

**Tauranga.**

Applications close on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Absentees / Late Students**

A huge 'Thank You' to all parents and caregivers who have phoned into the school office when your child is absent or late.

### **TRIATHLON**

Are you are training hard for the triathlon? Remember to get your registration in to the school office by **Wednesday 14 March**. A copy of the course is available for viewing from the school notice board, outside the staff room.

### **AQUINAS COLLEGE OPEN DAY**



Wednesday 21 March, 12.30 - 4.30pm. Come and see the College in action; have a guided tour; speak with students and staff; hear our Principal, Brendan Schollum, speak.

Applications for 2008

enrolments close 30 April 2007. Members of Aquinas College staff will visit our school soon to talk to students and to give them an enrolment pack to bring home. For more information contact Moira Ramsbottom at the College on 543 9032

### **CONGRATULATIONS TO...**

**Squash:** Joshua and Jamie Oakley, who were selected to represent the Bay of Plenty under 11 boys squash team.

**Athletics:** Also congratulations to Dana Welten, Connor Millar, Bethany Millar, Keegan Millar, Bernard Tanner and Caitlin O'Toole who qualified to attend the Waikato, BOP Athletic Championships.

### **PTA SAUSAGE SIZZLE**

Date: Thursday 8 March

Sausage in a roll, fruit juice, bag of chips and juicie ice blocks all \$1.50 each

### **FILM FUNDRAISER!**

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School PTA proudly presents a film fundraiser. Join us for a great night out and support your child's school at the same time.

**Film:** Miss Potter

**Date:** Wednesday 21 March, 2007

**Time:** From 5:30pm onwards for mingling and nibbles; film begins at 6:20pm (finishes at approx. 7:50pm)

**Place:** Rialto Tauranga

**Cost:** \$15 per ticket, which includes nibbles; if you wish you can buy your own wine, juice or coffee. (An adult's full price film ticket is \$14.00; \$9 of the \$15 charged will go to our school)

For more information see the attached flyer.