



St Mary's  
Catholic School  
Tauranga

## newsletter

ISSUE 6: 5 June 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

### He mihi nui ki a koutou

In the last two weeks I have had the privilege of attending a variety of learning contexts and working with a number of educational leaders. The reflection that has coincided with this professional learning reinforces for me the value of the work we currently do at St Mary's and the benefits of our future direction. We are a blessed community and can be proud of the way we cater for the many needs of our children.

While at the Hamilton Catholic Diocese Principal and DRS conference I was introduced to Whakatuaki by Lytton High School Principal, Mr Wiremu Elliott.

Ko te pae tawhiti, whaia kia tata, Ko te pae tata, whakamau kia tina

This encourages us to reach for those things far away and bring them near, and to grasp those goals or opportunities that are close to us. I see this as very much the role of a school community, constantly scanning the educational horizon for what is best for students and working hard to make this a reality in the classroom.

### Interim Reporting and Learning Stories

Teachers are working hard at present to complete interim reports against national standards (years 4 – 6) and complete learning stories as an illustration of achievement in writing. An integral part of the learning story is a recorded critical conversation that highlights in student voice achievement and progress in writing. These learning stories will be available in digital form as they were last year.

### E learning workshop for parents

As part of our school community's e learning journey, we are going to hold a series of parent workshops and presentations, the first being focused on the use of Google in our school. As you know Google is much more than a search engine but a means of utilising cloud based technology, something we are focused on at St Mary's. This first workshop will be held at 2pm on Thursday 26 June.

### Hall Rejuvenation

We are extremely thankful to the Hamilton Diocese who has given us the approval to renovate the old hall by re-painting surfaces, re-covering walls and replacing old carpet. This will give us the ability to better utilise the space for learning with students.

Once the current work is completed we will look to furnish the space with modern, new educationally focused furniture leading to an

ability to adopt a model of instruction based on teacher sharing and collaboration.

Such an approach is both consistent with best practice examples of 21st century learning and in line with our guiding visionary statements.

The first students to benefit from this new environment will be our current and future new entrant students, those students currently in Mrs Donna Vincent's class and those who are yet to start school in 2014. Donna will therefore teach in the new environment along with Mrs Sharon Jones as new entrant numbers increase.

### First Holy Communion and Confirmation

All those who were present at both the First Holy Communion Confirmation Mass and the celebrated breakfast on Sunday 17 May will agree that it was an outstanding Celebration of our Faith. The presentation of the candidates was amazing as was the service led by Bishop Dennis Browne. On behalf of our school community I would like to thank all those, from Parish and School, involved in the preparation and coordination of this year's sacramental programme.



### Teacher Only Day

I would like to draw your attention to our upcoming Teacher Only Day on Monday 23 June. On this day all teaching staff will be attending a day led by Rev. Dr Elio Capra who is a priest of the Salesians of Don Bosco (sdb). He has taught units in sacramental theology at Australian Catholic University (ACU), as well as teaching accreditation courses for teachers at ACU. We are extremely fortunate as a Diocese to have Rev. Dr Elio Capra with us and so utilise the opportunity for professional development in the teaching of Religious Education.

Nga Mihi Nui

**Ben Fuller**

**Principal**

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## Dates to Remember

Sunday 8 June  
**School /Parish Mass**

Tuesday 10 June  
**South Cluster Cross Country**

Tuesday 10 June  
**PTA Meeting 7pm**

Wednesday 11 June  
**BoP Ripa Rugby**

Thursday 12 June  
**Class Mass Room 4**

Friday 13 June  
**WBoP Gymnastics Year 5 & 6**

Tuesday 17 June  
**Bop Squash**

Wednesday 18 June  
**WBoP Young Einsteins**

Thursday 19 June  
**Class Mass Room 3**

Friday 20 June  
**PTA Disco**

Monday 23 June  
**Teacher Only Day**

Tuesday 24 June  
**Board of Trustee Meeting 6.30pm**

Wednesday 25 June  
**WBoP Cross Country**

Thursday 26 June  
**Class Mass Room 2**

Thursday 26 June  
**E Learning Workshop 2pm**

Friday 27 June  
**WBoP Cross Country postponement date**

Friday 27 June  
**Argos Gymnastics Championships**

Saturday 28 June  
**PTA Quiz Night**

Tuesday 1 July  
**BoP Cross Country**

Wednesday 2 July  
**BoP Cross Country postponement date**

Wednesday 2 July  
**WBoP Young Einsteins**

Friday 4 July  
**Term 2 ends**

Monday 21 July  
**Term 3 starts**

Thursday 24 July  
**Class Mass Room 8**

Tuesday 29 July  
**Board of Trustee Meeting 6.30pm**

Thursday 31 July  
**Class Mass Room 7**

Thursday 31 July  
**WBoP Miniball World Cup**

Tuesday 5 August  
**PTA Meeting 7pm**

**be.**  
Christ-like

**be.**  
reflective

**be.**  
creative

## Special Character

### School Parish Mass - Sunday 8th June 10am

This Sunday, 8 June is our School Parish Mass and we encourage all our families to come along and celebrate the Feast of Pentecost as a community. We ask that all the children wear their school uniform to church and sit with their families. The school choir, Sursum Chorda will also be singing at this Mass. Every Sunday the Church collects supplies for the St Vincent De Paul Food Bank and the items most in need at the moment are breakfast cereals, pasta, soap and men's deodorant. If you are able to donate one item to support the Food Bank please bring it along with you on Sunday and place it in the baskets provided. We have talked to the children about "Be... The Difference" and how this is a great way to make a difference to people in need.

## School News

### Developing Assessment Capable Students with 'Growth Mindset' Thinking

Decades of research was summarized in a New York Times bestseller "Mindset: The New Psychology of Success" (2006), by Carol Dweck which disrupted long held beliefs that intelligence and smartness is 'fixed', proving that intelligence and 'smartness' can be learned and that the brain can grow from exercise.

The implications of this mindset are fundamental in our belief here at St Mary's where we aim to develop our students with a 'growth' mindset through our 'Assessment Capable' Learning Vision. Students with a 'growth mindset' learn more effectively through taking ownership of their learning, display a desire for challenge, know where they are 'at' with their learning and their 'next learning steps'. Students with a 'growth mindset' also demonstrate resilience when they experience failure and can push on through their mistakes to achieve success.

Students with a 'fixed' mindset believe that you are

either smart or you are not. When students with a fixed mindset fail or make a mistake, they believe that they are not smart and just give up. Fixed mindset students avoid challenge and often are happy to settle for easier work where they know they will succeed. As teachers we are developing growth mindsets in our students through the messages that we communicate to our students when we engage and have learning conversations with our students. Teachers are currently facilitating 'critical conversations' with learners, where the student has the opportunity to reflect on their learning, give feedback to their teacher and establish new learning goals. Each child from every class will soon share with their parents an on line "Learning Story", which illustrates the 'Assessment Capable' process. A letter outlining the process and how you can access this 'Learning Story' will be sent home from your child's class teacher, when the 'Learning Stories' are released over the next two to three weeks. We encourage you to play an active role in your child's learning, through making supportive comments about the learning process in the on line 'Learning Story'.

**Janet McCarroll**  
Deputy Principal

## PTA News

### Spell-a-thon

The PTA Spell-a-thon has been a wonderful success. It has been a fun way for students to learn their words and their efforts in collecting sponsorship money has been outstanding. This week students have been bringing their sponsorship money into school. Thank you to all the families who have supported their child/ren in this fundraiser.

There are still children to bring their money in and we hope over the coming days all sponsorship money is in, for a total count. Next Friday at assembly, we will announce the winning classes and students who have won prizes.





## Sports News

### Cross Country results 2014

What a fabulous day for the annual St Mary's Cross Country run. After 4 weeks of training at school, and some putting extra training in behind the scenes, the students had a chance to see if their efforts were to be rewarded.

With such an amazing extended community, our children were keenly observed and supported through their races by the marshalling team. An enormous thank you to all the staff, to the parents who wore bright orange yesterday to help with the event, and to Mr Stockman for his meticulous course layout.

The big event for the seniors was the traditional Cup Race to find the fastest runners from all of the senior students at our school. The year 5 girls certainly stamped their authority on the girls' race, while the year 6 boys showed their younger counterparts the way home.

	Boys	Girls
1st	Callum Jeffries (Yr 6)	Millie Quin (Yr 5)
2nd	Liam Knight (Yr 6)	Lily Richards (Yr 5)
3rd	Brayden Dew (Yr 6)	Molly Cachemaille (Yr 5)

While some of our Year 0 students found their way to the playground instead of the finish line, all other age groups results are below;

Year 1	Boys	Girls
1st	Eli Banbury	Isla Martin
2nd	Xavier Kirk	Lily Davison
3rd	James Prince	Eva Jeffries
Year 2		
1st	Henry Scholes	Eden Peddle
2nd	Luka Mahy	Emma Rogers
3rd	Aidan Dobbs	Holly Fauseff
Year 3		
1st	Jack Williamson	Stella Roper
2nd	Dylan Dobbs	Renee Carey
3rd	Asa Banbury	Maddie Kerr
Year 4		
1st	Jack Quilty	Eilah Barriball
2nd	Hugo McCarroll	Anna Tustin
3rd	Zach Quin	Emma Thornton
Year 5		
1st	Sean Curragh	Milly Quin
2nd	Max Williamson	Lily Richards
3rd	Jordan Smith	Molly Cachemaille
Year 6		
1st	Callum Jeffries	Tia Powell
2nd	Liam Knight	Grace Gill
3rd	Brayden Dew	Anna McFall

Our Year 4, 5 and 6 placegetters along with Ava Sands, Georgia Verhoeven, Ava Price, Athea Saducas, Selena Dobbs, Taliyah Carter, Paige McKay, Jasmine Watene, Molly Barriball, Lauren Kerr, Alisha Yeatman, Isabel Yoon, Scott Breebaart, Jack Gundry, Jacob Lewis, Jack McClutchie, Arli Robertson, Harry Bos, Jacob Healy-Ormrod, Josh McCarroll, Sam Way, Thomas Wilkinson, Joe Vincent and James Rinui will compete at Waipuna Park in the South Cluster Cross Country on Tuesday 10th June.

Well done to all of the children that participated, particularly to those who ran so superbly within their year groups. Good luck for the next level of competition at Waipuna.

### Rippa Rugby

Two teams from St. Mary's School competed last week as 'Italy' in the Rippa Rugby World Cup at Blake Park. Both teams played well in pool play, with the year 5/6 team making the Championship final in the afternoon, losing to Te Akau Ki Primary.

The year 3/4 team, lost their quarter final against Tauranga Primary, but enjoyed the rest of the day interacting with, and watching the NZ u20 All Blacks team and Chiefs Development players prepare for the afternoon rugby match.

Thank you to all the parents who were able to transport, and stay on throughout the day to support the players. A special mention to Warwick Jeffries and Kylie Aleksich for taking responsibility of the teams, and to Mrs McCarroll for visiting 'Italy' during the day.

Our senior team now progress to the Baywide finals day to be held at Paengaroa, playing other championship teams from Eastern and Central regions. Good luck!!

**Kellie Low**

**Sports Coordinator**



**Photos:** Rippa Rugby teams and St Mary's Cross Country



**WHEN:** Saturday 28th June 2014

**VENUE:** St Mary's School, Blessed Anne Marie Javouhey Centre (BAMJC)

**DOORS OPEN:** 6.30pm

**QUIZ STARTS:** 7.30pm

**with QUIZ MASTERS:**

**Bel & Brendon from 93.4 MORE FM's Breakfast Show**



**ENTRY:** \$20 per person  
Includes light supper & one drink

**CASH BAR:** Wine & Beer  
All proceeds to St Mary's (eftpos available)

**TEAMS:** Tables of ten  
Either create your own team, contact your class rep about putting together a team from your class, or we can organise some fantastic teammates for you...

**PRIZE for BEST DRESSED TABLE  
+ WINNING TEAM  
+ SPOT QUIZ WINNERS**



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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