



St Mary's
Catholic School
Tauranga

newsletter

ISSUE 8: 10 June 2015

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

Hi Mihi Nui Kia Koutou

To start on a sporting note, it is great to see so many St Mary's students involved in a range of sporting activities this term. These, of course, include our traditional winter codes but also many individual pursuits. We are half way through our cross country events this term, the weather playing it's part in allowing the South Cluster Cross Country to be completed last Thursday and now thirteen St Mary's students look forward to running at Western Bay level.

We will be completing our interim reporting on mathematics this term through a learning story and interim reported comment against progress towards national standards. As with the reading learning story in term one, this will be distributed in digital form. I have been able to sample a variety of learning stories completed to date and must applaud both students and teachers for the quality of the exemplar's and related learning conversations.

Samoan Assembly

I am sure for all that were present at our last school assembly you would have been extremely impressed by the performance of our Samoan Cultural Group. This group is a collection of people from within our school community, led by one of our parents, Afi Aaifou-Olive. The inclusion of this performance was a great way for us as a school to recognise Samoan Language week and further reinforce the importance of growing culturally responsive practice at St Mary's.

Catholic Conference

This week a representation of our school's leaders will be travelling to Wellington to attend the 2015 Catholic Education Convention. This convention is held every three years and is focused on the advancement of educational practice and enrichment of faith. It will showcase good practice in our schools and other educational activities. While a number of us are away at this conference Mrs Sally Washer will be acting Principal.

Pastoral Care Survey

Many thanks to all who completed the Pastoral Care Survey. It is great to see the many people from within our community who both recognise the importance of this as a school and are prepared to support it. We are currently working across our school, including the PTA, Board of Trustee members and members of staff to review

and refine systems of support with the aim of providing help where it is most needed and that is sustainable.

Parish School Mass

This Sunday will be celebrating this term's Parish School Mass and at this Mass our Sursum Corda Choir will be singing. It will be great to have as many parents, students and families at Mass this Sunday as possible, 10.30am at St Mary Immaculate.

Knowledge-A-Thon

A big thanks to our PTA and their army of volunteers for the work that has been put into this year's Knowledge-A-Thon. Congratulations to all students who worked hard gaining sponsors and collecting donations. While it is still a bit early to know exactly how much money our PTA has earned we are starting to see the classes and individuals who have made a big fundraising effort. We are hoping to recognise these people at our assembly.

Uniform

As the weather gets colder a reminder that acceptable additional layers include our fleece and soft shell jacket. Both these items have been designed to be worn in class if required. Should a further layer be required this can be worn under either the girls dress or boys polo. However, if this becomes visible it must be coloured white for the girls and black for boys and must not be visible above the neck line.

Shoes are required to be black leather with no additional colour or noticeable markings. Shoes of canvas construction or boots are not acceptable footwear. However, if your child currently has no other option then please provide a written note alerting to this fact with the time frame indicated.

Traffic Management

It is important that we remain aware of our obligations as road users when driving and parking around our school neighbourhood. As previously communicated please ensure your vehicle is parked appropriately in a designated space before stopping to pick up or drop off children. Unfortunately complaints from neighbours have increased recently due to parents once again parking on grass verges and across driveways.

Nga Mihi Nui
Ben Fuller
Principal

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2015 Dates to Remember

Sunday 14 June
School / Parish Mass 10am

Tuesday 16 June
WBoP Cross Country

Wednesday 17 June
10-A-Side Rugby 8.30am

Thursday 18 June
Room 13 Class Mass

Thursday 18 June
WBoP Cross Country postponement day

Friday 19 June
Impact Gym Competition

Friday 19 June
PTA Sausage Sizzle

Friday 19 June
Performance Day for Jump Jam and Hip Hop 1.30pm

Monday 22 June
Year 3 Funky Fun Day 9.30am - 2pm

Tuesday 23 June
BoP Cross Country

Wednesday 24 June
Year 4 Funky Fun Day 9.30am - 2pm

Wednesday 24 June
Room 6 Art Gallery visit 9.30am

Wednesday 24 June
Room 7 Art Gallery visit 11am

Thursday 25 June
Room 16V & 16W Class Mass

Thursday 25 June
Exposition / Benediction

Friday 26 June
PTA Disco from 6pm

Tuesday 30 June
BoT Meeting 6pm

Friday 3 July
Closing date for 2016 Aquinas College Enrolments

Friday 3 July
Room 10 Art Gallery visit 9.30

Friday 3 July
Room 8 Art Gallery visit 11am

Friday 3 July
Room 9 Art Gallery visit 12.45pm

Friday 3 July
Term 2 ends

Wednesday 8 July
Baptism Course St Mary Immaculate 7pm

Monday 20 July
Term 3 starts

Thursday 23 July
Room 16B & 16J Class Mass

Tuesday 28 July
Grandparents Day Liturgy 10am

Thursday 30 July
Room 6 Class Mass

be.
Christ-like

be.
reflective

be.
creative

SPECIAL CHARACTER

This Sunday the 14 June is our Parish /School Mass for the term.

At this Mass Father Mark will commission and bless our new PTA Executive and thank our outgoing PTA for the wonderful work and contribution they have given our St Mary's School Community.

Our Sursum Corda Choir will be singing.

We warmly invite and encourage all families to attend this Mass if possible. We ask students to wear their school uniform and sit with their families, with the exception of members of Sursum Corda.

We look forward to this very special Mass on Sunday. With thanks and God bless

Sally Washer
DRS

SCHOOL NEWS

Head Lice

Head lice may be present amongst children in your child's class. These insects are a nuisance and can be controlled or eradicated by families. Head lice crawl from head to head and may be passed on through shared objects such as hairbrushes and hats.

Anyone can 'catch' head lice. They are not a sign of poor hygiene, and they are not known to cause or spread other diseases.

Head lice can spread wherever groups of people work, play or live together. They usually occur amongst school children before spreading to adults in their families.

Although there is no sure way to prevent head lice, the problem can be managed effectively with proper use of the correct product, and regular hair checks.

We understand that sometimes these products can be expensive. We thank Mr Ben Van den Borst from My Pharmacy Papamoa Plaza who has donated Head Lice product to our school for families who can not afford the product or have problems with reoccurrence of lice. If you would like more information Ben would be happy to speak to you at My Pharmacy Papamoa Plaza, phone 572 0355.

Samoan Language Week

In the last week of May, New Zealand celebrated Samoan Language Week.

Samoan is the third most spoken language in New Zealand. Learning other languages gives us insight into the people, the culture and traditions of other countries and helps us to understand our own language and culture. Even speaking a word or two of another language is a good opportunity to expand our horizons.

At St Mary's School we had the wonderful opportunity to expand our horizons and participate in a performance by our local Samoan community.

Riley and Mariah Gardiner Hano reflect on the performance:

At the last Principal's Assembly, we celebrated Samoan Language Week. The Samoan group – Ella Aaifou-Olive, Riley, Mariah, Harlem and Khalia Gardiner Hano performed a siva (dance) and taught the school a sasa (clapping dance). We even got some of our teachers, our Deputy Principals and Sister Teresa to get up and dance too.

We hope you all had as much fun as we did! We were all so excited to be able to share our culture with you.

A very special thank you to Charlie and Ati Aaifou-Olive for teaching us our dance and supporting us.

Faafetai tele lava

Riley and Mariah Hano Gardiner



Ati Aaifou-Olive dances with the Teachers

PTA NEWS

Quiz Night is Coming!!

It's that time again for everyone to start thinking about getting a table together to show off your supreme knowledge and fancy dress skills.

This year's quiz is coming up on Saturday 1 August 2015, and we need some great ideas and keen people to join the Quiz Night subcommittee to help it become better and more successful than it always has been.

Anyone keen to be involved, please contact me. I'm always very, very keen to hear your thoughts and ideas.

Claire Stott; 021 073 0706

pitstott@vodafone.co.nz

Prizes needed please

If you have any products or services you can offer as prizes to be auctioned off on the Quiz Night, please start sending those in to the school office. We are all so very grateful for your support.

SPORTS NEWS

South Cluster Cross Country results

After a rainy week, and postponement, our St Mary's team finally took to the challenge of the Waipuna Park track last Thursday.

Congratulations to the following runners who placed in the top three for their year group;

Year 4 - Renee Carey 1st, Jack Williamson 3rd

Year 5 - Anna Tustin 3rd

Year 6 - Molly Cachemaille 2nd, Sean Curragh 2nd, Max Williamson 3rd

Other runners who have qualified for the WBoP Cross Country on Tuesday 16 June by finishing in the top seven are;

Destinee Benge, Rosalia Wisnewski, Thomas Richardson, Max Broadmore, Hugo McCarroll, Jasmine Watene and Joshua McCarroll.

Jack Quilty and Asa Banbury are first reserves.

A very special thanks to all the parents who helped on the day. Well done everyone - a St Mary's team effort all round.

Jump Jam Workshop

15 students went to Mount Maunganui Intermediate on Wednesday 10 June to attend a Jump Jam Leadership workshop run by Brett Fairweather (see photo below). They learnt a new routine and then each school group "led" the other children present. The students will now have a few more skills to be able to lead their fellow St Mary's students in Jump Jam sessions. The children were excited to hear that Brett was also going to have a close look at all those present to see if anyone might be good enough to feature on his next DVD.

GOLD GROUP SPONSOR

Are you financially smart?

Dad, where's my uniform?

Dad, have you made my lunch?

Dad, can you take me to school?

Dad, I've lost my notices Sound familiar! As a parent of two children at St Mary's Primary School, this is a regular morning conversation in our household. Niamh is Year 4 and Ciarán is Year 2 and while their morning routines can use a little improvement, they sometimes show a little more responsibility when it comes to money.

I'm Paul Manning, a director of BDO Tauranga providing accountancy, taxation, audit, insolvency and business advice to a range of clients and industries. We know that sitting down with your accountant to look at budgets, view month-end results and ponder future income doesn't excite many people. But, it's certainly exciting the ones we've been working with using the new real-time business advisory tool, 'CrunchBoards'.

It's a game-changer.

CrunchBoards is a visual tool of dashboards that provides decision-makers meaningful budgets with multiple scenarios, as well as providing awareness of trends and KPIs. Best of all, it gives businesses the ability to analyse data live - anytime, anywhere you're online giving instant access to relevant and critical data to show exactly how the business is performing now and a live business plan that shows you how to make your business better. That means businesses are deciding where to next; not just looking at where they have just been.

So, just how financially smart are you? Talk to me about a free demonstration of Crunchboards or any business advisory matter.

Phone 571-6280 or email Paul.manning@bdo.co.nz



South Cluster Cross Country



Jump Jammers with guru Brett Fairweather



Manning Family





St Mary's School 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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