



St Mary's
Catholic School
Tauranga

newsletter

ISSUE 10: 27 July 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

Kiaora Koutou e te Whanau o Hato Maria

Greetings to all St Mary's Families. Welcome to term 3 - one that poses much excitement, activity and opportunities in a range of areas. Information in regard to some of these I will expand on later. Last Monday we welcomed ten new students and their families to our school, some for the first time.

I personally look forward to sharing in the many activities and experiences that will make your time at St Mary's rewarding and successful.

New Board of Trustee Member

It is my pleasure to welcome and congratulate Mr Vincente (Vic) Villegas to our St Mary's Board of Trustees. Vic will join us as a representative of Bishop Steve (the proprietor). I am sure you will join me in welcoming Vic to this governance role and the future contributions of leadership to our school.

Assessment and Reporting

Our first reporting event of this term will be our Student Led Conferences in week 4. Student Led Conferences are now an established part of how we report to parents and one where students take a lead role. This is a process that we continue to refine and grow as a student centred reporting tool.

I mentioned last term that you are no doubt starting to see your child's eportfolio take shape and able to visually understand how each individual aspect will combine to form a record of learning, achievement and progress over their time at St Mary's. This term we will add a writing Learning Story and progress towards a National Standards comment to e portfolios which will complete both the provision of a learning exemplar in each core curriculum area and our interim reporting for 2015.

Student Led Conferences will be held on Wednesday 12 August and will be 45 minutes long.

Times available will include:

1.00 - 1.45 pm

1.45 - 2.30 pm

3.00 - 3.45 pm

3.45 - 4.30 pm

5.15 - 6.00 pm

Room 16J will have 10 minute Parent Teacher Interview times.

Please note that as in previous years, school will finish at 12.00 pm on this day and students will need to be collected from this time. Should students require supervision until 3.00pm this will be provided in the Blessed Anne Marie Javouhey Centre from 1.30 pm.

Students who have Student Led Conferences at either 1.00 pm or 1.45 pm will need to be collected 15 minutes prior to their conference time.

To book your conference time please go to;

www.schoolinterviews.co.nz

Event code: U5CDD

Event code: KSVCX (Room 16J only)

Investing in Educational Success (IES)

You may well have seen two recent media articles in relation to our school and the Government's current IES initiative. IES being the \$359 million investment the Government promoted as means to raising educational achievement in New Zealand. As a school we are focused on gaining as much benefit as possible for our school community inline with the initiative. We have done this through the following:

Faith Based Community of Schools: The premise behind Community of Schools is schools working together to raise student achievement by sharing expertise in teaching and learning and by supporting each other. We are currently working with eight other Catholic Schools in the Bay of Plenty and South Waikato area in the formation of this Faith Based Community, including St Thomas More and Aquinas College.

Teacher Led Innovation Fund: As a school we have been successful in gaining funding from an associated IES initiative. We are one of 72 schools nationally who have been provided with funding to undertake a specific innovation in regard to student learning.

The purpose of our innovative practice will be to further enhance the value of a 'Student Centered' approach to assessment and reporting in the online environment, with a particular focus on priority learners.

The objectives of the community are supported by the Government by way of various funding streams including additional teacher time and provision for professional learning development. The focus of the community is centered around key data driven achievement objectives pertinent to all schools.

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2015 Dates to Remember

Tuesday 28 July
Grandparents Day Liturgy 10am

Wednesday 29 July
French lessons resume

Thursday 30 July
Room 6 Class Mass

Thursday 30 July
Whanau Group Hui 6pm (BAMJC)

Friday 31 July
Onesie-PJ Mufti Day

Saturday 1 August
PTA Quiz Night

Tuesday 4 August (change of date)
Welcome to new children and new families Liturgy

Wednesday 5 August
Maths Parent Workshop

Thursday 6 August
Room 7 Class Mass

Thursday 6 August
Baptism course at St Thomas More 7pm

Tuesday 11 August
PTA Meeting

Wednesday 12 August
Student Led Conferences from 1pm

Friday 14 August
Whole School Mass (Church) 9.30am

Thursday 20 August
Room 8 Class Mass

Monday 24 August
Ski Championships

Tuesday 25 August
South Cluster 7's

Tuesday 25 August
Board of Trustee Meeting 6.00pm

Thursday 27 August
South Cluster 7's postponement date

Thursday 27 August
Room 9 Class Mass

Monday 31 August
Tauranga Music Festival

Tuesday 1 September
Year 5 & 6 Camp

Thursday 3 September
Room 16J Class Mass

Thursday 10 September
Class Mass Room 5

Sunday 13 September
School Parish Mass 10.30am

Wednesday 16 September
Maths Parent Workshop 5pm

Thursday 17 September
Room 4 Class Mass

Thursday 17 September
Exposition / Benediction

be.
Christ-like

be.
reflective

be.
creative

At present we are working with the Ministry of Education to have our achievement challenges endorsed prior to progressing to the resourcing stage. Exploration will occur across curriculum with a focus on creativity, communication, collaboration and spirituality. These are key dispositions of learning to be valued and enhance the child as a lifelong 21st century learner. I would personally like to congratulate and thank Mrs Janet McCarroll, Mrs Anna MacKinnon and Miss Jana Benson on the work they collectively put into the design and completion of the proposal.

After School Transport Arrangements

Thank you to those who are continuing to be both conscious and considerate of our community and its residents before and after school. However, following an incident last week I must also ask that you are vigilant in regard to your own children and have a clear understanding with them in regard to any arrangements that are made. Parents of junior students may wish to ensure teachers are also informed should there be a change of routine or arrangements, particularly in regard to children getting home from school.

Aroha Events and Activities

Our Aroha team has a number of events and activities this term that are sure to be exciting for all involved.

In week 7 this term they will attend a camp at Totara Springs that I am sure will challenge all students and maybe some parents and teachers too!

On the evening of Monday 31 August they will all be participating in the Tauranga Music Festival's opening night.

Our annual South Cluster Winter Sports tournament is scheduled for later in the term followed by further opportunity for those teams that go on to Western Bay of Plenty level.

I am certainly looking forward to sharing in the success of our senior students this term.

Nga Mihi Nui

Ben Fuller
Principal

SPECIAL CHARACTER

Our term began last Monday with a Liturgy to celebrate the Feast Day of Blessed Anne Marie Javouhey which occurred on July 15th in the school holidays. As a school we are enormously grateful for the charism given to us by our Cluny Sisters through their foundress Blessed Anne Marie Javouhey. We pray and hope that this charism always remains alive and strong in our school. Father Mark came and led the Liturgy and we were delighted to have Sister Alison and Sister Teresia present.

During the Liturgy we launched our very own St Mary's School Prayer which has been endorsed by our Board of Trustees. This prayer has been the result of Professional Development which the staff have undertaken with Father Mark. From discussion and ascertaining what is fundamental to our core beliefs as Catholics and based on our charism Father Mark has composed our beautiful St Mary's School Prayer. We

encourage you to pray this prayer with your children and talk about its meaning with them.

Our St Mary's Catholic School Prayer
God of Love,

with prayerful hearts we turn to you –

may we live in your truth always,

showing mercy to those in need,

sharing our faith with others,

and growing in the wisdom of your Holy Spirit.

Inspired by Blessed Anne-Marie,

and with willing hands,

may we do a little good this day –

all for the glory of you, our Creator.

We make this prayer

through the intercession of Mary, our Mother,

St Joseph,

and, as always,

through Christ Jesus, your Son, our Lord.

AMEN.

Grandparent Liturgy

On Sunday the Church celebrated the Feast Day of Joachim and Anne, the Grandparents of Jesus.

We are looking forward to our Grandparent Liturgy this Tuesday where we will thank God for the gift of our Grandparents, for their love for us and our love for them and the very special and important part they play in the lives of their grandchildren.

New students and new families Liturgy

This will be held next Tuesday 4 August at 10am in the Blessed Anne Marie Javouhey Centre. All members of our community are very welcome to come to this and stay for morning tea following the Liturgy.

With kind regards and God bless

Sally Washer
DRS

SCHOOL NEWS



Art Week, 21-25 September 2015

At St Mary's we have cultures from around the world and this term classes will be focusing on art based projects around the theme of Culture Diversity. In Week 10 of this term we will have a celebration of Art and Culture, with visiting artists, workshops and art gallery visits. The highlight of the week will be the student art exhibition, which all students with contribute to.

For this to happen we need your help!

-Do you know a local artist who might be interested in visiting our school?

-Do you know someone who could take small workshops to create ethnic craft? For example origami, flax flowers

-Can you assist classroom teachers with cutting and mounting of artwork?

-Are you able to help with setting up of the exhibition on Monday 21st September?

If you can help with any of these, please email Laura Grace with your contact details.

lgrace@stmmarysga.school.nz

School Lunches

Pita Pit - Thursday

Pita pockets from \$4.50. Envelopes are available from the school office and orders must be recieved no later than 9am, Thursday morning.

La Brioche - Friday

Please write your order on an envelope and place the money inside. Orders must be in to the school office no later than 9am, Friday morning. The menu is available from our school office.

PTA NEWS

Quiz Night

Missed out on Quiz night tickets but would still like to be part of an amazing night of fun and fundraising for our School? We are looking for helpers for the night, there is not much work involved and loads of fun in the process!

As always, some of our amazing PTA and friends have already offered to help on the night, but to truly make this night successful we need some more help from our parent community.

1. Helpers

We're hoping there may be some people who might be able to offer their assistance in the following areas to help us prepare, run and clean up for the night. If you're available at all, even for an hour, please let the Quiz Helper co-ordinators Tammy McGrory (mike.tam@xtra.co.nz) or Lee Roper (lee.rop@xtra.co.nz) know your contact details and availability and we'll be forever grateful.....

**** Thursday 30th July - 9am - Need 4-6 people to help sort prizes/wrap prizes etc.**

**** Friday 31st July - Helpers - from 3.00pm - we need approx 8-10 people to help set up tables etc. would be great to have some artists who can do table numbers etc on each table. We are limited with space due to after School care so this will only be 1-2 hours.**

**** Saturday 1st August - 12.00-3.00pm - Need 10-12 helpers to continue with set up, bar set up, kitchen set up etc. The more the merrier..**

**** On the night 6.00pm - 11pm we are looking for;**

- Four runners who'd help collect cash from the tables, sell answers, distribute and collect food platters, tidy and clear empties, restock the bar, and anything else the chief needs on the night. This is a

lot of fun and we make a lot of money from people buying answers!

- A couple of kitchen staff to help set out platters, do the dishes, deliver food to tables etc.

- Over the past few years we have had Simone as our marker but this year she is enjoying herself on a table so we need someone to collate all answer sheets and two helpers. Someone with good computer skills would be helpful!

**** Sunday 2nd August - 10.00am - Need as many hands on deck for clean up, usually only takes a couple of hours.**

2. Prize Donations

We have had some great prizes donated but we are always wanting more to sell off for silent auctions (eg. Holiday bach for the weekend, gift vouchers etc), items for the "It's in the Bag" or spot prizes etc (eg. lovely wine, café vouchers, beauty products etc) we'd love to receive as well.

Don't forget, all money raised on Quiz night goes to benefit every child at St Mary's School! If you are coming to this amazing event an hour of your time setting up or breaking down would be extremely valuable!

If you did miss out on tickets but are still hoping for a miracle, let us know your name and number in case anyone from a table can't come on the night: we'll set up a waiting list and if there are unexpected spots available you'll get first dibs!

As always, thanks so much for your support in making this a fabulous, memorable fundraising night for our school children every year!

The Quiz Night Team

PARISH NEWS

Priest, Prophet, King - DVD Series

The Parish of St Thomas Aquinas invites you to join with other members of the local Catholic community this August to deepen your relationship with Jesus Christ through Fr. Robert Barron's new DVD-based Study Program: Priest, Prophet, King

These 90-minute weekly study sessions start 4/5 August and run for three weeks at three different times and locations. See the flyer enclosed for details or email parishevents2015@gmail.com for more information.

Want to know more about the Catholic Faith?

Then"Come and See" (John 1:39)

Have you ever thought.. I am baptised, but know little about Christianity or Church. I have never been baptised, but would like to know more. I want to ask my partner (husband/wife) or a friend to join the Church but don't know where to go. How can I better support my children at a Catholic School. Then 'Come and See'. We meet Tuesday evenings, 7.30pm at St Marys Immaculate Parish Centre. Start Date for next program - 4 August 2015. Ph Ans Weber on 577 0997 or 027 2417012 or Glennis Cleaver on 543 0747 or 027 2411959.

SPORTS NEWS

WBoP Miniball World Cup

At the end of term 2 some students participated in the WBoP Miniball World Cup. Well done to all who played with some great results, and excellent sportsmanship. It was a fun day and the players did really well both on and off the court.

Our year 5/6 team finished 11th, after three wins and two losses. Our year 3/4 team finished 3rd, winning all their games except their semi final.

Along with their bronze medals, this team also won a prize (a basketball each) for their team uniform, created by creative genius Mrs Gilbert. Go Russia!! A big thanks to Mr Schuler, Mrs Fausett, Mrs Bell and Mrs Mackay who helped the teams. A special mention to Jake Bell who made the tournament team for year 3/4.

Another wonderful St Mary's day out!



Impact Gymsports Success

The final Gymsport competition for the year for primary schools brought further success for our St Mary's team. Our club level girls dominated the podium with outstanding performances in both gymnastics and tumbling. In the respective disciplines, Sophie Summerville finished 1st= and 3rd, Tayliyah Carter 1st= and 2nd, India Jarden 3rd and 1st, and Jasmine Watene 4th in both. Arli Robertson secured gold in the boys' division, while Isla Wills won gold in the junior division. Dorim Kim took 4th place in the girls' novice. Other team members Selena Dobbs, Cullan Fuller, Sean Curragh and Sylvester Green performed very well on the day to contribute to overall team points.

Well done, once again, to our wonderful coach Mrs Charly Watene. Your guidance and instruction of our gym team is appreciated greatly. Thank you so much for your valuable time.

Football representatives

Football fever is alive and well in the Wakelin household. Year 5 student Tash Wakelin has been named in the WBoP 11th grade team. Good luck for the representative season ahead...we wish you all the best.

Basketball representatives

Jean-Luc and Jacob Ormrod both played for the Tauranga City Basketball Association U12 Boy's A team at the Waihi U12s Basketball tournament yesterday. TCBA U12 Boy's A team won the tournament. We are very proud of them for representing Tauranga. They played extremely well.

Kellie Low
Sports Coordinator



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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