



St Mary's
Catholic School
Tauranga

newsletter

ISSUE 6: 20 June 2016

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

Greetings to all members of our St Mary's community and particularly a warm welcome to Ian Yun, Lorenzo Goldstone, Tyla Beck, Venice Abasolo, Tom Lee and Rina Lee.

May I first convey my thanks for the contribution all made towards the success of our Trek to the Top musical production. In reflecting on the week of performances there is possibly no better way to bring a school community together in celebration of student achievement.

The focus of education in New Zealand is very much centred on academic achievement and in the primary sector, achievement specifically in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. You will not hear me say that this is not important. However, after witnessing the artistic expression portrayed by our amazing students during Trek to the Top journey, I will definitely continue to advocate for the incorporation of a range of opportunities for children to experience success.

A special mention must go to the outstanding husband and wife Gobsmacked team of Patrice and Dion Williamson. Congratulations to you both. My heartfelt thanks to my staff for your passion and support of the production. In particular a special thank you to Pip Berquist for your fantastic leadership in our Trek to the Top.

Samoan Language Week

We were lucky to have the opportunity as a school to move from an amazing show week straight into a celebration of Samoan language and culture thanks to the work of the parents in our recently formed Pasifika group. It was great to have parents come into our classes to teach our children some Samoan language and expose us all to aspects of Samoan culture. The week culminated in a fantastic celebration assembly led by the Pasifika group. My thanks on behalf of our community for all the work that went into the many facets of the week.

School / Parish Mass

It was great to see so many students and families at our recently held school parish Mass. This is a termly event that all should look forward to and make themselves available for. My thanks to Fr Edwin for saying Mass for us and to all who contributed to the liturgy. I was heard to say that I think our Susum Chorda Choir is sounding as good if not better than they ever

have! Well done Mrs Washer and Mrs Driver for the way these children are prepared for each occasion.

Board of Trustee Elections

My thanks to all who took the time to make an informed voting selection in our recent Board of Trustee elections. Those elected members now have the challenge of continuing to guide and govern the strategic direction of our school. Again my thanks to departing trustees of Kelly Quin, Scott Brodie, Shirley-Marie Whata-Coffin, Amy Rogers, Steve Curtis and Gavin Hesqua, and my congratulations to those who have been duly elected. I look forward to working with you all for the betterment of educational opportunities at St Mary's Catholic School.

Those elected trustees being:

Shem Banbury; Antoine Coffin; Shay Hulsebosch; Claire Stott; Anne Young; Donna Vincent (staff representative).

Science Extravaganza

At the conclusion of our show week we were privileged to witness a Science Extravaganza Show presented by renowned biologist Siouxsie Wiles. We were also privileged to host both Merivale and Bellevue Schools who joined us for a morning tea provided by Taylor Bros. The extravaganza was a great insight into the potential of science for our children, with the time spent with tamariki from other kura equally as valuable.

Traffic Safety

The safety of our students on and around our school grounds is paramount. I therefore request that all parents take due care and diligence in respect to parking around our school. Please do not park in the bus stop and if required to park opposite the school on 13th Avenue, I ask that you meet your child/ren on the school side first before escorting them over the road. Do NOT drive your car into the school grounds to drop off or pick up a child unless special permission has been granted.

I also ask that you are courteous of residents who are essentially the schools neighbours. Parking on grass verges or across driveways is definitely not appropriate and should be avoided.

Ben Fuller
Principal

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2016 Dates to Remember

Wednesday 22 June

- Wig Wednesday
- WBoP Cross Country

Thursday 23 June

- Room 13 Class Mass 9am
- Aroha Team Meeting 5pm
- Tauranga Moana Catholic Schools Whanau Group Meeting held at Aquinas College 6pm

Friday 24 June

WBoP Cross Country postponement date

Tuesday 28 June

- PTA Math-a-thon
- BoP Cross Country
- Board of Trustee Meeting 6pm

Wednesday 29 June

Hip Hop & Jump Jam performance 12.30pm

Thursday 30 June

- Room 5 Class Mass 9am
- Exposition 9.30am
- Benediction 2pm

Friday 1 July

PTA Disco 6pm - 7pm or 7.15pm - 8.30pm

Monday 4 July

Maori Language Week

Wednesday 6 July

- Room 16 Art Gallery visit 9.30am
- Room 15 Art Gallery visit 11am
- Room 14 Art Gallery visit 12.45pm

Thursday 7 July

Room 16 Class Mass 9am

Friday 8 July

Term 2 ends 2.55pm

Monday 25 July

- Term 3 starts
- Liturgy to celebrate the Feast Day of Blessed Anne Marie Javouhey

Tuesday 26 July

Board of Trustee Meeting 6pm

Thursday 28 July

Room 10 Class Mass 9am

Monday 1 August

Cook Islands Language Week

Tuesday 2 August

Grandparents Liturgy 10am

Thursday 4 August

Room 9 Class Mass

Tuesday 9 August

- Welcome liturgy for new children and new families
- PTA Meeting 7pm

Friday 12 August

School Mass 9.30am (Church)

Monday 15 August

Feast of the Assumption

be.
Christ-like

be.
reflective

be.
creative

SPECIAL CHARACTER

Blessing of our Atrium

Over the past fortnight we had Father Edwin bless our new Atrium. He was impressed by what was available for our juniors and the learning that takes place. We have four wonderful volunteers who teach according to the Montessori pedagogy. Our young students are able to physically handle the items on the little altar and learn all about the the liturgical year in this new peaceful and calm space above Rooms 14 and 15.

Parish School Mass

On Sunday 12 June we had our School Parish Mass. I would like to thank you for your support of our Special Character. Sursum Corda sang like angels and surprised us with some beautiful soloists who lead the choir confidently.

Wig Wednesday

This term we are supporting the Child Cancer Foundation in their endeavour to raise funds with their national Wig Wednesday on the 22 June. A gold coin donation to raise funds for this event is requested. We encourage you to participate by being creative. Wigs don't have to be purchased, they can be homemade from paper or other materials. The Young Vinnies will also be selling small morning tea items, eg: cupcake, biscuits etc. Baking will cost between 50c and \$1. Ice blocks will be available at lunchtime at a cost of \$2. This money will also go to the Child Cancer Foundation.

God Bless and have a great week.

Gavin Hesqua
Acting DRS

SCHOOL NEWS

Baby Baskets for Merivale School

The Young Vinnies have been working with Pamela Silva from the St Vincent de Paul Society to create baby baskets. The students have helped to pack, into laundry baskets, items suitable for boys and girls aged Newborn to 3 months, 3-6 months, 6-9 months and 9-12 months. The money we raised from the cup cake sale, last term, has been used to purchase these items. We hope to visit Merivale School towards the end of this term to present the baskets to the school community.

Merivale School

The Merivale School community are still seeking donations of kitchen items, bedding and towels. If you are having a sort out and you would like to donate

these items, please do so at the St Vincent de Paul shops in Cameron Road, near 16th Avenue or at the Greerton shop on Chadwick Road. Otherwise you can bring them into school and I will arrange delivery to the school or you can deliver the items directly to the Merivale school office, Kesteven Avenue, which is the road alongside the Merivale shops.

Holy Communion and Confirmation

On Sunday 29 May 70 young people from our St Thomas Aquinas Parish received the Sacrament of Confirmation and Holy Communion for the first time. Many of those children were from St Mary's School. Bishop Steve led us in the most beautiful Mass along with Father Mark, Father Edwin and Father Brian and we were so proud of our children. We were proud of how they had prepared for the day and how they conducted themselves at this most special celebration. They looked absolutely gorgeous as well!! We hope and pray that this is the beginning of a lifelong commitment to them meeting and receiving Jesus in the precious gift of the Eucharist. The children all took away from the day many things including an onion. Here is a beautiful summary from one of our children about the significance of the onion " The onions were a sign to symbolize faith. Onions bring flavour to food, but faith brings flavour to life. You must never forget about the flavour of faith. The flavour of faith is the Holy Spirit, it brings the flavour to life of all who have received it."

A huge thank you to all those staff and members of our parish community involved with the teaching, administration and running of the programme, for the Mass itself and for the Communion Breakfast – an outstanding team effort which resulted in the most wonderful and memorable day.

Photos can be viewed at <http://snaphappy.co.nz/fhpage.html> and will be online from Friday 24 June.



CLASSROOM NEWS

Aroha Team Digital Technologies

This Thursday 23 June, you are all invited to attend an informal meeting with all Aroha teachers in the BAMJC, regarding how we are using digital devices to enhance learning for your children.

We would like the opportunity to share with you how we are specifically using Digital Technologies daily with all of our Aroha students to engage them in class. One of these initiatives is Blogger, and how blogging allows the students to reflect and share their learning successes safely in an online environment. We are also using an excellent online Maths initiative called 'Maths Hub', and would like to share how this is also supporting your child and their Mathematics learning.

You are welcome to email your child's classroom teacher with questions you may have around technology use in the Senior School, so we can ensure we build this into our presentation. All questions are warmly invited!

Following our presentation there will be time for any final questions, should you have any. The session will begin @ 5.00pm in the BAMJC.

PTA NEWS

Math-a-thon

All students should have received their sponsorship forms and information in regards to the Math-a-thon being held on Tuesday 28 June. This is a great way to fundraise for our school while learning our basic facts.

Quiz Night

Our famous Quiz night is planned for Saturday 3 September! This is one night on the School calendar that should not be missed! We are already looking for silent auction prizes so please contact us on pta@stmarysga.school.nz if you would like to donate.

Fireworks

The St Marys PTA wish to thank our school community for their continued support of our fundraising efforts. Traditionally the PTA run the Fireworks fundraiser every year. This year we have decided to take a break from organising this event, we understand there will be a great deal of disappointment however this amazing fundraiser is a huge amount of work and planning and at this point we are unable to make it happen. However we are already talking about Fireworks 2017, the event will be back bigger and better. We would love to hear from anyone who would like to be part of the Fireworks 2017 subcommittee, please email pta@stmarysga.school.nz

Disco

Come along in your crazy hat and have a boogie! Glow things, potato chips, lollies and drinks for sale. Admission: \$2 which includes a free glow stick (exact change is ideal to enable quick entry on this cold night). Prizes for the Craziest Hats!
Date: Friday 1st July 2016
Year 4 students can go to either session BUT NOT both
Session 1: 6 – 7pm Years 0-3
Doors open only at 5.50pm
Session 2: 7:15 – 8:30pm Years 5-6

SPORTS NEWS

St Mary's Cross Country

The day dawned a little grey and overcast but this was not enough to dampen the spirits of the children who had all been training hard over the weeks leading up to Cross Country. The weather held and the first place was hotly contested across all age groups.

I would like to say a big thank you to all who helped out around the course, without your support the day would not have been the success it was.

Girls

Year 1

1st Lotte Jones
2nd Aja Nix
3rd Grace Raymond

Year 2

1st Areta Kahura
2nd Cleo Sands
3rd Ashleigh Taitumu- Boot

Year 3

1st Eva Jeffries
2nd Amelia Muller
3rd Olivia Williamson

Year 4

1st Emma Rogers
2nd Holly Faussett
3rd Eliana Hulesbosch

Year 5

1st Renee Carey
2nd Stella Roper
3rd Rozalia Wisniewski

Year 6

1st Anna Tustin
2nd Myscha Barry
3rd Emma Thornton

Boys

Matthew Rogers
Matthew Robinson
Quinn Downes

Sydney Orchard
Josh Faussett
Oliver Laurie

Austin Roper
Ciaran Manning
Eli Banbury

Will Quin
Aidan Dobbs
Finn Curragh

Jack Williamson
Max Broadmore
Darcy Gilbert

Zach Quin
Scott Breebaart
Hugo McCarroll

Girls Overall Champion Renee Carey

Boys Overall Champion Zach Quin

South Cluster Cross Country

This year St Mary's sent a team of 42 runners to the South Cluster cross Country held at Waipuna Park. It was a glorious day, and there was a buzz of excitement on board the bus.

Up against some very tough competition our runners performed incredibly well, taking out a number of podium finishes. With the top 7 runners in each age group progressing through to the Western Bay Champs. A very special congratulations to Renee Carey who placed first in her year group. Well done Renee!

Year 4 Girls - Holly Faussett 2nd and Emma Rogers 4th

Year 4 Boys - Will Quin 2nd, Finn Curragh 6th, Aidan Dobbs 7th

Year 5 Girls - Renee Carey 1st

Year 5 Boys - Max Broadmore 4th and Darcy Gilbert 7th

Year 6 Girls - Anna Tustin 7th

Year 6 Boys - Hugo McCarroll 2nd, Scott Breebaart

6th and Zach Quin 7th. We wish these runners all the best for Western Bay Champs.

St Marys Gymnastics Team for 2016

For the last 6 months 18 children from year 3-6 have been practising every Wednesday morning for the annual Argos and Impact Gymsports competition.

They have spent many hours learning and perfecting their routine for the Beam, Floor, Vault, Trampoline and Mat. On the 3rd and 17th of June we competed and were judged in these two competitions.

The results were:

Jai McGarva - 6th overall for Artistic Gymnastics

Isla Wills - 1st overall for Trampoline, 1st overall for Artistic Gymnastics, 3rd overall for Artistic Gymnastics at Impact Gymsports competition

Sophie Hooper - Placed 6th overall for Artistic Gymnastics

Zac Carey - Placed 6th overall for Trampoline

Jai McGarva, Sylvester Green and Ned Shaw – placed 2nd team overall.

Congratulations to all our amazing gymnasts for achieving great scores, medals and for representing St Marys School with such pride. Awesome work !

Megan Wills Gymnastic Coach 2016

Rippa Rugby

St Mary's School was well represented at the Western Bay of Plenty Rippa Rugby World Cup on 27 May 2016 at Blake Park.

We had two teams, a year 5/6 team and a year 3/4 team, both who played under the country of Belgium.

The children played with pride and determination and had a great day displaying their rippa rugby skills. Despite being extremely competitive the year 5/6 team were unable to progress past pool play amongst tough competition. The year 3/4 team were undefeated in pool play and were only beaten by eventual winners Papamoa in the semi final.

This top 4 finish ensured the team would go on to the next level to compete at the Bay of Plenty World Cup held at Paengaroa two weeks later. The team trained hard and proudly represented St Marys School. Throughout the day the team demonstrated wonderful team work and some brilliant individual flair. They impressively won 3 games and lost 1 in pool play to again reach the semi finals. Despite giving it all they had the team lost to eventual winners Kawerau.

Coming in the top four in the Bay of Plenty is a massive achievement for this young team. Watch this space in years to come!

Amy Rogers

Congratulations to...

Tash Wakelin from Room 8 who has made it into the Football U12 WBOP representative team. Awesome Tash!



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

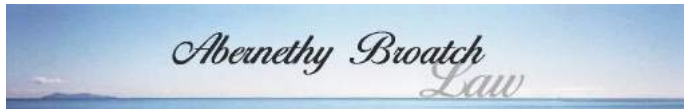


Our People Our Place

be. thankful

oxforddictionaries.com / thankful.

adj: 1. pleased and relieved. 2. expressing gratitude.



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