



St Mary's
Catholic School
Tauranga

newsletter

ISSUE 1: 12 February 2018

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

Tena Koutou Katoa

Nga mihi nui ki te tau hou

It is exciting to be back at St Mary's with teachers, students and parents. May I bid a special word of welcome to any new students and families to our community. We particularly welcome Adrian Adelaide, Cody Blythe, Nadya Broadbent, William Crowe, Jonathan Dalton, Tohu Edwards, Ngahere Edwards, Adelia Elphick, Dylan Harris, Indee Holden, Summer-Ann Joseph, Reef Joseph, Jacob Kleinsmith, Seung Lee, Sennen Legayada, Kate Levis, Holy McElroy, Emma Mischewski, Rohan Moby, Vanessa Moncreiff, Johaan Paul, Rebecca Ryder, Tayla Setefano, Prince Sobiaco, Evelyn Strange, Lily Te Pairi-Bradshaw, Blair Trow, Elliot Tunney, Frankie Willers and Liwoo Yang. Greetings to you all. I look forward to sharing in the success of your children as they progress through the coming years. I also look forward to interacting with you as members of our community. There are many events within, and involving our community in the coming weeks so please make the most of the opportunity to be informed and a part of our learning here at St Mary's.

With the Easter season upon us we will be holding our Ash Wednesday liturgy in our Blessed Anne Marie Javouhey Center, this Wednesday at 10am. Parents and members of our community are most welcome to join us.

We have two learning related events that I would like to draw your attention to. Firstly our learning team information afternoon starting from 3.45pm this Thursday and our individual meet the teacher opportunity next Tuesday 20 February. Please check our website and / or other sources of communication for details of these and other events.

This year proves to be an exciting time within education. With requirements to assess children against set standards removed by our new government we can focus more on the assessment, growth and reporting of the wider development of our students. I hope to focus more on aspects such as dispositions to and of learning as well as social interaction skills and growth within future reporting formats. Our core subjects are still of course a priority, with progress to be mapped against curriculum progressions and expectations.

New Teachers to St Mary's

Due to retirement, promotion and staff leave we welcome a number of new teachers to our community at this time. Mrs Ayn Harris has been appointed to the position of Assistant Principal. Ayn comes from a team leaders position at Arataki. Mrs Tania Yorke joins the leadership of our Whakapono team having previously taught at Papamoa College, Mount Intermediate School and Tauriko. Another new leader to our professional team is Miss Jasmine Mattock who returns to New Zealand after experiences in the UK. Within our Aroha Team we welcome Mrs Angela Cochrane who has come to us from Pyes Pa Primary and Miss Adele Mayall who is both a beginning teacher and an old girl of St Mary's. I am sure you will join me in welcoming them to our school.

Absences

A reminder that if your child is absent from school, please notify the school office by phone or text before 9.00am on the morning of the absence. The school absentee mobile number is: 021 2969437.

When a child returns to school after an absence please give a written explanation to his/her classroom teacher.

Arriving late to school

If your child has an appointment and is going to be late to school then a call or text to the office is much appreciated. Then, when you arrive at school you must come through the school office to sign your child in.

Signing in and out - Health and Safety

If, for whatever reason you are going to be on the school grounds, then please come through the school office to digitally sign in and out. If you are taking your child out of school early then please, also come through the school office to sign out.

Traffic Safety

The safety of our students is paramount. We therefore request that all parents take due care and diligence in respect to driving and parking around our school. The best place during summer months to drop off and collect children is our Harvey Street boundary. If this is not possible please remember that no child should be left to cross roads by themselves after being dropped at school.

Ben Fuller
Principal

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www.stmarystga.school.nz

2018 Term Dates

Tuesday 13 February

- Whakapono Art Gallery 9-12.30pm
- Aroha Swimming Sports (postponed)
- PTA Meeting 7pm

Wednesday 14 February

Ash Wednesday Liturgy 10am

Thursday 15 February

- Aroha Tahi Omanu Beach Day
- Parent Information Afternoon from 3.15pm

Friday 16 February

Aroha Rua Omanu Beach Day

Monday 19 February

- Seesaw session for parents 9.00am
- Aroha Swimming Sports

Tuesday 20 February

- Welcome to new children and new families Liturgy 10am
- School will close at 12.30pm for the Meet the Teacher Afternoon

Wednesday 21 February

Pono Tahi Beach Education 9.30am

Thursday 22 February

- Aroha Team Class Mass 9am
- Aroha Tahi ELMs and Marae visit
- Pono Rua Beach Education 9.30am

Friday 23 February

- Aroha Rua ELMs and Marae visit

Monday 26 February

Liturgy - Caritas 9am

Wednesday 28 February

Board of Trustee Meeting 6pm

Thursday 1 March

Aroha Team Class Mass

Tuesday 6 March

South Cluster Swimming Sports

Wednesday 7 March

Aroha Art Gallery visit

Thursday 8 March

- Aroha Team Class Mass 9am
- Aroha Art Gallery visit

Sunday 11 March

School Parish Mass 10.30am

Monday 12 March

Liturgy - Pompallier, Viard, Ryan and Cluny - School Houses

Tuesday 13 March

PTA Meeting 7pm

Monday 19 March

Liturgy - St Joseph / St Patrick - Cluny Liturgy 9am

Thursday 22 March

- Aroha Team Class Mass 9am
- Benediction 2pm

Friday 23 March

- Liturgy - Palm Sunday 9am
- PTA Outdoor Adventure Day postponement date

be.
Christ-like

be.
reflective

be.
creative

SPECIAL CHARACTER

Kia ora and welcome to 2018. As a school we started the year with our welcome back to school liturgy where we also celebrated Waitangi Day. Lent on the preparation for Easter commences this week.

School Masses start in week three. As well as masses in the chapel every whanau group will be responsible for a Monday morning liturgy where children will actively participate and lead school liturgies.

I am looking forward to another year sharing your child and families faith journey.

If you have any questions in regards to our Catholic character and Religious Education Curriculum please contact me: trush@stmarystga.school.nz

Religious Education Curriculum - Term 1 2018.
"Who in the world needs our hope and help?"

This question will be the focus question for the term.

In classrooms this year students will be involved with the Caritas Lent Unit.



The theme for Lent 2018 is inspired by a quote from Suzanne Aubert: 'Let us go together'. We are personally called to go on a journey - with each other and with God. In the course of the journey we are changed and we change the world around us.

Let us go together: Journeying to peace and hope in Timor-Leste is the title of the unit which features stories from communities in Timor-Leste that highlight both challenges and transformation. Key themes include peace, reconciliation, overcoming poverty and empowering women.

As part of the classroom teaching students will be actively involved in coming up with fundraising activities which they will plan and carry out to raise funds for the Caritas Lent appeal.

Lent - Te Wa o Reneti

The 2018 Message of Pope Francis for Lent is titled "Because of the increase of iniquity, the love of many will grow cold" (Matthew 24:12). In his message, the Holy Father invites the entire Church to experience this time of grace anew, with joy and in truth. "Above all, I urge the members of the Church to take up the Lenten journey with enthusiasm, sustained by almsgiving, fasting and prayer. If, at times, the flame of charity seems to die in our own hearts, know that this is never the case in the heart of God! He constantly gives us a chance to begin loving anew."

What is lent?

Forty days of intense preparation for the renewal of baptism.

Lent is a preparation for the celebration of Easter.

Lent lasts for forty days, which commemorates the

forty days Jesus spent in the desert, and the forty years the Israelites spent in the desert. (The six Sundays of Lent are not included in the calculation of the forty days.)



On Ash Wednesday (14 February) students will receive a mark on their forehead made with ashes as a reminder to "turn away from sin and follow the Gospel". The ashes symbolise our mortality and need for the mercy of God.

Prayer, fasting and almsgiving or good works are the traditional activities of Lent. During this time we reflect on the salvation won for us by Jesus Christ through his suffering, death and resurrection, and on the events which led up to his death. Lent is a time for self-examination and repentance, as we strive to conform our lives more closely to Christ.

The liturgical colours of Lent are violet or purple.

How can families embrace Lent?

Follow this link to find out more about what you can do to embrace Lent as a family. <http://bit.ly/2BQA4IZ>

"Catholic families have a unique and precious opportunity to share with their growing (and grown!) children the beauty and importance of the Lenten Season. By instilling in our children a sense of love and anticipation during Lent."

What can we do during lent?

Similar to the Advent calendar Caritas has a brilliant Lent Calendar which gives simple ideas of what we can do daily as we journey through Lent. Find the calendar link here <http://bit.ly/2nTGNmC>

Welcome liturgy Tuesday 20 February

On Tuesday 20 February at 10am there will be a liturgy in the Blessed Anne Marie Javouhey Centre (BAMJC) at 10am, to welcome all new children and new families to our St Mary's School Community. The liturgy is followed by morning tea. We hope to make you all feel very welcomed!

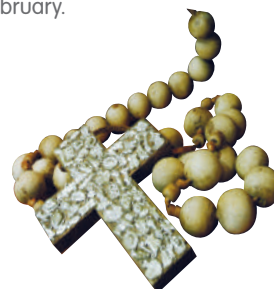
Sacramental Programme 2018

Reconciliation - Confirmation - Eucharist

This will be starting soon for baptised young people Year 5 and above - online registrations are now available on this link <http://bit.ly/2EwAD59> or through the parish website... Tauranga Moana Catholic :: Sacramental Programme 2018. The course will be taught at St Mary's Immaculate Church Monday afternoons.

If your child is not Baptised and would like to take part in the Sacrament Programme please contact Margie Cooper at the parish office for further information on having your child Baptised: 578 6209. Enrolments close Friday 16 February.

Teresa Rush
DRS



SCHOOL NEWS

Parent Information Meetings - Thursday 15th February 3:15pm - 5:15pm

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

On Thursday the 15th February we will be holding Parent information evenings within each hub. This is an opportunity for you to meet all of the hub teachers and hear important information about the expectations and procedures that each hub has.

The times will be as follows:

3:15 - Tika Team (New Entrant and Year 1)

3:45 - Maramatanga Team (Year 2)

4:15 - Whakapono Team (Year 3 & 4)

4:45 - Aroha Team (Year 5 & 6)

Meet the Teacher - Tuesday 20th February 1.00pm - 7.00pm

On Tuesday the 20th February we will be holding a Meet the Teacher afternoon/evening, which is an opportunity for you to have a conversation directly with your child's teacher. Each time slot (one per child) will be 10 minutes long and can be booked by going to :

www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and using the following code: **fhs3j**

Meetings for all New Entrants to school this year (Whanau Meehan) will be arranged individually with parents throughout the Term.

The emphasis of these meetings will be on you sharing your knowledge about your child. This is a great opportunity for you, as parents and whanau, to share your expectations, your child's interests, strengths, and learning needs and the knowledge you value.

Si Yeong Crowe will also be available on this day from 1.00pm - 5.00pm, for any parents of ESOL students wishing to make an appointment.

On this day, school will be closing at 12:30pm for all students, so please make arrangements to collect your child at this time. There will be no bus service or After School Care available on this day.

School Hours:

Monday to Friday: 8.50am – 2.55pm

Morning tea: 10.35am – 11.00am

Lunch: 12.30pm – 1.25pm

As a general rule, pupils should not be at school before 8.15am or after 3.30pm. Please ensure that your child is at school on time for the start of the school day. This gives the opportunity for a well prepared and settled beginning to classes.

Sun Safety

Although at time of writing the weather appears to be mixed, it is still summer and all students must have a school hat that needs to be worn when outdoors. Please ensure this is named and stays at school. It is also recommended that you apply sunscreen to your child each morning if required as further protection. We do have sunscreen available in classes should students require it.

Triple P Positive Parenting Programme

This programme is available for free to parents of children aged 3 - 7 years old. If you would like to learn more about positive parenting, please visit this site - Triple P Positive Parenting Programme.

<http://www.triplep-parenting.net.nz>

Seesaw



Seesaw is an online tool that allows your child to document their learning, be creative and learn how to use technology.

We want you to be an active participant in your child's learning journey so come along for a session on how to use this amazing tool. Whether you are an expert or novice at using Seesaw join us for a session on how to use Seesaw as a parent, come and learn some new skills to support your child's learning journey. You will be able to download the app, ask questions and get ready to link into your child's journal further into the term.

Where: Staffroom

On: Monday 19 February

Time: 9.00- 9.30 am

Here's to another amazing year learning together!

School App

St Mary's School has a Mobile App for notices, and other important school messages. To download the app for free on iPhone or Android search 'St Mary's Catholic School' in the app store, or use this link. <http://is.gd/8stOcd>.

Here are a few reasons why you should have the app.

Alerts - we can send you quick messages about events, buses running late, website updates, reminders, emergency notices etc.

Absentees - if your smartphone has the latest software update you can send a text message straight to your school absentee line by going through the absentee link on the app. There is also a direct link to our school phone number should you choose to ring in an absentee.

Events - our school calendar is being constantly updated. You will find dates to school trips, class/school/parish masses and other important dates under the events link on the app.

Notices - here you will find copies of all our newsletters and latest notices sent from our school office.

Links - you will find links to key websites relating to our school. Eg. St Mary's School website, St Mary Immaculate Church, Aquinas College, stationery, and buses services.

Contact - all staff email addresses can be accessed directly from here.

After School Care

We have an excellent After School Care service that operates from 2.55pm to 5.30pm every day of the school week in the Blessed Anne Marie Javouhey Centre. If you wish to find out more information regarding After School Care then please contact Shelley on **027 3102090** or email afterschoolcare@stmarystga.school.nz.

School Lunches

Every Thursday and Friday, commencing this week, we have school lunches delivered to our school.

Thursday: Sushi lunch - A selection of sushi rolls from \$5.00. Orders must be at the school office no later than Wednesday morning. Order forms are available from the school office.

Friday: La Brioche lunch - Check out our school website for menu options and prices. Write your child's name, order, whanau room, on an envelope with the correct money inside. Orders must be at the school office on Friday morning before 9am.

2018 Teaching Staff

Tika Team (Y0-1)

Janine Goldsmith - Team Leader
Joanne Meehan
Amber Simonson

Maramatanga Team (Y2)

Jasmine Mattock - Team Leader
Liz Driver
Teresa Rush

Pono Tahi (Y3-4)

Lisa Broadmore - Team Leader
Bryan Crowe
Catherine Wood
Randy Piceno

Pono Rua (Y3-4)

Tania Yorke - Team Leader
Suzanne Tanner
Lisa Walter
Randy Piceno

Aroha Tahi (Y5-6)

Megan Akkerman - Team Leader
Gerardin Robbie
Adele Mayall

Aroha Rua (Y5-6)

Megan Akkerman - Team Leader
Angela Cochrane
Gavin Hesqua

PTA NEWS

Our first PTA meeting of the year is this Tuesday 13 February at 7pm. A very warm invitation is extended to you all to come along new and existing parents.

Light refreshments will be provided.

Check out the below youtube link to see what we get up to. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qgV_zcfWB8



Our People Our Place

be. thankful

oxforddictionaries.com / thankful.

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

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