



St Mary's
Catholic School
Tauranga

newsletter

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

Welcome to Holy Week. This week is of course an extremely significant one for our Catholic School. Holy Week is of course when we follow the last week of Jesus' life on earth with us and anticipate his resurrection. However, the lead up to Easter Friday is a solemn one and we hope to reflect this through the daily liturgy and final stations of the cross on Thursday. It has been great to see the children of several classes involved in the organisation and performance of key liturgy.

A warm welcome to our new students....

Tara Lock, Sumatra Mark and Spencer McIntosh.

Thank the PTA for the Outdoor Adventure Day

I am going to throw it out there and suggest that the PTA Outdoor Adventure Day of 2018 would be one of the best yet. Looking around, watching kids and talking to parents it was clear that the objective of this day was clearly achieved. A fun event for our children and our community. It was great to see a full field in the parent and teachers race. For those of you who were there you would of noted that I was not very close to the front of the field but probably glad I wasn't given the injuries suffered by the front runners.



Our new Facebook page

We had some issues with our school facebook page earlier in the year but now have it up and running and bullet proof. I would encourage all to follow the great things that happen at St Mary's and keep informed through the link below.

www.facebook.com/stmarystga/

Lateness and Absence

We have concerns about frequent lateness and absence of some students at St Mary's.

Children are considered to have unsatisfactory attendance at school over the course of the year if they miss 16 days of school or 8% of their time at school.

This means that if a child has had 4 days off school in a term the school is concerned. 10% of a child's time at our school (Year 1 – Year 8) is 32 weeks (3 terms), and 20% is 64 weeks (6 terms) Children who are not at school do not learn as easily or with the same rate of progress as other children. Staff, parents, children and the community have responsibilities in this area.

If students experienced more than a day between one opportunity to interact with a new idea and a subsequent opportunity to interact with the new idea, then forgetting occurred and instructional opportunity was wasted. Alton-Lee, (2003)

Children's lunches and rubbish

As a parent I know the challenges in trying to ensure children have a good lunch to eat during the school day. This of course involves packing and wrapping food items. As you know in an effort to reduce our landfill rubbish as a school we ask that all food related rubbish is taken home. It is great in theory! Unfortunately we are finding a lot of zip lock plastic bags around our school site. If there is an alternative or a way that we can eliminate packaging all together I would encourage you to explore it.

**Ben Fuller
Principal**



For more photos go to...
www.facebook.com/stmarystga/

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www.stmarystga.school.nz

2018 Term Dates

Thursday 29 March

- **Liturgy - Crucifixion and Way of the Cross 9.30am & 11am**
- **Holy Thursday Mass / Sursum Corda**

Friday 30 March

Good Friday - school is closed

Sunday 1 April

End of Daylight Saving - turn clocks back one hour

Monday 2 April

Easter Monday - school is closed

Tuesday 3 April

Easter Tuesday - school is closed

Wednesday 4 April

Liturgy - Resurrection 9am

Friday 6 April

- **Whakapono Bake Sale for Caritas**
- **Principal's Assembly**

Monday 9 April

Liturgy - Annunciation 9am

Wednesday 11 April

WBoP Swimming Championships - date change

Thursday 12 April

Aroha Team Class Mass 9am

Friday 13 April

- **Principal's Assembly**
- **Term 1 ends**

Wednesday 25 April

Anzac Day

Monday 30 April

- **Term 2 starts**
- **Liturgy - Anzac Day 9am**

Thursday 3 May

Class Mass - Whanau Broadmore

Tuesday 8 May

New children and new families liturgy

Thursday 10 May

Class Mass - Bryan Crowe

Thursday 17 May

St Mary's Cross Country

Friday 18 May

Whole School Mass 9.30am (Church)

Sunday 20 May

Confirmation 2pm St Mary Immaculate

Thursday 24 May

Class Mass - Whanau Wood

Saturday 26 May

PTA Quiz Night

be.
Christ-like

be.
reflective

be.
creative

SPECIAL CHARACTER

Congratulations to our students who made their First Reconciliation last Friday at Church and today at School. Reconciliation: Forgiveness of Sins, A graced encounter with God.

In the Sacrament of Reconciliation we acknowledge that we sometimes make bad choices; that we sin and ask God to forgive us. No matter what we have done God longs to offer us forgiveness.

Easter - Te Wa o Pakate

Sing Alleluia! The 50 days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday are celebrated in unbounded joy and exultation as one 'great Sunday'.

Easter Triduum

The unity of these three days from evening prayer on Holy Thursday until evening prayer on Easter Sunday celebrates the passion, death and resurrection of the Lord. It is the culmination of the entire liturgical year.

Christ redeemed humankind and gave perfect glory to God principally through his Paschal Mystery: dying he destroyed our death and rising he restored our life. Therefore the Easter triduum of the passion and resurrection of the Lord is the culmination of the entire liturgical year.

The fifty days between Easter and Pentecost are a time of joy and thanksgiving for what Christ has done for humanity. The paschal candle is in a prominent place in the sanctuary of the church and is lit for all liturgical celebrations.

In New Zealand the Ascension is celebrated on the Seventh Sunday after Easter. The feast of the Ascension commemorates the ascension of Jesus into heaven after his resurrection.

One week after the Ascension, on the 50th day after Easter, the feast of Pentec

Pentecost is celebrated. Pentecost commemorates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the apostles, which empowered them to go out and begin spreading the Gospel.

Praying the Rosary every Monday afternoon at 2.30pm

Learn how to pray the Rosary every Monday afternoon in the Chapel. Books are available to follow along.

Teresa Rush DRS



Emma's Mission

Almost a year ago Emma Mischewski collected feijoas from trees in our backyard and decided to try and sell them at a little stall outside the front of our house. Kind passers-by and neighbours bought some feijoas and Emma decided that she would like to give the money to the homeless. So we started to think about how we might be able to do this. Handing over the few dollars that Emma had made wasn't really going to go too far in assisting these folk.



So, we decided to keep our support simple and manageable and something we could do from home. "Emma's Mission" was born and we started to put together small 'care packs' for men, women and families that we could distribute to existing charity organisations to support their programmes, such as The Salvation Army, Women's Refuge, Under The Stars, Kai Aroha, All Children Matter and others. The packs contain personal toiletries for those in need: toothbrushes, toothpaste, plasters, lip balm, deodorants, soap, wipes and a Gospel Tract. Emma was nominated for a competition for 'deserving children under 14 years of age for their community support'.

This week we heard that Emma is one of nine children nation-wide who has won a trip to Wellington next week to join an Easter Egg Hunt at Premier House with the Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern. 'Emma's Mission' has a Facebook Page and people continue to donate money and items to go into the 'care packs'. To date Emma's Mission has given out over 300 care packs. Awesome Emma!! Follow Emma here...

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/emmasmission/>

Website: <http://www.emmasmission.co.nz/>



SCHOOL NEWS

Mad Pearse Takes Flight

Put the following dates in your diary. Wednesday 30th and Thursday 31st May, 2018. More information about performances and ticket sales will follow early next term.

Practises for the show will begin on Day 1 of Term 2 and all of our St Mary's teachers and students will be involved. This will be a major part of our learning for the first five weeks of Term 2. A \$15 per child cost will be added to your Term 2 account to pay for hireage of costumes.

We urge you to encourage your child/children to practice their dances and songs at home. This can be achieved by logging on to the Gobsmacked website: www.gobsmacked.co.nz

Go to – Login for Scripts and Music
Use the following details to login

Username: stmarysschool
Password: gsmack10

The Choreography will be made available on the website from Monday 30th April.

To receive regular updates regarding the progress of your child in Term 2, go to the Gobsmacked website, like them on Facebook, and follow Gobsmacked on Instagram. From here you will see pictures and video footage of students preparing for the musical.

Makerspace

We are excited to share that from the beginning of Term 2, we will be opening a new learning space in our school called a 'Makerspace'. The home of our 'Makerspace' will be the classroom by the office which was the old Room 10.

Setting up this space will involve many consumable materials and we ask that if you have any of the following items at home and you are happy to donate, we would very much appreciate them. Please contact us via email if you have any of the items listed below.

Cardboard boxes (flattened), Plastic bottles, Lego, Sewing machines, Knitting needles, Magazines, Wool, Fabric, Cotton/thread.

These are just some of the resources that we will be needing. We also would like to utilise the experience of our parent community, so if you have skills or a background in any of the STEAM areas mentioned above, we would love to hear from you.

Tika Team

We have been very, very happy and busy in the Tika Team. Our Big Learning Questions Are:

- * What makes you special?
- * If people are all different how do we get along?
- * How can we help others?

Our Key Competency Focus is 'Getting Along'

We are 'in charge of our own learning' and have been working hard on knowing our goals for Reading, Writing and Maths. Ask us our Learning Goals! We would be happy to tell you what they are.



Maramatanga Team

Over the last few weeks in our hub we have been learning about Mauao and his journey. We have completed art pieces that match the journey he made, as he carved out the Waimapu Awa, out past Tauranga Moana, and then to his resting place where he was 'caught by the dawn'.

We were also lucky enough to have Kathy Bee come along and sing to us (photos below). We sung about dragons under the bed, and about having dinosaurs in our backyard, among other things. We have been singing the 'individuality' song in our hub, as it is one of our favourites!



Support For Parents

The Parenting Place Courses

www.theparentingplace.com. Ph: 09 524 0025
E: reception@theparentingplace.com

Triple P Parenting - Positive Parenting Programme is one of the world's most effective parenting programmes because it's one of the few that's been scientifically shown to work. Triple P gives you simple tips and routines that can make big differences to your family. You'll be amazed how even a few small changes in what you say and do can work wonders.
www.triplep.net, Ph: 09 579 1794.
E: info.nz@triplep.net.nz

TOUGHLOVE NZ is a unique national organisation which focuses on parents of teenagers and provides ongoing support for as long as required. It operates a national network of support groups which meet once a week. Thousands of parents in New Zealand have benefited from the TOUGHLOVE programme. www.toughlove.org.nz

The Incredible Years Programme is a 14-18 session programme for parents of children aged 3 - 8, which helps parents turn behaviour around and create an enjoyable and harmonious family life. Parents come together each week and develop approaches to use at home with problem behaviours. The programme is delivered by Ministry of Education, Special Education staff and by 51 non-government organisations (NGOs) contracted to deliver the programme in partnership with the Ministry. Eleven of the NGOs are Whanau Ora providers. Many are also providing a range of social services to families funded through the ministries of Health or Social Development or other agencies. www.incredibleyears.com

Raising Children is a New Zealand parenting resource with over 100 short video clips indexed in seven different ages/ stages from newborn to end of primary school. Guided by experts, with the experiences of fellow parents woven in, it covers everyday subjects like eating, sleeping, education, child development, health and wellbeing and parenting advice.
www.raisingchildren.org.nz
E: info@raisingchildren.org.nz

PTA Outdoor Adventure Day

Wow! What a wonderful day at our Outdoor Adventure Day. We were blessed with beautiful sunny weather and some very excited children, teachers and parents. This event is a 'thank you' from the PTA and a chance for our community to come together and be involved in our House event where our children experience education outside the classroom. The parent/teacher race was stepped up this year with a new record of 16 participants. We would like to express our sincere thanks to you all. We appreciated all the fabulous baking which our bake sale ladies had all sold out before the end of the event, to the volunteers, spectators and of course the staff and children of St Mary's School.

Thank you to Stephen Finlayson and Brian Crowe for getting our children to the start line for their races. Also thank you to Superslides and Coffee Cup. Of course this would not be possible without the help of our wonderful PTA members Gabby, Laura, Monique, Carolyn, Kelley, Claire, Lucy, Heather, Cath, Amy, Alice, Fiona and Ana.

After collating the House points this year the House Shield is awarded to RYAN! Well Done to you all.

Mel Gash - Outdoor Adventure Day 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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