



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.

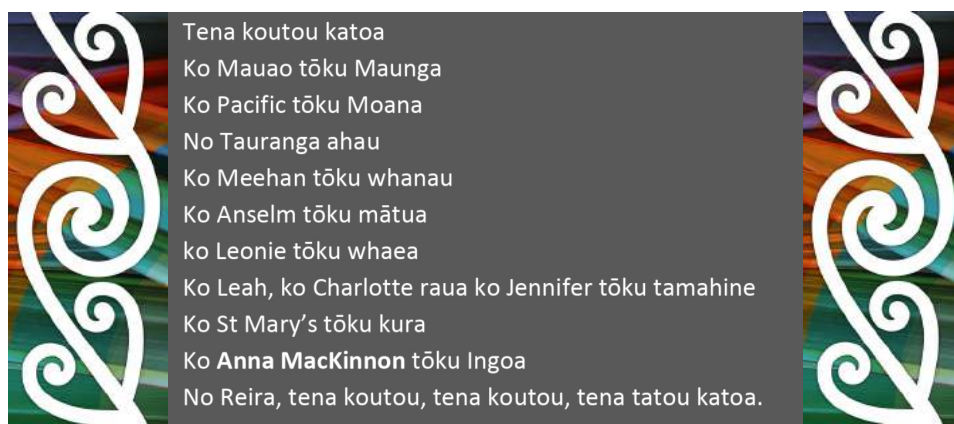
adj: having or showing knowledge of a subject or situation.

## Message from the Principal

Tena koutou katoa,

A warm welcome to everyone in our school community.

Following on from our last newsletter, where students shared their mihi, I would like to start this newsletter with my short mihi or introduction, for those of you who don't know me.



### Our School Production

It is hard to believe that 3 weeks of the term have already passed. Our students and teachers have been working hard with Patrice (Gobsmacked) to ensure that we are ready for the 'Mad Pearse Takes Flight' production. The first show is on Wednesday 30th May with tickets now on sale. Information on how to book these can be found within this newsletter.

### A warm welcome to our new students...

Isla Yeatman, Madeleine Askin and Edwina Brobin.

### Bully Free Week

As I write this, we are in the midst of New Zealand Bully Free Week. I would like to think that at St Mary's it is always Bully Free Week, we try extremely hard to make it this way. Please see our fortnightly 'snapshot' for how we use Positive Behaviour For Learning (PB4L) to reinforce amazing behaviour within our school.

### New Families Liturgy

Last week we had our termly 'New Families' Liturgy. Thank you to Mrs Rush who organised this lovely liturgy and to Fr Mark for being with us to celebrate our new families. Photos are on our Facebook page.

This liturgy is special and is a favourite of mine. I particularly love the opening songs 'Welcome' and 'He Honore'.

The words in He Honore translate to "let there be peace on earth and tranquility and goodwill to all people". For all our new students, parents and whanau, we hope you feel that you belong here already.

### Reporting

Some students will have already received a written report this term. For others, their first report will be rolled out between now and August. Once the report has been received you will have the opportunity to book a conference to discuss your child's learning, between yourself, your child and their whanau teacher. The 'Reporting Information Sessions' that I presented over the last couple of weeks proved to be very successful. For anyone who missed these, more information can be found on our website under the 'Learning' tab.

### Learning Through Play and PTA Working Bee

Many of you may have heard of Nathan Mikaere-Wallis. He is a gifted educator and has been a lecturer at Canterbury University, a neuroscience presenter for Brainwave and a child protection trainer.

Nathan advocates the importance for children to develop positive dispositions towards their learning and their culture, and to develop their creative and thinking skills.

It is great to affirm the implementation of our 'Learning Through Play' philosophy that we have been developing over the last couple of years at St Mary's, based on research and practice. It also verifies the importance of the 'Key Competencies' that are the basis of the New Zealand Curriculum.

I highly recommend that you spend 40 minutes of your time listening to the following interviews, with Nathan, on Radio New Zealand:

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E [office@stmarystga.school.nz](mailto:office@stmarystga.school.nz)

T 07 578 8066

[www.stmarystga.school.nz](http://www.stmarystga.school.nz)

## 2018 Term Dates

Friday 18 May

- Whole School Mass 9.30am (Church)
- Pink Mufti Day

Sunday 20 May

**Confirmation 2pm St Mary Immaculate**

Monday 21 May

**Liturgy - Our Lady Help of the Christians 9am**

Tuesday 22 May

- Aquinas College visit Year 6 students 2pm
- Kids Lit Quiz Year 6 team 6.30pm

Thursday 24 May

- Class Mass - Whanau Broadmore (date change)
- St Mary's Cross Country postponement date

Saturday 26 May

**PTA Quiz Night**

Monday 28 May

- Samoa Language Week
- Liturgy - Trinity 9am

Tuesday 29 May

**Board of Trustee Meeting 6pm**

Wednesday 30 May

- Aquinas Open Day 12.30 -1.30pm
- Mad Pearse Takes Flight 7pm

Thursday 31 May

- Mad Pearse Takes Flight Matinee
- Mad Pearse Takes Flight 7pm

Monday 4 June

**Queen's Birthday - school is closed**

Tuesday 5 June

**South Cluster Cross Country**

Wednesday 6 June

**Sacramental Programme Parent Meeting - Eucharist 7pm**

Thursday 7 June

**Class Mass Whanau Walter**

Sunday 10 June

- Parish School Mass 10.30am
- PTA Working Bee

Tuesday 12 June

**PTA Meeting 7pm**

Thursday 14 June

**Jump Jam Strictly Competition**

Thursday 21 June

**Class Mass Whanau Tanner Exposition and Benediction**

Friday 22 June

**Gymsport Festival Year 3 & 4**

Saturday 23 June

**Sacrament of Eucharist (First Communion) St Mary Immaculate**

Sunday 24 June

**Sacrament of Eucharist (First Communion) St Mary Immaculate**

For photos of today's Cross Country go to....

[www.facebook.com/stmarystga/](https://www.facebook.com/stmarystga/)

**be.**  
Christ-like

**be.**  
reflective

**be.**  
creative

*What 3 - 7 Year olds Need to Learn - 26 mins*

<https://bit.ly/1ji3QPV>

*Kids With Interpersonal Skills Come From Homes*

*Where There Are Rich Conversations - 17 mins*

<https://bit.ly/2xZOGz1>

As a commitment to providing further learning through play at our school we will be upgrading the Junior Play area to include a sand pit. We would love you to join us for a Working Bee on Sunday 10th June at 12 noon, after our school mass.

**Anna MacKinnon**

**Acting Principal**

## SPECIAL CHARACTER

### Sacramental Programme

Please pray for the 55 students who will receive the sacrament of Confirmation. Bishop Steve will be Confirming them on Sunday 20th May 2pm.

### Cluny Sisters

Sister Allion and Sister Emile are attending a Chapter in France. Sister Gabrielle is visiting family in Ireland. Please keep them in your prayers that they travel safely.

**This terms focus is:**

### How do I let the Holy Spirit work through me?

All students are learning about the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit working within us.

Below is the main focus for each level of the school.

### Tika and Maramatanga Team - Level one

Holy Spirit- Level 1- Achievement Objectives

1. The Holy Spirit is God
2. The effects of the Holy Spirit in people's lives
3. People who believe in God can respond to the Holy Spirit in their lives in many ways
4. The Holy Spirit is present in the Church in special ways.

### Whakapono Team - Level two

Holy Spirit- Level 2- Achievement Objectives

1. The Fruits of the Holy Spirit and how they are expressed in the community of the Church.
2. The Holy Spirit as God's self-giving love enabling people to bear the Fruits of the Spirit.
3. The presence of sin is against the life of the Spirit.
4. Jesus' promise to His disciples to be always with them, how this is fulfilled in the coming of the Holy Spirit in the Church, in Word and Sacrament.
5. The Holy Spirit enables people to live like Jesus and come to know the Father.

### Aroha Team - Level three

Holy Spirit- Level 3- Achievement Objectives

1. A variety of titles and symbols of the Holy Spirit Te Wairua Tapu
2. The Holy Spirit as the bearer of grace, tapu holiness and mana power to all God's people
3. Through Baptism the Holy Spirit brings people the grace to grow as children of God in the Church.
4. The indwelling of the Holy Spirit helps people to believe in Jesus and grow more like him.

**Teresa Rush**

**Director of Religious Studies**

## OTHER SCHOOL NEWS

**Mad Pearse Takes Flight tickets on sale now!**

Tickets for our show 'Mad Pearse Takes Flight' are now on sale! To purchase tickets please follow this link;

<https://bit.ly/2jShONR>

or alternatively you can visit [eventbrite.co.nz](https://eventbrite.co.nz) and search 'Mad Pearse'.

There will be a show on Wednesday and Thursday the 30th and 31st of May, 2018 at the Bethlehem Performing Arts Centre.

This highly anticipated event will commence at 7pm and is one not to be missed. With 430 children in the show, tickets will sell out fast, so get in quick!

**As all St Mary's students are in the show you do not need to buy a ticket for them.**

Please note that tickets can not be purchased from the school office. All tickets must be purchased online using the above link.

**Adults: \$15.00**

**School Students: \$12.00**

**Pre School Students: \$10.00**

**2 Years and Under: Free (you do not need to purchase a ticket if they sit on your knee)**

All tickets will include an additional online fee.

Please double check that you have selected the correct day and time before you make your purchase. Some families have mistakenly chosen the matinee instead of the night session. Unfortunately we can not refund or swap tickets, so please select your tickets carefully.

### Everyday (Except Friday's) Club

Willow and Lottie of Whanau Broadmore have really embraced our school Charism of doing a little good. The girls independently started a club, the Everyday (Except Friday's) Club, where children who may not have anyone to play with or want to make new friends can go at morning tea and lunchtimes. Activities are art and craft based.

What a fantastic initiative girls! If you have old colouring in books or other art and craft material you no longer use, the girls would certainly put it to good use. Please hand into Mrs Broadmore, Room 12.







### Support Staff Day

On Wednesday 16th May we celebrated International Support Staff Day. Our support staff are amazing and we couldn't do without them. They make the following things possible: Belonging, productivity, success, empowerment, achievement, inclusion, confidence and safety.

We thank our following support staff; Debbie Nowell, Jodi Carey, Lee Roper, Nicola Meehan, Jannet Anderson, Duncan Vietch, Natasha Parry, Si Yeong Hong, Heather Kavanagh, Steven Finlayson, Carol Hitchcock, Karen Mulhern and Theresa Dunston.



### Makerspace

We are excited to share that we have opened our new learning space called the 'Makerspace'. The home of our 'Makerspace' is in the classroom by the office which was the old Room 10.

Setting up this space has involved sourcing many consumable materials. Thank you to all the parents that have donated items for this space. We are still in need of some items for this space. 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.

Lego, Sewing machines, Knitting needles, Wool, Tools, Old toasters or computers.

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 (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths) we would love to hear from you.

## BOARD NEWS

Hello to all. Hopefully the first few weeks of the new term are moving along nicely for everyone.

First of all, we'd like to welcome our newly selected Parent Representative on the Board, Tania Wilson. Tania has two children here at St Mary's: Isabella and Benjamin, and will start her work with us this week. We're really looking forward to working with her, and gaining from the wonderful skills and experience she'll bring to our team.

Our staff and students are also working very hard right now on preparing for another amazing school Production, and I'm sure you'll all come along and support them on the performance nights. We give our thanks to the team at Gobsnacked also for their tireless efforts coaching our children to brilliance.

Thank you to all those who contributed to the Policy Reviews for Term 1. Your responses are being reviewed and any agreed amendments will be updated by next term. Term 2 Policy reviews will be

for the 'Reporting to Parents' Policy: very timely with our new reporting structure rolling out this term now we are no longer using National Standards. The links to this will come out in the next couple of weeks.

So, for now we wish you the best of luck for Cross Country, and hope you enjoy the rest of the term.

**Claire Stott**  
**Board Chair**

### Mauao Book Launch

Kia Ora koutou,

Many of you may be aware that I have recently written and illustrated a bilingual picture book which tells the oral tradition of Mauao, and very soon it will be available for purchase in book shops everywhere.

This came about because as a kapahaka and reo teacher at St Marys Catholic School, we draw on the story of Mauao constantly to share with the kids – but we have never had a resource to show them. One day I visited the library to look for a single book and after finding nothing on the shelves, I asked the librarian, 'Do you have any Maori picture books that tell local Maori stories?' She shook her head to say no, but then she said 'maybe you should write one...'

Two or three years later and that book that I was trying so hard to find in the library, is the book that I have now completed. I couldn't find it, so I wrote and illustrated it myself.

One of the greatest things about this project was being able to draw on my passions; writing, storytelling, drawing and Te Reo; to complete the whole book myself. I didn't have to wait on anyone else and just worked at my own pace - which was still relatively fast. The only thing I did have to wait for was for my kids to go to bed so I could get my paintbrushes and art materials out and paint in peace. Like Mauao, I was waiting for the cover of darkness to get moving.

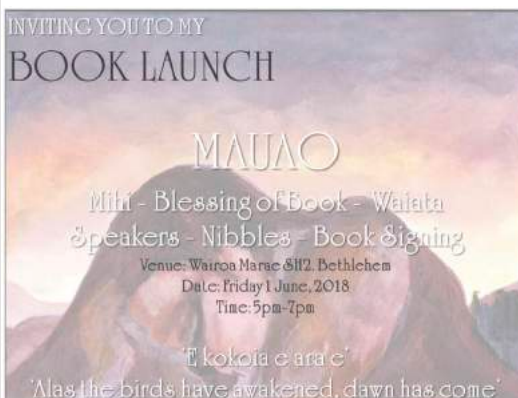
For my upcoming book launch, I would be extremely humbled to have some of our St Marys kids and whanau there.

Like the very last line of 'E Hika' says;

'E kokoia e ara e'

That line translates to mean, 'The birds have awakened. Dawn has come.' For Mauao, this meant the stark realisation that he would not fulfil his wish however, for us I think this line can represent the awakening of our wairua, our learning of Maori traditions and our connection with Mauao. All in all, bringing a new dawn too - for us the people and also for our hometown.

**Naku noa, Tamoe Ngata**  
**St Mary's Kapa Haka Tutor**



### Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) Snapshot

PB4L at St Mary's allows us to have....

- consistency in the language we use
- consistency in what is taught and learned
- consistency in the way our school values
- are the cornerstone of everything we do

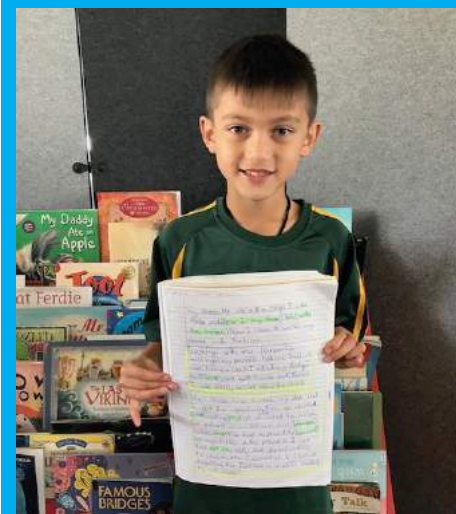
This week our focus has been:

*I am proud of the work I do and try to do my best*



Alana from Pono Tahi reflected on this focus, sharing her work on Seesaw.

*'I am proud of my 3D cube. I tried really hard to make it look as good as I could.'*



Seth from Pono Rua also reflected on this focus,

*'I am proud of my writing because I tried hard to use lots of adjectives. I added detail to describe people and my writing had lots of interesting parts.'*

We will be learning about the following expectations during the next few weeks of this term:

Week 4: I use my inside voice

Week 5: I look after my belongings and classroom equipment

Week 6: I walk on decks and pathways

**Lisa Broadmore**  
**PB4L Leader/Coach**

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Our People Our Place

# be. thankful

oxforddictionaries.com / thankful.  
adj: 1. pleased and relieved. 2. expressing gratitude.

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