



St Mary's
Catholic School
Tauranga

newsletter

ISSUE 4: 6 May 2019

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 - Haere mai Nau mai haere mai

Welcome to term two 2019. A special welcome to all who are new to our St Mary's community. We have started a new class this term with students who are beginning their time with us at St Mary's. The new teacher in this class is Miss Abbey Graham. Abbey is a recent graduate of the University of Waikato and brings a high level of enthusiasm to her new career. I am sure you will join me in welcoming Abbey to our school community.

Samoa Malaga Car Boot Sale

We had a great day, and a great turn out for our car boot sale on Sunday. Well done to those who organised this event, namely Gabby Cardey and Kay Abernethy. I know there were a number of people asking when the next one is so this could become a regular on the calendar in some way. All the money raised is going to support our Mission trip later in the year.

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. Thirteenth Avenue is an area that requires the utmost care and vigilance. We have had some near misses of late with children crossing the road to waiting cars during our busy after school time.

Children should not wait outside our school grounds and should be collected by parents from within our school grounds. Please Please Please take care in ensuring you collect your children and return to your vehicles in a safe manner.

On another note, our bus bay is a no parking zone from **8am - 9am** and **3pm - 3.30pm**.

We have been advised by our bus drivers that this is a current concern.

Board of Trustee Elections 2019

This is a reminder that 2019 is an election year for board of trustee parent representatives. Our board chair has written further information in regard to becoming a parent trustee in this newsletter. I have been lucky as Principal to work with some great parent trustees who have had the genuine best interests of our school community at heart. I therefore encourage anyone who would like to know more, or is currently interested in standing as a trustee to speak to Claire Stott or myself.

St Mary's Facebook Page (<https://www.facebook.com/stmarystga/>)

We have nearly 500 followers but we still need more! Our page is sometimes updated two or three times a day, so follow us and see all the great things that are happening at St Mary's. We still do the majority of our communication through email but will also ensure the same communication is given through our FB Page. Follow us!!

Paid Union Stop Work Meeting

On Wednesday 8 May, St Mary's staff will be attending a Paid Union Stop Work Meeting from 9am to 10.30am. Therefore it will not be possible to run normal classroom programmes during this time. We ask that you keep your children at home (or arrange alternate supervision) until 11am when children will be welcome at school.

Should you be unable to organise supervision for your child / children then a limited number of staff will be available to supervise children in our centre from 8.45am.

We have asked bus companies not to expect our children on this day. We thank you for your cooperation in regard to this matter and apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Ben Fuller
Principal

Many thanks for your great support this weekend. The Malaga Team



13th Avenue, Tauranga, New Zealand

E office@stmarystga.school.nz

T 07 578 8066

www.stmarystga.school.nz

2019 Term Dates

Tuesday 7 May

Welcome to new children and new families liturgy 10am

Wednesday 8 May

- Union Meeting school starts at the later time of 11.00am
- Sacramental Programme Parent Meeting 7pm

Thursday 9 May

Class Mass Whanau Cochrane 9am

Friday 10 May

Aroha Team Fiddler on the Roof Matinee by Aquinas College 11am at Baycourt

Monday 13 May

Andrew Chinn joins us for the day. Concert at 1.30pm all welcome.

Tuesday 14 May

St Mary's Cross Country 11am-12.30pm

Thursday 16 May

- Class Mass Whanau Piceno 9am
- St Mary's Cross Country postponement date

Sunday 19 May

Confirmation Liturgy 2pm

Thursday 23 May

Class Mass Whanau Walter 9am

Friday 24 May

Board of Trustee Elections - Nominations close at 12 noon today

Tuesday 28 May

Catholic Schools Day Liturgy at Aquinas College 9.30am.

Local Catholic schools get together 6pm

Wednesday 29 May

2020 enrolment applications for Aquinas College open

Thursday 30 May

- Class Mass Whanau Oates 9am
- Aquinas Open Day 10 - 11am & 12 - 1pm

Friday 31 May

Teacher Only Day - school is closed

Monday 3 June

Queen's Birthday - school is closed

Thursday 6 June

New Entrant Meeting 3.15pm

Friday 7 June

- School Mass - Pentecost 9.30am (Church)
- BoT Election Day - voting closes at 12 noon

Sunday 9 June

Parish School Mass 10.30am

Thursday 13 June

Class Mass Whanau Meehan

Wednesday 19 June

WBoP Cross Country

Thursday 20 June

Class Mass Whanau Meehan

be.
Christ-like

be.
reflective

be.
creative

Catholic Character

May the Blessings of Easter be with your families this Easter season.

"Christ is alive! He is hope and youth for each of us and for the entire world. May we let ourselves be renewed by him! Happy Easter!" **Pope Francis**

The Resurrection

We cannot, on the one hand, think of the Resurrection as merely an event in the life of the historical Jesus. That is wholly true, yet the Resurrection continues in the life of the Church. We experience the Resurrection when we celebrate the initiation of new members into our communities at the Easter Vigil. We experience the Resurrection when we celebrate the baptism of infants. We experience the Resurrection whenever we celebrate the sacraments. And we experience the Resurrection whenever we bond with those we love because they are gifts of God. Yet these experiences are only one side of the coin.

The Resurrection also was part of the experience of Jesus, the Son of God who shared his human life with us by his incarnation. And so the Resurrection also was part of the experience of the paschal mystery in the life of Jesus two millennia ago. That is the other side of the coin that is the Christian faith.

Loyola Press

We are very privileged in our Catholic School to be able to celebrate the Resurrection and to enjoy the great season of Easter, which is for 50 days until Pentecost. This week when talking with senior students about the season of Easter we helped them to reflect on how long they felt lent was and to recognise that we are now in a celebratory season of joy, hope and love. It is a time for families to recognise the good in their lives and to share in the joy of the little daily things. That we should put as much effort into daily acts of joy, hope and love as we did into our lent promises. I wish you all a very joyful, hope filled and loving Easter Season.

Andrew Chinn is back!

As part of our celebrating the season we have Andrew Chinn visiting us in week 3, Monday 13th May. He is looking forward to hearing our school sing our school song he wrote for us. He is a fantastic musician and really inspires students to be active and aware in their praise of God through song. As part of the day we will be having a concert at 1:35 - 2:40 all whanau are welcome to attend.

Sacramental Programme

Please continue to pray for our Students who are preparing for their Confirmation on the 19th May.

Emma Washer Memorial Liturgy

It was not long ago that we welcomed Emma Washer to our school whanau. She was a wonderful teacher, colleague and friend. We are grateful for the time she was with us. Working with the year two students in Maramatanga and being part of our school community. On Friday we gathered to give thanks to God for Emma, to pray for Emma, and to pray for her family.

Emma was a light of love and hope and our Lord shined through Emma to us all.

*"Eternal rest grant unto Emma O Lord
and let perpetual light shine upon her,
may she rest in peace"*



God Bless
Teresa Rush
DRS



Emma's
Liturgy



FRIDAY 31 MAY
TEACHER ONLY DAY
SCHOOL IS CLOSED



Whanau Armstrong (Room 4)

In Whanau Armstrong we went kayaking in term one. Not only did we all have lots of FUN it was great for coordination and confidence! We all were able to learn more about water safety. Here are a few snapshots of our day.



Whanau Goldsmith (Room 5)

In Room 5 we have been practicing our counting. We like to practise with our buddies the best and we help each other with our learning.



Whanau Strange (Room 1)

In Whanau Strange we have been doing lots of learning around friendships and getting along with others. These children made rainbow headbands to remind us that we are all different and that we should show kindness to others always.



Tika Team Family Picnic

The Tika picnic was so much fun. We brought our tea, played with our friends and ice blocks too. It was the best day! It was awesome to have our family at school. Room 1



Welcome to Tika Team Miss Graham - Tika Rules!!

This Term we welcome Miss Abbey Graham to our Tika Team. Abbey will be teaching our newest learners in Room 2 this year. We are very excited to welcome Abbey as part of our St Mary's family as she begins her teaching career here at St Mary's school.

It's Board of Trustees Election Time

As you are all no doubt aware, we are also approaching the end of the 3 year Parent and Staff Trustee tenures on the School Board of Trustees. This means we will be running an election this year, with the election date set down as **Friday 7th June 2019**.

Our Returning Officer this year, who will handle all nominations, distribution and collection of voting papers, and adherence to all election processes and procedures will be Michelle Muller. We thank her for her acceptance of this very important role, and look forward to working with her in the months ahead.

What do we need in a Parent Trustee?

We are looking for Trustees who are focused on ongoing improvement in student achievement, growing and nurturing our special character and relationship with our Parish, priests and Cluny Sisters, and supporting professional leadership, teaching and learning within our school.

Is this you?

We need: strategic thinkers, and practical people with great communication skills and a team approach.

Helpful skills could include: financial, +/- or legal understanding, people +/- or risk management, strategic or educational expertise.

Ideally you'll have: integrity, honesty, courage, a genuine interest in our school and students, time and commitment, and a willingness to learn!

Want to know more?

The current Board will be hosting some information sessions over the coming months prior to the election so you can learn more about what the Board does, expectations and time commitments etc. We'll keep you posted on those dates.

In the meantime, visit the NZSTA's (NZ School Trustee Association's) School Trustee Elections Website for a some information on the role of a parent trustee. <https://www.trustee-election.co.nz/becoming-a-trustee/>

NZSTA are also offering the Korari Programme which is an online learning course for interested parties to learn more about what the role involves.

Or you can send me an email/give me a call and we can have a coffee and a chat! We'd love to have you on Board.

Take care all, and God Bless.

Claire Stott

botchair@stmarysga.school.nz

Measles Outbreak

In light of the recent Measles outbreak in Canterbury, we would like to update our Immunisation Register at school. Over the next two weeks we will be contacting all families by email who do not have a current immisation record on file. If you are unsure about your child's status, your GP can provide you with this information. If your child is not immunised you will need to provide a letter stating this fact.



Welcome to our youngest whanau member

Anthony and Aime-Lee Mills were stoked to welcome their baby boy Orlando Anthony Mills into the world.

He arrived safely and is doing really well. Aime-Lee is recovering well and trying to get lots of rest.

Thanks for all your thoughts and prayers.





OPEN DAY

THURSDAY

30 MAY 2019

10-11am or 12-1pm

***2020 Enrolment Applications
open 29th May and close 5th July 2019***

www.aquinas.school.nz



*Hold fast to Truth
Kia mau ki te pono*



St Mary's Catholic School, Tauranga Board of Trustees' Election

Nominations are invited for the election of **5** parent representatives and 1 staff representative to the Board of Trustees.

A nomination form and a notice calling for nominations will be posted to all eligible voters.

You can nominate another person to stand as a candidate, or you can nominate yourself (make sure you sign both parts of the form).

Additional nomination forms can be obtained from the school office.

Nominations close at noon on **Friday 24th May 2019** and may be accompanied by signed candidates' statements.

The voting roll is open for inspection at the school and can be viewed during normal school hours.

There will also be a list of candidates' names, as they come to hand, for inspection at the school.

Voting closes at noon on **Friday 7th June 2019**.

**Michelle Muller
Returning Officer**

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you to support
our **Gold Group**
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St Mary's
Catholic School

Our People Our Place

be.
thankful

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