



St Mary's  
Catholic School  
Tauranga

## newsletter

ISSUE 6: 3 September 2019

Our People Our Place

# be. informed

[oxforddictionaries.com / informed.](http://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

At our School Mass we celebrated the Assumption of Mary into heaven and in doing so remember her as our Church's first lady. We should also remember all the special ladies within our Church, community and families. At a recent liturgy where we welcomed new families I made reference to the nga Wahine Toa of Hato Maria. I presented both Our Lady and Blessed Anne-Marie Javouhey as examples to us of strength.

### Father Mark

We remember Father Mark at this time as his dearly loved Mum, Rose, passed away last week. A Requiem Mass for Rose was held at St Joseph's, Fairfield today.

We extend our deepest condolences to Father Mark, the Field family and wish God's peace to them at this sad time.

### Resignation

As you are all aware I have resigned my position as Principal of St Mary's Catholic School and will finish at the end of the year. There is still plenty of time for thanks and farewells but I want to thank all those who sent and shared special messages of thanks on receipt of my news. You don't often get thanks as a Principal so such messages are well received. I will remain in education so encourage you all to recognise good practice and service, giving praise and thanks when due. It doesn't hurt and certainly adds to the sense of community.

Education in our country is facing challenging times so I look forward to a role where I can support schools and leaders within to meet the many requirements, objectives and aspirations of the sector. As Principal I get to see quite a few examples of practice and can honestly say the service your children receive and the commitment you see from our teachers is among the most exceptional I have witnessed. This will be a great example to support others to achieve.

### Tauranga Music Festival

It was a privilege to witness Sursum Corda singing at the Tauranga Music Festival in BayCourt last week. I would like to thank the students, Mrs Washer and Mr Mills for preparing so well. I was a very proud Principal. Congratulations! ....more photos of the Festival can be found on our Facebook page.

13th Avenue, Tauranga, New Zealand

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

T 07 578 8066

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

Ngā mihi nui

**Bell Fuller**  
PRINCIPAL



## 2019 Term Dates

Monday 2 September

**Tongan Language Week**

Tuesday 3 September

**Coffee, cake and catch up meeting 9am**

Wednesday 4 September

- **St Mary's Speech Competition**
- **Aroha Camp Parent information evening BAMJC 5pm**

Thursday 5 September

- **Aroha Class Mass 9am**
- **Reading Together Workshops - Tika Team 1.40pm**

Sunday 8 September

- **Parish School Mass St Mary Immaculate Church 9.30am**

Monday 9 September

- **Te wiki o te reo Māori**
- **Art Festival Week**

Tuesday 10 - Thursday 13 September

- **Art on display in the BAMJC**
- **Coffee, cake and catch up meeting 9am**
- **PTA Math-a-thon**
- **PTA Meeting 7pm**

Wednesday 11 September

**Wastewater Plant visit - Aroha Team**

Thursday 12 September

- **Aroha Team Class Mass 9am**
- **South Cluster Speech Cluster**
- **Pasifika Art Exhibition 5.30 - 7.30pm**

Tuesday 17 September

- **Coffee, cake and catch up meeting 9am**
- **Reading Together Workshops - Tika Team 1.40pm**

Thursday 19 September

- **Korean Mass Mass 9am / Exposition**
- **Benediction 2pm**
- **Nathan Wallis - Trustpower Arena 4 - 6.30pm**

Monday 23 September

**NZ Chinese Language Week**

Thursday 26 September

**Aroha Team Class Mass 9am**

Friday 27 September

- **Catholic Cluster Sports/Cultural Exchange - Aroha Team**
- **Term 3 ends**

Friday 4 - Friday 11 October

**Malaga Trip & Mission**

Monday 14 October

**Term 4 starts**

Wednesday 16 - Friday 18 October

**Aroha Camp**



## Catholic Character

### Thank you Father Mark

We would like to thank Father Mark for his service, support and love he has given the school.

As a school, we have been fortunate and blessed to have Father Mark guiding and supporting us. We thank him for the countless Sacraments, Masses, liturgies and events he has celebrated for, and with us. He will be missed by our school community, we wish him all the best in his new parish. God Bless.

*If you wish to make a contribution towards a farewell donation for Father Mark you can do so through the school office where we will have a collection box will remain for two weeks. Thank you.*

### Assumption Mass

Thank you, Father Mark, a beautiful Mass to celebrate the Assumption of our Mother. Students participated extremely well, singing, responding, listening.

Thank you to the music group, student singers, readers, altar servers, techies, safety officers, bus coordinators, Mr Fuller, Road safety (up at 5:30am to put the cones out by the Church), Margie Cooper, Eucharistic ministers, gifts.....

Mass is such a team effort of service and love.

We would also like to thank our community who join us on our faith journey.

### Being Mindful in prayer: Contemplative Prayer

When we rest quietly in God's presence, we engage in contemplation. In contemplation we spend time with God in wordless silence, aware that he is with us. To understand how contemplation occurs, we can compare it with thinking on—or contemplating—a beautiful sunset. We are conscious of its impact, but our reaction is wordless. When we experience God personally, we feel his love and wait for him to speak to us in his own way. The key is to make time to relax and listen in God's presence, to seek union with the God who loves us.

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### Fundraising

Thank you for your support on our school feast day and raising money for the Cluny mission.

For supporting Mufti Mania in week two and also your support of Donut Day. Our Mission Malaga to Samoa thank you for the support you have given both with money and goods for us to take to Samoa.

Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done. Proverbs 19:17

### Parish School Mass

St Mary Immaculate, Sunday 8 September at 10.30am.

**Teresa Rush, DRS.**







**Parish School Mass**  
St Mary Immaculate,  
Sunday 8 September at  
10.30am.

## St Mary's Art Festival

We are very excited to announce that our St Mary's Art Festival and Exhibition is happening this term. This is a wonderful opportunity to see the Arts being showcased in our school community. The theme for this year's Art Festival is Pasifika and is to celebrate the treasures of our Pacific cultures. There will be a range of visual art displayed including sculpture, harakeke, portraiture, wearable arts and much more. This art will be on open display for viewing anytime from Tuesday 10 September to Thursday 12 September and will conclude with the Exhibition that evening. The details are as follows:

**What: Pasifika Art Exhibition**

**When: Thursday 12 September**

**Where: BAMJC**

**Time: 5:30-7:30pm**

The exhibition will include a range of live performances and multimedia. Refreshments will also be available for our visitors. Please come along and enjoy a celebration of creativity in the Arts of Pasifika.



## Tauranga Primary Schools Music Festival

On Monday 26 August, Sursum Corda performed in the Tauranga Primary Schools Music Festival at Baycourt. This year the theme was 'Songs from the movies'. The choir sang a range of songs with students from other local schools as well as performing their own version of Elton John's 'I'm Still Standing'. It was an outstanding evening and a great showcase of our school's singing talent! Congratulations Sursum Corda. We were all very proud of you!

## Pastoral Care kindly supported by our PTA

We are very fortunate to have the wonderful culinary skills of Nicky Smith, mum of Solomon and Delilah. Nicky recently organised the PTA cook off replenishing our stock of meals in the school freezer.

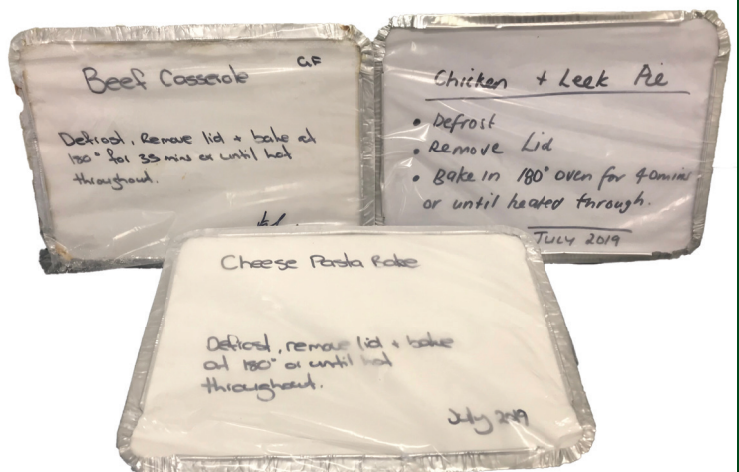
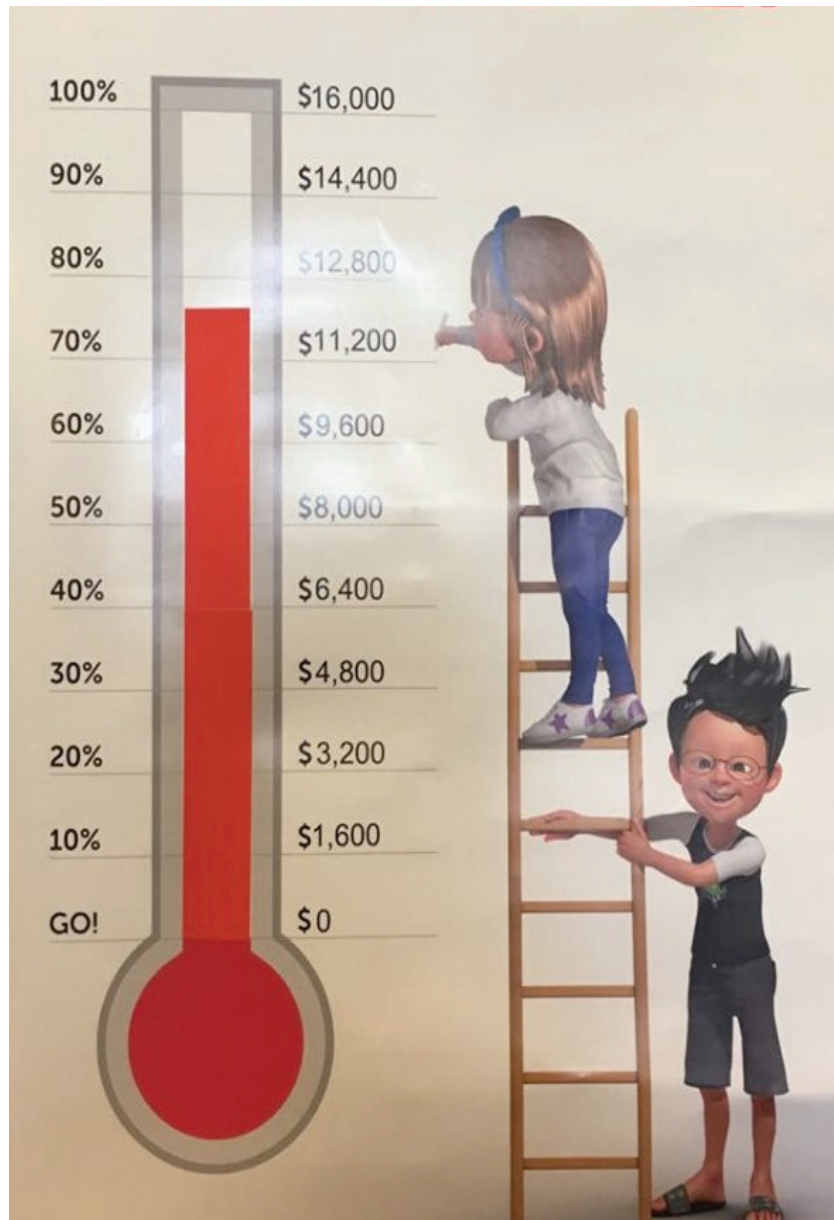
These meals might be given to families for; a new baby in the family, an illness, a death in the family or to relieve financial burden.

Nicky purchases ingredients paid for by the PTA and makes delicious healthy meals, including gluten free and vegetarian options.

Many thanks to Nicky and her fantastic helpers Geraldine Hancock, Rebecca Page, Aquinas students Nathan Holmberg, Lily Cooper, Madi Smith, Gabbie Way, ex parent Jodi Way and Dee Bartington - grandmother of Solomon and Delilah. Thank you very much. Many families in our school community have received meals and are super grateful for this amazing support. If you know of anyone who may need a meal then please contact Teresa Rush [trush@stmarystga.school.nz](mailto:trush@stmarystga.school.nz) or [office@stmarystga.school.nz](mailto:office@stmarystga.school.nz)

## Samoa Malaga Mission Trip

# OUR GOAL!





## Thank you....

Our Samoa Malaga 2019 Committee would like to thank our local community for all your support and generosity to date. The trip is nearing and they are getting closer to their fundraising goal. Their last big effort will be during Aims Games week providing lunches to some Auckland sports teams (if you have fruit trees that will be fruiting this week and you would like to donate some to help us keep costs down then please contact

Gabby Cardey [gabs.cardey@gmail.com](mailto:gabs.cardey@gmail.com). We are also holding sausage sizzles at some of the venues, so if you are out and about at Aims, make sure you swing by and grab a sausage or 5!

There are also some items they would like to take over to donate to those in need in Samoa if you are in a position to donate any of these items, please drop them into the school office.



## Learning Leaders

### Update from Anna MacKinnon (Deputy Principal)

Kia ora koutou katoa,

As most of you are aware, I have had the privilege of being awarded study leave for 32 weeks this year and I am now into my final semester of completing my Master of Education. This year has been an amazing opportunity for me to continue to develop my professional learning without the demands of working full time.

So, what have I learnt so far and how will my learning benefit our students and education in general? Most of my papers have focused on the development of leadership skills, through coaching and mentoring, distributed leadership and deprivatising practice. This has been great for my own leadership but more importantly this has given me the skills and tools to continue to develop the leadership of other teachers and leaders.

My professional reading has been extensive and has given me the theoretical and practical background to support others in developing their professional roles, responsibilities and expertise. There is no denying that leadership quality and teacher quality are directly linked to student progress and achievement. Thus, developing the capabilities of our teachers and leaders is essential.

The papers titled 'Distributing Leadership Through Coaching and Mentoring' and 'Teachers as Leaders' have stressed the importance of acknowledging all teachers as leaders. We need to ensure that we empower and support teachers to share their knowledge and expertise without the need for them to leave the classroom permanently.

The assessment paper that I am currently completing links the importance of a shared understanding and partnership between students, teachers and parents. It is imperative that students have agency and autonomy over their learning and as we continue to develop our real time, online, reporting at St Mary's over the next year, this will be key.

My reading and study have confirmed for me that St Mary's is truly an amazing educational environment with amazing staff that are passionate and well equipped for taking our students into a future that is exciting and rapidly changing.

I would like to thank our Board of Trustees who understand the importance of learning for everyone (not just our students) and for their ongoing support of our staff to take advantage of these wonderful opportunities.

I look forward to returning to St Mary's in November with 'fresh eyes' and a fresh view on how leadership in education can make a huge difference for our learners.

Ngā mihi nui  
Anna MacKinnon

### PTA Math-a-thon

By now you will have received information about our PTA Math-a-thon for the students of St Mary's School. This is a fun way to learn basic maths facts and raise money for curriculum resources. Every student participates and all sponsorship money and donations are much appreciated.

Each student will be given basic maths facts to learn. They are to gather sponsors and write all details on the form..

The Math-a-thon test date is **Tuesday 10 September 2019**.

Prizes will be awarded for the following:

- \* The first class to get all their sponsorship money in.
- \* The class that raises the most money (averaged per students in class).
- \* The student who raises the most money individually in each team.
- \* Lucky Dip for all students who have returned their money and sponsor form by Wednesday 18 Sept (Week 9).

Please see the office for extra forms.



## Sporting Highlights

After a quiet start to term 3, some of our Winter code results are now starting to come in.

### Netball

Our Year 6 St Mary's Magic Netball team have had an outstanding season. Thanks to our super coaching team of Charlie Aaifou-Olive and Kelly Jeffries and the skills of the fantastic manager Tania Wilson, the Magic team of Olivia Williamson, Lilly Davison, Isla Martin, Isabella Wilson, Eva Jeffries, Alana Perrett and Isabella Aaifou-Olive have moved from Division 3 at the start of the season to finish an amazing 2nd in Division 1. Congratulations to you all a truly outstanding season.

### Bay of Plenty Invitational Rugby 7's Tournament

St Mary's recently competed at the Bay of Plenty Invitational Rugby 7's Tournament in Rotorua. Coached by Shay Hulsebosch, the team of as Sidney Orchard, Cole Hulsebosch, Xavier Kirk, Austin Roper, Ryder Frank, Jackson Porter, Ciaran Manning, Adam Rush, Kiwa Kahura, Eli Banbury, Ashley Pryor and Cody McQueen won the competition!!!! The report from the coach said their team work and skill level to play 7's rugby was what got them across the line, against much bigger and stronger opposition. They limited their contact and spun the ball wide to run these bigger boys off their feet. Congratulations to you all; a truly outstanding result that you should all be very proud of

With our Miniball/Basketball and Hockey teams now in the final stages of their respective competitions, I am looking forward to reporting on more fantastic results in the next few weeks.

*If your child has achieved at a sporting event that should be recognised please let us know. Send photos and details to [office@stmarystga.school.nz](mailto:office@stmarystga.school.nz)*

### Te Puke Gymsports Competition

Addi Sands placed 1st overall in trampoline Year 2-4 and 1st overall for tumbling.

See a video of Addi tumbling on our school Facebook page.

Liae 1st overall rhythmic gymnastics Year 5-6 and 2nd overall tumbling and 1st overall trampoline.

### Results North Island Synchronised Championships

Jessica Cha recently placed 3rd in the North Island Synchronised Swimming Championships as a swimmer in the Tauranga Dolphin Combined Team. There are seven members in a team.

Congratulations Jessica!

### Miniball World Cup

Below are our Year 3/4 team dressed as Spain and competing in the Miniball World Cup. A real contender for best dressed.







At the beginning of the term, we had a wonderful visit from Andrew and Lisa Lowe (Ethan and Mia's parents) who own Vegepod. They have very kindly donated two large Vegepod gardens for our school gardening program. Our Environmental Leaders, Mr Veitch and Mr Mills helped Andrew and Lisa put the gardens together and you will see them set up outside the staffroom. We are very excited about growing our spring vegetables to support our local community. Thanks Andrew and Lisa! If you are interested in knowing more about Vegepod gardens, please go to: [www.vegepod.co.nz](http://www.vegepod.co.nz)



In Maramatanga we have been learning about the importance of looking after God's amazing creation.

Recently we planted seeds in the two new Vegepods. We have been learning about what plants need so we can look after them. We planted our seeds in good soil and know that we will need to keep them watered and make sure they get enough sunlight to grow healthy and strong.



## YOU ARE INVITED TO...

### COFFEE, CAKE AND A CATCH UP

## HAVE YOU GOT ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE WAY WE DO THINGS AT SCHOOL?

Do you need help to understand our play philosophy?

Do you understand Positive Behaviour 4 Learning (PB4L) and how this works in our school?

Do you need help to understand the school report?

Do you want to know more about our curriculum?

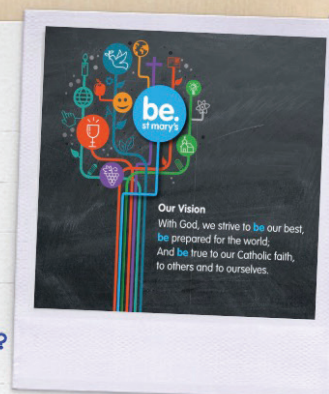
You are invited to an open morning to ask about how we do things here at St Mary's School.

**Please come and join us in...**

- x Week 7 on the 03rd September
- x Week 8 on the 10th September
- x Week 9 on the 17th September

**Time:** 9.00 am -10.15 am

**Where:** In the staffroom (tea, coffee and cake provided)







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