



St Mary's
Catholic School
Tauranga

newsletter

ISSUE 13: 17 October 2014

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

E Mihi Nui Kia Koutou

Welcome back to term 4 of 2014. To all new students and families who have started thus far, a very warm and sincere welcome to you all. I am sure that your time at St Mary's will be an extremely valuable experience of learning, enjoyment and community.

This week we officially welcomed our new Deputy Principal Mrs Anna MacKinnon. Anna has come to us from the University of Waikato where she worked as a literacy advisor and support to schools. It is great to have Anna on board and I know you will all join with me in both welcoming her and offering her support in her new role with us.

This term, being the final of the academic year, will be focused on achieving final learning goals and objectives and determining overall teacher judgements in the core learning areas. Our school wide data has a history of demonstrating levels of high academic achievement across the school and I look forward to seeing the success of individuals once again contribute to this.

I had the privilege of leading our year 6 students onto Te Kotahitanga Marae on Tuesday. This signified the start of their Waitomo Camp. The weather has been great this week so I am certain that year 6 students, teachers and the many parents who have accompanied the children will be returning with great stories and experiences.

Development Consent

As many of you may be aware the Hamilton Diocese has been successful in obtaining consent to embark on a development plan that will see our school be able to cater for a roll of 500 students in modern learning environments equipped for 21st century education practices. This is an extremely exciting event for us as a community. It will both provide access for a greater number of families to Catholic education in Tauranga and give us the ability to start developing our school to the highest of current specifications.

As aspects of physical development draw nearer, we will start to look at accompanying ways we can better cater for student learning needs within new or modified learning environments. We will also seek to provide parent education opportunities associated with related developments in teaching and learning pedagogy and educational initiatives.

2015 Initiatives

We have many initiatives that we are currently working on in relation to planning and implementation for the 2015 school year. Some of which we will look to seek parent input and feedback in regard to. Two include, footwear options currently associated with our school uniform and the future of EOTC experiences at St Mary's. The first I will look to consult parents on and the second inviting parents to participate in a workshop where desired experiences and objectives of outdoor experiences can be brainstormed and discussed. The initial date for this workshop is 5.30pm Wednesday 12 November.

We are also in the final stages of website development and associated smart phone app. We hope to launch both the new website and app later in the term. A lot of work has and is currently going into both innovations that will showcase our school and benefit our community.

Uniform

We would like to apologize for miscommunication in relation the colour of sandals we have included in our new uniform. In line with the modified colour scheme, it is envisaged that students will now wear black roman sandals during the summer, not brown. As I indicated above footwear options during both summer and winter is something we would like to explore. In particular whether parents feel students should have the option of sandals or shoes throughout the entire year, and the type of shoes that are most appropriate. However, roman sandals will remain as the preferred sandal unless there are grounds for exception.

Bus Changes 2015

This week Environment BOP are pleased to announce that the 2015 school bus routes are now available for viewing on the Baybus website. There are a few minor changes to current routes but they are confident this will not affect current levels of service. Other changes will also include the addition of a charge which currently has been estimated at \$1.40 per trip. You can see more information including the proposed routes at www.baybus.co.nz – follow the link to the Schoolhopper pages.

Nga Mihi Nui
Ben Fuller
Principal

13th Avenue, Tauranga, New Zealand

E office@stmarystga.school.nz

T 07 578 8066

www.stmarystga.school.nz

Dates to Remember

Monday 20 October
All students to be in Summer Uniform

Monday 20 October
Room 12 Art Gallery Visit 11am
Room 15 Art Gallery Visit 12.45am

Monday 20 October
Sacramental Programme Enrolments at St Mary's School 3.15pm

Wednesday 22 October
Y5 & Y6 'Kids for Kids' Concert 7.30pm

Thursday 23 October
Class Mass Room 5

Thursday 23 October
Room 13 Art Gallery Visit 12.45pm

Thursday 23 October
Aquinas Orientation Evening 7pm

Friday 24 October
School Photos

Monday 27 October
Labour Day

Tuesday 28 October
Board of Trustee Meeting 6.30pm

Wednesday 29 October
WBoP Tennis

Friday 31 October
All Saints / Souls Day Mass 9.30am

Saturday 1 November
Jump Jam Nationals Good Luck!

Tuesday 4 November
Senior Athletics (date change)

Thursday 6 November
Class Mass Room 4

Friday 7 November
PTA Fireworks Gala

Sunday 9 November
School / Parish Mass and Presentation Mass for the Sacramental Programme

Monday 10 November
Cycle week starts for Year 6

Monday 10 November
Sacramental Programme 3.30pm

Tuesday 11 November
PTA Meeting 7pm

Wednesday 12 November
WBoP Cricket

Wednesday 12 November
Aquinas Transition Visit (date change)

Wednesday 12 November
EOTC Parent Workshop 5.30pm

Thursday 13 November
Class Mass Room 3

Friday 14 November
Sursum Corda sing in Auckland

Monday 17 November
South Cluster Athletics

Monday 17 November
Welcome to new children and families Liturgy

Tuesday 18 November
Class Mass Room 8

be.
Christ-like

be.
reflective

be.
creative

Special Character

Sacramental Programme

The Parish Sacramental Programme for 2014/15 is starting soon.

As in previous years the programme will be taught by teachers from St Mary's School and classes held at St Mary's School on Monday afternoons from 3.30pm to 5.00pm.

The programme is for students aged 8 years old (by 1st October 2014) and older who have been baptised.

The enrolment days are either Sunday 19 October after the 10am Mass at St Mary's Church Cameron Rd or Monday 20 October at 3.15pm in Room 16 at St Mary's School.

At the enrolment meetings a booklet will be given to parents outlining all details of the programme.

The dates for 2014 are the following:

Presentation Mass - Sunday 9 November 10am at St Mary's Church Cameron Rd

Lessons for the Sacrament of Reconciliation are:

Monday 10 November 3.30pm - 5.00pm

Monday 17 November 3.30pm - 5.00pm

Monday 24 November 3.30pm - 5.00pm

Parent Sessions

Wednesday 19 November 7.00pm at St Mary's School

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Friday 28 November beginning 4.00pm – Individual times to be allocated.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to ask myself or Donna Vincent.

swasher@stmarystga.school.nz

dvincent@stmarystga.school.nz

Preference Cards

The issuing of Preference Cards for St Mary's School and Aquinas College for Tauranga parishioners will now be handled by a committee, appointed by Bishop Denis.

To meet with one of those delegated to issue Preference Cards, you need to ring the St Mary Immaculate Parish Office (578 6209, between 9am and 1pm weekdays) and ask Sister Emeli (the parish secretary) to make an appointment for you. Sister Emeli will explain what is required.

Preference Card committee appointments will take place on Tuesday mornings at St Mary Immaculate Church (not at school).

Mt Maunganui parishioners will continue to make an appointment through their parish office.

School News

Enrolments for 2015

A reminder that we are now finalising new entrant numbers for 2015. We would also welcome

enrolments for all year levels. Therefore, if you have a child who will be starting school in 2015 please ensure all enrolment documentation has been completed and handed in to the school office. If you are aware of any families wishing to send children to St Mary's next year, please encourage them to make contact with the school office as soon as possible.

Fundraiser for Sursum Corda - Ice Block Fridays

For the next few Fridays at lunchtime Sursum Corda will be selling ice blocks at a cost of \$2.00 each to raise money for their trip to Auckland where they will be singing at the midday Mass at St Patricks Cathedral on Friday 14 November.

We would be grateful and appreciate your support for this very worthwhile experience for our school choir.

Kids for Kids World Vision Concert

Our Year 5 and 6 students are taking part in the Kids for Kids Concert on Wednesday 22 October at 7.30pm at BayCourt. The theme for the concert is 'Everything is KaPai'. The guest performer is Nathan King. The students are enjoying the selection of songs and it promises to be a most entertaining night for families.

Tickets are on sale at BayCourt.

The cost is \$22.50 for an adult and \$18.00 for a child/student.senior. Family ticket is \$65.00 (2 Adults and 2 children). Tickets are selling quickly so we encourage you to purchase your tickets soon so you are not disappointed.

PTA News

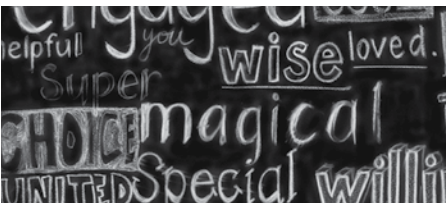
Fireworks

As you are aware on Friday, 7 November 2014, St Mary's Catholic School PTA will be holding our annual Fireworks Gala as our major fundraiser for the school. This year we will be raising funds to go towards our Modern Learning Environment and an Outdoor Learning Space.

As a part of the night we will be holding the inaugural St Mary's Wheelbarrow Race. Each class will have a wheelbarrow in the race and we are looking for sponsorship of \$250 for each wheelbarrow. The wheelbarrows will be decorated using the sponsor's logo and colours so your business will get fantastic exposure at the Fireworks Gala and the winner will take out the St Mary's Wheelbarrow Cup.

Should you or someone you know be in a position to sponsor a wheel barrow, form an integral part of the event and in turn receive the direct exposure to a crowd in excess of 8000 people please contact me directly. Should you have a direct link to a class at St Mary's, for example a child in the class then we will make every effort for your sponsorship to be attributed to this class.

The Fireworks event is run by a team of hardworking parent volunteers and the assistance from businesses and the like makes an enormous difference to the quality and enjoyment of the night.



Kids for Kids Concert

22 October 7.30pm

Thank you so much for considering our request. If you have any queries, please feel free to contact me through the school office 5788066.

Other News

Tahu Youth Group

I am extremely excited to inform you that your year 6 is now welcome to join our youth group held at St Thomas More every Friday night! We start at 7 pm and end at 8:30pm.

Tahu youth group is a great group centered on the Catholic faith. Our young people are learning an abundance of topics in a fun interactive way, that is easy to understand and relatable to their age group. Tahu is also appropriate for non-Catholics who wish to educate their child/children through the Catholic education system. We begin our night with games then move into our topic or discussion that lasts for 15 -20 minutes. We follow up with small groups or an activity. We have been extremely blessed to host fantastic speakers from around NZ that the youth really enjoy and relate to. We close our night with music and evening tea.

I really hope to see your child this Friday at our youth group. St Mary's parishioners this is your youth group as well, we have one youth group for Tauranga/Mount. If your young one is heading to Aquinas College this is a great opportunity for them to meet their future peers and to develop authentic

friendships. If your child is not attending Aquinas College this is a vital group to help with nurturing their faith and friendships that they have made through primary school. Tahu is for years 7-9 and term 4-year 6's.

If you have any questions please give me a call 027 7777 203 or send me an email karenjwhyte@gmail.com . I cannot wait to get to know your little one and to introduce them to our team.

See you Friday 17 October! I understand you have been away to camp this week. If you can't make this Friday then join us next week. We would love to see you.

Karen Stuart, Youth Coordinator Tauranga/Mount

SPORTS NEWS

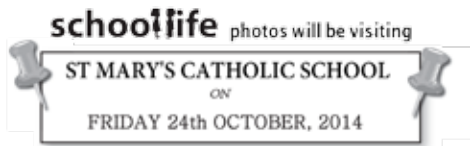
Sports and Activities get underway

The summer term is underway with water polo and Pemberton Park cricket beginning tonight. Please refer to your Dates and Times schedule for all other start times.

With all of the forms now in, teams will be posted over the weekend for next week, and for Flippaball which begins after Labour Weekend.

A few more year 6 players are required for the Touch team and Flippaball team. Please contact me if your child wishes to play either of these codes.

klow@stmarystga.school.nz



If you would like any individual or sibling photos taken on the day you must pre-register on-line via the website listed below :-

www.schoollifephotos.co.nz

1. Click "Order Online" - select "St Mary's Catholic School Registration" (There is no sitting fee for pre registration)
2. Enter your child's details for an individual or family photo.
3. If you would like a Class Room Photo - these are also available to purchase online

Once registered you will be sent a 'unique code' (via email) so that you can view your child's images.

If you do not receive a unique code - this means that your order has not been completed and your pre registration is still sitting in your "shopping cart"

Parents will be notified via email when the images are available for viewing.

Please note: The registration cut-off date is **Monday 20th of October, 2014** at 1.00pm *

* School Life will not accept bookings after this time



Ph: (07) 578 4951 Email: sales@schoollifephotos.co.nz
www.schoollifephotos.co.nz



Calling for all...

Volunteers and

Wheelbarrow Sponsors... We need you!

Tickets on Sale at the school office
Monday 20 October 2014

We also need specifically an **electrician** who can assist with our electrical requirements during set up and be available during the evening (if required).

We are also still after prizes, donations and old crockery. And remember your jars for the jar-a-rama competition.

Contact Michelle Pine if you can help, on 021 618 237 or fireworks@stmarystga.school.nz or your Class Rep.

A big thank you goes out to all of our sponsors...





The St Mary's PTA 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.



RURAL AND LIFESTYLE SALES

Jeremy Pryor 07 579 0611 027 280 2121



CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Paul Manning 07 571 6280 021 190 4597
paul.manning@bdo.co.nz



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KATIKATI CLINIC - 2 SHEFFIELD ST | TE PUNA CLINIC - 15C MINDEN RD
David McDonnell 07 578 4044



Kirstin (Kirt) Richards 07 571 0444



IT SERVICE PROVIDER AND SUPPORT

Steven Vincent 07 571 1060