



St Mary's
Catholic School
Tauranga

newsletter

ISSUE 14: 4 November 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

With our Fireworks Gala just a few days I must start by thanking the many volunteers from within our PTA who have been working hard to bring this event together. It is the pinnacle community event on our calendar each year and we look forward to once again showcasing the spirit, capabilities and commitment of our school community.

Below are a list of the event sponsors who have come together to make this event possible. On behalf of our school community our sincere thanks.

Taylor Brothers, Pak'nSave, Zariba Holdings, Tauranga More FM and Kale Print.

A feature of this years Fireworks Gala will be the inaugural St Mary's Interclass Wheelbarrow Race. This will see decorated wheelbarrows pushed by parents and piloted by our children, compete over a 50m course for the title of fastest class wheelbarrow at approximately 6 pm. Each of the classes has benefitted from the generous support of sponsors for the race and wheelbarrows will be decorated to represent sponsors. Below is a list of those sponsors supporting this event.

Abernethy Broatch Law, Immerse Therapy & Beauty, Bayleys Rural and Lifestyle Sales, Rothbury, O'Connor Warren Insurance Brokers, John's at Palm Beach Pharmacy, Corson Dental, Hobec Law, Boutique Beauty, Bay Radiology, Share Financial Advisers, Dommet Trailers, Classic Builders, Lysaght, Bay Endocrinology Ltd, The Quilty Family, DMS Pro growers, Golden Homes and Sophie Mear from Farm Trail Marine.

New Appointments

It is with great pleasure that I announce that Jacqui Ellen Price will be joining our school from the beginning of 2015. Jacqui has been successful in winning a position leading our Senior School. Jacqui is a parent of our school and comes from recent senior teacher experience at Tauranga Primary School. I am sure you join me in welcoming Jacqui to St Mary's and wish her every success in her role.

It is also pleasing to be able to notify parents that Megan Akkerman and Lisa Broadmore have been rewarded with permanent teaching positions at our school. I realise that these teachers are well established at St Mary's but previously have been on fixed term positions renewed annually. It is great to be able to recognise their contribution to our school in this way.

Travelling to and from school

I would like to thank parents for the improved driving behaviour around our school. It has been great to see neighbours properties being respected (and not parked on, in or around) particularly at the end of the school day.

A reminder for all parents to be vigilant in regard to managing children who travel to and from school independently. It is extremely important when children walk or bike to school that they and you have a clear understanding of the route they will take, final destinations and a timeframe to complete this.

From our Board of Trustees

As a Board we have been working on a number of initiatives to enhance systems and process within our school and improve educational outcomes for students. As a board we are currently working on the development of a new behaviour management policy. This will see a policy and accompanying procedures introduced during 2015 to improve consistency of application and better support for teachers when having to deal with issues of behaviour.

There are a number of other policies currently under review and development which the board is seeking professional and, in some cases, legal advice in regard. We look forward to the consultation stage where we can gain valuable feedback from parents.

We have recently welcomed Fr Mark Field and Mrs Katy Wealleans to our board as Proprietors Representatives. Both Fr Mark and Katy have and will make a significant contribution to the work of the board whilst maintaining a valuable link with our Diocese.



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Dates to Remember

| |
|---|
| Tuesday 4 November |
| Senior Athletics (date change) |
| Thursday 6 November |
| Class Mass Room 4 |
| Friday 7 November |
| PTA Fireworks Gala 5pm |
| 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 |
| Saturday 15 November |
| Kapa Haka 'Noho Marae' overnight stay in Rotorua / Rotoiti |
| Monday 17 November |
| Welcome to new children and families Liturgy |
| Monday 17 November |
| South Cluster Athletics |
| Monday 17 November |
| Sacramental Programme 3.30pm |
| Tuesday 18 November |
| Class Mass Room 8 |
| Wednesday 19 November |
| Sacramental Programme Parent Session |
| Thursday 20 November |
| Room 3, 4 & 5 Tauranga Girls College Show 9.30am |
| Room 1, 2 & 16 11.00am |
| Friday 21 November |
| Ra Whakangahau - Tauranga Moana Schools Kapa Haka |
| Friday 21 November |
| Magazine orders are due |
| Monday 24 November |
| Sacramental Programme 3.30pm |
| Tuesday 25 November |
| Rap-unzel whole school show |
| Tuesday 25 November |
| Board of Trustee Meeting 6.00pm |
| Thursday 27 November |
| Year 3, 4 & 5 End of Year Mass |
| Wednesday 3 December |
| WBoP Athletics |
| Thursday 4 December |
| Year 1 & 2 End of Year Mass |

be.
Christ-like

be.
reflective

be.
creative

Looking ahead we are anticipating celebrating the year end with students and parents at upcoming events such as the Year 6 Graduation Mass and Final Prize Giving. It is important that trustees are able to witness first hand the success and achievements of students at our school.

With consent granted, next year will see much initial work as we work with the key Diocese and planning personnel to start putting into action the objectives of our development plan. The next few years at St Mary's we see being truly exciting as the investment in modern learning environments and 21st century resourcing is set to benefit the students of our school.

School Bus Changes 2015

If you haven't already, make sure you check out the Schoolhopper route information – including the interactive maps which are all available from the Baybus website at www.baybus.co.nz/schoolhopper.

Schoolhopper buses will be replacing Ministry of Education urban school buses from next year and there are some key differences, such as the introduction of a fare, so make sure you are aware of what these changes are.

If you have any questions about the service, please email the Bay of Plenty Regional Council's transport team at transport@boprc.govt.nz or call them on 0800 884 880.

School Magazine

Enclosed within this newsletter is an order form for this year's school magazine. Please note that, like last year, we will be supplying to order and will not have additional copies for sale at the end of the year. Many hours of work is currently going into compiling the memories and highlights of this year at St Mary's so do not be disappointed and get your order form returned to the school office before Friday 21 November.

Nga Mihi Nui

Ben Fuller
Principal



SPECIAL CHARACTER

NOVEMBER – The Month of the Holy Souls

Last Friday we gathered together as a school community at St Mary Immaculate Church to celebrate the Feast of All Saints.

On our return to school our year five and six students visited the 18th Avenue cemetery where we had a very short but meaningful liturgy to remember our Cluny Sisters who have gone to God. Many of the Sisters had come from Ireland and during their lives worked in our school. Father Edwin blessed their graves and our school leaders and teachers placed flowers on each of the nineteen graves. It was very moving to be part of this liturgy and to give thanks to God for the Sisters enormous sacrifice and service to our school. We are so fortunate to have the presence of our Cluny Sisters with us still – Sisters Gabrielle, Alison, Emeli and Teresia.

Our students made us proud the way they conducted themselves at the cemetery. They showed respect, reverence – their behaviour was outstanding.

We thank Julie Green for creating the beautiful posies that were placed on the graves. During this month of November for their learning in Religious Education all classes are covering the Communion of Saints strand. At class prayer time students will be praying for loved ones who have died. If you have any family members you would like us to pray for please let us know.

School / Parish Mass

This Sunday we have our School/Parish Mass for this term at 10am in St Mary Immaculate Church. At this Mass the students who will be taking part in the Sacramental Programme together with the teachers will be receiving a special blessing. We encourage all families to be present at this Mass.

Our Sursum Corda Choir will be singing. All students are asked to wear their school uniform and sit with their families.

Sursum Corda

It is only two weeks now until our trip to St Patrick's Cathedral, Auckland, where our Sursum Corda choir will be singing at the midday Mass on Friday 14 November. The students have been working extremely hard and are really looking forward to the trip.

THANK YOU so much to all families who have supported our fund raising for the trip by purchasing juices on Fridays. We will be selling juices again this Friday.

End of Year Masses / Liturgies

Please do check the school's calendar in this newsletter for the dates and times for the end of year Masses and Liturgies. We have a number of very significant occasions which we would love parents/families to join us for.

Sally Washer DRS

PLEASE NOTE Our last day of the year is Wednesday 17 December.



be.
the difference

**School / Parish
Mass**

Sunday 9 November 10am

India Mahy



Class Stall Help

If you haven't already been in touch with your Class Rep to put your name down to help out on your class stall - please do so asap as we really need your help, thanks.

Baking

The year 2 classes are supplying baking to sell at our cake stall on Fireworks night. If there are any others of you who would also like to contribute baking it would be greatly appreciated. All baking is to be taking to the BAMJC on the morning of fireworks day.

Donations and Prizes

We are still after donations and prizes, anything big or small. So if you can help, please contact Rebecca Honeybone on 021 328 220.

Non-stop Entertainment and Fun!

We have a great line up of entertainment this year for you. You will be able to kick back and relax listening to Dominic and Trevel, get the heart racing with a bit of Zumba, be entertained by our Pacifica, Hip Hop, Kapa Haka, Stomp and Jump Jam groups, do a bit of a jig with our Irish Dancers and,

finally, have a boogie with one of our school mum's band, Decibel.

Of course the St Mary's inaugural Wheelbarrow Race - starting at 6.00pm with wheelbarrows displayed from 5.30pm for the best dressed wheelbarrow competition.

And our grand finale Fireworks display kicking off between 8.45pm and 9.00pm, weather dependant.

SPORTS NEWS

Summer Sports

Congratulations to everyone who has turned out over the past three weeks to kick off the summer sport season. It has been lovely to visit all codes and see the St Mary's children enjoying themselves.

National Champions

Congratulations to Ben McCurran and James Rinui who have earned National titles in their respective codes. Ben was part of the Devoy Squash & Fitness Centre F grade team and James competed in the NZ Age group surfing championships. Gold medals for these boys, and bragging rights for a wee while too.

SCHOOL NEWS

Kids for Kids World Vision Concert

Last Wednesday night all our year 5 and 6 students took part in the World Vision Kids for Kids Concert at BayCourt.

It was an amazing night! Our students performed and sang so well. We were very proud of them. They had a great time singing songs with guest performer Nathan King.

Nathan King was an outstanding performer, had a beautiful voice and certainly was a great dancer! He really engaged the students and made it a very memorable and fun night for them.

We were especially proud of four of our St Mary's students who were chosen to sing soloist parts - India Mahy, Sam Taane, Tia Powell and Callum Jeffries. Our congratulations to them.

PTA NEWS

Taylor Brothers St Mary's Fireworks Gala

Volunteers

We are still looking for volunteers to help with setting up on the day and selling tickets to some of the activities on the night. Please email us on fireworks@stmarystga.school.nz or contact Tracey on 021 045 0216. This is not arduous work so please volunteer and you will meet other parents and have a great time!

Equipment Needed

We are looking for some crockpots and extension cords to borrow for the day and night of fireworks. The extension cords preferably to be 25m or longer.. Please text Tracey on 021 045 0216 if you can lend us these items. If you are able to lend them don't forget to name them!

Whanau Group Hangi & Hereford Kitchen Food Hampers

Time is running out to pre-order your Hangi or Food Hamper for the Fireworks night. For further information or to pre-order please see visit our lovely ladies in the school office or visit the PTA page on the school website.

FIREWORKS VOLUNTEERS

We need extra helpers on the day, so we can deliver a top class event for our school. Please!

If you can help, please complete the form below and return it to the school office or contact one of us as, soon as possible.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Friday morning set-up | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Friday afternoon set-up | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stall help on the night (rostered) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Friday night clean-up | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Saturday morning clean-up | (Please circle when you can help) |

Please note this help is additional to your class requirements

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Child's Rm No.(s): _____



Ben McCurran



James Rinui



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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David McDonnell 07 578 4044



Kirstin (Kirt) Richards 07 571 0444



IT SERVICE PROVIDER AND SUPPORT

Steven Vincent 07 571 1060