

15th March 2010

Tena Koutou Katoa  
Greetings everyone.

We have such a wonderful reputation as a school in the wider community. Every day we receive phone calls inquiring about enrolment opportunities. The main reasons people give us for wanting their children to come here are its strong sense of values, the way our community nurtures and cares for each other and the high standards of behaviour and academic performance which is seen in our school leavers. Yet I wonder if we survey our nearest neighbours we would get the same response? I think not. The way we promote our school is reflected in the way we behave. We tell our children that all the time and we have high expectations of them when they are representing the school. However, we seem to forget that our parent body represents the school as well. If you go back through the newsletters you will find this same message returning time after time, but it doesn't seem to be sticking. You are doing the school a terrible disservice by the way you behave at the gate if you blatantly ignore basic parking procedures. It saddens us to think that the wider community are beginning to develop a very negative idea of what Christian character is all about. Please consider this next time you are dropping off or picking up your child. How am I reflecting the Christian character and message to those around me?

#### **The Week Ahead**

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> - BOT meeting 7.30 in staffroom

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> – St Joseph's Day Mass followed by Powhiri and Tabloids

#### **St Joseph's Day**

We celebrate St Joseph's Day on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March because our school recognises St Joseph as our Patron Saint. We will begin the day with Mass in St Mary's at 9.15 am. From there we will process back to school and welcome new families and students in to the school with a powhiri. Parents are invited to stay for morning tea. The PTA will be providing a sausage sizzle for lunch. They need some help to cook and distribute. If you are able to help, please contact the office. After lunch a tabloid sports has been arranged. All children will be put into teams. For these sports the children will require their PE shorts and a t shirt in their house colour. This is the first House event for the year. If your child doesn't know which house they are in they will be told before the day. Please make sure your child has their school sunhat and a drink bottle at school that day, They will require morning tea but not lunch. If there are parents who are willing to help run events at the tabloid sports, your help would be most appreciated. Please let Mr Crawford know if you are available.

#### **Welcome Powhiri**

We invite all new and not so new parents, students and families to the school who have not been formally welcomed before to be welcomed onto the school grounds straight after Mass on Friday. This will just a way of recognising our newer members of the school community and will be very non-threatening. We would love to have a good group of parents and students attend. We would like all new families to gather outside the Moeller St entrance where you will be led in by a caller and a speaker. Any established members of the school community who have been welcomed in before are invited to join the school community inside the gate.

#### **Headlice**

Please check your child's hair this week. If we all check and treat at the same time, we might be able to get rid of them.

#### **Nut Allergies**

We do have some children who have severe reactions to nuts. Although we do not ban them from lunchboxes, we ask you to consider alternatives.

#### **Teachers Only Day**

There will be a teachers only day on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March which is the second to last week of the term. The school will be closed for instruction on that day. You will need to make other arrangements for your children if you are working.

#### **PTA AGM**

Thank you to all those who attended the PTA AGM especially the new parents. It was a very positive meeting. Our committee now consists of Amy Walewski and Chairperson, Kate Kerr and Vice Chairperson, Kathryn Winnie as secretary and Bruce Allen as Treasurer. Welcome back to our established members and welcome aboard Bruce.

#### **Parish News**

**SITUATIONS VACANT:** The St Mary's Parish House in Osier Road Taradale requires the services of a housekeeper for 20 hours per week Monday to Friday mornings. If you are interested, or know of someone who may be suitable please contact Carmel at the Parish Office 8442224 for an application and job description. Applications close Friday 19th March.

**BULLETIN DELIVERIES – Wanted urgently** someone to deliver Parish Newsletters

(1) in the Greenmeadows East area. Atherfold Cres, Duckworth Cres, Currie St, Tait Drive (part) and side streets (21 to deliver).

(2) in the Oaklands area off Church Road, Summerset Village, Merlot Drive and Pinotage Drive (22 to deliver). Please phone Sylvia 844 8795 or Colleen 844 8797.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** 7pm every Friday during Lent. Worthwhile traditional Lenten devotion.

**WALNUTS AND LEMONS** required for the Passover Meal. Please contact the Parish Office if you can help

God bless you all.

Julia Johnson

#### **T-Ball**

Tee Ball has concluded for this term. It starts again in Term 4 and students will be in the same teams they were in for this term. I would like to thank Paola Minehan, Joanna Sloane John Viljoen and James Williams very much for managing the teams this season. Your willingness to look after a team and commitment is gratefully appreciated by all.

#### **Cricket**

**Year 3/4 A team** played Nelson Park Primary at Nelson Park on Friday and lost 43 runs to 70. Ben Rybinski and Fred Devereux topped scored. George Sicklemore and Fred Devereux both bowled very well.

The **Year 3/4 B team** played St Patrick's and had another comprehensive win 42 runs to 13. Player of the day was Daniel Hurley for his outstanding batting.

Both teams play at Nelson Park this Friday at 3.30pm.

The **Year 5/6 team** had a bye on Saturday.

Mr Crawford will let the team know where they are playing this week when the draw comes through..

#### **SENIORS TRIP TO THE RIVER**

Thanks to all parents who offered to walk down with us and help out at the river. Please join your child's class at 9 am.

Tuesday Room 10 and 11

Wednesday Room 5 and 9

#### **JUNIOR ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND**

This is out of bounds before school. It can only be used after school if a parent or caregiver is supervising.

**CLASS AWARDS—CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE CHILDREN**



Room 1 St Veronica	Amelia Otto	for fantastic effort in story writing
Room 2 St Angela	Baylie Young	for great story writing
Room 3 St Thomas More	Ryan O'Carroll	for being a kind friend to others
Room 4 St Therese	Hannah Cotter	for awesome swimming
Room 5 St Gerard	Johanna Minehan	for managing her time well this week
	Daniel Lynch	for showing he can manage himself well
Room 6 St Francis	Tom Hollier	for excellent reading progress
	Benjamin Sloan	for excellence in spelling
Room 7 St Patrick	James Aston	for creative narrative writing
	Briana Herbert	for great work in ICT and Inquiry
	Andrew Oliver	for great listening
	Zavier Burton	for great effort with written language
Room 8 St Anne	Christopher Cacho-Bevin	for great self management in class
	Megan Kerr	for great self management in class
	Sarah Winnie	for very creative story writing
	Ben Gardiner	for very creative story writing
Room 9 St Bridget	Selena Hard	for trying hard at all times & showing great initiative.
	Edward Parsons	for showing initiative by doing the right thing
Room 10 St John Bosco	Nick Ryan	for the enthusiasm & maturity displayed during Mass singing practices
	Thomas McLean	for being helpful & respectful to adults during the anointing Mass
Room 11 St Dominic	Louis Jardine	for putting in a lot of effort managing himself this week
	Ella White Shaw	for always striving to do her best
Room 12 St Bernadette	Jack Graney	for settling quickly to work and keeping on task
	Sophie Broome	for being a helpful, pleasant & enthusiastic student
	Fred Devereux	for working hard in reading
	Alana Ward	for trying her best all the time

**ALTAR SERVERS Sunday 21 March**

9 am H. Askew, C Gibson  
5 pm C White Shaw, S Hard

**FIRST RECONCILIATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

An invitation is extended to students, Year 4 and above wishing to make their first reconciliation and first holy communion. Please complete the registration slip below and return to St Mary's Parish office by 29th March. The sessions start with a parent meeting on Wednesday 21st April.

Thank you. Sheryl Riceman & Rachael Quinney.

**FOR SALE**

Girls winter school uniform size 10—as new. Phone 8451201.

**SEAWEEK POETRY COMPETITION**

2nd Prize—Sarah Otto, Room 8.

**My Wish**

Drip, drop, plip, plop, slip, slop, SPLASH!  
I dive under the waves and chase the colourful fish  
I swim like a mermaid  
My wish  
I don't like swimming alone, Alone, in the giant ocean dish  
I love swimming with the creatures in the sea  
I want to save them and set them free  
I could splash with my tail and warn them to flee  
I turn to go back to shore, I'm not a mermaid anymore  
My toes grab the sand, I push off and zoom upwards  
I break through the surface, I take a breath and look forwards  
I'm getting closer to the shore but the ocean tugs me backwards  
Finally my fingertips find the sparkly hot sand  
I run to my towel, I shake off the ocean  
Drip, drop, plip, plop, CRASH!

**School Swimming Sports**

The annual school swimming sports will be held next **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** at the Onekawa Aquatic Centre from 11am. All students in the Middle and Senior School (Years 3 – 6) will be competing in various events and will need their swimming gear, lunch and a drink for this day. We will be transporting the students by bus to and from the pools but invite parents and family members to come and support our swimmers on the day. We will also need a few adults to assist us with timing the events and would appreciate help from any parents who are able to help on this day at the pools.

**Year 5/6 Camp**

This year the Year 5 and 6 students will be going to Wellington from 20<sup>th</sup>- 24<sup>th</sup> September on their urban camp. We are in the process of organising and booking the various activities we will be doing while in Wellington. We will need a number of parents to accompany us on this trip to assist the teachers with the supervision of the students. If you would like to be one of the parents to accompany us we would recommend you ensure your Police clearance is up to date. If you are unsure or have not applied for a Police clearance before, pick up a form from Julia to send to Wellington as soon as possible. If you have any questions see Sandy or one of the Senior Team.

**THE SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP** Please note the change in day this week. We will be open from 8.30—8.55 am this **Tuesday 16th March** instead of our normal Wednesday. Order forms are available outside the office and need to be returned to Carol in the office with form and money included. Please direct all inquiries to Karyn Gouder 845 2712 or Sharee Lack 844 4311.

**FIRST RECONCILIATION & HOLY COMMUNION**

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parents' Names \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Place & Date of Baptism \_\_\_\_\_