



St. Patrick's Catholic School News

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Vol 4.7

Thursday 8th December 2011

Principal: Brian Belczacki
Deputy Principals: Cass Sutton, Graeme Norman
DRS: Raewyn Jackman
Office Staff: Sue Cresswell, Dana Macdonald
Bursar: Patty Dudson
Parish Priest: Fr Adrie Paule
BOT Chairperson: Simon Brdanovic

Kia ora Parents, Guardians and Children,

The Charism for this week is:

LOVE

'.....And the greatest of these is Love'

(1 Cor 13)

As we move into the 2nd week of Advent, we continue preparing for the arrival of God's gift of Love; his only Son. School continues to be a busy place with end of year practices and farewells being prepared, end of year reports and assessments being finalized, class parties happening – the list goes on.... Families too are busily preparing for guests to arrive, presents to buy, Christmas trees to decorate, food to organize – that list goes on too!! And when that day comes – that day of Christmas let's remember that it started with a baby....

A reminder.....

You are all invited to our special Christmas liturgy next Tuesday evening (13th December) in the church @ 6:30pm – and extended family is invited too!

A quote from St Mary of the Cross Mackillop



"May God grant you courage and wisdom in all you do and say".

28th October 1889

St Mary of the Cross Mackillop...

.....Pray for us

Friday Lunch Roster (last day for lunches)
9 December – Sandra Russ & Renee Irwin



TERM DIARY

Wk 7	Charism : Advent Fri 9 th Dec : Whole school Assembly 2:15pm Church : EOY Reports home to parents
Wk 8	Charism : Advent / Christmas Tue 13 th Dec : EOY Prizegiving 1:30pm : EOY Liturgy & Farewells 6:30pm Wed 14 th Dec : LAST DAY OF THE SCHOOL YEAR : EOY Mass @ 11:45am (chn can be collected after mass – Buses run at 2pm when school closes) : School Office CLOSING @ 2pm

HAPPY HOLIDAYS !!!

Holiday Hours for the School Office

Mon 23 rd Jan	: 8:30am – 12:30pm
Tue 24 th Jan	: CLOSED
Wed 25 th Jan	: CLOSED
Thu 26 th Jan	: 8:30am -12:30pm
Fri 27 th Jan	: 8:30am - 12:30pm
2012 Wk 1	Mon 30 th Jan : AUCKLAND ANNIVERSARY HOLIDAY Tue 31 st Jan : School opens @ 8:55am : 11:15am Beginning of year Mass

Christmas presents...

It is that time again and we are now gathering Christmas presents for St Vincent de Paul to distribute to less fortunate families. These can be left under the Christmas Tree which is in the office foyer. Please label on the outside with 'boy/girl' and 'age'.



**WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY
TOMORROW FRIDAY 9TH
DECEMBER @ 2:15PM
IN THE CHURCH**

**SCHOOL PRIZEGIVING
TUESDAY 13TH
DECEMBER @
1:30PM IN THE CHURCH**



Our Vision: 'To provide 21st century learning in a Catholic environment which empowers children to strive for excellence'.

'Empowered today for tomorrow's world'

As you prepare for Sunday's Readings....

John 1:6-8, 19-28 - John the Baptist tells of the coming of Christ
3rd Sunday of Advent (Cycle B)



The story of John the Baptist continues this week when we see that John was having a huge impact on the people with hundreds gathering every day at the river Jordan. Participation in John's ritual of baptism expressed the person's willingness to change. He

was clearly going to be trouble to those in power. He was clearly a prophetic figure in demeanour, message and clothing after the pattern of Elijah. It is also very likely that John's disciples continued to gather together even when John the evangelist was writing this gospel around 90AD.

Despite this huge following and his numerous disciples, John the Baptist insists that he is a witness - he is the divinely chosen witness to the light, not the light itself. John confesses his unworthiness even to perform the service customarily done by a slave - that of undoing the sandal strap.

During Advent we are also meant to be preparing the way of the Lord and that means that we too are called to be witnesses to the light, people ready to proclaim Jesus is Lord. We need not adopt John's fashion sense or dietary inclinations but our lives are meant to be a contrast to the secular message of individualism, consumerism and materialism. These messages form a constant barrage of brainwashing especially at this time of year. See it, want it, buy it! accompanied by weekly offers of a new credit card or credit limit.

I was speaking with a 'good Presbyterian' who explained that she would be alone on Christmas day and wanted to offer her Christmas break to volunteering with St Vincent de Paul. Some young people will spend Christmas in gaol and others will spend Christmas Day visiting them. This 'good news' rarely gets any press and yet these are the very people Jesus names as his Gospel option for the poor. What will you do?

Teaching Staff for 2012

We are very fortunate that most of our teachers are returning next year with the following changes.

It is with regret that I announce that Mr Ruary Laidlaw (R9) has tendered his resignation which was regretfully accepted by the Board of Trustees. Ruary will be retiring after 48 years in the teaching profession of which the last 13 years have been at our school. Thank you Ruary for your outstanding service to the profession and especially to our school.

Ruary will be farewelled on Tuesday evening.. Miss Amy Knight who has been working this year in Rooms 11 and 4 will takeover in Room 9 for Terms 1 and 2 until Miss Claire Donaldson returns from her O.E. to begin back at the school in Term 3.

Ruary will not escape to retirement so easily however! As he will be back in a part time capacity taking up DP release (in R11) and continuing to assist the school with developments in his passion - ICT!

At this stage all other teachers are returning to their same teaching roles in their current classrooms.

As we finish 2011.....

End of Year Reports will be issued tomorrow, Friday 9th December 2011.

Prize giving Assembly is on Tuesday 13th December @ 1:30pm and the **End of Year Liturgy / Farewell to Y8's** will be at 6.30pm on Tuesday 13th December.
End of Year Mass - Last day of Term 4. We celebrate the end of year with a school Mass at 11:45am on Wednesday 14th December. **Students can be picked up from the classroom after Mass. Remaining students will be supervised over the lunch / after lunch period with the school closing at 2pm when the buses will run.** The school office closes for the year @ 2pm

And move into 2012.....

The school office will be open on **Monday 23rd January, Thursday & Friday 26th & 27th January** from 8:30am to 12:30pm. All staff will be attending professional development on Tuesday & Wednesday 24th & 25th January 2012. The office is closed on Monday 30th January being Auckland Anniversary Day.

SECONDHAND UNIFORMS : The uniform shop will be open on Friday 27th January from 10am-11:30am. Come to the office.

School starts for 2012 at 8:50am on Tuesday 31st January 2012. Our opening day Mass is @ 11:15am

ASSEMBLY AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received awards at our Senior team Assembly on Friday 2nd December 2011.



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S AWARDS- "Love"

Logan Brindle	Grace Armstrong
Cooper Blackwell	Emma Field
Nathan Co	Alex Timmo
Sebastian Jones	Hannah Kendrick
Krystal Tauai	Lisa Elliston
Portia Turner	Kate McQuilkin

HOUSE POINTS As at the end of Wk 7

Kakepuku	Maungatautari	Pirongia	Te Kawa
7805	6650	9610	7730
2nd	4th	1st	3rd

The Winning House announced at the whole school assembly tomorrow Friday 9th December with the end of year treat being on Monday (afternoon) the 12th December .

Donations in 2011 – thank you!!

Once again, thank you for those parents who generously paid the donations asked for in 2011. Unfortunately, for the **RE digital resource donation** we are levied annually by the owners of the resource (National Centre for Religious Studies – NCRS) for the numbers of children at our school (ie we are just passing the cost on). This year's shortfall (\$1,787.25) is therefore coming from general school funds which mean other resources are not able to be purchased. For the **ICT Donation**, we had 'earmarked' funds towards an upgrade of our wireless network across the school and to begin accumulating funds towards the school's contribution of being able to connect to the ultra high speed broadband initiative when this becomes available in TA.. This year's shortfall (\$10,712.50) in donations has meant that both projects remain 'on hold' until funds become available.

Congratulations to...

Well done to **Arden Mason** and **Shantel O'Keeffe** who were 2 of a 3 person relay team at the Waikato/BOP Athletics Champs last weekend and won the gold medal in the field relay. Arden won the shotput event and Shantel won the Discus.

Lost Property...

A reminder to all parents to check the Lost Property displayed on Room 8's deck each afternoon until the end of the term. There are lots of school jerseys!

SPORTS NEWS

(see insert)

PTA NEWS



St Pat's PTA Christmas Float
Watch out for our float in the TA Christmas Parade!!

THANK YOU for your support of your PTA in 2011, We look forward to your continued support in 2012!

God Bless


Brian Belczacki
Principal

COMMUNITY NEWS

Babysitter available...

Reliable babysitter available. Please contact Dana at the school office or phone 07 873 1622.

For Sale....

Complete Preloved uniform for Sacred Heart Girls College Hamilton.

Size 10, All items are for the year 9 - 12 girls.
1x Blazer 2 yrs old, 1x Jersey 2 yrs old (87cm) , 3 x Summer shirts , 1x Tracksuit, 1x Skirt 2 yrs old, 1x PE shirt, 1x PE shorts, 1x Scarf
Ok condition (\$250.00 O.N.O for all)

Contact Debbie Morris 07 870 2259 or 027 201 2183

Sacred Heart Girls College Uniform

1 x skirt size 61 – 72cm \$20.00, 1 x jersey size 87 \$30.00,

Girls bike for sale – Dolly Healing (purple) in good condition - \$70.00. Suit 10 – 12 year old.

Please contact Julia 870 5030 or text 021 137 9756.

Bike for Sale.... Raleigh Eliminator

20" wheel, orange and black, 6 gears, good condition, \$200.00, **ph: 8701550 or 021 119 2611**

Secondhand **Sacred Heart Girls College Blazer**, size 16, \$100.00. **ph 027 416 6746.**

Garage Sale... Good Quality 2nd Hand Toys and Jigsaws for under 7 years. Books up to 10yrs. Dolls - New Born to Bratz at 2/1 Totara Street on Friday 9th Dec 10am to 11am and 2pm to 3.15pm.

ST PATRICK'S PARISH NEWS

St Patrick's Catholic Church - Te Awamutu

Phone 871 6109 Fax : 871 6079

PO Box 191, Te Awamutu

Email : stpatsteawa@xtra.co.nz

Parish Priest: Fr Adrie P Paule

Office Hours: 8am – 12noon Tuesday - Friday

Mass Times Tuesday 5.15pm, Wednesday – Friday 9.15am

Holy Hour: after 9:15am Mass each Friday

Weekend Masses - 5.30pm Sat (vigil)

Sunday Mass – 10am

Cenacle of Prayer: Monday 9:15am – 10am

RECONCILIATION: Saturdays – 11:30am to 12noon

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve

6.30pm Carols & 7.00pm Mass

Christmas Day

10.00am Christmas Family Mass

December 31

5.30pm Vigil Mass

January 1

10am Mass





St. Patrick's School

Athletics Day

Wow, what a day! The school athletics was held on Thursday 17th November at the Stadium. Kids were excited and sun shades were up! The day started with the long distance races to get everyone in the mood. The field events and sprints rotations started with each age having their opportunity to show their stuff. Finals were run after lunch with all enthusiastically supporting.

Go PIRONGIA!!

All House members supported their house though colours, props and voices. A **huge thank you** to those parents who provided support by helping out on the day, many of you help all day long!!



Interschool Athletics

8 -11 year old

On the postponement day 56 students made the trek to the Stadium to represent St. Patrick's at the Interschool Athletic competing against Te Awamutu Primary School, Pekerau School, Kihikihi Primary School and Korakanui School. St. Patrick's competed competitively and with pride, particularly placing well in Shot Put and Long Jump. St. Patrick's was placed second overall.

Parent help was needed for this day also and we had a marvellous team of parents who persisted to support the students. **Thank you all for your efforts.**

Catholic Interschool Athletics

On Wednesday 23rd of November, a squad of 28 Year 7 and 8 students travelled to Porritt Stadium in Hamilton to compete against other Catholic schools, from the greater Waikato area. These students competed well and were mentioned in the placement list. Georgia Pratt, Madelaine Livingstone, Jonathon Beaver, Georgia Loomb, Alexandra Shaw and Alice Houlihan were all placed in their events.

Thank you to those parents who provided support and encouragement in Hamilton.

Waikato Full Primary Athletics

Waikato Full Primary events consist of 64 schools sending their elite sportspersons to compete to a very high level. To this event our squad consisted of 9 athletes, who's job it was to represent St. Patrick's at this elite event.

Congratulations to Madelaine Livingstone who placed 2nd in the 1500m.

Congratulations to Georgia Pratt who placed 2nd in the 200m Sprint.

SWITCH OFF FOR FAMILY TIME




With more light in the evenings and warmer temperatures, it's a great time to get out there and active instead of TV watching.

TIP
Pack a healthy picnic and a ball and walk as a family down to the park for family dinner and fun.




LUNCHBOX SAVERS



Kids lunchboxes don't have to be full of expensive packet foods.

Doing home baking or putting in fresh foods helps to save money and make it much healthier for the kids.

TIP
Try rice crackers instead of chip packets, fruit pieces/slices instead of muesli bars or make a healthy muffin instead of chocolate biscuits (each toffee pop has about 1tsp of fat in it!).



Back to School 2012 – don't miss out on valuable resources!

The back to school period is your biggest opportunity to get those much needed resources through the Warehouse Stationery Support Your School programme. Be sure your school benefits by reminding everyone in your community to present your school's Support Your School voucher when purchasing in store or online. For your convenience there is a copy below or you can download it from warehousestationery.co.nz via the Support Your School tile.



From everyone at Warehouse Stationery, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a relaxing (and very well-earned) summer break.


Regards

The Warehouse Stationery Team

^For terms and conditions refer online or ask in store.



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MICHAEL VAN DER HOEVEN
Director



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Before School - 7:30 - 8:30am
After School - 2:45 - 5:45pm
Phone: Simone Monkley
027 485 3038 or 871 3615

Steve Gibson Chartered Accountants Ltd

Steve Gibson C.A.
Email: steve@sgca.co.nz
Mobile: 0274 907 899

306 Alexandra Street
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