



# St. Patrick's Catholic School News

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**Vol 4.8**  
**Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> 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

**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all**

**From The Staff!!!**

Merry Christmas  
and a  
Safe and happy  
holiday!  
Michelle  
Ryess  
The peace and joy of  
a Happy Christmas to  
you all.  
Cass.

Merry Christmas  
& Happy New Year.  
Amy K. Enjoy  
the reason  
for the season.

Have a wonderful  
Christmas &  
a safe holiday  
Sue E. ☺

Happy  
wishes  
a  
happy  
holiday

Merry Christmas  
Restful happy holidays  
R. Hoskins to everyone  
EU at 2012

See you all in  
the New Year.  
Patty Dudson



Have a happy &  
holy Christmas  
and a great  
holiday with your  
children.  
God Bless  
Gabrielle Salemi

Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New  
Year! Ruany

Merry Christmas  
to everyone  
Have a great holiday  
and see you safe again  
in 2012! Merry Christmas!  
Paula Carr.

Merry Christmas. Have  
Enjoy your  
holidays.  
Amee Connors

Have a happy  
your children  
Enjoy the break.  
Norman

All the best  
for the festive  
season. Enjoy  
your families.  
God Bless  
Cathy White  
Merry Christmas!!



Merry Christmas,  
Take Care,  
Danyx

Merry Christmas.  
Have a fantastic  
Holiday!  
Nicola Prescott

A good book  
on a blanket  
under a shady tree  
during the holiday  
season.

God bless  
your families  
during the holiday  
season.  
Have a Happy & Holy Christmas  
and a great New Year.  
God bless  
Raewyn Jackman

**"Have a wonderful and safe Christmas Everyone"**

## A quote from St Mary of the Cross Mackillop

"God has done wonders for us  
through our holy patron".  
3<sup>rd</sup> March 1903



**St Mary of the Cross  
Mackillop...**  
.....Pray for us

## **Congratulations to our awards recipients at the end of year prizegiving**

### **Special Catholic Character :**

CWL Trophy incl Coral Fraser Scholarship  
– Emma O'Keeffe

### **Sports :**

Effort : Mason Cup – Fintan Cooper

Excellence : Gibson Family Cup – Jonathon Beaver

### **Service :**

Librarian Leader – Laura Densley

House Leaders : Pirongia – Harry Hunwick &  
Fintan Cooper

(house champions 2011)

Maungatautari – Georgia Praat &  
Kaitlyn Gibson

Takepuku – Rose Allen &  
Alice Houlihan

Te Kawa – Liam Banks &  
Emma O'Keeffe

### **Academic :**

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop trophy for Effort  
– Madelaine Livingstone

Whakamarama Marae Award for Perseverance  
– Oliver Crossan

St Patrick's Parish Centennial Trophy for Excellence  
– Rose Allen

Head Girl 2012 – Kaitlyn Gibson

Head Boy 2012 – Drew Ngapo



**Our 2011 trophy winners  
Congratulations to you all !!**

## **TERM DIARY**

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS !!!**

**AS WE MOVE INTO 2012**

**Holiday Hours for the School Office**

Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan : 8:30am – 12:30pm

Tue 24<sup>th</sup> Jan : CLOSED

Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Jan : CLOSED

Thu 26<sup>th</sup> Jan : 8:30am -12:30pm

Fri 27<sup>th</sup> Jan : 8:30am - 12:30pm

**2012** Mon 30<sup>th</sup> Jan : **AUCKLAND ANNIVERSARY HOLIDAY**

**Wk 1** Tue 31<sup>st</sup> Jan : School opens @ 8:55am  
: 11:15am Beginning of year Mass

## **HEAD GIRL & BOY ANNOUNCED FOR 2012**



*The 2011 head girl Madelaine Livingstone congratulates  
the 2012 head girl Kaitlyn Gibson*



*While the 2011 head boy Hamish Hunwick congratulates  
the 2012 head boy Drew Ngapo*

## **End of Year student accounts...**

Thank you to those parents who have settled their student accounts. As the office will be closed from today at 2:00pm we would appreciate it if you are able to make payments by internet banking during the holidays. Our account details are as follows:

**St Patrick's Catholic School BOT**  
**ASB Bank, Te Awamutu**  
**12-3134-0048177-00**

**Thank you....** To Fr Alex for your pastoral care over the school and parish while Fr Adrie was away. God Bless You !!



### **Congratulations to...**

The McKay family.. a new addition (Katherine Anne McKay), a wee sister for Samuel (R3).



## Farewell to the following families

Allen Family (Rose), Aykroyd family (Ellie), Banks family (Liam), Beaver family (Jonny), Cho family (Brian), Crossan family (Oli), Duncan family (Hayley), Edwards family (Brooke), Gaze family (Ben), Hann family (Olivia) – another one coming!, Hunter family (Rachael), Hunwick family (Hamish & Harry), O'Brien family (Cara), O'Donnell-Donaldson family (Chevy), Paul-Walters family (Trent), Picard family (Christian), Praat family (Georgia). **Thank you so much for your support of our school, for some families stretching over many years and children – God bless you all!**

## ASSEMBLY AWARDS

Congratulations to the following students who received awards at our Whole School Assembly on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2011.



### CHARISM AWARDS– “Love”

Jorja Underhill	Mitchell Rawson
Edmund Shum	Harry Southcombe
Kahurangi Tamki-Woolly	Kim Fox
Moya Fernandez	Caitlin Hayes
Jessie-Nicole Bullians	Xandra Morrissey
Emma O'Keeffe	

### HOUSE POINTS FINAL END OF YEAR

Kakepuku	Maungatautari	Pirongia	Te Kawa
67,220	66,405	73,069	70,041
2nd	4th	1st	3rd

**Congratulations Pirongia!!!**

## PTA NEWS

## PTA ROUNDUP



Well another year has passed us by!!! We had a very busy year and we thank you all for your support during our fundraising events, it wouldn't be possible without you!

We entered a float in the Christmas parade in Te Awamutu this year and it looked fantastic and a great day was had by all!!!



Our Float won **1<sup>st</sup> Prize** in the School/Kindergarten category -Wahoo St Patrick's!!!

We would like to thank all those who gave up their time to help us make the float possible.

A huge thank you to:

Mark & Greg Irwin, Roy Browne from Fleet Image Lachlan and Wendy Chambers, Andy & James from Livingstone Building, Eric Bocock, 100% Appliances

And all the parents who gave up their time to set up and also the kids for all their effort, singing and smiles on the day!

The PTA would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year and we look forward to seeing you and some new faces back on the PTA next year!

First meeting is 31<sup>st</sup> January 6.30pm in the staffroom. **ALL WELCOME!**

**Annual Reports** from the Board Chairperson & Principal are enclosed with this newsletter

Happy Christmas and God bless!!

Brian Belczacki  
Principal

## 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





## **PRINCIPAL'S ANNUAL REPORT – 2011.**

*E to matau matua i te rangi manaakitia mai matou i tenei ra ake, ake ake Amene  
Tihei Mauriora, tena koutou. Ka nui te mihi ki a koutou*

Greetings to you all, in the name of God: Father, Son and Spirit. Greetings to this place and to our ancestors who always go before us.

As the year of celebration of Australasia's first saint, St Mary of the Cross MacKillop closes, we are reminded of the extraordinary work of Mary MacKillop and her sisters who continue to carry on the sterling work started so many years ago.

As a Josephite school we carry on this charism of 'doing all things well' by providing a top quality 21<sup>st</sup> century education, up skilling our young ones by providing authentic learning opportunities for our children while ensuring there is a systematic approach to the learning areas.

The ongoing challenge for schools is the impact of digital technologies and how best to utilize these in education. The roll out of ultraspeed broadband yet to hit Te Awamutu will have a major impact on our school and we need to be prepared for this, if we are to keep our education current in the 21<sup>st</sup> century environment. The younger ones starting next year will almost see some sort of digital device added to their stationery list before not too many years at school! Yes, and there's a financial cost for this that the Board have begun to address, by asking for that ICT Donation.

National Standards continue to be a political football with many schools having refused to report against these until the 'flaws' in the system are addressed. The new National Government continues the rhetoric that the Standards will improve student outcomes and continues to criticize our education system that is actually 5<sup>th</sup> in the OECD! We have not been one of these errant schools even though we share the concerns about how National Standards have been implemented. A breakdown of our results for 2011 show around 90% of our students are achieving at or above the standards in Reading, Writing and Maths with robust support systems that enable those students who are current below the standard to make solid improvements which, for some, will see them reach the relevant standard in 2012. We believe that it is important that all students have success even if this means that for some, they will not meet the standards.

Regardless of where education is heading we can be thankful for a hugely talented staff. You are truly very fortunate to have some of the best teachers around, in front of your children. I see them teaching often as I move around the rooms. To Cass Sutton, Graeme Norman and Raewyn Jackman who, with me, make up our leadership team. Your leadership skills and wisdom are truly appreciated. Our Junior teaching staff, Aimee Connors, Judy Graham, Gabrielle Belami and Vivien Davies ensure that your children get the very best start to their schooling life. While Patsy Wisnewski, Nic Prescott, Raewyn Hoskin and Raewyn Jackman work to ground this learning, by teaching your children to access the curriculum. Further up the school, Paula Carr and Ruary Laidlaw continue this process and ready our children for their intermediate learning while Michelle Russ, Amy Knight and Graeme Norman begin the process of readying our students for Secondary learning. Our teaching staff are ably supported by Cathy White and Mary Anne Laidlaw our very talented teacher aides. My thanks to Sue Cresswell, Dana Macdonald, Patty Dudson in the office who are great support assisting with the administration tasks that are both diverse and demanding. My thanks also to Bibi Nasilasila and Vilma Hunwick who look after our physical environment.

My deepest gratitude and thanks to all those who are involved in our community this year; parents and caregivers, teachers and support staff, Board of Trustees and members of the PTA who, as a new group, did an amazing job in fundraising this year. They remain a small group and they do need further members next year, so this is your opportunity to step up and take your turn!

Thank you also to Fr Adrie and in his absence Fr Alex for your friendly interactions with the school, to Sisters Margaret and Maria thank you also. Thank you to the Parish Community and the wider community of Te Awamutu, the Diocesan office staff and the staff at the Ministry of Education both locally and nationally.

Just a mention here of the relationship between school and parish – we are very fortunate that this relationship is very strong and the envy of many schools and parishes around our Diocese. There is a strong desire from both sides that we present to our Te Awamutu community that we are ONE community - school and parish. The building programmes that both parish and school are embarking on over the next 12 to 18 months focussing on ONE entrance on Alexandra Street will help to focus this vision. We have a number of long established families moving on from our school this year. To these families, we wish you every blessing.

The charism of St Mary of the Cross Mackillop; a deep faith and trust in God, great courage, a love of children, a love of people and families and a determination to never see a need without doing something about it, are the charisms that are important to keep alive as her legacy, the sisters legacy and indeed the Catholic community's legacy on which the foundations of our school lie.


They form the basis of our values and so help to shape the special Catholic Character of our school.

May God bless and keep you during this holy time of Christmas!  
No reira, tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa.

**St Patrick..... Pray for us**  
**St Mary of the Cross MacKillop..... Pray for us**

'Though many of us will be far apart, we can be united in spirit and pray for each other at the Crib and at the Altar.'

*St Mary of the Cross Mackillop 7<sup>th</sup> December 1899*



Brian Belczacki  
Principal

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT 2011**

To All Our School Community

Twelve months ago we reflected on a strong theme of involvement running through our school community. This year we can look back on the reason why that involvement continues, which is due to one word - enthusiasm.

An excellent example was at the recent school leavers dinner where the students each spoke fondly of the warm memories they will have of St Patrick's, and the environment that had been created for them. In particular, they made reference to their teachers and how those teachers had engendered in them a passion for learning, and improving themselves to the point of reaching their maximum potential.

We also heard from our student leaders who themselves had put a lot of energy and commitment into their roles, and have proven to be shining examples for their fellow students.

Enthusiasm could also be heard in the voices of those parents who spoke at that dinner and who also expressed gratitude for the culture created within the school which allowed their children to shine. Those parents, and all other parents and caregivers of students, have played a significant role in developing the special character which our school has, and should be rightfully proud of their own achievements. Our school has been spoilt with the number of parents who volunteer and support their children, and general school activities, including sports days, school camps and even the daily task of supporting children with their homework.

To that group of parents involved in the PTA we owe a special congratulations for their unstinting time and contribution over the past year which has raised sorely needed funds for the school. These activities have also been instrumental in elevating the levels of enthusiasm within the school and its wider community.

However, it is hard to see how anyone could have shown more passion for what they do on a daily basis than our enthusiastic and hardworking teaching faculty. As was amply demonstrated in the generous comments made by students, it is these teachers who inspire and energise them. They provide a wonderful example of enthusiasm for the children who they not only educate but also mentor. The professionalism and skill exhibited by our teachers is reflected in outstanding achievements that our students continue to have after they graduate, and we are very fortunate indeed in the quality of our teaching staff.

We are just as fortunate in our wonderful office staff of Patty, Sue and Dana, as well as the management team responsible for keeping our school going on a daily basis. The efforts of Graeme Norman and Cass Sutton are immense, and their special involvement with the children is reflected in how the children express and conduct themselves. Working with them is our Principal, Brian Belczacki, who has brought so much professionalism and dedication to his role. He is indeed a peerless CEO and we are blessed to have him as a manager of our school.

Finally, enthusiasm must be expressed and shown from the top down, and it is fair to state that the Board of Trustees has this quality in abundance. These Trustees involve themselves in all aspects of the school community, providing a wonderful example to others, as well as being committed to making the best decisions for the school as a whole. Your Trustees spend a lot of time in ensuring that the school is run in the best manner possible, and are diligent in ensuring that no decision is made lightly, but only after exploring all possibilities.

Overall, we are a very fortunate school community and it is pleasing to finish matters for the year on such a high note.

Merry Christmas to all.

Simon Brdanovic  
Chairperson  
St Patricks School Board of Trustees



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Director



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027 485 3038 or 871 3615

## Steve Gibson Chartered Accountants Ltd

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

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