

St. Patrick's Catholic School News

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Email: principal@stpatta.co.nz School website: www.stpatta.co.nz

Vol 4.9

Friday 14th

December 2012



Principal : Brian Belczacki
Deputy Principals: Cass Sutton, Graeme Norman
Director of Religious Studies : 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!!!



Raewyn Hoskin
Merry Christmas
Aimee Connors
See you in 2013.

Vivien
Happy Christmas
Patty Dudson

All the best!
Ruany

Have a great
Christmas.
Mr Norman

Have a wonderful
Christmas
Safe Holidays!
Gabrielle Balemi

Merry Christmas!
Enjoy.
Nicola Prescott
Kirihi
Gwinete
Have a great
Christmas.
Dana Macdonald

Happy Christmas!
Cathy White
God Bless for
a great Christmas
and wonderful
holiday

Wishing everyone
a safe and happy
holidays.
Patsy Wisniewski

Happy & Holy
Christmas
Mrs Jackman

Merry
Christmas
- Michelle Russ

Happy holidays
Mary-Anne Laidlaw

Merry Christmas
Amy Knight.

Enjoy your holidays.
Paula Carr

Judy
Graham

Enjoy the break
Have a
Merry Christmas &
a safe holiday.
Sue Cresswell

sharon
Merry Christmas

All the best!
Terry

"Have a wonderful and safe Christmas Everyone"



TERM DIARY

HAPPY HOLIDAYS !!! AS WE MOVE INTO 2013

Holiday Hours for the School Office

Tue 22nd Jan : CLOSED
Wed 23rd Jan : 8:30-12:30pm
Thu 24th Jan : 8:30-12:30pm
Fri 25th Jan : 8:30-12:30pm

2012 Wk 1
Mon 28th Jan : AUCKLAND ANNIVERSARY HOLIDAY
Tue 29th Jan : 8:15- 3:15pm
Wed 30th Jan : School opens @ 8:55am

A quote from St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

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



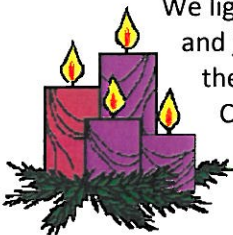
**St Mary of the Cross
MacKillop...Pray for us**

The Third Sunday of Advent – 16th December



We again light the candles of **hope** and **love**. Today we add the **PINK (ROSE)** candle of **joy**. Prophecy has been fulfilled. The long-awaited Messiah has come. Joy is the mood of all earnest seekers.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent – 23rd December



We light again the candles of **hope**, **love**, and **joy**, and the fourth **PURPLE** candle, the candle of **peace**.

Christ is the Prince of peace, come to reconcile us with God and others.
Christ helps us to see that peace is possible.



Farewell to the following families

Beros family (Courtney), Broughton family (Kayla) – see you later next year, Fraser family (Elisha), Gibson family (Kaitlyn), Harder family (Sam & Lucy), Houlihan family (Alice), Morrissey family (Xandra), Orange family (Alisha), Stirling-Smith family (Marara), Cox family (Simon), Pene family (Logan), Tapp family (Xavier), Williams family (Gabriel).
Thank you so much for your support of our school, for some families stretching over many years and children – God bless you all !

Winning House – Kakepuku !!!

HOUSE POINTS FINAL END OF YEAR			
Kakepuku	Maungatautari	Pirongia	Te Kawa
89,379	82,804	78,856	67,103
1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th

Congratulations to our awards recipients at the end of year prizegiving

Special Catholic Character :

Te Awamutu CWL Trophy – Alice Houlihan

Sports :

Effort : Mason Cup – Sam Harder

Excellence : Gibson Family Cup – Drew Ngapo

Service :

Enviro Leaders – Daniel Densley & Neve Waldron

Vinnies leadership – Alice Houlihan

Librarian Leader – Alisha Orange

House Leaders : Kakepuku – Daniel Densley & Alice Houlihan

(House champions 2012)

Pirongia – Eloise Livingstone & Caitlin Jowsey- Bourke

Maungatautari – Jake Russ & Emma Tervit

Te Kawa – Simon Cox & Georgia Loomb

Academic :

Whakamarama Marae Award for Perseverance

– Xandra Morrissey

St Mary of the Cross MacKillop Trophy for Effort

– Paige van den Bosch

St Patrick's Parish Centennial Trophy for Excellence

– Georgia Loomb

Head Girl 2013 – Eloise Livingstone

Head Boy 2013 – Jake Russ



**Our 2012 winners
Congratulations to you all !!**



Congratulations to...

The Hughes family.. a new addition (Holly Anahera Hughes), a wee sister for Paige (Rm.5) & Ella (Rm.1).

Classes 2013

Draft lists have been displayed over the last few days. These will be on display again from Wednesday 23rd January – please be aware that as information comes to hand, that these lists may vary right up until school starts (and even after) on Wednesday 30th January 2013.

HEAD GIRL & BOY ANNOUNCED FOR 2013



Kaitlyn Gibson congratulates our new head girl for 2013 – Eloise Livingstone



Drew Ngapo congratulates our new head boy for 2013 – Jake Russ

Annual Reports for 2012

from the Board Chairperson & Principal are enclosed with this newsletter.

End of Year student accounts...

Thank you to all those who have paid their school accounts in full, and also to those who have made some arrangement to pay regularly to clear existing accounts.

As our financial year ends on 31 December 2012, all remaining debts will be rolled over to your child's account for 2013.

Online payments can be made throughout the holidays. Our account details are as follows:

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

Thank you for your co-operation over the 2012 financial year. It has made my job much easier.

Happy Christmas

Patty Dudson

Bursar

PTA NEWS

Well another year has passed us by, we have had a very busy year and we thank you all for your support during our fundraising events. Have a happy Christmas from the PTA!!

Winner of the Christmas Grocery raffle

Congratulations to : Marie Emmett

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

3rd Sunday Advent (Year C)

Gospel Reading : But someone is coming who is much greater than I am.' (Lk 3 : 10-18)



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

RECONCILIATION: Saturdays – 11:30am to 12noon

CHRISTMAS LITURGICAL TIMETABLE

PRE CHRISTMAS NOVENA –

Christmas Masses from around the World

(Mass each evening @ 7:30pm with each mass being hosted by a specific parish group)

there are no 9:15am or 5:15pm (Tues) masses during this time

Fri 14th Dec : Reconciliation 2nd rite @ 7.30pm

Sat 15th Nov : Filipino Community (no 5:30pm Mass)

Sun 16th Nov : Youth Community (there is a 10am Mass)

Mon 17th Dec : Dutch Community

Tue 18th Dec : Catholic Women's League

Wed 19th Dec : Samoan Community

Thur 20th Dec : St Vincent de Paul

Fri 21st Nov : Zimbabwean/African Community

Sat 22nd Nov : Passionist Family Gps (no 5:30pm Mass)

Sun 23rd Nov : Maori Community (there is a 10am Mass)



CHRISTMAS EVE 24th Dec : Vigil Mass @ 7:30pm

CHRISTMAS DAY 25th Dec : Mass @ 10am

Sat 29th Dec – Vigil Mass 7:30pm

Sun 30th Dec – Mass @ 10am

NEW YEAR'S DAY 1st Jan 2013 : Mass @ 10am

After New Year's Day, Mass times revert back to the normal schedule



PRINCIPAL'S ANNUAL REPORT – 2012.

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 2012 academic year draws to a close we have many things to be grateful for; we live in a country with stunning scenery, with people that are fundamentally generous, to the core, that have galvanized into a caring society. In short we live in 'God's own'.

Our local community too, remains a caring one, who want to support their children and who want the best for them and from them. We are a school of choice; and one that many parents in Te Awamutu wish they could be a part of, and in there lies the challenge.....

Our school was founded back in 1921 on Catholic Christian values vigorously imparted by Catholic families and assisted by the Sisters of St Joseph, then an Australian based religious order, who were invited into our community. There was a deep sense of pride, at being part of our school and a 'can do' attitude to physically and financially support the school. This was the expectation on Catholic families across New Zealand who wanted a Catholic Education for their children.

In the 1980's as Catholic Schools became 'integrated' into the state school system, various 'checks' were part of each school's integration agreement to preserve the Catholic nature of each school. These included a 'non preference' cap on rolls where only a certain number of children could be enrolled at Catholic Schools who did not have a 'Catholic connection', and 'tagged' teaching positions which are reserved for teachers who were Catholic.

So back to the challenge.... Our non preference roll could be filled twice over by children with 'no Catholic connection' and these families are GOOD families. Meanwhile families who can claim preference enrolment are also keen to be at our school, they are GOOD families also and their preference status gives them the 'right' and privilege and of course with privilege comes responsibility.

Our society places huge demands on families with very few families having one parent at home as both are needing to work. This puts demands on families as the time available to assist with /at school is pretty minimal at best. We see this when we ask for parent helpers, as few are available to offer to help.

It is great to see so many families jumping at the privilege of a Catholic Education for their children, and this is the pattern right through New Zealand, but often we don't see the same enthusiasm for the responsibility associated with the privilege of being in a Catholic school.

That old saying 'that it takes a village (community) to raise a child' is certainly true with Christianity and therefore with being involved in a Catholic School. We see that the partnership; family (child/parent), school, AND parish as critical for the development of the whole person God calls your child to become.

I want you to take up your 'privileged' position as being Catholic at our school and I challenge you to also take up the responsibility of being a real part of our community and I mean parish and school. The community WANTS to see you celebrating the Eucharist each and every Sunday... Our community is the lesser without you...

We want to see you taking up the responsibility of taking part in the activities of the school... board elections next year, involvement in the PTA, attending school events, fundraising, parent education evenings, the list goes on... Our community is the lesser without you...

As our building programme evolves next year, the purpose to having our School Administration building up near the church is to communicate to our community that we are ONE community.

The National Government's initiative of implementing National Standards in Reading, Writing and Maths continues. A breakdown of our results for 2012 show slight improvements on 2011 with around 95% of our students achieving at or above the standards in Reading, 86.7% in Writing and 86.2% in Maths.

Robust support systems are in place 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 2013. We believe that it is important that all students have success even if this means that for some, they will not meet the standards.

We are very blessed with a hugely talented staff and your children are truly very fortunate to have some of the best teachers around. 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 Wisniewski, 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 Amy Knight continue this process and ready our children for their intermediate learning while Michelle Russ, Graeme Norman and Terry O'Carroll begin the process of readying our students for Secondary learning. Thanks too, to Ruary Laidlaw for your ongoing teacher relief support and work with ICT. 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, Mike Kiely and Vilma Hunwick who look after our physical environment.

I am very thrilled to announce that, next year, Amy Knight will remain with us in a fixed term position generated by Judy Graham being successfully granted study leave. Aimee Connors now has a permanent teaching position and we welcome back Claire Donaldson from her overseas trip.

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, though a small group, did an amazing job of fundraising this year. As already outlined, the PTA do need further members next year, so this is your opportunity to step up and take your turn!

Thank you also to Fr Adrie 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, Br Pat Lynch and staff of the NZ Catholic Education Office (Wellington), and the staff at the Ministry of Education both locally and nationally.

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 sister's 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!

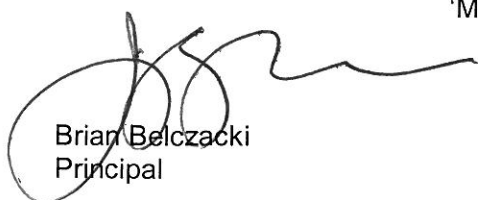
No reira, tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa.

St Patrick..... Pray for us

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

'May the spirit of the Sacred Heart animate you.'

St Mary of the Cross Mackillop 18th September 1906


Brian Belczacki
Principal

BOARD OF TRUSTEES – ST PATRICK’S CATHOLIC SCHOOL TE AWAMUTU

CHAIRPERSON’S ANNUAL REPORT - 2012

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of St Patrick’s Catholic School

The Board’s role is to be a governor of the School. This means that in consultation with the community a vision for the School is agreed, and then a strategy is mapped out to achieve that vision.

In order to ensure that the strategic aims are on track the Board sets annual targets so as to help monitor the success, or otherwise, of its strategic plan.

By and large, as a School community, we can reflect on the last twelve months in the knowledge that the Schools strategic plan is on track for the following reasons:

1. The targets relating to academic achievement, while quite lofty, have generally been reached, and plans put in place where any shortcomings may exist.
2. The School’s involvement with the parish is an ongoing collaboration, and is strengthening a strong, recognised sense of one St Patrick’s community.
3. The Boards’ goals to comply with legislative requirements have been met, as exemplified in the recent education review office report which was full of praise for the work being undertaken in our School. The positive comments made in that report have been endorsed by the Board, as have the constructive comments.
4. The Board has ensured that the budget has been adhered to, but acknowledges the ongoing battle to build sufficiently deep financial resources to provide protection for the School in the future. As mentioned in earlier reports, the Board wishes to build a reserve which can be utilised in need, and more feedback on the proposed plans will be given next year.
5. Finally, the Board’s role is to ensure that there is a strong relationship with all those in our extended community, whether they be parents, the Parish or our town. The Board acknowledges the valuable work undertaken by all people involved with the School and wishes to further bolster the level of involvement that we will have with our School. Involvements should not be limited to only one aspect, but can range from reading the newsletter on a weekly basis, ensuring that the much needed donation is paid, supporting our PTA in its fundraising ventures by not only attending, but also participating, in the organisation of those ventures, providing a nomination for the Board elections in 2013, assisting as parent help in the various School trips, and adhering to our special Catholic character, which as a minimum should include attending the community masses.

The Board is presently developing strategies to ensure that the level of involvement by all community members is something which can be made readily accessible for everyone involved in our community.

It is no secret that we have a fantastic School, which comes down to the sterling efforts of our Principal, Teachers, Students, Parents, PTA Members and my fellow trustees. Their amazing efforts are appreciated and acknowledged, and we trust that next year there will be even more people who will need to be acknowledged for the work that they have done.

To all of you have a safe and happy holiday with your family and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Kind regards to all,

Simon Brdanovic
Chairperson
Board of Trustees

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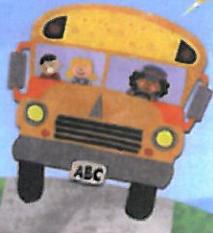
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