



St. Patrick's Catholic School News

625 Alexandra St, (PO Box 300) Te Awamutu 3800. School: Ph (07) 871 4669, Fax (07) 871 4818
Email: principal@stpatta.co.nz School website: www.stpatta.co.nz

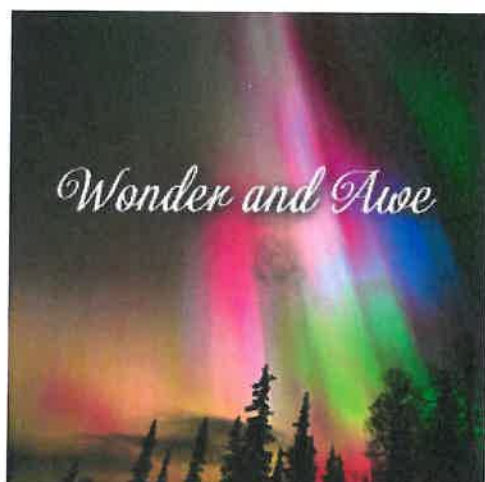
Vol 3.1
Thursday 23rd July
2015

Principal: Brian Belczacki.
Deputy Principal: Cass Sutton. **Assistant Principal:** Marcus Oxenham.
Director of Religious Studies: Raewyn Jackman.
Office Staff: Dana Macdonald, Celena O'Donnell
Bursar: Patty Dudson.
Parish Priest: Fr Joe Stack.
BOT Chairperson: Kyle Owens.

Kia Ora Parents, Guardians and Children,

The Charism for this week is:

WONDER AND AWE



There are times in life when synchronicity occurs, a moment when you perceive overwhelming beauty or pure sweetness. At these times the mind and heart open spontaneously to the exquisite perfection of the Divine Mystery and you experience Holy Awe and Wonder. This essence imbues you with that sacred feeling.

Administration 23rd July 2015



JOIN US ON FACEBOOK...

To find us following the link...

<https://www.facebook.com/stpatsteawamutu>

TERM DIARY

Wk	TERM 3
1	Fri 24 th July: Whole School Mass @ 9:15am
2	Mon 27 th July: Prayer Ass 8:55am CH: Wonder & Awe Tues 28 th July: Mid-Year student Conferences Wed 29 th July: Mid-Year student Conferences Fri 31 st July: Photolife-Individual/Sibling Photos Class Mass R9,8,4 @ 9:15am Team 1 Assembly
3	Mon 3 rd Aug: Prayer Ass 8:55am CH: Impartiality Tues 4 th Aug: Yr 5 & 6 Interschool Speech Competition, 3-4pm Wed 5 th Aug: Parent Evening - Maths 5:30-6:30pm Fri 7 th Aug: Celebration - Feast - Mary of the Cross MacKillop School Mass @ 9:15am School Assembly - Mary MacKillop Focus
4	Mon 10 th Aug: Prayer Ass 8:55am CH: Impartiality Wed 12 th Aug: Hearing and vision checks in school, 9-10am Parent Evening - Digital Learning, 5:30-6:30pm Thurs 13 th Aug: Technology at TAI, 8.30am-12.30pm Team 1 Assembly 2:30pm Fri 14 th Aug: SCHOOL CLOSED - TEACHER ONLY DAY
5	Sun 16 th Aug: Celebration - Feast of the Assumption Mon 17 th Aug: Prayer Ass 8:55am - CH: Honesty Wed 19 th Aug: School Cross country 11:30-2:30pm Yr6 Parent evening RM11, 5:30-6:30pm Fri 21 st Aug: Class Mass R1,2,3 @ 9:15am Team 2 / Team 3 Assemblies

Please check the online version of the school calendar by following the link: http://www.stpatta.co.nz/1/embedded_items/1-school-calendar as this is updated as events or changes come to hand.

A quote from St Mary of the Cross MacKillop

'Pray that a great unity may prevail, that charity may shine, and a holy unworldly wisdom influence our every word and act.'
16th October 1898



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

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

'Empowered today for tomorrow's world'

Meet our Board members...

Each week, we will feature one of our board members and so this week, we introduce you to John Cooper



Hi all,
I would like to introduce myself, John Cooper. I am married to Elaine and we have been parents at St Patricks for twelve years. Elaine and I have three children all of whom have attended St

Patricks. Sinead, our youngest, is in Room 11 and is in her final year at the school. Those of you who know me know I have been a strong supporter of our schools' sporting teams over the years and I will miss my trips away coaching, managing, and cheering on St Patrick's. For the last five years I have been a parent elected representative on the Board. As property rep on the board I am very excited to see the progress being made on our new build. It has been a long drawn out process but I'm confident it will be well worth the wait when finished. When I'm not at school I am normally operating our Agricultural Spraying business which we have owned for the past 19 years. When I'm not working, many different sporting activities have been known to occupy my time.

Regards
John.

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Please see the BOT insert included with this newsletter.

Mid-Year Conferences...

These are on next week (Tuesday/Wednesday). Mid-year reports will be out tomorrow or Monday. A reminder that all students are expected to be at these conferences – as they are the main contributor to the discussion about their learning.

SPORTS NEWS

COMPETITION NETBALL

DRAW FOR: Saturday 25th July 2015

Team St Pat's.. (v)	Time	We thank our Sponsors
B&C Property Tycoons v Puahue Silver Ferns	12:20pm	
Timmos ITM Tigers v TAI Hotshot	9:00am	
Gibson Construction Cobras v Whakamarama Junior	2:00pm	
Fahrenheit Flames v Manuka Health Honez	1:10pm	
Pastoral Panthers v Aropapa Seniors	2:50pm	
Daffodils v St Pats Pink Panthers	10:40am	
Pink Panthers v St Pats Daffodils	10:40am	

Te Awamutu Paperplus website for the draw.

Follow the link:

<http://www.sportsground.co.nz/teawamutunetball/93120/>

Basketball Yr 7 & 8 Finals...

On Monday, the 20th of July, the year 7&8 basketball team was in the finals playing for 3rd & 4th place. We played against TAI Pussy Cats and we won!!!! As the final buzzer went it was 49-9.



Awesome effort Team!!

Miniball basketball for yr 5&6, 7&8... will run again in Term 3, commencing 3rd August. So if you are interested in continuing to play, please enquire at office.

A note from our Sports Teacher...

What an exciting and action packed term we have in store! This term is Cross Country Term, with Cross Country being held in Week 5. All students will be working on increasing their fitness levels and endurance throughout these five weeks, therefore PE gear will be needed each day. If a student cannot participate in PE that day, please provide a signed and dated note. Many of our 8 year old and above students will be striving to excel in the Interschool Cross Country (8-11 year olds - week 8), Catholic Interschool Cross Country (Year 7 and 8 - week 6) and the Waikato Full Primary Cross Country (Year 7 and 8 - week 7). We will require parental support for all of these events, particularly if you are able to help with marshalling on any of these days, first aid or the PTA with the food stall. If you are able to help please email me on michelle@stpatta.co.nz.

Alongside Cross Country many students will be working on their Hockey skills. All students will be taking part in the third year of Hockey in School programme. This will consist of a 20-30 min session of hockey skills each week for four weeks. At the completion of this programme students in years 2-5 and 6-8 will have the opportunity to opt into the Rural Hockey Tournament, in week 9. This tournament has been building each year (with last year progressing to a bus trip!) and is possible due to the parental support for each day with managing and coaching the teams. Again please email me on michelle@stpatta.co.nz if you are able to help with this event.

Our Year 7 and 8 students are working incredibly hard at the moment in preparation for Sports Camp 2015. They are working on their 'cheer', which involves all 35 athletes and their individual sports of which there is over 30, ranging from cricket to indoor soccer, darts to kayaking, and everything in between. Keep an eye out this term for updates.

St. Patrick's Calf Club...

Now is the time to start choosing animals for Calf Club 2015. **Lambs, calves or goats!!**

St. Patrick's Calf Club is usually held on the first Thursday back in Term 4.

Vivien Davies



WINNER of 'Paul' the Vinnies Golfer Raffle was Geraldine Douch, well done!

Mathletics...CONGRATULATIONS! 5 of our students have achieved a GOLD certificate for Mathletics. This took them many weeks of consistently accumulating 1000 points. Those students are Edmund Shum, Jacob Fergusson, Addison Mark, Kenzee Mark and Logan Brindle.



Congratulations also to Harry Walkinshaw, Jacob Fergusson and Rhymes Walkinshaw who achieved awards for the most concepts mastered in Term 2.



PTA NEWS

School lunches... We are experiencing an increase of LATE lunch orders coming in on Friday mornings. Parents please ensure your child's lunch order is in by Thursday of each week at the latest or your child will be without lunch. **NO ORDER – NO LUNCH.**

Please ensure that you put your child's name on the envelope so that we can direct their lunch to the right class!

Roster : We are always looking for people to help out for a couple hours on Friday mornings, please contact Maree Orr (0275 336 555) if you are able to go on the roster.

Fundraising Group...

"The Big Night out" Tickets are selling fast, be in quick to secure your place before Saturday 1st August 2015.

'Teacher' makeover Competition, There are jars in the school office with your favourite teachers picture on it. ***These jars will be outside the office tomorrow morning before school so children (& parents) can come along and support the fundraiser by placing a gold coin donation in your chosen jar.***

God bless

C.M. Sutton

Cass Sutton

Deputy Principal

St Patrick's Catholic Church - Te Awamutu

Phone 871 6109

PO Box 191, Te Awamutu

Parish Priest: Fr Joe Stack

Email: parishpriest@stpatta.org.nz

Parish Council Chairperson: Nick Prendergast



Mass Times

Weekday Masses

Wednesday to Friday @ 9.15am

Holy Hour: After 9:15am Mass with
Benediction around 10:30am

Weekend Masses

Sunday 26th July 2015

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Yr B)

Vigil Mass @ 5:30pm (Saturday)

Gospel Reading: John 6:1-15

***'This really is the prophet who is to come into
the world.'***

Sacramental Programme (Confirmation/Eucharist).

Could all children attend Mass this Sunday 26th July 2015 as
Father will be giving the children their certificates.

There are photos of the Confirmation/Eucharist children in an
album at 'The Birdcage' for viewing and ordering.

Thank you.

The Sacramental Team.

COMMUNITY NEWS



Welcome back for Term 3!!

Want to learn to play guitar like a rockstar?

Well, you can. Right here at St Pats..

It's easy and it's fun!

Just contact Carl from MusiqHub for more info...

027 388 9558

toezee@gmail.com





Barbara Dean and Colleen Oldfield

Stress free Easy as Property Management

Our services

- Find tenants, careful selection, credit checks
- Good old fashion talking
- Ingoing and outgoing inspections
- Weekly rent checks
- Detailed monthly statement
- Quick response, all messages answered
- Easy accounting
- End of year detailed financials
- Advice to Landlords purchasing
- Project Manage redecoration
- Advice to landlords with difficult tenants

This dynamic duo has over 25 years combined experience in Property Management. Having managed over 400 properties. They have integrated their successful management styles and proven systems into B & C Property Management . (They are Property Management made easy)

Their motto is "talk to the landlords, information sharing is paramount, give that good "old" fashion service"

We are now offering the same successful service in the Te Awamutu area having established a portfolio in Auckland.

Our systems

- NZ based online Property Management system
- Zero tolerance for rent arrears
- Online transparency
- Regular inspections with photos
- Commercial trust account
- Investment properties
- Financial Statements for accounting

Lola Lee Heights Fairview Estate Te Awamutu
Phone: 0277656432 e-mail: info@bcproperty.co.nz

Dear St Patrick's Parents, Caregivers and School Community

23 July 2015

Term two has been an important term for the school community and the Board. We hosted ERO and conducted a School Community Survey. Both of these events have provided the Board with valuable feedback. The school and the Board will be fully utilising the information to act, provide direction and manage in a way that strengthens what we currently do well, but more importantly to address these areas that have been raised.

In both the ERO findings and in the community findings, there are common themes and in today's 'busy' culture it is often easy to focus on defending or denying that negatives exist.

The Board and Senior Management are therefore accepting of these by way of setting a clear path of improvement to address these themes to make our school community a better, safer and enjoyable place for our children to learn.

The Education Review Office (ERO) Report

ERO is the New Zealand government department that evaluates and reports on the quality of education and care provided for children and students in schools.

We have now received the final and confirmed report back from ERO for their audit they performed of the school in week five of Term two. The full and final report is now available on the ERO website (www.ero.govt.nz). It is considered a public document and can be easily accessed.

I would like to thank those parents and members of the school community who gave their time to meet the reviewers. The review officers, Julie Dorofaeff and Paul Matthews felt greatly welcomed to the school, so this is extremely pleasing to hear. They met with students, staff, board members and parents during their four day visit.

An overall summary of themes provided in their report:

Areas where we are doing well:

- A very high proportion of students, including Maori, are achieving at or above the age-appropriate National Standards in relation to reading, writing and mathematics. This pattern of high student achievement has been sustained since the 2012 ERO report
- The special Catholic Character of the school is strongly modelled by the principal and is reflected in the school culture and curriculum
- The school has continued to develop its curriculum
- Teachers are encouraging students to set personal goals and take responsibility for their learning
- Examples of high quality teaching practice are evident in the school. These practices are empowering students as self managing learners

Areas where we can improve:

- An ability to allow teachers increased opportunities to observe and share examples of good teaching practice
- The Board of Trustees needs to implement a Succession Planning model
- The Board and Principal need to improve communication with parents to maintain partnerships in student learning and to foster better working relationships between stakeholders of the school community

The very pleasing aspect is the comments around our Student achievement. This is a huge tribute to the teaching staff that we have at St Patrick's.

School Community Survey

Again, thank you to the parents (34 responses) who took the time to complete the survey and to return it. The survey was passed onto ERO and in part has provided them findings to which they have raised with the Board.

Surveys like this are important to the school. They provide a snap shot of feeling or opinion within the community at any given time. Issues or concerns cannot be addressed properly if they are not raised properly and through the correct channels.

Here is the summary of common themes that were raised from the survey.

Positives

- Parents are given an opportunity to be involved at school events
- The goal setting sessions with teachers and children are very good
- Community masses are integral to the school
- We have a good caring community for students and parents / caregivers.

Improvements

- There is a lack of notice time given for events, which is difficult for working parents
- Children shouldn't be at parent / teacher meetings
- Student achievement is difficult to understand with the National Standards grading
- A school Facebook page would be great for reminders
- There has been little information regarding the building re-development project at the school
- Who are the people who are our Board of Trustees?
- Could we run a parent/family induction or welcoming programme for new families
- Overall communication from school management to the school community could improve

A summary for the results of the community survey is attached. The colour coding shows where the midpoint for each question response lay.

Where to from Here?

Given the noted themes or areas for improvement from both the ERO report and the School Survey, the Board and Senior Management team have been collaborating to develop an action plan that works to address these points. This will become a working document that we will use to improve the communication and partnership in learning from our students through to our whole community.

Here are some of the actions that we have already undertaken since getting early feedback and discussion with senior school management post ERO:

1. As part of informing the school community who the current Board Members are, the newsletters in June / July have had a weekly section - to Meet your Board. These profiles of the Trustees are now added onto the School website as well.
2. Board members attended the sessions of the School Science Fair in the last week of Term Two, to give an opportunity to meet parents and to see the work of our children.
3. The school has started a Facebook Page with large thanks going to Amy Connors for developing this.
4. The Board is reviewing the current Complaints Policy. This is expected to be completed in August and when finished will be put on the website. It will provide Parents with the information with how to log and send complaints through the correct channels.
5. The Staff will be running a winter series of Parent Meetings discussing curriculum delivery. The school has considered these evenings as a way to develop home-school connections to further support students' learning and progress. We therefore encourage parents to attend these sessions and to keep a look out in the school newsletters and calendar for dates and times.
6. The weekly newsletter still has the School Calendar on the Front page, to advise you of upcoming events in our school community
7. The Board will be looking to advertise a succession planning campaign, inviting parents who are interested to being on the Board to come to meetings. There are scheduled elections for 2016.

I would like to take the opportunity to also thank the staff for the important roles they play in educating our children. Their involvement to continue and encourage the children to learn is vital in creating a workable partnership between home and school.

To do this, the partnership also relies on a community. Together we need to ensure our school community is strong, positive and focused for the needs of our children.

Finally, I would like to take the opportunity to thank my fellow Board members for the time and commitment that they put into their roles.



Kyle Owens
(BOT Chair)

PRE ERO SURVEY – DIMMENSION SIX – Engaging parents, whanau and communities...

Student learning	very poor	poor	ok	good	great
Goal Setting Conferences (held around early March)					
Opportunity to meet my child/s teacher formally					
Opportunity to discuss with my child, my child's learning goals					

Community engagement	very poor	poor	ok	good	great
School sports events – eg. Swimming, Cross Country, Athletics Day					
Opportunity to see my child's abilities (this is not about rating your child's physical ability)					
Opportunity mix and mingle with others					

Worshipping as a community	very poor	poor	ok	good	great
Community - School/Parish Masses (normally one Sunday Mass each term)					
Opportunity to gather as a wider community					
Opportunity to mix and mingle with others					

Student learning – reporting - Mid Year Conferences	very poor	poor	ok	good	great
Opportunity to meet my child/s teacher formally					
Opportunity to discuss, with my child, my child/s progress – next learning steps					

Sharing information – being informed	very poor	poor	ok	good	great
Weekly Newsletter (distributed each Thursday)					
Availability					
Keeps me informed of school happenings					
Class Newsletter (distributed each term)					
Availability					
Keeps me informed of class happenings					

Sharing information with our community	very poor	poor	ok	good	great
Board of Trustees (information in weekly newsletter after each BOT meeting)					
Feel informed in regards to the board's activities					
Know how/who to approach if I want to know more					

Our staff - How approachable are the staff ?	very poor	poor	ok	good	great
Principal					
Deputy /Assistant Principals					
My child's classroom teacher					
Office staff					

Readiness to share	very poor	poor	ok	good	great
Do I feel that I can approach the school – staff at the school if I want to know anything ?					
Approachable					
Accessible					
Listen					
Take action					

Overall engagement of the school with YOU	very poor	poor	ok	good	great
Feel informed about what is happening					
Have a sense of belonging					
Know how/who to approach if I want to know more					
Do you feel that it is important to belong to the school community?	Not important	Somewhat important	Relatively important	Very important	Highly important

Our school in our community	very poor	poor	ok	good	great
Overall engagement of the school with the wider community of Te Awamutu					
I think that the wider community have opportunities to know what is happening in the school					
I think the school's profile in the wider community is.....					
I think the wider community know how/who to approach if they are wanting to know more					

