



St Mary's
Catholic School
Tauranga

newsletter

ISSUE 13: 26 October 2018



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St Mary's Catholic School



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Our People Our Place

be. informed

[oxforddictionaries.com / informed.](http://oxforddictionaries.com/informed)

adj: having or showing knowledge of a subject or situation.

Message from the Principal

Afio mai tua i vaitaimi fa, welcome back to Term 4!

As I write this post, we have just returned from a beautiful long weekend of sunshine. Our pool is 24 degrees, so swimming is just around the corner and just a reminder that we have now changed to our summer uniform with hats (named) now compulsory everyday. Unfortunately no hat, no play!

A special welcome to our new students Maleyah Abalajon, Conor Amaru, Luke Chang, Tyler Coballes, Joseph Minkhorst, Hannah Minkhorst, Carl Palad, Annabelle Talbot and Ratu Veitaladrua.

Learning Term 4

This term our learning is all based around curiosity and inquiry. Inquiry learning is driven by the curiosity of students about their world. Inquiry encourages 'connection, cooperation and collaboration' with others in real contexts. It is purposeful and authentic learning.

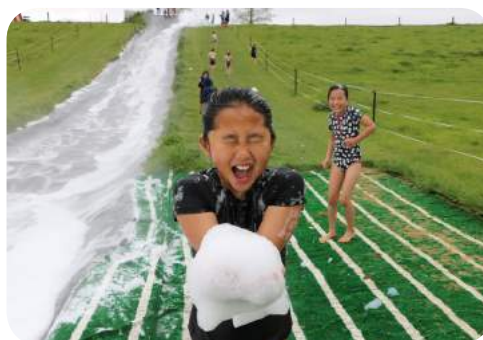
Taylor Bros Transport Fireworks & Gala

It is now only 2 weeks until our extremely popular annual fireworks gala. We are still looking to our community to support this event through volunteers, sponsors and / or donations for our winning wheel.

Tickets are being sold online only this year through eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.co.nz/e/st-marys-fireworks-gala-tickets-51494323909> or <https://bit.ly/2NRjDqS>.

Aroha Camp

Thank you to Aroha teachers, students and parents for making our Senior camp an amazing experience. The teachers spent many hours preparing for our three day camp, and we certainly couldn't have had such a wonderful experience without the input from our parents and the positive behaviour from our students. It was great to see that the students rose to the challenge of some of the harder activities and gave everything a go. The range of activities made camp an experience of a lifetime and I know that our students will remember it for many years to come.



Estuary

It is great to see our Whakapono students utilising and exploring our amazing asset right on our doorstep - the estuary. Emma from Tidal Discoveries came to take some of our students, parents and teachers into the estuary to spend time observing, monitoring and discovering. Tidal Discoveries is a school led estuary, stream and dune monitoring program focusing in and around Tauranga Harbour.



Learning Through Play

Next week, I am very lucky to be attending a two day seminar run by Nathan Mikaere Wallis. Nathan is a well known, gifted educator. He has been a lecturer at Canterbury University, a neuroscience presenter for Brainwave and a child protection trainer. He is a dynamic and inspiring presenter.

It will be great to affirm the implementation of our 'Learning Through Play' philosophy that we have been developing over the last couple of years at St Mary's, based on research and practice. I'm sure that it will also verify the importance of the 'Key Competencies' that are the basis of the New Zealand Curriculum.

I look forward to sharing my learning with you in the next newsletter.

Jump Jam North Island Championships

This weekend our Jump Jammers will be competing in the North Island Championships. After many months of practising they look awesome with their new haircuts and costumes and the final routines are polished.

We wish Kim, Gabby, Camella, and the Jump Jam students all the best

We have a very busy term ahead of us so please take note of the important dates within this newsletter and also on our school calendar.

Nga mihi nui

Anna MacKinnon
Acting Principal

2018 Term Dates

Saturday 27 October

Jump Jam Championships

Tuesday 30 October

- **Aroha Athletics Day 9am - 2.30pm**
- **Board of Trustee Meeting 6pm**

Friday 2 November

- **All Souls School Mass 9.30am at Church**
- **Principal's Assembly 2pm**

Monday 5 November to Thursday 8 November

Ex school library book sale 8.45am - 3pm

Tuesday 6 November

Welcome to new children and new families liturgy 10am

Thursday 8 November

Class Mass Whanau Yorke 9am

Friday 9 November

Aroha Team Athletics

Saturday 10 November

Taylor Bros Transport Gala & Fireworks 5pm

Sunday 11 November

Parish School Mass 10.30am

Tuesday 13 November

South Cluster Athletics - this date has been postponed an a new one is to be advised

Thursday 15 November

Class Mass Whanau Wood 9am

Friday 16 November

Speech & Drama Christmas Concert 11am & 1.30pm

Saturday 17 November

Taylor Bros Transport Gala & Fireworks pp date

Tuesday 20 November

- **Parents Open Morning 8.50 - 10.30am**
- **Learning through play workshop 9.00 - 9.45am & 9.45 - 10.30am**

Thursday 22 November

Class Mass Whanau High 9am

Friday 22 November

- **He Paku Whakangahau**
- **Principal's Assembly 11.45am**

Tuesday 27 November

- **Aquinas Transition Day**
- **Maramatanga Art Gallery Visit**
- **Board of Trustee Meeting 6pm**

2019 Term Dates

Term 1

Monday 4 February - Friday 12 April

Term 2

Monday 29 April - Friday 5 July

Term 3

Monday 22 July - Friday 27 September

Term 4

Monday 14 October - Thurs 19 December (end date to be confirmed)

be.
Christ-like

be.
reflective

be.
creative

SPECIAL CHARACTER

Month

of the Rosary

October is the Month of the Rosary, students started the term with a Rosary liturgy and have been praying the rosary in the classrooms.

We focus on how our Mother Mary takes our prayers to God and intercedes on our behalf.

To Mary by Joy Cowley

*Mary, Mother of God,
you are the woman who is always there.
You celebrate with us the Bethlehems and Nazareths of
our daily family living.*

*You stand by us in our Calvarys and are with us at
Pentecost.*

*Whatever our need or wherever we are,
Mother of all seasons you are there.*

*The images we have of you will change with our life's
journey.*

*You are the warmth of home and hearth.
You are the fertile full moon embracing land and tide.*

*You are the little secret thing, the kauri seedling rooted
in earth and growing upwards, outwards, to the
Queendom of Heaven.*

*You are the Ark of the New Covenant. You are the clay
chalice which holds the wine of Life.*

*Ko te koha koe
Ko te koha koe*

*You are the silent space of prayer in our lives. You are the
yes to God, our yes to growth, our yes to the birthing of
Christ in the world.*

And however we see you or fail to see you, you are

always there.

Religious Education Term 4

This term our focus is on the Sacrament Strand.
How am I called to be holy and serve?

Aroha team: The focus is on the Sacraments of
Healing and how we are Confirmed in the Spirit.

Whakapono: The focus is on the Sacraments of
Forgiveness and Food for Life.

Maramatanga and Tika: The focus is on the
Sacraments of Welcome into holiness through
Baptism.

Congratulations

Congratulations Eric and Ella Chea who were Baptised
in the school Chapel on Thursday after the class mass.
May God always be at your side.



**SPRING
BOOK
SALE**

Ex School Library Books. Picture
books/chapter books/non fiction.

ALL 50 cent

When: **Monday 5th November to**

Thursday 8th November

8.45am-3.15pm

Parents welcome to visit during
school time and children can buy
during class visits. Books will also
be available at the Fireworks Gala.

NO HAT NO PLAY!

We require students to wear the
St Mary's School hat whenever
they are outside. Children will
be asked to go to a designated
shaded area in the school if they
do not have a school hat during
playtime, lunch, lunch-eating
and during sports activities. Hats
are available from our uniform
supplier. Kia koi! Kei were!

Keep your
kids safe!

Thank you
for



Music Term 4

Music will continue this term,
with spaces available to students
in year two and above for the
following instruments:- Recorder,
Flute, Keyboard, Singing, Guitar
and Fuse drumming. We also
have a new Suzuki trained tutor
who teaches Cello. Please contact
Karen at the school office -
kmulhern@stmarystga.school.nz
for further details.



End of year buses - Bayhopper (Rural end dates to be confirmed)

Route 657 will continue running as normal until Thursday 20 December, and will leave St Mary's School on that day at 12 noon.

Routes 406 and 552 will finish for the year on Thursday 13 December at the normal afternoon time.

Route 519 will finish for the year on Monday 17 December at the normal afternoon





View camp photos on our school Facebook page.

What's happening in Whakapono

During Fun Friday's Whakapono children have enjoyed many opportunities to try new things. Here are some examples of what they explored!

With Mrs Broadmore we were challenged in the MakerSpace room to design, create and test a bed for Goldilocks. Working in teams of four we built a bed and then tested its strength. Some beds were strong enough to hold a number of weights, whilst others...!



Fun Friday Rotation

Mrs Wood has been about learning about rhythm in Music and we have been using body percussion and musical instruments to explore this concept further. We have challenged ourselves to create sound pictures in a variety of ways. One of the sound pictures we created was "A Storm", which sounded incredibly realistic when we listened to our own audio recording.

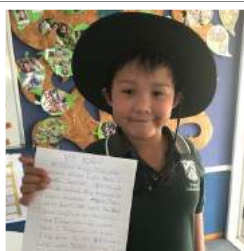
PONO TAHI

Joven Montuya (pictured right) from Pono Tahi wrote a story about his holiday that he loves to share with other writers...

My Holiday

My holiday was a picnic at the beach. When I got there I heard seagulls squealing and people talking. My Mum and Dad laid down the picnic mat. We laid the food down arefully on the picnic mat. I put away my clothes then I put on my togs. I ran down to the blirrzering cold water "Brrrr so cold!" I said. I ran out of the freezing water. My Mum dried me with a warm towel. Me, Mum and Dad were ready to eat our food. Mum was holding a pizza box.

"I can smell the pizza inside the pizza box mmmmm..." I said. My Mum chopped the pizza in slices. We all ate one slice, "Delicious!" I said. I saw some rain clouds. "Uh oh", I said worried. We ran to the car. My Mum drove us home.



The lunchtime Fun Factory outside the Maker Space room that occurred twice a week during term three has been extended to include everyday, Monday to Friday. Francis and many other children are very excited about this, spending their lunchtimes playing with others, using the art and craft supplies, playing with puppets, building imaginative Lego and block creations... it's such a fun place to be!

Photo: Francis Diaz spending time playing with his friends, the Dynamoe boys, at the Fun Factory (bottom left).

BayMaths



BayMaths was a challenge competition held at Otumoetai Intermediate on Wednesday 24 October.

It was kind of nerve-racking because I think there were 32 groups or 16 schools. All contestants had to be there by 5:30pm and it started at 6:00pm and ended at 8:00pm. We had 3 challenges with the first one being an independent challenge and then we had 10 questions to answer by ourselves in 10 minutes.

The second one was a team challenge where we had 20 questions to answer in 10 or 20 minutes.

The third and final one was a team timed challenge and we had 10 questions and every 45 seconds they would lower the score number by 3 starting from 15. How it works, is if you answer the question quickly you get 15 points, and if you answered the question in the next 45 seconds, you get 12 points, and so on.

St Mary's entered two teams represented by Sam Webb, Luka Mahy, Matt O'Connor, Finn Richards, Holly Fausett, and myself. Our results are yet to be received but I think our overall placing was either 10th or 11th.

By Eric Chea

During the 1st week of term 4 in **Pono Rua** we have been doing different science experiments. We have been learning how to predict, observe and record our thinking, just like scientists do. We have had lots of fun and have learnt how to justify our predictions. Our big concept this term is 'Curiosity' and we are spending time being curious about the world around us and learning how to ask questions.



PONO RUA



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Our People Our Place

be. thankful

oxforddictionaries.com / thankful.
adj: 1. pleased and relieved. 2. expressing gratitude.

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