

- Teacher Only Day
- Learning Sample Portfolios



Kia ora all,
Where did the term go! Many activities and events have taken place this term.

I have been very impressed with the children's behaviour overall this term. They understand the schools expectations on behaviour and what is appropriate inside and outside the classroom. This comes down to parents and caregivers supporting the school in these expectations.

A school can only function correctly if it has the support from home. Giving children consequences for their behaviour at school has to be backed up from home.

An example of this support was the positive feedback the teachers received from those parents who were asked to come in for a chat about their child's needs in the classroom early on in the term. For learning to take place at school, all parties must be on the 'same page'.

Learning Sample Portfolio

These will be coming home this Thursday. Part of the learning around these samples are the conversations the children are having with their teachers about their learning. They have been asked to sit with you as parents and caregivers and go through the booklet together.

Children will be able to answer any questions you may have. It is very important that these come back to school in the first week back Term 2. They will be used in the parent interviews 5th/6th May. I encourage you to write comments on the sample if you wish, so that your child/ren can see that learning for them involves the 3 parties -

Child - School - Home

Please note that there is a questionnaire at the back of the Learning Samples. Please fill in and return it with the portfolio. Thanks.

School Disco

This was a great event. My son went off after I had shown him some of my moves however, he was unable to win a prize. The gel in the hair didn't help either. These types of events are so positive for our children and a big thank you to our PTFA mums who organised this.

The next event will be the food fair which is time-tabled for the 26th June (Week 9 term 2)

Bullying at school

A recent hot topic in the media of late has been the issue of bullying in schools. It featured in the newspapers last weekend and I have seen several television current affairs programmes that were dedicated to the subject. This publicity then heightens our awareness as parents of this age-old problem.

All schools at times will experience bullying to some degree and our school is no exception, but we try and act on each case that comes to our attention and in most cases try and nip them in the bud. There is no doubt that our Special Character provides a real platform for us to deal with this problem.

Our school has a very strict policy in regards bullying and staff deal with any issues immediately once they have been informed about them. This terms Keeping Ourselves Safe programme which was run by Matthew Tailby touched on aspects of bullying. One of next terms health units looks into this issue in detail.. The school has to be as proactive as possible on this subject. Our aim is to make this a very safe and welcoming place to learn and develop.

Teacher Only Day

Please note the change of date for our teachers only day. It will now be on the **22nd May**. All staff are undergoing Professional Development on this day. I thank you for your support.

School Fees

Thank you to all those families who have already paid the school fees. The school understands that this is an issue for all and school fees are yet another bill coming through the letterbox, however it is important that all parents pay their fees. Fees are used to build new school classrooms and admin blocks in the Auckland Diocese, one each, we have just received.

Pompallier Disciples

This is a new initiative for 2009 and one that I hope will become part of the school's culture.

Conflict is a natural part of living together and it can be an opportunity for learning important life skills.

Mediation offers a means of resolving conflicts cooperatively.

The Pompallier Disciples (PD's) help people who are having a conflict listen to each other and find a solution to their problems.

The 19 Disciples have been trained over the last 5 weeks and have an excellent attitude towards this initiative. It offers them the chance to practice their leadership skills and create that sense of 'community' within the playground.

The goal of the mediations is to help each person listen to the other person's side of the story so that she/he can see the whole story and not only her/his point of view.

They will be reporting to the BOT in term 2 and will also feedback to staff at certain times throughout the year.

Duffy Books 2009

We have already had a school visit from a Duffy presenter. After much discussion it turned out that Adrian Kurt was a professional juggler. He was brilliant with the children and promoted reading to the whole school and the children loved him. Duffy books is an excellent programme that brings top quality books to all children in the school. If you would like to help 'spread the load' and sponsor this years books, please come and have a chat.

A big thanks to our great sponsors for the gifts of these great books.

Reading is Power!

AQUAPULSE

BUBBLE CLUB

SIMON HONE

STIHL SHOP

'STAND UP'

This is the motto for the year. It's all about asking children to step up and take an active role in how they learn and how they participate in the world. It is vital that we continue to ask our children to stand up for who they are, what they believe in and how they respect and include others in this world. Watch this space on how this motto develops over the year.

School opens on the 27th April. Have a great Easter break everyone. May God be with your family over this very special time.



Special Character Column

Holy week is finally here. This is the Holiest week in our church calendar, with the ultimate celebration of Easter.

Easter is recognised as the most important day of celebration in our church.

Easter is the reason for Christ becoming human—so that He could die for us.

Holy week is a historical event which relates just as much to us in our lives today, as it did to the disciples of Jesus back then.

Tomorrow we will be acting this story of the last week of Jesus' life on earth. Every child will participate and demonstrate their understanding of what happened in those days.

If your child has not yet asked, could you please send a piece of material or dressing gown to school for your child to dress up like a person in the time of Jesus. You are also invited to attend our re enactment at 11.30. This will be in the quad (unless it is raining— where we will go to the church)

Times of Mass over the Easter period are:

Holy Thursday	7pm
Good Friday	3pm
Easter Vigil	7pm
Easter Sunday	9am

Please bring your child(ren) to Mass if you are here over the weekend, as important feasts like this are part of their learning and faith journey at our school. Their learning at school is the practise for the actual reality of the game; why practise if you are never going to take part in the real thing?

There are also still a few places open for the Cooper's Beach Camp in the holidays. I have registration forms, or you can ring Helen Payne on 4060842 for more information.

I am also waiting to hear from parents who would like their child to receive their First Holy Communion / Confirmation preparation this year. If we do not have enough candidates, there will be no confirmation.

Have a blessed and Holy Easter break.
God bless
Michele Mill DRS

Pompallier Catholic School Notice Board

Student Council News

This term the student council have achieved the following activities:

- Shrove Tuesday where we made pancakes for the whole school.
- Saint Patrick's Day where we made green ice-cream in a cone for all the kids that had made a shamrock.
- Saint Josephs Day was very similar as we made ice creams as well as a sausage sizzle.
- Clubs throughout the school to be up and running by term 2.
 - guitar
 - board games
 - drama
 - choir
 - dance
- Lunchtime sports will also take place every Thursday after everybody has eaten their lunch.
- * And our work in progress:
 - Easter eggs on Thursday. We have organised an activity to do with Easter and holy week where the whole school has to colour a colouring in picture each and hand it in to receive an easter egg.
 - Jackets as an addition to the school uniform for the year 7 & 8's. We are trying to get everyone's orders in so we can place an order all together.

House teams shirts.

Just a reminder about house t-shirts. These are available from the office. Children use these for sports events throughout the year and during the school day for PE activities..
They are \$8:50

Winter Uniforms

Please note that Term 2 and 3 are our winter uniform months. This means that all children need to be in socks and shoes.

Boys— grey socks and lace up black shoes
Girls—white socks/ green or black stockings and black shoes.

All shoes must be laced up correctly and not hanging off their feet. Shoe laces must be black!
All shoes must be clean and tidy.

School Values

These are the values that we have been focusing on over the last two weeks

Truth

- **Owning our own behaviours**
- **Telling the truth at all times**

All staff use these values to help children self correct their behaviors inside and outside the classrooms.

Our school prayer mentions our 4 school values and this also helps our school values become 'real' and tangible to the children.

Student of the Week

Room 1 Jessica Hone
Room 2 Taz Snelling / Jayden Tracey
Room 3 Aleisha Ujdur
Room 4 Sage Watson / Cailee Stewart
Room 5 Beverley Thompson
Room 6 Rory Kelleher
Room 7 Luke Jones Drew Sloane

The school congratulates you!

MUSIC LESSONS

Mrs. Margaret Matthews will be teaching piano and keyboard at Pompallier starting Term 2. There are a few places still available. Students are released from class for a 30 minute lesson at a cost of \$20.00 per lesson.

If you would like to take advantage of this offer for your child please contact Margaret at **4087476**.

House Group Points

Chanel 3445

Marcellin 3205

Maria 3560

McAuley 3355

End of term winners

Maria

Please note on your calendar

**Teachers Only
Day 22nd May**

Thankyou

To Rob Thompson and Glen Buckingham for cleaning up the dreaded PE shed.
Big thanks for that!

If I was **Jesus on the cross** I would feel terrified and rejected. But He knew he had to die, and he knew he was innocent. On a positive note, He died for our sins. Before He was crucified He was nailed to the cross right in front of Mary but He still had enough strength to talk to God, Mary and the other people on crosses. I also think He felt very weak and was in a great amount of pain.

Name: Jake, Jade, Rebecca and Rahiri

If I was **Mary Magdalene at the tomb** I would feel petrified but I will be so happy I will feel like jumping out of my seat. The excitement would be rushing through her but the thought of Jesus of resurrecting from the dead caught her in her words. She was scared and frightened she didn't believe what she saw. Mary trusted in herself to stay. Mary hoped what she saw was true but she would be still blinded by shock.

Name: Reweti

If I was **Mary Magdalene at the tomb of Jesus Christ** I would be overjoyed to see that Jesus had risen and I would run to my friends straight away. My heart would be pumping with happiness. I'd feel shocked and amazed. My happiness would make me cry with laughter. My strong feelings would make my smile almost touch my eyes. Jesus was my best friend it is wonderful knowing that he is alive once again.

By Camryn and McKenna

If I was **Peter when the rooster crowed** and the third time he denied Jesus I would be shocked because...

Jesus had told me, 'Before the sun sets the rooster will crow and it will be the third time you denied me.'

The first time a man walked past me he said, 'Aren't you the man I saw with Jesus?' I said, 'no!' The third time he denied Jesus the rooster crowed the sun would set. Just then he what Jesus had told him. If I was Peter at that time I would have burst into tears and tried to say: 'I'm sorry!!!'

By Jessica

If I was **Judas at the cross** I would be shocked because I betrayed him. I would be very sad that I had betrayed him and angry at my self. I would be one of his disciples and that would be a honour and if I could see him one more time and apologise to Jesus and he might forgive me but I would have wished I had never betrayed him because I eat with him and he said someone would betrayed him.

Name: Carlos

If I was **Jesus in the garden** a few hours before death I would feel upset because knowing that you would be terrified and upsetting that I cant possible explain it.... I guess that knowing you'll save millions of people from sin would also make you feel happy. What will you feel?.

Shannon Greenall

TRAINING WITH 'THE BLUES'



On Monday, 25 March 2009 Bailey, Rahul, Jack, Marlon and I were the lucky ones to be chosen to practise with 'the Blues' in Whangerei.

We left by bus at 9.00am with boys and teachers from other schools. We disembarked at a huge field on Whangerei (three times bigger than our school grounds).

There were representatives from so many other schools there already, all looking up towards the deck to see their favourite players in the café. Everyone was throwing up balls to get autographed by Kevin Mealamu and Anthony Tui Tavaki.

Then we lined up to watch some of the schools do relays. The training was very interesting and we were excited – running around cones; sitting down again; competing in games like 'rabbits and rats'. The training became more difficult and more taxing, testing our fitness levels to the full.

We learnt a lot that day: Joe Rokococo is a giant; compared to the rather short Kevin Mealamu. By the way ... travelling by bus is so much more fun than travelling in a car.

By Rory (edited)

NETBALL NEWS UPDATE

Hi again. Just a quick update with what's going on with netball.

GRADING GAMES: SATURDAY 04 APR 09

We have just had our grading games on Saturday and what a fun day that was. All teams played extremely well considering we haven't even started the hard training sessions. It gave the coaches and managers a chance to have a good look at their teams whilst they were playing, and to sort out what type of training needed to be applied. Our Bronze Arrows (years 3/4) were just fabulous to watch, especially the players that have not played netball before. Great job everyone on putting in a fantastic effort on the courts. The 'Player Of The Day' for the Bronze Arrows was Georgia Buckingham. What an outstanding performance Georgia displayed. I can see this year being a really good one. We now have to prepare ourselves for the competition games which commence on 02 May 09. A big thank you to all the parents that were able to come and support their child/ren.

THURSDAY TRAINING

We still have our normal training sessions this Thursday (09 April) from 3.15pm. Please ensure your child has their correct training clothes and a full water bottle. **We will not be playing on Saturday 11 April** as previously stated due to the school holidays and Easter. Training for all teams will re-start the first week of Term 2.

FEES

Just a reminder that all fees are due by 02 May 2009. Fees this year are \$35.00 per player. If you have any problems or queries about the fees, please do not hesitate to contact me as soon as possible.

TROPHIES TO BE RETURNED

All trophies that were issued out at last years prize giving are to be returned to the office by the first week of team two.

That's it for now. Don't forget, if you have any queries about netball feel free to contact me on 021 074 8987.

We hope you all have a fun and safe Easter break/school holidays. See you in term 2.

Jacinta Beatson
Netball Representative