

Special points of interest:

- PTFA Muster
- STAND UP 2009
- Student Council 2009
- Swimming Sports



Kia ora all,

Welcome to Week 4 here at Pompallier Catholic School. For a small school we seem to be very busy with our children getting involved in all aspects of school life. Please read through this newsletter thoroughly as there is lots going on.

Below are the goals from our school's strategic plan. This was written at the end of 2007 and leads the school's direction until the end of 2010. The goal of any school is to lift Student Achievement and our strategic plan reflects this.

Success for All

To provide a learning community where 'success for all' is promoted.

Community

To promote Pastoral care aspects to the wider community and to celebrate our special character at all times.

Future

To provide career education and guidance to Year 7 and 8 students.

Culture

To provide positive cultural understandings through the involvement of the Maori community to enhance better outcomes for Maori students.

Achievement

Student achievement information will be passed on to students, parents and the wider community and used to direct future learning steps.

Core

To provide priority on student achievement in Literacy and Numeracy.

Catholic Character

To provide an emotionally and physically safe learning environment, which embraces the Catholic Character.

You can request a copy of our 2009 annual plan from Helen. This annual plan is the school's working document and keeps the staff, the BOT and myself on track and pushing the boundaries for our children.

PTFA 2009

Next Wednesday 4th March, the PTFA are holding a muster. This is for all people who would like to be involved. You might want to help from afar, you might want to be part of the core committee. It's a chance to meet some new people and find out the PTFA's goals for this year and have a mid week wine.

Wine and Cheese starts at 5:30pm in Room 7.

Sunday Masses

Mass on Sunday is a very important time especially during Lent. It refuels our faith and gets us ready for the week ahead. For children who attend a catholic school it reinforces everything that is taught within our Religious Education programme and allows them and you to feel part of our special School-Parish community. Remember that little ones are more than welcome and don't feel that anyone will judge you on your little ones behaviour.

It's about **you** and **your faith**.

ICT equipment in school

The focus for last years fund raising was for ICT equipment.

Sausage sizzles, trolley derby, mufti days, 2nd hand uniform sales were some of the events that raised funds.

Over the holiday break digital projectors were placed into room 2,3,4,5 so that teachers and children are able to access the internet as a whole class experience. 10 laptops were purchased which will be able to be used in every classroom.

4 new desk tops pc's to replace old ones and another digital whiteboard was purchased for room 7.

The PTFA efforts, with your support helped in purchasing these items.

Thanks again!

Year 8 girls cervical vaccine

The school-based HPV Immunisation Programme is being offered free to girls in school year 8 (approximately 12 years of age). Because of our special character this matter was discussed at the recent BOT meeting. The BOT supports the vaccine as long as all parents that it affects are well informed and every child has their consent form signed indicating this.

Tomorrow the public health nurse will be at school to talk to the year 8 girls about the vaccine and to give them information for you to read as parents. They will bring home a permission slip and some information about the vaccine..

You have a choice to not vaccinate your child however this must be clearly noted on the form they bring back to school.

Any questions please ring the public health nurse on 0212732566 If you wish to attend the meeting tomorrow please ring the school.

Bike wise Year 4, 5, 6

All year 4,5,6 children are asked to bring their bikes on Friday. This is part of a national wide push for children to be aware safety on the road. Kiri Sloane will oversee this event and it sounds like lot's of fun!

BIKES on FRIDAY

Student council for 2009

These children are our Student council for 2009.

Billie Davis	Drew Sloane
Zane Beckett	Ryan Travers
Lisa Hilton-Jones	Daniel Crene
Aimee Maria	Tiana Lloyd
Marcella Daun	Hillary Peters
Mikaere Taylor	Jaimee Cassidy

Our school needs these young leaders to help it run smoothly and they are called on throughout the year. They are in charge of our school magazine; they meet once every two weeks with their assigned class to discuss any problems or issues that children might be having and then bring these to a meeting held with me. They run and plan Freaky Friday's and also over see mufti days and fun events for the children.

They will have their own budget and will be able to monitor monies raised to go towards items that they think the children need.

They will also have an input into the school newsletters. They represent the children so that they have a voice in how our school operates.

Writing Assessment within the school

Over the last two weeks the whole school has been taking a Recount (Junior) or Character (Senior) writing sample. Once these samples are taken they will be moderated within the staff and using the New Zealand Curriculum Exemplars. This way we can take base line data and set targets for your child's development in written language.

Have a chat to your child's teacher about this process.

Caught Being Good.

This is up and running at school and once again is proving to be a huge hit with the children.

Seniors have the task of giving two tokens a day to children who have been carrying out our 4 school values. The seniors write down why they give them out.

Using great manners, saying hello first, picking up rubbish, helping little ones when they are hurt are some of the reasons children got tokens.



Their names go into a hat and are drawn by a senior at assembly.

Niskyla Pritchard for picking up rubbish

Thanks Niskyla for your effort in helping the school.

Parent Information

Student Engagement

We, parents and school, have to work together to foster 'a love for learning'. This can only happen if all parties are wanting to 'engage'.

At the start of a day a teacher can tell those children that are wanting to engage in their learning and those that aren't. You can make a child **do** their work but this isn't promoting learning. Actual learning takes place when a child wants to engage. They want to actively focus and seek out answers and ways of improving.

As parents you provide the platform each day to help your child decide that they want to engage that day.

Below are some pointers that teachers use that you may want to think about at home. They can be adjusted to home needs.

Feedback: Feedback is a powerful force. It can be a stimulating motivator or a suffocating inhibitor. Feedback that is specific, non threatening, and frequent changes performance, attitude, and behaviours. So, the next time we say, "good job", we must follow that with, "...and here's why!"

Motivation [Motivation is essential to learning](#) at all ages. Students have the primary responsibility to own their own learning, yet we have a shared responsibility in the task. The environments we foster, the cultures we contribute to, even the aura of a classroom, all make a difference.

Relationships: To grow 'em you must know 'em. Knowing our students seems obvious, yet many students claim that we do not "get" them. **Students want and need a relationship with us.** They work harder and smarter when they know that *their* learning matters to *us*. When students feel valued, honored, and respected, there is an interest and energy in the process of learning that reaches far beyond the content we teach.

Please visit the school website for more ideas!

God Bless,

Pompallier Catholic School Notice Board

Soccer/Netball Muster

Here is a chance to get your child into a team sport.

This Saturday 28th February, 10.00am—12:30pm.
There will be sausages and drinks available for \$1. Bring your child along for a fun game and see if they like it.

We are after coaches and managers for the 2009 season.

We would really appreciate volunteers for these roles.

Please sign up on Saturday or see Helen in the office.

You never know, you might have a Beckham right under

Soccer	Netball
Under 7	Under 7
Under 9	Under 9
	Under 11
Coaches and managers for all these teams are needed.	

Swimming Sports

4th March First race at 9:30am
Come along and see your child swim.

We are looking for helpers on the day so please see Helen in the office if you know you are going to be there and don't mind helping out. See programme attached.

Mayor Wayne Brown has agreed to lead the first ever Far North Mayoral Challenge cycle event on Saturday 28 February starting from the **Mangonui Waterfront Redevelopment at 10.00am**. It is only a short 3.3 km ride, and there are 2 bikes to be given away and plenty of spot prizes.

Kiri Sloane from Road Safety Far North is supporting this event in conjunction with **Bike wise week**.

This is a fantastic opportunity for us to all get out and have "whanau day out".

School Values

Love has been the focus for the last two weeks here at school.

- Respecting and including others.
- Helping others in the class and in the playground.
- Aware of others feelings.

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These are spoken about at prayer assembly on Monday morning and then are taken back to the classroom where children are asked to focus on them over the week.

Student of the Week

Room 1	Chloe Hayward
Room 2	Ben Ulkeman
Room 3	Shannon Edwards
Room 4	Waikotahi Pitman-Going
	Geogia Edwards
Room 5	Bailey Vinac
Room 6	Greer Carey
Room 7	Mikaere Taylor
	Billie Davis

House Group Points

	Chanel 900
Marcellin	880
Maria	780
McAuley	550



School Banking starts tomorrow

Please remember that you can sign up your child anytime.

Outside Room 6

Every little dollar adds up!



'Stand Up'

This is the school's theme for this year. Last year the theme was 'Better than Before' and children certainly did this.

The 2009 theme is one that asks children to take ownership for their actions. Not only for their actions in the playground but also to **Stand Up** for their learning. This theme will be up on the walls in the classrooms and children will be constantly referred to this throughout the year.

It's about responsibility, integrity, pride and partnership with school.

BOT SUMMARY

The first meeting of 2009 took place on Monday 23rd February with a full attendance of enthusiastic board members.

We reflected on the year of 2008, the achievements we made in regards to accommodation, and the new issues that need to and have been acknowledged and dealt with this year.

We discussed the impact that the new government is having and will continue to have on schools and Boards of Trustees over the next 3 years.

As approved by the board at the end of last year, the school has had projectors placed into all classrooms, and new laptops will be up and running when new admin block is finished. 4 of the older PCs have also been updated

Daniel Pepper presented his principals report which covered many issues, giving the board an overall picture of the staffs plan for 2009

The BOT reviewed our own plan to self review and fulfill our annual and strategic plan for the upcoming year.

A staff representative will be present at Parish Council Meetings now, this will enhance our relationship with the Parish.

The BOT will help the Parish Council as required in the final stages of the car parking planning with the Catholic Schools Office. It seems that plans are progressing well

2009 budget finalized

Furniture will be ordered for the new admin block prior to the next board meeting.

The Board of Trustees will be putting out a profile update of its members shortly, so all parents and staff are aware of who we are and our different roles

Do not forget that the minutes of all board meetings are at the office and available for reading at any stage. Public are also welcome to sit in on meetings, the next one will be held on March 23rd 2009 at 6pm.

ASH WEDNESDAY

FASTING today if you are between 18 and 60 !

And no meat for anyone....

Today is the beginning of our season of Lent. We had a whole school Mass and everyone received an Ash cross and blessing. The Ash cross symbolizes that we all will return to dust. The words which are said at the distribution of ashes are:

"...you are dust and to dust you will return..."

These words come from the book of Genesis: our first parents heard them after they had sinned. Original sin and original sentence. By the act of the first Adam, death entered the world and every descendant of Adam bears the sign of death within him. All generations of humanity share in this inheritance.

With that serious thought in mind; I am very keen to prepare for the most important celebration in our Catholic faith—EASTER. For the next 40 days of LENT we should all be thinking and acting on

What Jesus wants us to do

LENT is a time where we are called to take part in the Resurrection of Christ. We should come up with a personal programme for Spiritual Growth.

Yes it is a time for sacrifice and giving up things you like, but on a deeper level it is also a time for doing extra. Spend more time giving yourself to others, praying for others and developing your relationship with Jesus Christ.

Have a look at the website above.

God Bless Michele Mill DRS

