

Special points of interest:

- Sister of Mercy leaving
- PAT results school-wide



6th May 2009

Week 2 Term 2

Kia ora all,
Welcome back everyone to the start of the second term of the year. Term Two has 10 weeks, with the last day of term being Friday 3rd July 2009.

During the term we will have a long weekend to celebrate Queen's Birthday on Monday 1st June. Also note the Teachers Only Day on Friday the 22nd May. These are some of the points you will note in the terms calendar that is inserted in this weeks newsletter.

It's great to see the children back at school with huge smiles on their faces. They all look so smart in the winter uniforms. Thank you very much for supporting the school's uniform.

PLAYING ON THE FIELD

Over the next few months, we can expect plenty of rain and our field is likely to be wet and muddy.

Children who wish to play games on the field, such as soccer or league will need to bring a change of clothes to school in case they get muddy. The school does not have enough spare clothes to change children into.

SISTERS OF MERCY LEAVING

Sister Bernadette and Sister Irenaeus will be leaving the parish on the 14th June. The Sisters of Mercy are the reason for this school and through the years have given their all to the school, the parish and the community as a whole. It is with great sadness that the school says goodbye to the Sisters.

The school will be having a shared lunch to say goodbye officially on the 5th June. This shared lunch will be combined with the end of the 5 + a day unit and all children will be able to make a healthy sandwich of their choice.

All classes will be presenting the Sisters something as a class. Please try keep this date and time free to come along and share in this occasion.

HELP NEEDED

Now that we can see the carpet in the library, we are looking for volunteers to go through the library books and teacher resources in the shelves and have a good old fashion tidy up and sort out. If you can spare a few hours next Wednesday the 13th, it would be appreciated. Please leave your name with Helen. We want the children to start to use our library and take home books from school.

Curriculum Term 2

Religious Education

All classes have been looking into Easter and what this means in regards the risen Christ and now classes will be developing their ideas about the Holy Spirit and how this helps us become the people that Jesus wants us to be.

Inquiry Focus Term 2

Boats, Trains, Cars, and Planes.

How has the development of transport affected our lives?

As you are aware the whole school visits Matthew's museum next week. Thanks to all parents that have offered support for this trip. This is great opportunity for children to discuss transport with grandparents and find out first hand what it was like and how people used to 'get around'. Any photos or books on this subject would be greatly appreciated by your child's teacher.

Health and Physical Education

This term we are learning about 5+ a day and *Issues around Bullying*. In PE we are teaching Small Ball Skills and the need to stay fit. The staff are also beginning a new fitness programme where children have to assess themselves against stages of fitness. They mark off where they are over the term and try to reach the next level of fitness. Running along side this will be whole school Jump Jam

Numeracy

Staff are continuing with teaching of Number knowledge and strategies and this term sees all the classes looking into Geometry and Measurement. Basic facts will continue in all classes.

Literacy

Focused reading in all classes continues and the writing genre for Seniors is Recount and for Juniors is Personal Experience. Weekly spelling continues and testing on Friday.

Maori

Basic Te Reo is expected to be developed at all levels in the school with concepts and ideas about Maori culture being integrated into all aspects of the school curriculum.

Duffy Book

'What a MUM Competition'

Year 0-8

Hand in to Mrs Phillips

In 50 words or less write down why your mum is the best. Win a new book for the coffee table. **Due 15th May**

PAT Result Mathematics

The 2009 Progressive Achievement Tests were administered in week 5 Term 1 to all children in Year 3 to 8 in mathematics.

Results

In mathematics there has been a decrease of children in the below average range. This year 11% are working within the below average range where as 2008 saw 31% below average. 88% of our year 3-8 student are working at or above the national norm Last year this was 69%

Historically where does our school sit?

| Maths | Below average % | Average and above % | Above average % |
|-------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 2005 | 19 | 81 | 24 |
| 2006 | 26 | 74 | 41 |
| 2007 | 13 | 87 | 17 |
| 2008 | 31 | 69 | 6 |
| 2009 | 12 | 88 | 15 |

Maori students.

Maori students are achieving well in mathematics. In mathematics the above average range for Maori has increased from last year. 2008 11%, this year it is 17% Also average and above has increased. 2008 66%. This year it is 79%

| | Below average% | Average and above% | Above average% |
|----------|----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Maori | 21 | 79 | 17 |
| European | 7 | 93 | 15 |

Gender

Overall there are no alarming trends in regards Male and Female learning achievement. Females have followed very much the same trend lines as males within the school.

| | Below Average | Average and above | Above average |
|---------|---------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Males | 10 | 90 | 15 |
| Females | 14 | 86 | 14 |

Student Council

At our last meeting, the student council discussed the new school jackets for the last time. Our jackets have finally arrived and look great.

The clubs are also starting up this term.

We have:

Guitar – Kalani / Choir – Marcella and Lisa / Drama – Hillary and Amy / Dance – Drew and Tiana / Board games – Ryan, Daniel and Zane / Reading – Darron

Lunchtime Sports

We have introduced a roster for this event and we have decided that we only run the games if it is fine weather.

Our council Wiki is up and running. Mr. Pepper has sent us all an e-mail inviting us onto the website to discuss ideas and share our thoughts.

The Easter egg activity went extremely well. All of Room 7 split up into groups of 3 and went to each classroom to play games, colour Easter pictures and at the end of it all to hand out small Easter eggs. We received great feedback from the teachers and the parents.

Next Wednesday, the council are running a LEGO day for the year 0-4. We hope to have lot's of entries and a fun day.

We hope to follow through with all our new ideas.

Jaimee Cassidy Student Council Chairperson

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING APRIL 2009

The new administration block is now in use with a few minor finishing touches to be completed. The BOT attended the official opening of new block with blessing on Friday. Big thanks to the staff and children for putting up with their surroundings last term and a special thanks to Helen Phillips for her input in the 'interior design'.

An evening will be arranged to discuss achievement of Maori students with a focus on Te Reo Maori curriculum guidelines. Religious education pastoral care review will take place next month with all results being published to stake holders following the review.

Working bee planned for Week 8 which will be timely with the Catholic review being in Week 10.

The board expressed their condolences to Andrew, Angela, Rory and Jack Kelleher for the loss of their brother and uncle, and wish Andrew and his family a safe journey to England.

Pompallier Catholic School Notice Board

Paua Shell Menu

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Rolls: | Club Sandwiches |
| \$2.20 each | \$2.20 each |
| Salmon | Salmon |
| Chicken | Chicken |
| Ham | Ham |
| Mince Savoury | Slice Pizza |
| \$1.80 each | \$2.20 each |
| Ice Blocks | |
| \$1.00 each | |

Please note that this is a great service and we need to support it. Lunch orders are still taken every Friday in the library in the morning. If there are not enough orders this service will stop. It is not worth the Paua Shells time to come up to the school.

Please note that if you want to order this week you need to make your order on Thursday morning 8:30am.

Healthy options

PTFA MEETING / FOOD FAIR MEETING

Friday 8th May in the Staffroom at 3:15pm.
Everyone Welcome!
This Friday!

WELCOME

Welcome to Katie Thompson, Lexa Peters and Lucy Burkhardt-Macrae
It's great to have you here.
We all look forward to getting to know you.

14th May
Pompallier Sports meeting
Staff room 3:15

School Values

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

MERCY

- To help and support others when we can
- To show empathy to those who are less fortunate

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

Strong school values are important and help create a 'Better School' to learn in.

SOCCER PLAYERS WANTED FOR UNDER 13s. (born 1996,1997)

KAITAIA STRIKERS U13s

We are looking for players for the 09 season.
First practise this Friday 1st May, 4.30pm, @ Kaitaia Intermediate fields.

For more info contact
coach Garth hutchinson 4068512

Haere mai, Piki mai, Kake mai.

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 4800

Marcellin 4288

Maria 4725

McAuley 4685

Thankyou

A big thank you to all parents and parishioners for the turn out last Friday for the Administration opening.

It was a great day and Father Pat commented on the turn out.

The school thanks you for

Please note on your calendar

Teachers Only
Day 22nd May

Parent Survey Feedback

This survey was conducted at the end of last term. It was a survey that asked some questions about the overall climate of the school. Below is the feedback that was returned. We had 103 forms back.

These results will be shared with the BOT and also the staff and parish. The feedback enables the school to again set a better direction and to tweak areas that are underperforming. If you left a phone number and a concern you will have be contacted face to face by the classroom teacher on parent interview evenings or by myself through a phone call later this week.

A big thank you for all those parents that took some time to have your say. Please remember that you are always welcome to come into school and have a chat with your classrooms teacher or myself.

Having an open door is so important if we are going to 'get it right' for your child.

| | Don't know | Strongly Disagree | Disagree | Agree | Strongly Agree |
|---|------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|----------------|
| My child likes school | | | 1 | 60 | 42 |
| The school encourages children to care for each other and develop a sense of responsibility | | | | 47 | 56 |
| My child is making good progress at school | | | | 77 | 26 |
| Teachers give my child individual help when he/she needs it | 8 | | | 67 | 28 |
| The school is well led and managed. | | | | 40 | 63 |
| I am kept well informed about how my child is getting on | 1 | | 3 | 79 | 20 |
| The school works well with parents and provides useful information on how they can support their child's learning. | 1 | | 2 | 66 | 34 |
| I would feel comfortable about approaching school staff with questions or a problem. | | | | 56 | 47 |
| The school provides good facilities both indoors and outdoors. | | | 1 | 61 | 41 |
| The school has a happy atmosphere. | | | | 61 | 42 |
| The school encourages parents to play an active role in school life | | | 1 | 54 | 48 |
| I am given sufficient information about the curriculum that my child is following. | 1 | | 3 | 83 | 16 |
| The school system of rewards is effective. | 4 | | | 69 | 21 |
| The school deals with inappropriate behaviour effectively | 5 | | 1 | 71 | 26 |
| My children are confident that there is someone in school who will listen to them if they have a problem. | 3 | | 1 | 74 | 25 |
| My child/ren feels safe at school. | | | 1 | 52 | 50 |
| I am quickly contacted about any problems. | 3 | | | 71 | 29 |
| School newsletters are informative and worth reading. | | | 2 | 49 | 52 |
| The schools special character has a positive effect on my child's learning and their development as a whole person. | | | | 43 | 60 |

Special Character Column

This week sees the beginning of the HOLY SPIRIT / TE WAIRUA TAPU Strand in the Religious Education programme.

Each years focus is as follows

Y1: God the Holy Spirit

Y2: The Holy Spirit in people's lives

Y3: Fruits of the Holy Spirit

Y4: Pentecost

Y5: Titles and Symbols of the Holy Spirit

Y6: Baptism and the Holy Spirit

Y7/8: The Holy Spirit in Scripture

Once again , I can't stress the fact enough, that a read through your Family/Whanau book is really useful in giving ideas of how to communicate with your child about their learning in RE. Each Strand has it's own section for your child's year level, as well as there being mounds of other interesting information.

CLASS MASS TIMES

FRIDAY Week 2: Rooms 1,2,3 & 6

FRIDAY Week 3: Rooms 4,5 & 7

SACRAMENTS of INITIATION

It is important that you contact us about your child receiving these Sacraments before the end of the week. A phone call to the office or a note dropped in at the office to let me know that you would like your child to be a part of this programme is all that is needed. I will contact you with all the necessary details after that and answer any questions you may have.

SACRAMENTS of INITIATION

Please feel free to pop in any time and see me if you have any queries about your child's faith journey or about what they are learning in the Religious Education programme at our school. I will do my best to help you, and if I can't I'll find someone who can!

Remember that Mass is at 9am every Sunday and we'd love to see you there.

Our "morning tea duty" is every 4th Sunday along with other volunteers.

God Bless
Michele Mill DRS

Room 1 Super Stars

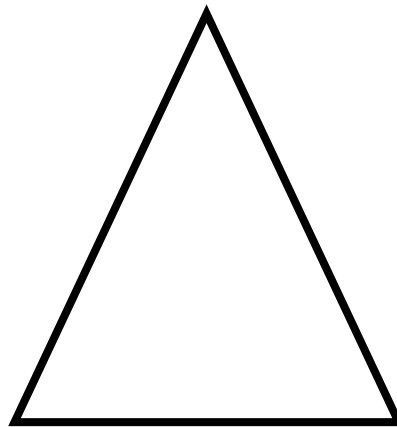
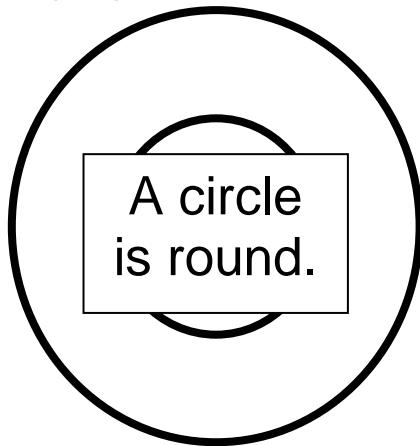
Welcome to Katie and Lexa. We are glad you have come and look forward to being your friend.



Holy Spirit Strand Jesus shares new life with the world. We planted daffodil bulbs, so we could watch new life grow in our class. We are checking everyday if the plants are growing just like our love for Jesus.

Shapes

We are learning to identify shapes circle, square and triangle and describe their properties



A square has straight sides that are the same

A triangle has 3 straight sides.



SPOTLIGHT A STUDENT

Mario is Room One's student of the week because of his positive attitude and willingness to tidy and help in the class. He has also worked hard during reading and writing and has made great progress in both areas. One of Mario's favourite things to do in Room 1 is to play with the big trucks. Keep up the good work Mario.

Good on you Mario!

