

Special points of interest:

- Water safety weeks
- National Standards



28th October 2009

Week 3 Term 4

GIMMIE 5

Kia Ora Tatou, Greetings to all,

Who ever invented the idea of a 3 day weekend needs to be given some sort of award. Not having to iron uniforms and find sandals on the Sunday night was fantastic.

I am continuing to unpack our mission statement.

Mission Statement

Pompallier School is committed to provide quality education where the values of Jesus Christ expressed through the Catholic Faith is paramount, and to promote each person's full growth in a continuing tradition of excellence.

'To promote each person's full growth'

This has to be the goal of any school. To make sure that children are being challenged and pushed at a rate that they feel comfortable. If the rate is too fast, they will disengage and if it's too slow they become bored and disinterested in learning. Trained teachers are required to be constantly monitoring this engagement relationship and meet the needs of all children at what ever level they might be at.

School's also have a requirement to promote the staff's personal growth. Pompallier Catholic School does this through the professional development that takes place within the school and also outside of school. (Teacher Only Day on the 12th, all staff will be at REAP picking up ideas from Mark Treadwell, a prominent educationalist).

Our special character also allows personal growth for students and staff. Reflecting on our faith and being aware of how we can become better people to those around us, encourages us to live full lives and live as Jesus would have lived. Using our talents and gifts is so important and something that we often discuss with our children.

Children need to leave this school knowing that they all have a lot to offer and the world is out there for them to positively engage with and to change for the better.

Portfolios Term 3

A big thanks to those parents that took the time to add a comment to the feedback forms. Some great comments about the children's learning and positive comments for our great staff. Thanks again.

What a great night this was. A big thanks to all the parents that turned out for a good old BBQ here at school.

Gimmie 5 is a catch phrase that will be part of the school for years to come. All families will need to be making sure that they give the school 5 hours a year. Most of us already do this and the Board of Trustees appreciates your time. A school needs free hours from parents if it is to give the children the extras that they deserve.

Once again, it was great to be able to support the PTFA on an evening like we had. The PTFA and helpers have raised so much for the school and all our children have directly taken advantage of the extras.

The tug of War was again hotly contested with the children winning two to one!

WATERSAFE 09

There is currently a big push at government level to ensure that all school children are water confident. This is especially important up here in the north with most of our children having some sort of relationship with the sea over the holiday break or in the weekends.

Today less than 25% of 12year olds are able to swim 200m!

The two weeks of water safety at the community pool is the school's way of trying to encourage all children to take the water seriously and to get as ready as possible for the summer months. By no means are all children after the two weeks ready to be left at the beach to swim confidently and it is up to parents to continue to encourage safe swimming practices.

Activities that children are taken through include *floating on a water safe device for 5 minutes, correct hand up is in trouble, swimming with jeans on, paddling the length of the pool.* These are some of the activities at senior level. I encourage you to ask your child's teacher about the activities that your child will be taken through over the next two weeks. Currently the weather is not playing it's part however, let's hope for sunny days from now on.

Time table

**Week 3 Junior Tuesday/Thursday
Senior Monday/Wednesday/Friday**

**Week 4 Junior Monday/Wednesday/Friday
Senior Tuesday/Thursday**

School Lunches

Last week I had a look in a boy's lunch box and found 5 types of bars and not one sandwich. Staff have also be noticing that many children are getting to school and eating their lunch before school starts and then having nothing for the rest of the day.

Because our first break is at 11:00, you need to make sure that they have had a good solid breakfast and that they understand they need to eat something fulfilling at 11:00am. Good old boring sandwiches are the best to fill a stomach and keep the children focused and learning. I can remember the good old days of spaghetti sandwiches from Kaeo!

Below is the Heart foundation guidelines for foods.

Everyday foods – these are foods which are low in fat and sugar and we should make sure we eat every day i.e. bread, vegetables, fruit, cereal and meat.

Sometimes foods are sources of nutrients, vitamins and minerals – e.g. fruit juice, flavoured milk, some chips, pureed fruit and some dried fruit and vegetables, yoghurt.

Occasional foods which are high in fat and sugar e.g. lollies, deep fried foods, artificially sweetened energy drinks and fizzy drinks, high energy bars and fruit roll ups etc.

National Standards

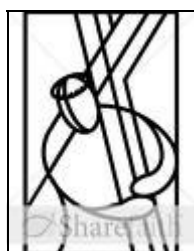
Over the last 6 months I have been inserting information about the National Standards. These come into effect next year. The standards describe the achievement in reading, writing, and mathematics that will enable students to meet the demands of *the New Zealand Curriculum*.

There is currently a lot of mixed feelings about this initiative in the media in regards to the fear they will start to compare schools and compare students. When all is said and done, National Standards will go ahead and our school needs to be ready for it. We are currently one step ahead and need to stay this way throughout the roll out. In the next newsletter I will put out a parent information sheet about the national standards that easily explains what our school's needs are and what we need to be thinking about in 2011.

Have a great two weeks!

Yours in Christ

Daniel Pepper



Special Character Column

We are fully into the swing of things in our integrated learning approach. Part of our big focus of "God is our Provider" is the freshwater aspect to God's Creation and *Taonga Pumau*—Holding onto our treasures. Our current strand in Religious Education is Communion of Saints. This strand focuses on a different aspect of *Taonga*; the tradition of keeping our Faith's *Taonga* alive. As you can see, we are able to integrate all our learning areas into RE, which is a Catholic School's core learning area. The Saints and inspiring people are a big part of our faith, they are treasure from God that we can use to help us to get closer to God in our faith journey. As I said last week, Mary, the Mother of our Lord, is a big focus this term and she is NZ's Patron Saint—she is a treasure from God who we can ask to intercede for us all the time.

In the Communion of Saints Strand, the children will learn about:

- the Communion of Saints as the Church—the living and the dead
- *whakapapa* - genealogy as relating to *te whanau a te Atua*—family of God
- Mary, Mother of God, her life and her significance in the life of the church
- the saints and other inspiring people, including people in Aotearoa New Zealand
- the sanctity of life, the mystery of death, loss and suffering from a hope-filled Christian perspective
- the Christian belief in judgement and life after death and their relationship to the everyday choices people make.

The different year level focuses are:

- Years 1 and 6 — Mary
- Years 2 and 5— Saints and Inspiring people
- Year 3— Life, Death and Christian Hope
- Years 4 and 7— Choices

As I said last newsletter, I am compiling a list for the Sacraments of Initiation for 2010. If your child has not received the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist or Confirmation, and you would like them to receive these next year, please can you come and see me or give their name in to Helen at the office. If you would like to telephone me with any queries, I am usually available in the office on a Thursday. If you would like your child to be baptised it is very important that you get in touch with Father Pat and make an appointment to see him. Your child will not be able to receive the other Sacraments unless they have been baptised.

It is part of your obligation as a parent of a preference enrolled child, to have your child baptised.

The Mass timetable for the next two weeks is:

You are all still welcome to join us in praying the Rosary this month, please feel free to do so:
Monday morning prayer assembly at 9am; Or in your child's classroom every other morning.

Before the next newsletter, we will be celebrating the feasts of **All Saints (1st Nov) and All Souls (2nd Nov)**. These two days are covered in the Learning Modules as part of our RE programme. They are an important part of our Faith. It would be great to see more families at Mass to celebrate All Saints day as this falls on a Sunday this year.

Friday 30 October

Rooms 3, 4, 5 & 7

Friday 6 November

Rooms 1a, 2, 5 & 6

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.

Remember that **every 4th Sunday is Pompallier Community's turn to provide and serve morning tea at Mass....9am!**

**Our next Sunday is coming up
25 October !!**

God Bless
Michele Mill DRS



Pompallier Catholic School Notice Board

New Zealand Cadet Forces

Matthew Tailby is in charge of this and is having an open evening that starts at 7:00pm at the Children Complex behind the community centre.
He is open to having any Year 8 students so if you think your child is keen please go along for a look.

School Values

These are the values that we have been focusing on over the last week.

TRUTH

Making correct choices

Thinking through an issue before acting
Knowing what is right and wrong
Thinking about consequences to actions we make
Learning from mistakes

Please note that they are now on the calendar so that you will be able to help with our school values at home as well.



A big thanks to the parents that supported this however it has died a natural death. We just weren't coming up with enough rice salads and hot curries and were falling behind other schools. I know when to give up gracefully so once again thanks for giving it a go!

Chanel

Marcellin

Maria

McAuley

The house teams points are announced at every assembly!

House Group Points

MUFTI DAY

This raised 288.20 for the Samoan relief fund.

Thanks for the support.

Remember that Newsletter week is Assembly week

A big thanks to **TOP PRINT** for their help with the GIMMIE 5 concept and printing.

School Fees

There are still some outstanding fees for Term 1,2,3

Please contact me at the office if you would like to organize payment. If no contact is made unpaid fees are sent to the Catholic School Board who arrange collection. Please contact me so we can make arrangements Helen

One warm and sunny Sunday morning, a priest announced to his congregation: "My good people, I have here in my hands three sermons...a \$100 sermon that lasts five minutes, a \$50 sermon that lasts fifteen minutes, and a \$10 sermon that lasts a full hour. Now, we'll take the collection and see which one I'll deliver."

What's coming up in the next two weeks?

NZ Yachting Year 8
Assembly
Class Masses Friday
Water safe swimming continues
Kaitaia College Information evening Year 8
Tabloid Sports Junior Year 4-8
Kaitaia College testing year 8
Camp info talk Parents
Zone Athletics Abundant Life

Check calendar for dates!