

Special points of interest:

- Ash Wednesday and Family Mass
- Meet the Teacher / Family Picnic
- Gimme 5 and PTFA



Kia Ora everyone,

Week 3 already! Time flies when you are having fun! Before we know it we will be celebrating Easter and on holiday. However, at the moment everyone is hard at work at Pompallier and learning has begun in earnest.

This week we welcome two new staff members. They are both qualified teachers who have taken on a job share role as teacher aides in the school. We are very lucky to have them on board. Welcome to Liz Bell and Summer Smith.

As a school we celebrated **SHROVE TUESDAY** yesterday by having a Liturgy and then pancakes for morning tea. Our new **SPECIAL CHARACTER TEAM**, which comprises of sixteen Year 7 and 8 students, ran this all very successfully. This is one of the things I truly love about PCS, and that is that we have such fantastic senior students. I know I can rely on them at the drop of a hat to step up and take on responsibilities within the school. Well done Special Character Team! I would also like to say a big thank you to an anonymous mum who spent the morning here helping out with this day. It is you as parents, who give some of their time to make things happen for the students and teachers, that helps PCS to tick along positively. The **"Gimme 5"** idea that was promoted last year is still well and truly alive and we love the way that some of you as a parent community have already stepped up to offer help. Please know that as a school we need the whole school community to be a part of the way things are done and to reach our goal of **"SHINING"** 2010.

PTFA

The PTFA is a great parent body who is very much involved in building up and fund raising for our school and your children's well-being. The first meeting this year will be next week on **Wednesday 24th February at 3.15pm**. It would be REALLY great to see some new faces involved this year. We have some great fund raising ideas that we would like to get off the ground and for this we need support from you as parents. The PTFA is a welcoming and friendly group and a great way to get to know people if you are new to the school. Please come and join the meeting in week 4, and if you can't make it but would like to be involved, please give us a call or pop into the office and give your name to Helen.

Meet the teacher / Family Picnic

Last Thursday was a beautiful summer's evening that was perfect for our meet the teacher/ family picnic get together. It was another well attended event and even though we did not have the traditional "tug of war" it was a great opportunity to meet your child's new teachers and have some time to socialise with other families. Our new teachers enjoyed meeting so many of you, so thank you for making the effort. Thank you also for the feedback on our discussion points—a summary will be published soon.

Vision

PCS has a vision which is the foundation of all that happens within school. This is our core business. It is:

That every child is able to learn and take risks in a safe Christ-centred environment that focuses on family and community values.

It is a simple sentence, but it states the basic need that drives all our decisions. This vision leads on to all the other plans and procedures that are needed to keep a school on a successful journey.

Strategic Plan

Our strategic plan 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. I thought it would be good to remind the community at the beginning of the year, so we all know which direction we are going. Around the middle of 2010, I will begin to send out surveys and questionnaires to get a feel from you as a parent community for developing the next three years Strategic plan for Pompallier Catholic School.

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.

As a BOT, principal, teachers, support staff and parents, we all want the best for our students at Pompallier Catholic School. So please feel free to come make an appointment to see me or your child's teacher if you have any concerns or ideas about your child's success at school.

Student Leadership

Part of our success at PCS as I mentioned at the beginning of the newsletter, is attributed to our senior students. This is the reason why they are afforded the opportunities to be leaders in different ways. It is not only the "white shirts" that make them different to the rest of the students, it is the fact that they are using their previous six years of learning and are standing up and being responsible individuals working in a team situation. These students have to apply for the leadership positions and state why they think they are able to fulfil them. They are then chosen by myself and the senior management team to be part of the leadership groups. They also have job descriptions and responsibilities, which they have to maintain, to stay in their role. I have initiated a new leadership team this year to help with the huge role of our school's special character.

So congratulations to the following students:

Pompallier Disciples

Harrison Bell
Mikaere Taylor
Rahiri Henry
Jenny Crene
Shannon Greenall
Luke Jones
McKenna Jones
Camryn Stewart
Hayley Davis
Aimee Maria
Rory Kelleher
Hillary Peeters
Jessica Harrison
Ella Harris
Bailey Hansford
Jake Aspin
Carlos Campbell
Jade Cassidy
Zane Beckett
Daniel Crene
Leah Adams
Reweti Davis
Greer Carey
Kalani Matijevich
Rahul Patel

Special Character Team

Shannon Greenall
Kalani Matijevich
Tarlyne Sage
Bailey Hansford
Carlos Campbell
McKenna Jones
Rahiri Henry
Daniel Crene
Jackson Aiono
Rebecca Uiese
Kaaiwa Pitman-Going
Ella Harris
Skye Wire-Foulkes
Tayla Mitchell
Greer Carey
Zane Beckett

House Captains

Maria

Hayley Davis
Mikaere Taylor

Marcellin

Kendall Casey
Harrison Bell

McAuley

Aimee Maria
Daniel Crene

Chanel

Tiana Lloyd
Zane Beckett

Student Council

Luke Jones
Hillary Peeters
Reweti Davis
Greer Carey
Jake Aspin
Jessica Harrison
Rory Kelleher
Camryn Stewart
Jenny Crene
Zane Beckett
Aimee Maria
Hayley Davis

After School Programme "AFL Kiwikick"

New Zealand has produced an after school programme called "AFL Kiwikick" targeting motor skills for children between the ages 5-12.

In a lead up to this programme they provide free sessions to all schools and on **Thursday 18th February**, Kiwikick will be working with classes from our school. Esther from Sport Northland invites you and your child to stay after school from 3.30pm-5.30pm to enjoy extra FREE sessions with AFL Kiwikick. Maybe we can work together to offer this new opportunity to our Pompallier children as an after school

programme.

Pompallier Sports Meeting

3rd March 2.15pm



WELCOME

We would love to take this opportunity to welcome our new students and families to our great school.

Kendall Casey	Room 7
Daniel Casey	Room 6
Finn Spaans	Room 6
Jelly Abby Mallillin	Room 6
Riley Panther	Room 5
Summer Rae	Room 2
Tyler Haines	Room 1
Tia Pereira	Room 1
Erin Atwood	Room 1
Caolan Price	Room 1
Nikau Marsden	Room 1
Moani Marsden	Room 1
Himiona Pirini	Room 1

Student of the Week

Room 1: Erin Attwood
Room 2: Rylee Windelborn
Mia Samuela
Room 3: Taz Snelling, Tahlia Foster
Room 4: Shannon Edwards,
Kadyn Waipouri
Room 5: Sage Watson
Georgia Buckingham
Room 6: Tarlyne Sage Georgia Cook
Room 7: Reweti Davis, Aimee Maria

Special Character Column

ASH WEDNESDAY

Fasting today if you are between 18 and 60!!

And no meat for anyone—we should have had a fish and chips night tonight!

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

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

These words come from the book of Genesis.

For the next 40 days we prepare for the great feast of Easter. This is the most important celebration of the year in our Catholic faith. At this time we should all be thinking and acting on

What Jesus would do

LENT is a time when we can reflect on this, grow spiritually and take stock of what is important.

RECONCILIATION

On 12 March we will have Rite 2 Reconciliation and First Reconciliation for students who are taking part in the Sacramental program this year. PLEASE fill in the attached letter if you want your child to be confirmed this year.

We start lessons on

TUESDAY 23rd February WEEK 4.

It is part of your role as a parent to bring your child to receive the Sacraments. It is a part of their faith journey which they learn at school and at home. Friday is the due date for enrolment into the programme. Please see me if you would like any further information.



We have written poems to "get to know" each other...here are some of our examples.



R

My name is kalani and I play guitar
In the sport shot putt, I'm sure to throw far.
I like Maths and Reading too,
But there's one thing I dislike,
And that's our school shoes!
As I leave to my brand new school
There's one thing I know, Pompallier is cool!
Kalani Matijevich

My name is Tiana Lloydd
I am the youngest of five children
I love to do sports
I am a student at Pompallier Catholic School.
I am in room 7 this year for the second time.
I am looking forward to College next year
But it will be very sad to leave
Pompallier at the end of the year.
Tiana Lloydd

O

I like Christmas dinner, but hate eating kina
I have a KTM85 but I'm luck to be alive!
I like motorcross but I act like Jake Moss.
I like my class, but I hate it when I don't pass
This year it is 2010, and we are turning into
men
Harrison Bell

I am your classmate, my name is Jake.
I love to swim and I live at the lake.
I have one brother, a father and a mother
Sometimes I go to a sleepover and stay with another.
I've been at Pompallier 3 and 1/4 years,
And in that time I've had fun with my peers.
I like to ride my motorbike and jump on the tramp
Especially when Dad takes me to Waipap ramp.
2010 will be a big year
So here I come with a big cheer!!
Jake Aspin

O

Dan the Man is who I am,
Don't say "I can't " because I can!
At Pompallier School I am a year 8
And homework is the one thing I hate.
Off to the South Island this year,
Watching planes do stunts in the air.
My teeth are like white piano keys,
I can swim, jump and run with ease.
2010 is my last year here,
Please don't cry when I disappear!
Daniel Crene

I am a girl called Hillary
I am 11, but will be 12 this February.
My favourite colours are blue and green
I have brown eyes and orange hair that is easily
seen
I like running around and playing sports
And working on the farm in my singlet and shorts
Hillary Peeters

m

My name is Zane
I can be a pain
I am the youngest of my litter
And I like a potato fritter.
I go to Pompallier Catholic School
And it is super duper cool
I am an uncle of three
Rylee, Jarque and Milin all love me
I like playing rugby because it is fun
My poem is over now so I'm done.
Zane Beckett

My name is Mikaere I'm the oldest kid in school
Its awesome when we get to swim in the pool
I like to shoot possum's because that's my thing
I hate after lunch when the bell goes ring
I am quite good at running
And I can get a bit cunning
My time at Pompallier is coming to an end
Mrs Carey don't cry when I finally descend.
Mikaere Taylor

7

Hello my name is Hayley,
Only once I have been sailing.
I love to do gymnastics and swimming too
But when it comes to golf or horse riding, I have no clue!
My worst fear is spiders, how about you?
I also hate little bugs, but I do love hugs.
2010 will be an awesome year,
Especially because I have friends standing near!
Hayley Davis

Hi my name is Aimee, this year I am a year 8
I think squash and swimming are great.
I like camping and tramping as well
Snorkelling at Houhora is swell
A degree in commerce is what I desire
People who do well are who I admire
This year I'm in Mrs Carey's class
I think its going to be a real blast!
Aimee Maria

We have 29 students in our classroom, so we will attempt to show all students work over 2010!.

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

The time of year for preparing for our Sacraments of Initiation is drawing close .
The dates for Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation have been set.
First Reconciliation will be on 12th March, First Holy Communion still to be decided and
Confirmation will be on the 30th October.

The Sacraments are a part of our church that are extremely important and special, and the preparation for them cannot be taken frivolously. This programme will consist of three parts, **all** of which are compulsory. Term 1 will focus on Reconciliation (4 lessons starting Tuesday of week 4: 3.15 – 4pm. Term 2 will have a focus on Eucharist (6 lessons) and Term 3 will be on confirmation (5/6 lessons) These lessons will be after school once a week , each session running for about an hour.

We obviously need to know who will be participating in this very special preparation. If you would like your child to be a part of the programme, please fill in the following information and hand the relevant documents in on Friday 19 February at the latest).

I _____, (please print) want my child _____

to be taken through the Sacraments of Initiation programme being run at Pompallier Catholic School on the allocated dates.

I understand that my child must take part in **all** sessions and that I am expected to attend any required parent/caregiver sessions.

(There should be no more than two of these for parents.)

My child was baptised in _____ parish on _____(date)

Attached is a copy of the baptism certificate.

*Please note that your child will not be permitted to participate in the programme unless a copy of his/her baptism certificate has been handed in.

Signed: _____ (Parent / Caregiver)

Thank you
Michele Mill
Principal