

Special points of interest:

- Term dates
- Talent search
- Reports



A happy holiday to all of you!

Half way through the year and counting down to Term three - this is an exciting place to be. Schools are really busy places with so much going on; so the holiday is a necessary 'slow down the pace a little' for students and teachers alike. There is a myth that anyone who is married to or is closely associated with a teacher knows is untrue, that teachers have so many holidays. I say this is untrue because teachers still work in their holidays! They have what is called non-contact time, but the job is always in the background. Why am I going on about this? Well, I think teachers are not always appreciated and recognised for what they do in a community. It is easy to judge or criticize, and the appreciation of what happens daily is often overlooked. So I would like to end the term with a **huge** thank you and note of appreciation, to **all** the staff at Pompallier Catholic School who go over and above their call of duty to make this school a great place for our students to be. It is this wonderful team of people who make our Vision and Mission Statement come alive for our students on a daily basis. Have a really great break everyone!

TERM DATES**Term 3:**

Starts - Monday 19 July
Ends - Friday 24 September

Term 4:

Starts - Monday 11 October
Ends - Thursday 16 December

Term 1 2011

Starts - Tuesday 1 February
Ends - Friday 15 April

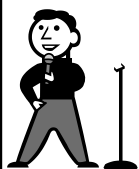
**Talent search**

A couple of weekends ago I was at a fund raising dinner and dance and was very pleasantly surprised to see, and be entertained by one of our parents with a special talent.

Erana Young was the parent, who was part of a singing trio; and I must say I was blown away by her talent. (As you may or may not know -I am a horrible singer, so I really admire people like her!) This led me to think that there would more than likely be a whole lot more talented and gifted entertainers in our school community. One of the

ideas for this year, is to have a PCS Variety Show instead of a major production. Originally, I thought we would only invite our students to perform at this, but after witnessing parent talent, I am hoping that we could include some of you as part of our show.

So this is a call to anyone out there who thinks they would like to audition for our variety show towards the end of term 3. The items being looked for are not only singing, but any talent that would be entertaining as part of a variety show. **Please let me know if you are keen!**

**Mid-Year Reports**

Your child will be bringing home their report today. There is a letter included in the report which asks a few questions. It would be helpful to our leadership team, if you could complete these and return to school when you come to **parent interviews in week 2 next term**. Thank you for your commitment to helping us in your child's learning at school. We hope you are able to celebrate some of the successes your child (ren) achieved through what you read in their report.

Upcoming Events to look out for next term....

- Speeches
- Variety Show
- Family Mass
- Cross Country
- Working bee (1st Saturday back)
- Confirmation lessons

Please note a change of date for Confirmation 2010 to 23rd October

(Any adults who have not yet been Confirmed and would like to be; please contact Father Pat. This includes older students who may have received First Holy Communion, and not yet been Confirmed.)

*******IMPORTANT NOTICE*******

Please can you ensure that if you collect your child(ren) from within the school and drive into the carpark area, that you do not move your vehicle, or drive out between 2.50pm and 3.10 pm. We have had some concerning incidents, and teachers on duty down Eden Terrace are concerned about our students' safety. I have also had numerous parents complain about other parents not keeping to our request, they are not happy about this, and rightly so. Please let us work together to keep our students safe during this busy time of day.

LOST PROPERTY

We have copious amounts of LOST PROPERTY in the office. Please come in and have a look - it is going begging!

Thank you

Pompallier Catholic School would like to thank Juken New Zealand for their generous donation towards our Duffy Books Sponsorship. They donated two \$500 vouchers for triboard. The PTFA will be raffling these next term.



Our **Duffy Book Programme** is a valuable resource in encouraging a love of reading in the students at our school.

Kobie Scutt and Taz Snelling showing off this great prize.

Thank you also to past sponsors of this programme. If anyone would like to offer a sponsorship please speak to Helen at the office.

Special Character Column



This week is **MERCY WEEK** at Pompallier Catholic School. I introduced this week into our calendar last year as a way to focus on our School's Charism, and we were once again privileged to have Sister Teresa visiting us from Auckland for this. Sister Teresa is a Mercy Sister and teacher. She presented a two day programme to our students where she taught them about Mercy through our 2010 theme of SHINE. One of the questions she asked of the students was—**How does Mercy SHINE at Pompallier Catholic School in Kaitaia?** I am proud to say that she was impressed by our students' responses. She specifically mentioned how our little Room 2 students were so engaged and responsive to her teaching. This was great feedback from outside eyes.

Another point to elaborate on is that our year 7 and 8 students have gone out into the community to SHINE their Mercy value and our school Charism. On Thursday, as part of the 20 Hour Famine that most of our senior students have opted into, we took the group to the Switzer Home. The reason behind this was that a part of the learning with Sister Teresa is manaakitanga - hospitality. Apparently, Catherine McAuley, the foundress of the Mercy Sisters, always made sure that guests were offered a cup of tea and had time to chat. Well this is exactly what our great senior students did at the Switzer Home. Firstly, they baked scones (competing to see who's were the best with the staff as the judges!) and they also made cards to give to the Switzer Home residents. After lunchtime with no food, as the famine hours started at 11.30am, they walked down to the Switzer to share some time and a cup of tea with their baking. The residents loved the baking, with a few asking for seconds! Our students were outstanding in their relating to the residents. They truly took our values out into the community with confidence and shone Mercy. Thursday ended with these students staying over at school for the night—waiting in hope for a huge cooked breakfast to end their fast! They had down time as well as time to learn and talk about why they were supporting this 20 hour famine idea. The bottom line is — Mercy shines at Pompallier Catholic School, our students know what it is and how to live it.

We are committed to provide quality education (*Mission Statement*) and we often see **the values of Jesus Christ expressed** (*Mission Statement*) through our students' actions. This makes it all worthwhile.

Please remember that Confirmation lessons begin next term and if you want your child (or yourself) to participate in receiving this Sacrament, please make contact with Father Pat or myself.

Part of your preference enrolment requirements are, that if your child was not yet baptised or hadn't received any of the Sacraments, you should follow this up and participate in their faith formation. Please come and see me if you have any questions or queries about this important aspect of your child's education journey in the Catholic School System. There are new criteria for preference enrolment into Catholic Schools, and there is no longer an automatic transfer from one Catholic School to the next.

Mufti Mania

Today, the students were allowed to wear mufti as part of a fundraising initiative for Caritas nationwide. The money raised will be used to aide a Catholic School on the island of Safotu in Samoa, called Sacred Heart Primary. Our value this week—*Mercy: showing empathy to those who are less fortunate*; is demonstrated by this effort. Thank you for your gold coin donations and participation.

Tarore and her Book

Last year, I ordered some free books to give to our families. These were donated by the **Far North Christian Religious Education Teaching Team**. At a get together to celebrate our last day of term today—we watched a powerpoint and listened to the story of Tarore. We hope that you are able to reread this story with your children and appreciate the message it gives of early troubled Christian times in New Zealand. It is written by our own famous New Zealand author—Joy Cowley.

Jump Rope for Heart

Week 9 saw Jump Rope for Heart at school. It was a great afternoon with students and teachers sharing their skipping skills to loud music. What Miss Clarke loved the most and wanted to share through her photo; was how the older students encouraged our younger skippers to give it a go! Here is a photo of Bailey Hansford cheering Himiona Pirini on—well done Bailey. Mr Lees won the Double Dutch competition for the teachers and was awarded 50 points for Marcellin. McAuley won the overall day.



Student of the Week

Room 1: Jayden Schraft
Room 2: Chloe Hayward
Jazmine Gillespie
Room 3: Zoe Attwood
Room 4: Shannon Edwards
Room 5: Cole Carey
Room 6: Shannon Greenall
Daniel Clay
Room 7: Leah Adams
Rory Kelleher



Just a little reminder to pay any outstanding School fees as soon as you are able. If you wish to start an automatic payment, please come and see Helen at the office—she will happily help you. Also if you have any trouble paying fees—please come see us so that we can help you to develop a payment plan. Thank you.

