

Special points of interest:

- Term calendar: Date Changes
- Parent / Teacher / Student interviews
- Working Bee
- Speeches



Hello all—it's great to be back for the third term, filled with new purpose after our little break! We ended last term on a high with the teachers winning our Rippa Rugby game against our students.....possibly with a little help from experts; never the less it was a fun way to end a great term. I hope you all had a good holiday with your children—I know some of you couldn't wait to see us on Monday! I wonder why? I was really beginning to enjoy the holiday sleep ins, and then it was over! Holidays are a great time to get out of routine and relax and get those little extras done that seem to get missed during term time. Even though we are on holiday, effective teachers still need to plan and prepare for the next leg of the learning journey, albeit at a bit more of a relaxed pace. I would like to acknowledge our dedicated staff who took time out of their holiday getting their classrooms and plans ready for this term. It is a good feeling knowing that there are dedicated teachers, who want the best for their students, teaching at our school. For me, the second half of a school year always seems to start off with an expectation of doing better than before—of re-evaluating goals and improving on them. This is what your children are currently doing with their teachers in preparation for your interviews next week.

Interviews

These will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday. You will be able to come in and discuss the next learning steps with your child and their teacher, and/or talk about the mid-year report which you received at the end of last term. Please remember to bring this report along to the interview and also the response form which was included with the report. Your responses will inform our end of year reporting format. Please ensure that you book your times with Mrs Phillips as soon as possible.

Term Calendar

Included in this newsletter is the term calendar. We endeavour to follow these planned dates, but sometimes there are changes which you will be notified of. We thank you for understanding that things don't always go to plan. A significant change which I spoke about in the last newsletter is the Variety Show. This has been postponed to Week 3 in Term 4 (29th October). This is because we have a lot planned this term, including Cross Country and speeches. Winter weather is also a factor which makes a difference as I envisage this show being an outdoor event. We will begin preparation for the Variety show this term, but will have an extra 3 weeks in the new term to perfect it! So we are still on the talent search - just with a little more time - keep your eyes peeled for more news on this. Another significant date change is for Confirmation. This date has gone back to the original one.

Please note the date for Confirmation 2010 is 30th October

Please come and see me or contact Father Pat on 4080289, if you are an adult who would like to be confirmed or if your child has not yet been through the Sacramental programme. It is your obligation as a parent or caregiver of Baptised or preference enrolled students to make these Sacramental opportunities available to your children.

Working Bee

This Saturday we are having our first working bee at school. Due to winter sports on a Saturday, we are having two sessions: 10am to 12; and 12 to 2pm. It would be great to see you there, as there are a few jobs that need talented helpers! A list of jobs will be on the whiteboard in the office from tomorrow, so you can come prepared. Some jobs we hope to cover are:

- Tree trimming and chopping
- Bark laying
- Water blasting
- Painting markings in car park
- Weeding / gardening
- Clearing the drive way
- Hedge trimming

We do appreciate all you do for your school and thank you for committing to our "Gimme 5" initiative.

LOST PROPERTY

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

Show

On Tuesday our students were entertained by the New Zealand Playhouse who were on their 2010 Primary School Tour. The show was entitled "Old McDonald" and had our own Mr McDonald and Mr Lees running around the quad dressed as sheep, being chased by a "sheepdog", much to the delight of our students! Thank you parents for your gold coin koha to help cover the cost of this. So, why have these types of shows—other than to have a good laugh and perhaps learn a moral from the storyline. I think it shows our students how to speak confidently in front of an audience and how to project your voice as well as using gestures and body language. This brings me to the next point of discussion—speeches.

Pompallier Catholic School Speeches

Our school speech competition will be on Tuesday 7th September. We will choose 3 finalists from each year level within classrooms. This will be the week before. Every student is expected to prepare a speech and present this to their class. Part of our tradition of excellence at Pompallier Catholic School is for our students to be confident and able to speak in front of others. This begins from their first day at school when they go up and say good morning to the whole school with Mrs Paton; to when they say their final speech at praise giving as a Year 8 leaver. Teachers will be preparing their students using criteria for good speaking in the classrooms. Our writing genre this term is also connected to the speeches, which will teach students to persuade or argue their point of view. The speeches will be prepared at home as homework. Topics will be given to the Y4-8 students as the winners will go on to the Far North Speech Competition which is organised by Mrs Carey. Y1-3 students are able to use the same topics or choose their own.



Special Character Column

Confirmation lessons begin in week 5 this term with Gemma Sinnott who will be taking the lessons. The lessons will be every Thursday at 3.15pm in the church foyer.

This term we are covering the following learning in Religious Education:

Imaginative Prayer

This module has a focus on prayer skills and styles. Students will develop a resource of various forms of prayer and ways of praying. We were created to adore God, and prayer is one form of this.

Church Strand—Community of Disciples / Te Whanau a te Kataiti

The focus for each year level is:

- Year 1 Belonging
- Year 2 Gathering, Celebrating, Living God's Presence
- Year 3 Called to be like Jesus
- Year 4 Called to service
- Year 5 The Church Celebrates
- Year 6 The Church as Pilgrim People
- Room 7 The Teaching Church

Sacrament Strand—Hakarameta

The focus for each year level is:

- Year 1 Holiness
- Year 2 Welcome
- Year 3 Forgiveness
- Year 4 Food for Life
- Year 5 Healing
- Year 6 Confirmed in the Spirit
- Room 7 Called for Others

Please use your Family—Whanau books to follow the direction of your child's learning in Religious Education. There are some useful ideas in this book to help at home. If you have not yet received one of these, they are on sale at the office. You may also be lucky enough enough to have a friend whose children have finished at Pompallier and could pass their book on to your family. This book can be used for all your children from Y1 to Y8.

If you have any queries about your child's learning in RE, please don't hesitate to contact myself or your child's teacher.

PLEASE DIARISE the DATE for our TERMLY FAMILY MASS

This will be on Sunday 19th September at 9am. Every 4th Sunday Pompallier is responsible for supplying and serving morning tea after Mass. It would be great to see more of our families helping with this.

If you have younger children / family members who have not yet started school and you would like them to be enrolled at Pompallier Catholic School, please see Helen or myself to follow this process. We do send out pre school packs to children who are on our list, and if you have not received one it may be because we have not got your child on our list.

Cross Country

Term 3 is when Cross Country and wet, muddy running shoes become very important! The last five weeks of this term have varying levels of Cross Country Champs, from school based, to Northland based. So, to prepare our students for this PE focus, we plan to train **every-day** this term. Please ensure your child's clothing is labelled as they do tend to lose items when they change. It would be appreciated if every child has a bag to keep their running clothes and school clothes in. Could you also please check your child's clothing when they come home and return items which may have got mixed up during the changing times. It is easier for a parent with two or three children to monitor clothing, than for a teacher to do so with 25 children. If you did not sign a consent form for your child at the beginning of the year, you will be asked to do this as soon as possible. Every student is expected to take part in Cross Country as it is a part of the Health and Physical Education Curriculum. There are two different tracks that the students run according to their ages and the competition requirements, which we will be training for.

Cyber safety

There is a Cybersafety form in this newsletter which needs to be signed and returned to school. ICT is a big part of learning which involves students occasionally going onto the internet; with this privilege comes responsibilities which need to be acknowledged. Please return these to the office.

School Fees

Unfortunately, we have had to raise our school fees due to the increase in GST. This will come into effect next term. Term 4's fee will go up to \$89.50. There will be another increase in 2011 where fees will be \$370 per year (\$92.50 per term) including GST. Remember that you are able to claim a third of your fees back from the IRD. You do need to keep your original receipts for this. There is the opportunity to pay your Term 4 fees before the increase if you do so by the end of Term 3 (24 September). If you have already paid for the year, you will not be affected.

Uniforms

Thank you to parents who are helping their children to respect the rules at school. It is great to see that 99% of our students are correctly dressed and have the tidy look with their hair and general appearance—their pride of being a Pompallier Student is apparent and noted by many. It is disappointing to see some students ignoring the basic rules of hair styles and hair colour. I do ask that these parents show their support of our school by helping their children to stick to the rules which are signed at enrolment.

PTFA

There will be a PTFA meeting this Thursday after school in the library. The main discussion at this meeting will be the upcoming Food Fair. Please step up with your help if you are able. All funds raised are to the benefit of your children.

GIMME 5 !



NOTICE BOARD

2010 YEARBOOK

If anyone would like to advertise their business in our 2010 Year book, or even sponsor a page, we would love to hear from you. The cost for your advert are:

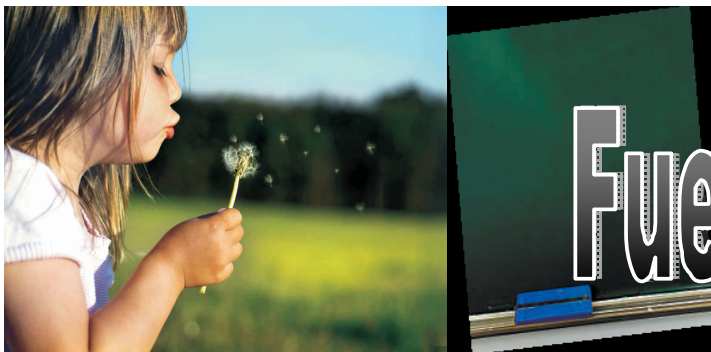
12 x 8.5 cm	\$30
18.5 x 12 cm	\$60
Full page	\$100

We would love to advertise for you.

MAGNETIC TIMES TABLE

We are having a small fundraiser with a great product. Times tables are often troublesome and this is a fun idea to help your child to learn them. Basic facts are the foundation for quick mental solving strategies. Please order at the office if you are interested in purchasing this product.

If you have any great photos of what has been happening at school so far this year, we would love to copy these. Please can you share with us, and you may even get your photography into our 2010 year book!!



Welcome to Fuel for Schools

Fuel for Schools is an innovative primarily rural focused sponsorship program operated by Northfuels and Southfuels.

The program can help fund the ever increasing costs of running Primary, Intermediate and Secondary Schools throughout New Zealand.

1. New and Existing Northfuels and Southfuels customers can nominate a school of their choice
2. Once nominated the school receives sponsorship of 1 cent for every 2 litres of bulk fuel delivered

Fuel for Schools is a very easy way of supporting your local school and the best part is it won't actually cost you anything. This is our way of supporting our rural customers and giving something back to the fuel users and communities that support us.

If there are any families who purchase bulk fuel from this company, please nominate our school—we would be appreciative of any extra funding in this economic climate. Our school is already registered. If you have any queries, please come and see Michele Mill. Thank you.