

## Special points of interest:

- Winter school uniform—shoes
- HAIR
- Interviews



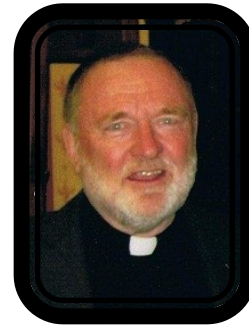
Hello all,

Our first newsletter this term was meant to be a happy welcome back to everyone, including Father Pat from his holiday. I do still welcome you all back to Term 2 and Father would still expect us all to be happy about being back at school—one of his all time favourite places; as he always said—"children, this is the first university". Our Easter celebrations were tinged with sadness at our loss, but also with happiness in celebrating the good memories we have of a special man, priest, friend and supporter. It was wonderful to spend time with Father Pat's brother, Bernard and sister in law, Pat. They brought a sense of familiarity to us and were happy to spend some time with our school before they left on Monday. They could not tell us enough of how much Father Pat loved our school, and how proud he was of it. It was very heart warming to chat with Bernard Littlewood who is a slightly younger, thinner, less hairy version of our lovely priest. He also enjoyed sharing his stories about his brother (with a very similar sense of humour) with some of our staff and students. The Littlewood's are going to donate an award which they would like us to hand out every Easter for Father Pat's anniversary. They also donated half the monies received in koha for the funeral to our school. We have decided to buy Bibles with this money and acknowledge Father Pat in each of them with his prayer card.

Thank you also everyone for the food that was brought in and the tireless workers who set up, served, cleaned and smiled while they did all this !! The family really appreciated what you did.

What a special experience the celebration of Father Pat's life was for those of us who could attend. Funerals are not usually happy experiences, but they can be times of appreciation. To see so many priests in one place celebrating a Mass together and singing in Latin is not something one experiences very often. Father Pat would certainly have loved his funeral—and he did like funerals! I think the students who were there will remember the experience for the rest of their lives. We are all going to miss Father Pat and the hole in our hearts will take a while to heal, but I know what will get me through personally; is prayer, and remembering his laughter and wise words. He was a character in his own right and a holy man of

God who left an impression on hundreds of people in his lifetime. I am proud to be one of those lucky people. Rest in peace Father Pat—you will never be forgotten at Pompallier Catholic School.



**Father Patrick Joseph Littlewood MHM**

**24 March 1941—19 April 2011**



### Classroom Snapshot Folders and Interviews

As I said last term, house points are up for grabs this week for students who return their Folders by Friday. As we are having our parent, student, teacher interviews next week, these folders do need to be back at school, with the questionnaire completed. Teachers will be looking at these comments and the Folders will form the base of your conversations at the interview. Our aim for the interviews is to set new goals with your child, and or next steps in their learning, what can be done at home to help with your child's learning and how we can improve challenges and learning for your child at school. This is a great opportunity to share ideas and thoughts to benefit our students. Please book your times through the office. The days are Wednesday (11/5) from 1.30pm—6pm and Thursday (12/5) from 3.30pm – 6pm. Mrs Hammon will be available with Mrs Robinson from 3.30pm on both days. Mrs Watson will only be available on the Wednesday. We do encourage your child to be a part of this interview. If you have concerns or queries which you would like to discuss further (interviews are 10 minutes) you will need to make an alternative appointment with your child's teacher. Please respect the time that is allocated to you, as we do try to role model our respect for others by being punctual. The bell will ring to remind you, and the teacher will end your conversation (please be understanding of this).

### Welcomes for Term 2

Mrs Robinson has slotted back into a full time teaching role like she never left—welcome back Mrs Robinson, it's great to see you so comfortable and at home.

### Production 2011

Scripts have been handed out and lines are being learned—our production, we are getting excited,

**Joseph and his Colourful Coat** is underway.

Thank you to the parents who have already dropped off sheets / material and offered donations for our production. I believe that there has even been some sewing going on and some costumes are already made. THANK YOU !

### Correction

A correction to our last newsletter. Mrs Penny Cutler will be with us for 3 weeks this term not 6 (we enjoy having her on staff and wish it was 6 weeks!)

Father Rodney will be arriving on Thursday and staying until the end of June. We welcome him back with open arms and look forward to worshipping with him again.

### PTFA

The first PTFA initiative this term will be the disco to be held on the evening of 20th May. There will be a meeting on Tuesday 10th at 3.15pm in the library. As always we would love to see new faces among the regulars, everyone is welcome.

### Duffy Books

We all put some of our wonderful mum's names forward to be nominated for the annual Duffy "Mum caught being good" award, and the winner is **Tracey Subritzky!!** Congratulations and thank you for all you do for your own family and for our school and parish!

On that note:

**HAPPY  
MOTHER'S  
DAY**

to all our hardworking, our wonderful, beautiful, loving Pompallier Mums! God bless you and have a wonderful day on Sunday.



We would love to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome our new students and their families !

**Jos Spaans                      Tui**

CONGRATULATIONS to Gracie Rae - Winterstein & baby sister Evie, and Mateja Matijevich-Wiki on your Baptisms at Easter.

I am looking forward to another busy term, filled with positive contributions to our students learning and well-being, from all our school and parish community. I hope we all continue striving to be **Nga whetu** in Christ. We can share Christ through our words and actions, it is our choice.

God bless, Michele Mill

## Special Character Column

### **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DUES SPONSORSHIP SCHEME**

The Attendance Dues Sponsorship Scheme - has been created to assist families who may need financial support with the payment of attendance dues, for students attending Catholic schools in Auckland Diocese, both primary and secondary.

The purpose of the sponsorship scheme is to allow parents or caregivers facing financial hardship another option to seek relief where they may be reluctant to approach their school for help.

The existing financial hardship scheme - operated by your school - is also available to parents or caregivers facing hardship and we do encourage families facing financial difficulties to please contact your school office.

Application forms are available from school and parish offices, or can be down-loaded from the Catholic Schools Office Website: [www.catholicschools.org.nz](http://www.catholicschools.org.nz) (go to Property and Finance / Finance / Attendance Dues)

If you have any queries or require assistance with the payment of attendance dues under the sponsorship scheme, you are invited to phone in confidence, Carol Krebs (Ph. 360 3069) at the Auckland Diocese office.

Applications to the sponsorship scheme for 2011 attendance dues will be accepted by the Auckland Common Fund Ltd up to **December 2011**.

### Chanel Day

As you may know we have 4 house groups at PCS one of which is Chanel named after St. Peter Chanel. Today we celebrated this Saint and the special character teamed organised a liturgy which involved recognition of Chanel as well as Father Pat who was also a missionary Priest. Items such as a globe, newspaper and the words "WORDS" and "ACTIONS" were taken to the altar as symbols of what Chanel and Fr Pat did for our church. St. Peter Chanel was the first martyr of the Pacific and his tie to our school is that he came with Bishop Pompallier from France in 1837 after the Pope asked him to bring the faith to this part of the world including Samoa where he was murdered under instructions of the King who was jealous of his popularity. He was martyred on April 28th 1841 and his feast day is therefore on this date each year. As this date was in the term break this year we celebrated today. He is the Patron Saint of Oceania.

### Religious Education Programme

This week the students have been looking at one of the most important times in our liturgical year—the season of Easter. Being May—the month of Mary, we are also including reflections in our prayers for Mary as well as Fr Pat and some grief based learning for the students, especially those who may have never experienced a death of someone they know and those who were unable to attend the funeral.

Blessings on your path, Jonathan McDonald

# NOTICE BOARD

Kaimānga :  
Food for  
thought

The less men think, the more they talk.

**Baron Montesquieu**

*(French Politician and Philosopher, 1689-1755)*



Please ensure your child has the required hairstyle before our next assembly. We are all taking a no tolerance stance to uniforms this term. We expect boys to wear short hair and girls who have longer hair to tie their hair back with the required hair ties and plain head bands. Please do not be offended if your child brings home a note, or you receive a phone-call about the uniform expectations. We will also be expecting the correct winter uniform to be worn by all students. It is very unfair on students who follow the rules, to have others ignore these very basic expectations. **Thank you very much to the parents who do support us in keeping to our smart uniform code.** A note is expected for temporary "difficulties" in adhering to the rules.

## A reminder about hair style expectations



**NO hair dye, highlights or bleach is to be used by boys or girls.**

### **BOYS:**

Haircuts must be conventional. This means **NO** Mohawks (2cm is acceptable), rat's tails or shaven bits out of the hair; or dreadlocks.

Hair at the back should not touch the collar. A buzz cut must be even all over.

### **GIRLS:**

Hair must be kept clean and tidy.

Correct hair ties are **bottle green** or **black**.

Hair must be kept off the face using **plain** hair ties, head bands or bobby pins at all times.

If you would like to see the full policy on uniform expectations and school rules, please feel free to contact the office.

### Reconciliation Lessons begin in Week 3 (19/5)

These will be every Thursday in the church foyer from 3pm–4pm with Gemma Sinnot. Please can I have all names for the 2011 Sacramental programme by next Wednesday please.

Michele Mill

## Young Mary

Mary Mackillop portrayed strength of character and steadfastness even as a child. Through this dramatisation of many of her early adventures we meet Mary and experience her liveliness and spirit. We witness her commitment to education and the elimination of poverty.

The play is funny and entertaining. It involves the audience in lots of acting and moral decision

making and with humour and compassion enables the young audience to relate to Mary

Mackillop and gain insight into her famous quote;

**Never see a need without trying to do something about it..**

**Cost: \$3 per student, \$6 per family of 2 or more students**



### \*\*\*\*HOUSE POINTS COMPETITION Term 2 Week 1\*\*\*\*

(All answers are in this newsletter)

***(50 points per student for every correct answer handed in by Friday 3pm)***

## How long should boys hair be ?

**ANSWER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**HOUSE GROUP:** \_\_\_\_\_

# WINTER UNIFORM

Term 2 and Term 3 are the terms when we wear our winter uniform.

**The options are strictly as follows—we would appreciate your full support, thank you:**

- \* Closed **PLAIN** black shoes, no patterns or writing, preferably "school style" with Velcro, laces or buckles
- \* All shoes are to have heels no higher than 2cm
- \* Grey school socks for boys
- \* White socks for girls
- \* Black or green tights for girls
- \* Green school sweatshirt for juniors
- \* Green school jackets for Year 7 and 8's
- \* No extra colourful jackets, scarves or gloves



## May 2011

## June 2011

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
2 <b>MAY, THE MONTH OF MARY</b>	3	4 Newsletter Chanel "Green" Day	5	6 "Young Mary" Play \$3	7	8 Mother's Day
9 UNIFORM check	10 RE Advisor's Visit <b>PTFA Meeting</b>	11 Parent interviews 1.30 - 6pm	12 Parent interviews 3.30 - 6pm	13 Assembly UNIFORM check	14	15
16	17	18 Newsletter	19 Reconciliation Lessons begin 3pm	20 Y7/8 Rippa Y4-8 Netball <b>DISCO</b>	21	22 <b>FAMILY MASS Morning tea</b>
23 Y7 Boosterix Duffy Show 2pm	24 Maria "Red" Day	25	26 Reconciliation Lesson	27 Assembly	28	29
30	31	1 JUNE Newsletter	2 Reconciliation Lesson	3	4	5
6 <b>QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY</b>	7 Powhiri for Miss Cross	8 Marcellin Day	9 Reconciliation Lesson	10 Assembly	11 <b>WORKING BEE</b>	12
13	14 Spelling Bee	15 Newsletter	16 Y3-6 Rippa Kiwi / Kea Cake Stall Reconciliation Lesson	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24 <b>MASS</b> Wheel's Day Assembly	25	26 <b>PCS Morning Tea</b>

As always we try to keep you informed well in advance of what's happening around school—I hope this little calendar helps us all to remember what is happening at our busy school. We usually send out a flyer, when appropriate, as a gentle reminder, and sometimes this is 24 hours before. Please note the days that support your child's faith journey and help them to attend celebrations that are not necessarily during school hours.

**Do you want us to EMAIL your newsletter to you? Send an email to this address: [office.pompallier.school@xtra.co.nz](mailto:office.pompallier.school@xtra.co.nz) with "PLEASE EMAIL NEWSLETTER" in the subject line and we will email the latest newsletters every fortnight! You can also keep up to date with the latest newsletter online on our webpage [www.pompallierschool.org.nz](http://www.pompallierschool.org.nz)**