St Mary's School
Kaikorai

Serve God. Serve One Another

Enquiries Welcome
6a Cromwell Street, Wakari, Dunedin 9010
Ph: 03 476 4277, Fax: 03 476 4277
Email: principal@st-marys.school.nz or secretary@st-marys.school.nz
Website: www.st-marys.school.nz
Mission Statement
St Mary's School promotes excellence in teaching and learning in a climate of faith and pastoral care within the parish community of St Mary's.

Vision Statement
Together we strive to become confident, creative, life long learners who follow Christ.

Our Beliefs
Learning is most effective when learners are:

- Encouraged to recognize Jesus in themselves and others.
- Valued for their personal uniqueness, talents, skills and culture.
- Striving to work alongside others in an atmosphere of co-operation, respect and reflection.
- Challenged to develop independent questioning and thinking skills.
- Involved in decision making about their learning.
- Given literacy and numeracy skills to ensure success in communication.

Our Values

honesty  respect  helping

worship  faith  encouragement
self-confidence  religious  role-model
persevering  differences  accepting safety
care  inclusion  encouragement
respect  choices  perseverance
appropriate-language  integrity  graceful
supporting  cleanliness  sharing
love  kindness  respect
friendship  good choices  growing
learning  fun  celebrating
encourage  trust  health

Developing learners who base decisions on Gospel Values

Maintaining Co-operation

Creating Excited Learners

Literate

Numerate

Developing Problem Solvers

Establishing Inquiring Minds
Past
The foundation stone of St Mary's Church in Kaikorai was laid in June 1912 by Bishop Verdon, and the following year a small school was established in the church staffed by the Dominican Sisters. In 1929 the lower school was blessed and opened by Bishop Whyte, and in 1953 Bishop Kavanagh opened the upper school. A third classroom and an administration block were added in 1980.

Molly Lane became the first lay Principal in 1978, and the last teaching sister left the School in 1979. Today the staff members are all lay teachers who aim to preserve its special character.

2003-2005 has seen an extensive rebuilding programme. We now enjoy a new administration block, refitted classrooms, new resource areas and soon to be completed a new library and toilet block. We continue to use the lower school hall for assemblies and other activities. The upgrades reflect the support and advice received from the Board of Trustees and the Diocese of Dunedin.
Present

St Mary's is a Catholic Primary School catering for boys and girls from New Entrants to Year 6. The school has a small country flavour in a city environment. A strong sense of family exists and children are encouraged to foster relationships across the school.

Both the Education Review Office (ERO) and the Catholic Education Office have recognised the excellence in teaching and learning in the school.

We hope that your family enjoys and benefits from joining our community of learners.
Enrolments

Thank you for looking at St Marys for your childs education.

If you have not already made contact with the school please ring the school office 476-4277.

We would love to have the opportunity to show you around the school and discuss your childs educational needs. You may prefer to bring your child during class time, to see how our programme functions. This would be welcomed by all staff.

Even though we are a Catholic School there are opportunities for non-catholic students to be enrolled. Non-catholic students do need to be enrolled by our Parish Priest, Father David Hercus, but this enrolment would be completed at a later date with the support of Mrs Trina Eastwood, our Principal.

Most children start school on their 5th Birthday.

Transition Programme

We run a transition programme which involves a once a week visit spread over six weeks prior to the starting date.

Presently our transition programme takes place during 'Discovery Time' on a Friday morning. This enables students to be introduced to the school environment during a time of well planned, structured, "hands" on experiences.
What is Discovery Time?
It is a 90 minute programme that we have started in our Junior room on a Friday morning. It provides opportunities for the teacher to meet the diverse needs of students through well planned, structured 'hands on' experiences.
There is a focus for each day, which may target a specific area of the key competencies ie: managing self, relating to others, participating and contributing, thinking, using test and symbols. The students choose any of these activities during that 90 minutes but there is always one activity that is essential. An essential part of Discovery Time is reflecting on their learning, which is done after each session.

Why are we doing it?
Students need opportunities to:
Direct their own learning, Participate in new experiences
Encounter new challenges, Extend existing skills
Work co-operatively, Interact socially
Problem-solve creatively

When is it happening at St Marys?
Fridays at 9:15—10:45 am

So Far?
• The kids love it!!!
• The parents helping are enjoying themselves
• The learning is happening in a fun way ie
  • Measuring while cooking and sewing,
  • Investigating by pulling apart an old video machine,
  • Building skills while constructing

What the Kids are saying!
Summer - "My favourite thing at Discovery Time was the Playdough, because I made different animals. I made a snail and so did my friend."

Ellery - "My favourite station at Discovery Time is Deconstruction and Reconstruction because we got to totally annihilate my video player. We couldn’t put it back together after we’d undone all the screws and cut the wires."
Curriculum Plan and School Charter

These documents are the basis of decisions and planning within the School. They are the result of the Board of Trustees, Staff and Community consultation. If you wish to view a copy of them please ask at the school office.

Education in Faith

We are Catholic and Christian in our beliefs and faith. The Word of the God is central to our decision making and teaching practices. Our school is a place where children can grow in faith and experience Catholic Christian life.

The school has regular school masses and liturgies. Prayer begins and ends the day. Each class takes turns to lead assembly.

We support the Parish preparation for the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

Seniors are also part of the St Vincent de Paul Youth Organisation and as such take part in a number of charity ventures, e.g. visiting the elderly, helping them as required, and collecting for the needy.

Visiting the Little Sisters and sharing with them what we have been doing in school.
School Staff

Trina Eastwood  Principal /Room 3
Jacqui Hammer  Room 3
Rachael Deerness  Room 2/DRS
Angela Shea  Room 2
Jacquie Tetlow  Office Administrator
Adele Bird  Librarian
Doreen Fraser  Cleaner
Deanne Barton  Teacher aide/ESOL
Linda Hartstonge  Volunteer

School and Office Hours

The school is open for children at 8.30am each day.

School times are: 9.00am - 10.40am
11.00am - 12.30pm
1.30pm - 3.00pm

The office is open from 8.30am. Messages can be left on the answer phone at any time. Children are expected to leave the school grounds before 3.30pm as there is no supervision for them after this time.

School Access Points

- Cromwell Street (supervised)
- Mount Street (unsupervised)
- Taieri Road (unsupervised)
Board of Trustees

Chair            Marie Baker
Deputy/Treasurer Hilary Henderson
Principal        Trina Eastwood
Staff Rep        Rachael Deerness
Proprietor Reps  Father David Hercus, Marie Baker, Finau Taungapeau
Parent Reps      Hilary Henderson, Mary Spiers, Ian Paulin, Michael Campbell

The Board of Trustees meets regularly and the school community are invited to attend.

The Board of Trustees is made up of elected parent representatives, representatives of the Bishop and staff. The Board governs the school, working alongside the staff and school community.

Parent Teachers Association

The Parent Teachers Association is a group of parents who are involved in the general support for the School. They run social evenings, various fundraising activities and working bees. Their meetings are advertised in the newsletter.

Meetings held second Wednesday or Thursday of each month
In Staffroom 7.30 pm
Fun things that have been sponsored by the PTA

- Little Flick
- Annual Swim and Slide afternoon at Moana Pool
- Magician
- Parent/Teacher Social Events — mid winter Christmas night

PTA has funded in full or part of in 2008

- Swimming lessons
- TV and DVD player
- Board Games
- Books for the library
- Sports Equipment—fold up nets, soccer goal, badminton set, Frisbees,
- Tennis Gear
- Pledged for 2009 $3,600 for the ICT hardware

In the past we have contributed to

- School library shelving
- Compost bins
- Digital Cameras for each class
- Reading and Maths games
- Contribution to classroom consumables
- Swimming lessons
- Transportation
Uniform

Our uniform is the Catholic School uniform for the Dunedin area. We expect our full uniform to be worn to and from school each day. Please ensure all clothing is clearly named as it all looks alike.

Girls
White blouse
Catholic School Pinafore
White socks

Boys
Grey shirt
Grey shorts
Grey socks

Both boys and girls:
Royal Blue jersey and/or navy blue monogrammed polar fleece

(purchased from the school office $35)

Navy blue trackpants are optional for winter.
Black/ brown footwear

You can purchased our school uniform from Postie Plus and by mentioning the school name, the school receives 5% of the total—this is used for fundraising.
There is also some second hand uniforms in the school office.

Sunhats

All children require sunhats when outside during terms 1 and 4.
This are available from the school office for $10.00

Sports Uniform

St Mary's sports shirts are supplied by the school as needed and students wear their own blue shorts.
Opportunities at

Education Out of the Classroom
Gardens, Butterflies, Museum, Art Gallery, Public Library, Camps, Beach Education

Grandparents Afternoon
Family Fun Nights

Production
Music Lessons
Choral Festival
School Masses & Liturgies
Class Masses & Liturgies
St Mary's School

Sporting Events
Hockey,
Soccer,
Netball,
Cricket,
T-Ball,
Flippa Ball,
Golfing,
Swimming,
Tennis,
Cross Country

Our very own Olympic Teams

Up-to-date
Information Communication Technology,
Technology Specialists,