Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Wednesday 10 September 2014

Our term is certainly whizzing by and we are picking up the tempo in the final few weeks especially with our open/celebration night in the final week of the term.

Our children are working really hard on sharpening our performance for their performance at Polyfest. They are great performers and understand the repetitive nature of practising for a performance. Once more we extend a big thank you to Neomai (Launga’s Mum) for her dedication to this event.

Speaking personally I find our school Masses a wonderful experience and a great way for us as a school group to celebrate significant events in our lives or in our year or Church calendar. It is a lovely family get together.

This Saturday Nick, Mike and I are building the sandpit.
This is stage one of our playground development project.

Mālō tau ma‘u e ho‘ata ni (Tongan farewell – good afternoon)

Richard Duffy

St Mary’s Kaikorai is ‘Dunedin’s best kept secret!’

Catholic Education Review Team 2013
Dates for your Diaries

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Alter Servers

- 13 September: Jean-Luc and Angelique Peyroux
- 20 September: Emilia Nakasini and Sam Al-Balushi
- 27 September: David and Atu Nakasini

Sports enrolments.
Last week we sent home a notice re sports options for term four. We also advised of club cricket enrolments at The Kaikorai Junior Cricket club on Saturday September 13 between 10am and 12:30pm and on Tuesday September 16 between 6pm and 7:30pm.
If any children are interested in playing either Touch or Futsal could you please ensure slips are returned to the office by this Friday.

Numeracy Information Presentation
On Wednesday September 17 from 2:15 in Room 1 we have Mrs Viv Thompson a Numeracy advisor with the University of Otago/Dunedin College of Education giving a presentation on Numeracy and teaching techniques for children learning skills and increasing their knowledge in Numeracy. We haven’t had a presentation like this for a number of years and it is a great opportunity for parents to come and hear about the current approaches toward learning in this learning area. The presentation should run for around 45 minutes.

School Photos
Next Tuesday morning 16 September. Full school uniform must be worn, tidy hair, faces washed - this includes ALL staff!!!! Consent forms for families will be coming home today with this newsletter.

Polyfest Performance Information
Our children have been practising eagerly for our performance at the Polyfest. we are on stage on the evening of Tuesday September 16 at 6pm.
Our children need to meet outside the back entrance of the Edgar Centre by 5:15pm. Mr Duffy will be there waiting from 5pm onward. It is possible for parents to car pool if necessary which we will leave for you to arrange. If however there are difficulties with transport please let Jacquie or Richard know and we will try to organise something.
They will be wearing their black shorts/leggings and white tee shirt to the event and will be changing into performing costumes when they arrive. It is recommended that they wear some light footwear to the venue as this footwear will be removed when we are performing.
Children have been asked to bring a white tee shirt and black tights/shorts/leggings to school as soon as possible. If you are having problems sourcing either of those items could you please let one of our staff know ASAP.
Following our performance, children will be able to leave the Edgar Centre through the front entrance. Parents are warmly invited to attend and watch our performance and performances that follow if you wish.
If you want your child to join you in the audience, please let them know and we can arrange for them to be delivered to you there.
Father’s Day Mass

Thank you to our school families who joined us for Mass on Saturday night. It was wonderful to see our church so full, and have so many families stay on for a cup of tea and a chat. Once again, many people acknowledged and praised the wonderful singing by our children - well done kids!!!

Sacrament Strand
We have begun the Sacrament Strand in RE...
Year 0-2 are learning about Baptism
Year 3-4 are learning about how the Eucharist is a sacred meal.
Year 5-6 are learning about how we are Confirmed in the Spirit.

Lice

They are back, well they have never really left.

The staff are taking a positive proactive approach to dealing with this problem.

All children will be treated, this will be either with proper treatment (with the parents permission) or spray with a combination of detangle with tea tree oil as a preventative measure. All children are being told they are being “treated” for head lice. This does one of two things, doesn’t single out those children that are in fact being treated, and two, helps to eradicate this problem.

We need the whole school community to be actively vigilant in helping to eradicate this problem that has plagued our school for months. Some parents are treating over and over and are getting sick and tired of spending money, and precious hours treating their children and others taking a she-will-be-right attitude.

There have been a number of notices in the newsletter about this issue and as parents you were asked that if you had an issue with your child being “treated” then you were to contact Jacquie in the school office. Only 1 parent has contacted her and that has been noted. So if you are treating at home and do not wish for your child to be “treated” (aka sprayed with preventer) then you must let Jacquie know. But you must be taking a proactive approach at home.

If while being “treated” nits or lice are found on a child’s head then the necessary steps will be taken to contact the parents.

Attached with this newsletter is the Ministry of Health facts sheet. If you would like a more detailed information sheet. You can obtain one from Jacquie in the office or http://www.minedu.govt.nz/MineduEducation/ EducationPolicies/Schools/SchoolOperations/HealthAndSafety/ HeadliceAndNitsGuideForSchoolCommunities.aspx
Tip—google search MOE Mite guidelines and it should pop up first.

Please be assured that all staff have the best interest of all children and would not do anything that would harm them. All instruments used are sanitised between each and every child.

If you would like to be part of our nit busters team, then please let Jacquie know.
What’s happening in Room 2

We got to meet the Kavanagh Band and sing with them last week. We were learning songs for the big mass at the Stadium. They were really good at playing their instruments. I really liked the bass guitar. They thought St Mary’s here really great at singing.

Reported by Launga

Last week for Athletics, Sean taught us how to throw a shot put, a discus and a foam javelin. It was quite tricky but lots of fun!

Yesterday he showed us how to jump for long jump and high jump. In long jump we had to land like we were riding a motorbike. I could jump as long as my body!!

Reported by Bronny

Year 6 Exec Presents
School Disco

Friday 19 September
7 pm – 9 pm
School Hall (on Taieri Rd)

Bring a friend
Drinks and Lollies will be on sale

Sausage sizzle/Hot Milo Order Form - Friday Lunchtimes

Name _____________________________

Number of Sausage/s $1.50 each _____________ Hot Milo 50 cents __________