Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Our term is rolling along at a great rate. We are moving toward Easter rapidly and it is a nice opportunity in the time of Lent to look at some of the different lives people lead around the world and the day to day challenges they face for a lot of reasons often beyond their control.

Last Friday Kelly, Rachel and I attended the Gathering of Catholic teachers in the Dunedin Diocese where we had the opportunity to attend workshops on certain teaching tools and approaches as well as hear one or two addresses on issues around education. Most other Catholic schools around the region had to close for the day but due to our size we were able to employ a reliever alongside Deanne and other staff. A day off on the Friday would have been nice but in staying open we don’t have to make this day up later in the year.

Congratulations to our tee ball team who played their last game on Saturday. Having been to a game earlier in the season, it was easy to see the real progress the team has made over the year. Thanks again to coach Pania for her dedication and high standards she set for team conduct and sportsmanship.

Me’a a (Fijian Farewell) Richard Duffy

Congratulations

Sarah Al Balushi is proudly wearing her sash that she won at the recent Taieri Tap Dancing Competitions. She is so fantastic that she was awarded second 3 times and 3rd once. Ultimately placing second in the championships. Awesome work Sarah!

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

Wednesday 26 March 2014

Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the One who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers make a DIFFERENCE.

Catholic Education Review Team 2013
**Dates for your Diaries**

- BOT meeting
- PTFA Meeting
- First Friday Mass
- Daylight Savings Ends
- Palm Sunday
- Holy Week
- Last day of term
- Good Friday
- Easter Monday
- ANZAC Day

**Alter Servers**
- Monday 31 Mar
- Thursday 3 Apr
- Friday 4 Apr
- Saturday/Sunday 5/6 Apr
- Sunday 13 Apr
- Monday 14 - Thursday 17 Apr
- Thursday 17 Apr
- Friday 18 Apr
- Monday 22 Apr
- Friday 25 Apr

- 7:00 pm@school in staffroom
- 5:30 pm, starting with tea
- 9:30 am@church - all welcome
- Turn your clocks back
- Enjoy your holidays
- During School Holidays
- During School Holidays
- During School Holidays

**PFTA Movie/Meeting Night**

PTFA meeting on April 3rd will be the same set up as the movies night we had on the 13th of February.

Details are: the bbq will be available to cook your own food or bring your own tea from 5:30.

The movie to start at 6pm in room one and a meeting in room 2.

**Sports Notices - Touch**

St Mary’s Maroons vs Moa Hill Panthers; Field 2@4:15 pm

**Tee Ball Tigers**

What a nice way to end our season with a great win against George St. La Channa was player of the day for awesome hitting and making it back to home plate - well done!!!!

Our prizegiving is on the 5th April at 11 am at the Southern Rugby clubrooms.

Our team is expected to attend in their sports uniform please.

Many, many thanks for all the awesome support from parents and families.

Thanks to Kata, Liana and Aaliyah for their help at practices and supporting the team each week and even playing occasionally.

*Coach Panz*

**Cricket Festival Days**

As you are aware the Year 5/6 children’s cricket festival competition at Logan Park was postponed until tomorrow and our Year 3/4 children are intending to attend this event this Friday. We would still like same assistance with transport and if you could please let Jacqui or Richard know that would be great.

**Hockey - Mini Sticks/Kiwi Sticks**

We would love to enter a junior and a senior hockey team into the competition this year. Games are on a Wednesday afternoon and begin 5th May until the 27th August.

Mini Sticks is for Year 3/4 children and they will play on 1A a hockey field.

Kiwi Sticks is for Year 5/6 children and they will play on 1/2 a hockey field.

The school have sticks and shin-pads that can be borrowed.

Please let Rachael or Richard know if your child is interested. We will need to have teams entered by the end of this term.
Religious Education & Special Character

The Annunciation - 25 March

Yesterday we held a liturgy to celebrate the Annunciation.

The feast of the Annunciation of the Lord celebrates the angel Gabriel's appearance to Mary, his announcement that the Blessed Virgin had been chosen to be the Mother of Our Lord, and Mary's willing acceptance of God's holy plan.

You might like to read this story in the bible with your child - Luke 1:26-38

Sacramental Programme

Please continue to keep these children in your thoughts and prayers. The Sacrament of First Reconciliation will take place after First Friday Mass on the 4th April at 9:30am. Children who have made reconciliation before are welcome to do so again at this time, as well as any parents.

International Race Relations Day

Last Friday when our teaching staff were at the Gathering of Teachers in Catholic schools, it was international race relations day. We want to acknowledge though that we treasure the variety of cultures we have in our school and are mindful of drawing on the skills and knowledge our children may have of their own culture in our learning when opportunities arise. Often discussions on different cultural practices can just come up incidentally but it is great to be able to hear children's ideas on aspects of the culture they predominantly identify with.

Playground news

In preparation for an addition to our playground we would like to have the children visit a few other playgrounds around the place to get their opinions on what kind of equipment they would like to put in. We were hoping to take some time after school over then next few weeks to visit different areas.

We are looking for parents to help transport children and supervise, so that we can get as many of the kids participating as possible. If you can help or if your child would like a ride please call Holly to organise 476 3058 or 0226104924.

Our first play ground group is going to be in the Concord/Constorphine area and we would hope to leave directly after school and only take about 1.5 hours. The second area is going to be the South Dunedin area and the last one will be the "hill" playgrounds. All going well and weather permitting we want to be finished with this part of the process by the end of Term 1. Suggested dates: 28th, 31st March, 2nd, 4th, 7th, 9th, or 14th of April. We understand that these dates might not suit all but hope that we can get 3 days that can suit most and sooner rather than later if we need to shift dates due to rain.

Thanks for any assistance you can give, Holly

 Wanted!!!

Coloured plastic lids from milk, cream, juice bottles.

We are intending to create some pieces of art to brighten up our playground. We need lots!!! There will be a container in Room 1 to collect them in. Thank you.

Sausage sizzle/Ice Block Order Form

Name ___________________________

Number of Sausage/s $1.50 each __________________

Ice Block $1 each ____________ (only 1 per chld)
What’s happening in Room 2?

We did some writing about what we like to do on a sunny day.

The sun is shining up and down, up and down. I am swimming in the sun and I am doing a handstand.
By Lily H

On sunny days I go to the beach with my mum and dad to surf. Dad and I jumped on our boards to catch some waves and they were splashing on my face. I saw a huge fish.
By Launna

I am sleeping in the sun. The sun is warm on my heart.
By La Charna

I went to the paddling pool and I splashed. I got splashed too. I fell over, then I went on the slide. I made it wet. I slipped on the slide. I went again.
By Bronwyn

Reporters of Room 3 - Chloe and Xavier

Mrs Cross has started a Hot Home Writer in our class and what we do is write something that interests us. We bring it back to school and share it with the class and then we publish it. Kata got the Hot Home Writer first for finishing his work quickly.

Last Thursday we did some gardening outside where we took some bulbs out of the tyres that had a lot of weeds in them and replanted them. It was fun getting to see lots of different things in the soil.

Exec Report by Jen

This Term on the tenth of April we are going to have a fancy dress day along with a treasure hunt or some baking if it is wet. You have the chance to dress up as a character such as a cowboy or a chicken. If you don’t have any clothes you could use your imagination & do something with a towel or a sheet. We are thinking that we will have a catwalk or one type of chance for you to march by in costume. There will be four groups and you will have to follow through a set of steps in your group to find your treasure. Hopefully it will be a lot of fun.