Dear Parents/Caregivers,

11 February 2014

It’s nice beginning some of our learning programmes now as we are getting through the setting up phases of the term.

All staff have commented on how nice it is to be working with our children again. In most aspects a lot of things are new with new children coming into our school and our Year 3 children moving into Room 3.

Thank you to all of our families who attended or made it possible for their children to attend our beginning of year school Mass. We understand that prior engagements and circumstances can make it difficult at times for families to attend a Parish School Mass but want to stress that we would really value as many families as possible making the effort once a term. In some circles attendance at these Masses is used to gauge the perceived success and culture of our school. I feel our school culture is very positive and hope we can show others through attendance at these Masses that this is the case.

Once more thank you to parents and our children for the manner in which they have begun the year in their presentation with their uniforms. Our children look very tidy and organised as a school.

Richard Duffy
Principal

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

He Koni Ra

Catholic Education Review Team 2013
Dates for your Diaries

Movie Night (PTFA)  Thursday 13 Feb  5:30 pm@school—everyone welcome
Survival Water Skills Week  Monday 17 - Friday 21 Feb  1:30 - 2:30 pm@Wakari Pool, @School
Burning of the Palms Liturgy  Tuesday 4 Mar  11:00 am@Little Sisters
Ash Wednesday Mass  Wednesday 5 Mar  9:30 am@church - all welcome @Holy Cross
First Friday Mass  Friday 7 Mar  No School - Enjoy the long weekend
Catholic Schools Gathering  Friday 21 Mar  7:00 pm@school in staffroom
Otago Anniversary Day  Monday 24 Mar  9:30 am@church - all welcome
BOT meeting  Monday 31 Mar  Turn your clocks back
First Friday Mass  Friday 4 Apr
Daylight Savings Ends  Saturday/Sunday 5/6 Apr
Palm Sunday  Sunday 13 Apr
Holy Week  Monday 14 - Thursday 17 Apr
Last day of term  Thursday 17 Apr  Enjoy your holidays
Good Friday  Friday 18 Apr  During School Holidays
Easter Monday  Monday 22 Apr  During School Holidays
ANZAC Day  Friday 25 Apr

Moving with the times

Please 'like' us on Facebook - we are using this for updated messages, events and happenings in and around school.

Our website is updated weekly with the newsletter and events and now even 'blogs'.
The school now has a cellphone for text messages only!!! It's number is 021-028-53147.

Farewell Notice

We would like to extend best wishes to Tess Braithwaite who concludes her services as school cleaner with us from tomorrow. Tess came to our need on a voluntary basis during Doreen Fraser's illness and took the role on permanently soon after. We wish Tess and her family all the best in the future.

Sausage sizzle/Ice Block

Sausage Sizzle Order
Name _____________________________
Number of Sausage/s $1.50 each ________________
Ice Block $1 each ____________ (only 1 per child)
MOVIE NIGHT - PTFA    Thursday 13 Feb
THIS THURSDAY NIGHT

BYO tea from 5:30 pm
Movie and Popcorn 6:00 pm in Room 1 on the ‘Big Screen’
Approx finish time 7:30pm

Cup of tea and coffee for parents,
hope to see you all there for a fun evening

Sports Notices
Tee Ball in 2014
Coach Pania Paerata will be holding a team practice this Wednesday directly after school.
The first round of games is on Saturday February 15. Your Coach Panz will send out the draw via text.

Term 1 Sports Options
Last week we sent home a notice outlining sports options for Term 1. Children already involved in tee ball did not have to return this notice as we were already aware of their interests for this term. These notices were due back today and from the responses we are looking at what teams we can enter in certain competitions

Sports Uniforms
A number are still outstanding. The Sports teams will be issued with their uniforms this week - if they have one that hasn't been returned, they won't be sent home with one.
There is a hire fee charge of $5 to your school account. If they get lost or ruined there will be a full replacement fee.

Swimming at Wakari Pool
As part of our Term 1 Health & PE programme we have organised for some survival skills/ water safety sessions at Wakari Pool next week on a daily basis. We have the pool booked for an hour from 1:30 till 2:30 pm and intend to leave school daily by 1:10pm. We will be implementing water safety and survival skills from the Water Safety NZ manual

Walking to Wakari Pool
Please write your name and dates available to help with walking to, from and changing the children. And return to school by Thursday.

Name ______________________

I can help on _______________________________ days
Update from Room 2!

We have created a 'Deed of the Day' tree for our wall. On the leaves we have written about ways we can protect our environment.

“Stop littering gladwrap because animals can die when they eat it, thinking it is food” by Vili

“We must stop littering. We have to keep our rivers clean.” by Madison

By creating this tree and caring for our environment, the kind people at EARTHCARE are providing our school with 96 boxes of tissues every winter!

A big thank you from us all at St Mary’s.

SATURDAY MORNING MUSIC CLASSES For Primary School Children (www.smmcotago.com)

- A wide variety of instruments to choose from.
- Approx one hour lessons.
- $80 for the entire year for most classes.
- Instruments available for affordable hire.
- Orchestras and ensemble groups for 2nd year players to advanced level.
A variety class especially designed for young children: “Let’s Make Music”.

CENTRES
- George Street Normal School (Saturday morning).
- Bathgate Park School (Saturday morning).
- Elmgrove School (Wednesday after school)
- Mornington School (Tuesday after school, “Let’s Make Music”)
- Tainui School (Thursday after school. “Let’s Make Music” and Guitar)

ENROLMENT DAY FOR 2014
Saturday 8th February at George St Normal School Hall, or Bathgate Park School Foyer, 9:30am -11:00am. (Elmgrove School Wednesday, 12th Feb, 3:30-4:30pm) Late enrolments will be accepted throughout February.

Enquiries to Co-ordinator: phone 4772296