



# St Mary's School Kaikorai

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**Together we strive to become confident, creative,  
life long learners who follow Christ**

**Dear Parents/Caregivers,**

**26 February 2013**

We extend best wishes to Mrs Rebecca Barnett who ends her time with us this Friday. She has done a fabulous job for us over the last five weeks and has given all staff wonderful support. She has shown us that she is a teacher who sincerely cares about the learning and welfare of children at school and we thank her for her efforts. We hope she won't be a stranger and that she will visit us after the birth of her new baby.

In light of this we extend a very warm welcome to Mrs Michelle Tili who will be working with us daily in Room 2 during the afternoons. We are delighted to have Michelle working alongside Rachael over the rest of the year. I feel very lucky with the quality of staff we have in our school.



It is lovely to have a number of our children involved in the Reconciliation programme here at school this term. It is a superb programme which explores the concepts of forgiveness in life. Forgiveness and the notion of reconciling relationships are core life values and I feel the Special Character of our school enables us to explore this very thoroughly. We acknowledge the efforts of our DRS Mrs Deerness in organising this Sacrament and the support of our tee-ball coach, PTA member and tutor reader Pania Paerata in helping implement the programme.

Paalam, (Phillipino farewell)

*Richard Duffy*

## School Production

As you are probably aware, our school production is based on our school and its history. In light of this we're sounding out our parents about what they may have already at home that may fit with what we need.

We are looking for around 6 gym frocks (as they were known) which were worn from around the late 1950's to 1970's). They were black pinafore style with box pleats and a white shirt was worn underneath. If you are really nostalgic, and attended a Catholic primary school you may even still have one, or have something similar that we could use.

We're also looking for around 6 ties. The colour of these was a black and white intertwined. We can get some material and improvise a bit if we need to.

## Otago Primary School's Swimming Championships

The Otago Primary School's Swimming champs are held at Moana Pool on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April. We have some good swimmers in our school. If any children are interested, parents can see Mr Duffy for more information about qualifying times etc in considering entry. The closing date for entry is Friday March 22.

## TBall

Practises are on Wednesdays. Last Saturday our team had a very narrow loss to Columba 22-21!! Liana was player of the day. Once again the team played well, nice one kids! From your coach.



## Help!! Bakers needed!!

Our first fundraiser of the year is coming, so we need all hands on deck please!



The Weetbix triathlon is on Sunday 3rd March and we are suppling the morning tea for around 120 for marshals at this event.

We need lots of muffins, biscuits and slices. Please fill in the form that are in the office, with the little bit that you can do to help. Thank you to those families that have already put your name down!!

## Weetbix Triathlon

We have 2 free tickets to enter this event. If you would like one please see Jacquie in the office!!

## Lost Property

The lost property is kept in the staff toilet, opposite the staffroom. It's full to overflowing, and the staff are struggling to get into the room. Please parents look through and take what belongs to your child. If items were named it would make things easier to return. Next week these items will be washed, and donated to charity.

## Dates for your Diaries

PTFA Meeting	Thursday 28 3:30 pm
First Friday Mass	Friday 1 March 9:30 am
Walk and Wheel Week	Monday 4 March - Friday 8 March



## Goal Setting Interviews.

Your child should have brought home your interview time. If not please ring the school office before 10 am Otomorrow morning.

## Sausage sizzle/Ice Block



### Sausage Sizzle Order

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Sausage/s \$1.50 each \_\_\_\_\_

Ice Block \$1 each \_\_\_\_\_ (only 1 per child)

## Wheels Day

As part of our Lent and raising money for Caritas. We will be holding a wheels day this Friday. The children are to bring a gold coin, wear mufti and bring some wheels, ie bike, scooter, skateboard, roller skates along with all the protection gear. The water slide will be out, so bring along a change of clothes or togs and a towel.

## Baptism

We have a couple of children wanting to be baptised. If your child hasn't been baptised and is interested in being baptised, please see Mrs Deerness. This will take place next term.



## Room 3 News

For the last few weeks we have been working on our Sacred Space putting the benches into the ground. On Friday we finished and now all six benches are sitting neatly in our Sacred Space. We have been practising for our school production about St Mary's School a long time ago.

The class has completed our goals for the term in different learning areas. Here are some examples, reading, handwriting and social goals.

We have been working on Statistical investigations such as dream jobs and wild animals. We have been working with Mrs Hammer and have found out that doing a graph is a bit tricky.

*By Jen And Alyssa*

## Room 2 reporters Dakota, and Xavier

We have been doing lots of art to make our classroom colourful.

The artist we are studying is Andy Warhol. He uses the same picture lots of time, but using different colours. Come in and look at ours.

We have been doing self portraits using pencils, we are trying to paint them today! We have been looking at our eyes, nose, mouth, ears, hair etc.

Our Paua art is full of colours the we painted black and then scratched. These went with our Kahukura story.



## Walk and Wheels Week is next Week.

We encourage all students to walk, or use an active mode of transport to school next week. If you have to travel, maybe parking on Taieri Road and walking up the path. Each child has a card in the office and each day they are active in getting to (or from) school they come in and place a sticker on the card. Prizes will be awarded for those that do most days. Next Wednesday is the day when Sports Otago and DCC encourage all children to use some form of active transport, we normally get over 90% so lets aim for all families to get active next week, especially Wednesday!!



# Health Snippets

## Influenza

The season for influenza is fast approaching and the 2013 vaccine will be available from March 2013. The Ministry of Health recommends Influenza Immunisation for children, pregnant women and anyone over the age of 65. Influenza infection rates are generally highest in children and they are the major cause of the spread of influenza viruses in the community. In 2009 the highest hospitalisation rates occurred in children aged less than 1 followed by children aged 1-4 years. The vaccination can be used to immunise children six months and older and is especially recommended and funded if they have an ongoing medical condition such as : regularly use an asthma preventer, diabetes, heart disease, kidney problems or other serious medical conditions.



## Pertussis (Whooping Cough)

There have been 6,700 notified cases of whooping cough since August last year - of which over 200 were babies under one year of age who required hospital treatment. Babies are most vulnerable to whooping cough. The severe coughing can cause babies to stop breathing and can lead to blindness, brain damage, and in severe cases, death. Immunisation is the best way to provide on-going protection for babies through on-time childhood vaccinations

Whooping cough is a very contagious disease. Figures show that 70 per cent of babies who contract the disease in the first few weeks of life catch it from their parents or other close family members. This is why adults who may be in close contact with babies and young children are encouraged to have a booster vaccination for whooping cough.

*"From 1 January 2013 until the outbreak ends, all pregnant women can have a free Pertussis (Boosterix) vaccine between 28 and 38 weeks of pregnancy from their GP. This is part of an effort to reduce the impact of the outbreak on those most vulnerable to the disease."*

For more information contact the local Immunisation Coordinators or IMAC website - [www.immune.org.nz](http://www.immune.org.nz)

**The Public Health Nurse for our School is: LAURIE MAHONEY**

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