



# 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,

19 February 2013

We were very proud of all of our children last week when we attended an Ash Wednesday Mass at Little Sister's of the Poor. Our children's reverence was superb and we had people in the congregation as well as Sisters' commenting on the wonderful conduct of all of our children.

We are required each year to set targets for the Ministry of Education where we identify a particular learning area or group of children in our school that we intend to monitor closely to improve their achievements. Looking back on our target data from the previous year, it is a real credit to the staff in the school to see the improvements made in all of our children last year. As I have stated previously, we are so fortunate with our class numbers, teaching staff plus the added skills of Deanne Barton; enabling our children to get a lot of individual specialised support in their learning.

We are actively encouraging the growth of our school to local pre-schools and the community in general. When I look back on my years in bigger schools with 30 or more children in classes, there were always a number of children in the class who progressed through group based learning; but didn't progress at a rate that I would have possibly liked. I believe the smaller class sizes of our school advances our children's learning bringing those greater improvements. What a great marketing point. Regardless as to what extent our school may grow, we will always wish to keep our class sizes at a level where our learners are provided with regular daily one-on-one teaching.

We are very fortunate and value our parent community. Please do check our website for dates of important events and dates around term times and end of year etc.

Malo e lei

Richard Duffy



## **HOT HOT HOT**

*Since the weather has just been so hot,  
we would like to use the water slide more.  
Please send your children with togs or old*

*clothes and a towel that they could use on the slide at lunchtimes, or in the afternoons. Thank you.*

Savior, He  
can  
MOVE  
the  
Mountains.  
Our  
God †  
is  
Mighty  
to Save!

## Uniforms.

Wearing and presentation of our uniforms gives us a very smart appearance as a group. We encourage our children to take pride in the care and wearing of their school uniforms. As most of you know the Catholic Schools' regulation uniform is:

Boys: Grey shirt, grey shorts, grey socks, black shoes or sandals

Girls: White blouse, Catholic School Pinafore, white socks, black shoes or sandals

Winter Uniform (Both boys and girls): Royal blue jersey and/or navy blue monogrammed polar fleece (purchased from school office), navy blue track pants are optional for winter, black shoes. Girls have the option of wearing navy blue tights.

All children require sunhats when outside during terms 1 and 4. These can be purchased from Postie Plus.

Long hair should be tied up due to Health and Safety issues. Any finger nail polish etc needs to be removed for school. Studs may be worn in ears.

If your child is not in correct school uniform, we would appreciate children to bring a note from home outlining this. We do have a fair supply of uniforms at school and we encourage parents to arrange a suitable time with Jacquie to view/try on etc.



## TBall

St Marys vs ?? On Saturday (draw not out at this time), your coach will let you know when you are playing. There will be a tee ball practice this Thursday after school which will finish around 4pm.

## PTFA Report

At the final meeting of the PTA last year, the committee resolved that its name would be changed to PTFA (Parents, Teachers and Friends Association) to be set up as of 2013 to enable non-parents to be a part of this committee.

The 2013 PTFA AGM was held last Wednesday with the following people being elected Office Bearers and Committee members:

Chairperson: Bernadette Rietveld

Secretary: Cara Duffy

Treasurer: Jos Jaquierey

Committee: Pania Paerata, Holly Wilson, Tess Braithwaite, Estelle Peyroux, and Richard Duffy (as staff rep)

Pania the previous year's co-chairperson spoke of the extremely busy, but wonderful fundraising year we had. It was agreed that we had a successful year, not only financially but from a promotional perspective also.

We welcome to our busy committee three new members, Holly Wilson, Tess Braithwaite and Jos Jaquierey. It's great to have more people join our group. We thank our outgoing member Jacquie Tetlow who made a great contribution to our committee last year.

Our first committee meeting of the year is to be held next Thursday 28 February at 3:30pm. All members of our community are welcome to attend.

## Help!! Bakers needed!!

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

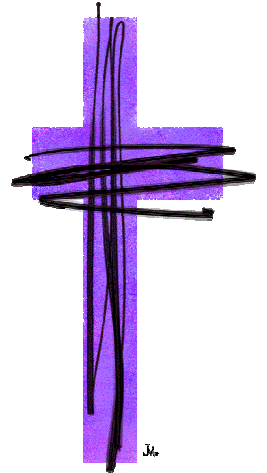
The Weetbix triathlon is on Sunday 3rd March and we supply the morning tea and lunches for marshals at this event.



We need lots of muffins, biscuits and slices. We also need donations towards the sandwiches and people to help make them on Saturday the 2nd March. Please fill in the forms that are in the office, with the little bit that you can do to help.

# Religious Education & Special Character

Last Wednesday we celebrated the beginning of **Lent** by participating in Mass at the Little Sisters. A big thank you to those parents who helped with transport. Father talked about how Lent is a time for us to change for the better, to be more like God. But we need to do this for ourselves, not just to make our mums, dads and teachers happy. This is part of what we are talking about in RE at the moment as we begin our Lent lessons.



## Sacrament of Reconciliation



A reminder that there is a **parent meeting 5.30pm** tomorrow night in Room 2.

A big thank you to Pania who has very kindly offered to take the preparation lessons.

## Photography Competition

Otago Museum is running an Otago Wildlife Photography competition. There are two age categories for entry, Under 14 yrs and Over 15yrs. Photo categories are 1. Plants 2. Animals 3. Human impact on the natural environment.

Digital photos can be uploaded using the online entry form at [www.otagomuseum.govt.nz](http://www.otagomuseum.govt.nz). Further information can be given by ringing 479 3279. We are happy for children to use our computers at school to send their photos through should they wish to enter. Entries close at 5pm on Tuesday April 2.

## Dates for your Diaries

Assembly	Friday 22 February 2:30 pm
Goal Setting interviews	Wednesday 27 February from 3:15 pm
First Friday Mass	Friday 1 March 9:30 am
Walk and Wheel Week	Monday 4 March - Friday 8 March



## Goal Setting Interviews.

Our goal setting interviews will be held at school next Wednesday (February 27) from 3:15pm. This is a great opportunity to get a clear idea of what particular individual learning your child is focussing on as well as see how you may be able to assist at home.

3:15—4:00	4:00-5:00	5:00-6:00	6:00-7:00
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Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Tick the box for the time or times preferred.

We will do our best to fit you in at an appreciate time slot.



## Sausage sizzle/Ice Block

### Sausage Sizzle Order

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

## Room 3 News

With Mrs Hammer we are learning about statistical investigations were having  
A lot of fun with that and we have to have it all displayed with week.

We have concreted in three benches in the Sacred space and a lot of us have learnt about how you  
make concrete and have helped screen the concrete off.

In reading we are reading journals looking at relationships the characters have with each other  
and how we think these characters behave.

We have published our writing and have this beautifully displayed in our class. You are welcome  
to come and read our writing.

Evelyn

## The Ice block

I stepped towards the freezer and opened it. I could feel the crystal ice breeze blow to-  
wards my face. I saw goose bumps starting to appear on my skin. I stretched out my  
arm and snatched the orange ice block in my warm hand. The orange ice-block dripped  
down my bony wrist. I quickly licked my ice block with my lizard tongue. My tongue  
turned a peachy orange colour. I bit the ice-block and all the flavour came rocketing  
through my body, down my throat and round and round my tummy till the flavour run  
out! One moment later I drew my eyes at the orange ice-block. It was gone!

Angelique

## Room 2 reports

My house was burning. Red flames burst out of the windows. The smoke looked like rain  
clouds.

Dakoda Sorensen

I felt scared because the smoke was getting bigger and bigger. When I got closer the flames  
were crackling and flickering in the sky.

Janivah Moata'ane

