Wednesday 11 March 2015

With the period of Lent upon us it has been nice again to reflect on how our Religious Education programme directs our lessons. These lessons were taught in class at the beginning of Lent on Ash Wednesday but we still try to incorporate themes into our morning prayer at times.

The main focus of the teaching is around how we can become better people in our lives and in our actions. There is a strong element of self reflection and the promotion of the ideal that we can all strive to treat others more positively.

It is a really nice change from the teaching when I was younger which was geared toward the notion that Lent was about giving things up or making some sacrifices in the interests of others.

I find the whole concept of the teaching now so much more positive and of value to our children.

Congratulations

The school would like to acknowledge the achievements of Christina Maata‘ane who is an ex pupil of our school and a relation of Kit, Asela and family in being selected to represent the Black Ferns New Zealand Women’s Rugby team.

This is a wonderful achievement for a young lady from Otago.

‘Ofa atu

Richard Duffy

We aspire to become confident, creative, life long learners who follow Christ
Dates for your Diaries

PTFA Meeting
BOT Meeting
St Patrick’s Day
Assembly
Otago Anniversary Day
End of Term/Liturgy

Friday 13 March @3:30 pm
Monday 16 March @7 pm
Tuesday 17 March
Friday 20 March @2:30 pm
Monday 23 March - No School
Thursday 2 April

Altar Servers
14 Mar  David and Atu Nakasini
21 Mar  Jean Luc and Angelique Peyroux
28 Mar  Kata Noata’ane and Sam Al-Balushi

Sports News …
St Mary’s T Ball Tigers

Draw for Saturday 14 March: Bernies Busters Diamond 6 9 am
Touch
Draw for Thursday 12 March: St Mary’s Naroom vs ?? Field ?? 4:15 pm

Electives 2015
We have 3 more sessions at Dunedin Ice Stadium with tomorrow’s session followed by two more which are likely to be next Wednesday and Thursday.
We leave school each week at 12:30pm and finishing at the stadium at around 2:30pm. We are very keen on spreading the responsibility of helping transport our children to the stadium but understanding work commitments etc we are aware that some parents are unable to assist with transport.
If you are able to juggle some times over the next week or two that would be greatly appreciated.
Many thanks to those who have been able to help us to date.
If you are able to help at any time over these last three sessions could you please let Richard know.

Ski Camp Raffle Cards
All ski camp firewood raffle cards need to be back to the school office by this Monday please. March 16 as the raffle is being drawn shortly after that date. For those Room 2 children, your money will go towards the Room 2 winter camp which will be just as amazing as Room 3’s ski camp.
Many thanks to the parents who attended the ski camp meeting on Monday night.
There is a sausage sizzle fundraiser at Nitre 10 Mega from 10 am this Sunday. If you are able to help please contact Asela or Holly to arrange a time to be there.

Parents/Teachers/Friends Association
The next meeting of the school PTFA is this Friday March 13 from 3:00pm in the staffroom. All are welcome to come along and be involved in some of the discussions about one or two of our upcoming ventures.

Science Information
On Monday we sent home a question/information sheet on the topic of science. As part of our curriculum review we are interested in glean ing the types of things that parents and children feel are of value when involved in learning about science. We would be most grateful to have these returned on Friday of this week so we can collate the feedback promptly.

Playground Update
We’re very pleased to have completed the bulk of our grant applications to a stage where they can be given to Jacquie who will ensure that all administrative requirements are completed before sending them through to the various agencies. Our intention was always to have these applications submitted by the end of term 1 and we are very happy that we are running to our schedule.
Sacramental Programme Volunteer Needed

We have a group of 3 children from our school and parish that will prepare for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Communion this year. We would like to begin this early in Term 2. It would be run either after school or at Mass on a Saturday night. The programme is all prepared and just needs to be delivered.

If you think you can help, with one sacrament or all three, please contact the school office.

School Fundraiser for A&E “Child Distraction Packs”

A reminder to please bring $2 to school this week.

A big thank you to those families who have already donated.

It is greatly appreciated.

St Patrick’s Day Celebrations

Children are invited to wear green clothing to school next Tuesday 17th March as we celebrate St Patrick and all things Irish! There will be a ‘Pot of Gold’ at school for enthusiasm and imagination and also anyone wanting to bring a ‘green lunch’!

World Day of Prayer

Last Friday was the World Day of Prayer, there was a celebration of this in St Mary’s Church. We were invited to take part in singing a couple of songs for the combined Parishes.
We have been writing about the characters from ‘Hairy Maclary’.

Hairy Maclary is the leader of the pack. He is black and his eyes are blue. He has lots of dog friends, they are all scared of a cat! He is a fluffy little dog. The cat is the fiercest cat in town! He is so scared he ran back to his bed.

By Kiera Mullens

Bitzer Malony is skinny and bony as a fish. I wish I was a dog! He is a bit of a hard case. He has brown fur. He can run as fast as a horse.

By Emilie Keach

I like Hercules Morse as big as a horse. He is big and fluffy, and he is funny. He has floppy ears and a red dog collar. He has a long tail and is scared of Scarface Claw, the toughest tom in town. He is scary!

By Ethan Martin

We have been doing some writing about things we did in our weekend.
We published some of this on the laptops.
For our Early Maori topic we are now doing some research and one of my questions that I have to research is how early Maori people had seeds and plants to plant.
For my Elective I have been doing woodwork and we have learnt how to nail up our bird feeders. Next term I am doing guitar.

Sausage sizzle/Ice Blocks Order Form - Friday Lunchtimes

Name _____________________________

Number of Sausage/s $1.50 each ______________ Ice blocks $1.00 ___________