Little Red Rocking Hood
Our School Production

Wednesday 9 December 6 pm
In the Hall
Doors will open at 6 pm
(please wait in the courtyard for the doors to open at 6 pm
The children have a surprise for you!)

Prizegiving will be in the church
After the production

All children to be at school in Room 2 by 5:45 pm!

Invite Family and Friends, this is going to be a fun night.

The staff invite all our parent helpers and volunteers to a

Thank you for all you do for us
Morning Tea

Next Tuesday 8 December (Mary Day)
At 10:40 am

RSVP to Jacque by Friday this week
secretary@st-marys.school.nz
Dear Parents/Caregivers,  

To coin the catch phrase about how fast this term has gone would be appropriate. It’s a wonderful time of the year with advent leading into Christmas. In RE we learn about the hope the world takes from the celebration of the birth of the baby Jesus and that each time at Christmas that hope, joy and love is brought forward (we also have discussions about Santa and the joy that he can bring also).

One of the real benefits of our small class sizes is the progress children make in their learning over time. Referring to the learning area of Reading, a very solid base is established in our junior class where children are not only taught decoding skills but also their comprehension and understanding is developed through discussions on aspects of what they read. As children move through into our senior area we build on that comprehension and try to deepen readers understanding of reasonably complex ideas and themes in what they read.

We have our senior children complete a nationalised reading test twice a year. Recently our senior children and Room 2’s year 3 children completed this test and on a national level the results were extremely positive. Five children were well above the national average for their year level and all other children were either at national or slightly above the national average, or had moved significantly forward in their deeper reading knowledge and skill. To have 5 children well above was an outstanding achievement. The personal success of all of our children with this is something to celebrate and reflects the quality and delivery of learning.

He koni ra

Richard Duffy

Wednesday 2 December 2015

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

Thursday 3 December  Beach Ed Day all day
Monday 7 December  BOT Meeting@7:00 pm in the staffroom
Tuesday 8 December  Mary Day all day
Wednesday 9 December  Production/Prizegiving all day events
Friday 11 December  Assembly@2:30 pm
Saturday 12 December  Graduation Mass@6:00 pm
Monday 14 December  Last day of school finishing@3:00 pm
Monday 1 February 2016  First day of school
Sunday 28 February  Weetbix Tryathlon - try.weetbix.co.nz/

Altar Servers

5 December  Jean Luc and Angelique Peyroux
12 December  School Mass Graduation
19 December  Kata and Janivah Moata’ane

Sports Draws:
Tball  St Mary’s (Saints) vs Big Rock Rockers, Diamond 13; 9:00 am
Touch  St Mary’s Maroon vs St Joes; Field 9; 4:15 pm

End Year Progress Reports
Senior reports will go out with children this Friday with the Room 2 reports for children who are due for them coming home on Monday. If you wish to discuss anything with Kelly or Richard from these reports, please make contact and a time can be organised in the following week of school.

School Accounts
Please remember to pay this year’s account. Thank you to those parents that have set up automatic payments, and have paid some of their accounts.

Beach Education Day - Tomorrow 3 December At St Kilda Surf Club.
All students to wear Mufti (warm clothes please) and bring along:
Swimsuit or wetsuit, or rash top (to help keep them warm)
A decent lunch (no hot lunches) and a drink bottle
A jacket

NZ Surf Lifesaving invoice the school $9.50 per child for this programme. We feel it is a very important programme and like to run it about this time of year leading into summer, (which we are officially now in). It is something that we as a school fund along with a number of other wider curriculum activities as we strive to limit extra costs to our school families.

PTFA Annual Swim & Slide Morning/Singing at Little Sisters
Next Thursday 10 December - 10:30 am - 2:45 pm
At Moana Pool from 11am until 1pm. Parents are welcome to join us in the water for some fun. We will be leaving the pool by 1:30pm and heading to Little Sisters of the Poor for carol singing. Please let Jacque or Richard know if you are keen to come along and then transport/join us for carol singing from 2pm. Children will be bringing their lunch boxes with them and will have lunch at the pool.

Christmas Hamper
Many thanks to all of those parents who helped with selling raffles over the two Sundays we have had at Fresh Choice. Cards are due back today!! So please get these cards in by FRIDAY at the latest! So far around $1,000 has been raised, but don’t let that stop you from selling those last few cards. A family hamper will also been drawn on the night of prizegiving.
Sacrament of First Holy Communion

Congratulations to Ally, Christian, Launga and Riley on receiving the Body of Christ last weekend. A big thank you to our school and parish families who came to support these children on such a special night.

Advent

At school we begin Advent with purple cloths on our prayer tables and lighting our advent wreaths each morning. It is a time of waiting and preparing for the birth of Jesus.

1st Sunday of Advent: HOPE

We continue to hope in God’s promise that Christ will come again to fill our lives and the life of the world with love and joy and peace. Thank you God, for the light of hope. As we prepare for Christ’s coming, help us to share our hope with others.

2nd Sunday of Advent: PEACE

Peace is one of God’s gifts to us. Jesus is the Prince of Peace, his light helps us find ways to share God’s peace with others. Lord Jesus, you are the Prince of Peace. Thank you that you came into our world to bring Peace to all our fear, sadness and separation.

Graduation Mass

Saturday 12 December at 6:00 pm.

This is our Family Mass for Term 4 and we would like to see all our families there to celebrate our school year, in particular to celebrate our Year 6 students and wish them well.

Children are to wear their school uniforms and a plate for supper afterwards would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you.

Mary Day - Our School Feast Day

Tuesday 8 December - Everyone to wear blue

We will be attending Mass and completing some Mary inspired activities. We are ending our celebrations with a sporting activity “Children v Parents” from 1:30pm. Please come and join us!
We did our production for my old kindy (Wakari), they loved it. They stayed for morning tea and had a go on our new slide. It was heaps of fun, I played with the blocks. I liked seeing my old kindy teacher Kate.  **By Gabriel**

We finally get to play on our new fort. They slide is AWESOME! We even got to be on the TV news. I like climbing up the climbing frame and going down the windy slide. **By Kiera**

I made a tyre snail, we dug it into the grass last week. Mr Duffy put some soil in it and we are going to plant flowers in it at Discovery Time. I still need to paint the snails face! **By Emilie**

We are growing pumpkins in cups in our classroom. Once they have sprouted we are going to plant them in our school garden. We have to water them each day, they take 10 days to sprout. I want mum to turn mine into pumpkin pie! **By Bronny.**

**On Monday afternoon we played the survival game which is a game where you are different types of animals, some are hunters, some are collectors. You do a lot of running to get away from certain animals and in the end someone wins the game. Yesterday we had a dress rehearsal for our production and we had some children form Wakari kindy watching us. In RE we are learning about advent and we have been using the Bible to find information.**

**Sausage sizzle/Ice Blocks Order Form - Friday Lunchtimes**

Name _____________________________

Number of Sausage/s $1.50 each ____________

Ice Block $1 only 1 per child__________

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Saturday 19th December 1pm
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