Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Monday 7 December 2015

As well as being a very busy time, the school end of year can also be quite sad as we farewell children and in some cases families who have been with the school for some time. As we say to our senior children, life is about chapters and as one part or involvement in your life closes another one opens and there are new challenges and opportunities that come along as part of that.

We are very pleased to advise that all staff from 2015 will be back in the new year. Kelly will continue her involvement teaching in both rooms. Deanne will continue her role with us and Rachael, Jacque and Thelma will continue as currently in the dedicated manner that we are accustomed to.

The Hills Parish group are having a picnic this Sunday at Jubilee Park from 12pm. There will be a barbeque available to cook on and people are to bring their own food along on the day. There will be an appearance from Santa and a lolly scramble to get everyone moving. It should be a lot of fun.

We wish our leavers all the best, may God bless them and their families and we look forward to welcoming new children and families into our school during 2016.

On behalf of the staff I’d like to extend thanks to all of our school community for their support in 2015 and wish you a lovely spiritual Christmas and relaxing new year.

Ngā mihi o te Kirihimete ki e whanua o te kuri (Merry Christmas to our school family)

Richard Duffy

We aspire to become confident, creative, life long learners who follow Christ
Tuesday 8 May - Mary Day (Our School Feast Day) - All day
Tomorrow!  *Children to come dressed in blue.*
We will be attending Mass and completing some Mary inspired activities during the morning.
We are ending our celebrations with a sporting activity “Children v Parents” from 1.30pm.
Please come and join us!

**Parent Helpers/Volunteers morning tea at 10:40 am,** please RSVP if you haven’t already! Only a couple of people have, and we know more of you have helped us throughout this year. Our staff would like to thank you for all you have done, and need numbers for catering purpose.

Wednesday 9 May - Production & Prizegiving@6:00 pm
Slight change in plans, can all children please meet no later than 5.45pm **in the side room at the hall.** Doors will be opened at 6pm to the parents and community.

PTFA Christmas Hamper will be drawn, PLEASE get all cards and money in ASAP there are 11 family cards outstanding - for legal reasons we NEED all cards and money to be returned.

Thursday 10 May - Senior Cricket/Junior Pool Activities
This Thursday is our Pool Day kindly funded by our wonderful PTFA. We have also been gifted tickets to the first day of the Black Caps test against Sri Lanka.
Room 2 will be going to the pool and Room 3 have had the choice of either.  A letter has gone home today with more information for the ‘cricket goers’.  As the weather isn’t looking too flash, it may be a good idea for everyone to bring their togs and towel on Thursday (just in case!)  Because of the change in plans, we have decided to postpone our Christmas Carolling at Little Sisters, until Friday.

Friday 11 May - Liturgy@ 9:00 am, Discovery Time@11:00 am-12:30 pm, Little Sister Singing@2:00 pm
Unfortunately we have to cancel our final assembly for the year as we will be singing Christmas Carols to the residents at Little Sisters at 2pm, this is the only time that suited them. We feel it is a lovely way to end the term. If you are able to help with transport it would be greatly appreciated. Please let Jacquie know. We will have an end of the year liturgy in Room 1 at 9am if any parents would like to stay and attend.

**Sausage Sizzle** is still happening on Friday as per normal.

**Graduation Mass - Saturday 12 December@6:00 pm**
This is our Family Mass for Term 4 and we would like to see all of our families there to celebrate our school year, and 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.  If your child has a part in the mass please be there by 5.45pm, thank you.

**Congratulations!**
A huge congratulations to Miss Thurlow and Miss Todd on gaining teaching jobs for 2016. Julia will have a Year 0-3 class at St Joseph’s in Marton.  Kate will have a Year 2 class in Te Mata in Havelock North.  We are very proud of these ladies and wish them well in their new schools.