Dear Parents/Caregivers,  

Wednesday 12 August 2015

The weather has certainly beaten us over the past few days with illness and ground conditions, that lead both to our own, as well as the zone cross countries being postponed. Thankfully, the weather was a lot better for us on Friday of last week as we celebrated St Dominic’s feast day with Mass followed by the hosting of Sacred Heart School on our grounds for a formal welcome, lunch and an afternoon of activities.

I’d like to strongly emphasise that we view ourselves as a small family school and it was lovely to have pre and past school children with us for the afternoon as well as parents of our school who came along to help with the afternoon or just be with us at school. It means a lot to us as a staff to have you with us at school on these occasions. You are always very welcome with us whether you join us for morning prayer, come and have a coffee and a chat in the mornings.

Ia manua le aso (Samoan farewell)

Richard Duffy

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

Thursday 13 August  Zone Cross Country
Saturday 5 September  Fathers Day Mass/Confirmation

Altar Servers
15 August Kata and Janivah Moata’ane
22 August Emila Makasini and Sam Al-Balushi

School Cross Country
Postponed till Thursday August 20 from 11:30 am. Don’t forget your running shoes as we are still training.

School Fair March 2016
Our school fair is scheduled for early March next year. The PTFA are interested in forming a fair committee in preparation for March next year. If you would like to be involved in this committee, let Richard know or come along to the first fair committee meeting on Thursday August 13 in the school staffroom at 3pm.

SNOW DAYS!

It is worth reminding parents of our procedures around possible snow closures. School closures or delays are made by a member of the Otago Primary Principal’s Association in conjunction with the Dunedin Police.

These are broadcast usually from 6:30 am on most local Dunedin radio stations eg. Classic Hits. Sometimes a blanket 10am start time for Dunedin Primary and Intermediate Schools can be made as late as 7:30 am as the weather can deteriorate during the early morning. As soon as we hear of a late start or cancellation we post this information on our school Facebook page, which you can access, even if you do not have facebook. Just enter St Mary’s Kaikorai Facebook page into google and it will come up.

On Monday of this week we made the decision at 8:45am to close school due to the hazardous conditions. This was immediately posted onto facebook, most people had seen it by 8:55 am. If a 10am start has been announced on the radio station it pays to keep an eye on our Facebook page or keep in touch with the cancellations on the radio as late as an hour before the delayed start time we ourselves here at school may make the decision based on information that we have that the safest option for us is to close school for the day. If you are in doubt please phone or text a staff member.

If you do bring your child to school on a late start day we recommend that you accompany your child down the drive to check that we are open, it is your responsibility as their parent to make sure they are safe.

The only staff member who was able to get to school on Monday despite notifications on Classic Hits and on our Facebook page that we had closed was Mrs Deerness who came on foot to ensure no children arrived at school. We can’t expect or depend upon her to do this if this situation arises again (she has her own children to consider also) and want to ensure that no children are at school on their own for any period of time in these types of conditions in the future. Thank you for your cooperation on this, hopefully the worst is behind us now this year.

On frosty days that don’t end up as a late start, if you decide that it’s best to be safe and wait till later in the morning please just let us know.
**Sacrament of Confirmation**

Please keep Launga, Christian, Allyssa, Riley and Vili in your prayers as they prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation this term.

**St Dominic’s Day Celebrations**

We had a great day celebrating St Dominic and our Dominican Charism. A special thank you to our brave children who had special roles in the Mass at Holy Name, you did us proud!

We hosted Sacred Heart School in the afternoon and continued our celebration with craft, food and sporting activities. It was a special day!

**The Assumption of Our Lady**

On this feast of Mary we celebrate a special favour that God gave to Mary, our Mother. The Assumption means that Mary was taken up into the glory of heaven not only with her soul, but also with her body. Jesus, the Son of God was born from Mary's pure womb. So when Mary died, God the Father and Jesus, would not let the body of the Mother of God be spoilt. This was her reward for her love of God and her years of faithful prayers and suffering.

Now Mary is in heaven. She is queen of heaven and earth. She is the Mother of Jesus’ Church and queen of apostles.

*We will be celebrating The Assumption with a special liturgy at the beginning of our assembly this Friday.*

**Sports Corner**

**Hockey Draw - Wednesday 5th August (Today)**

Storm (Year 3&4)  3.40pm at the McMillan Turf, Far 3
Strikers (Year 5&6)  4.30pm at the McMillan Turf, Far 2

Please be there at least 15min before your game starts.

**Last week:**

The Storm won 3-2 against Taieri Junior Combined. Player of the Day was Guin for good positional play. The Strikers won against St Mary’s Mosgiel. Player of the Day was Ella (St Brigid’s)

**Miniball Draw**

St Mary’s Magic vrs Mornington Black Court 4; 5:25
Our learning at the moment….

Me, Kiera and Maddy are learning the guitar during electives time. We are learning some of the chords, and are trying to play ‘Mary had a little lamb’ by ourselves. Moira is a really good teacher! From Sophie.

I am part of the Kapahaka group for electives. We have been learning songs and dances. Alofa is really nice. I am having a great time. From Lily

We have been learning about New Zealand. We have tried drawing the map of NZ all by ourselves. We had to name all the different cities we knew. We are going to find out all about the exciting things to do in NZ,. like skiing, sky tower, bungy jumping. From Bronny

We have been doing some races to get ready for the school cross country. We run really fast. We even have to jump over a hay bale. I get really puffed at the end. From Gabriel.

Miss Thurlow has been teaching us for ‘Keeping Ourselves Safe’. We have been learning how to tell people to ‘Stop it, I don’t like it!’ We also talked about how to make our homes safe. From Emilie

On Friday we went to St Dominic’s Mass at Holy Name Church. Following that Sacred Heart School came up to our school and we welcomed them up in the sacred space. Guin and I lead with a mihi whakatau.

After we had lunch with them we did 4 activities together for the afternoon. The activities were making St Dominic biscuits, making badges, playing relays outside and squash, foosball and table tennis in Room 1. It was a lot of fun.

Sausage sizzle/Hot Chocolates Order Form - Friday Lunchtimes

Name _____________________________

Number of Sausage/s $1.50 each _____________ Hot Chocolates 50 cents__________