Tuesday 21 March 2017

Principal’s Message:
We ended last week celebrating the life of St Patrick, firstly through a special liturgy then later on with leprechauns, rainbows, shamrocks and a whole lot of green food colouring!

It was a lovely way to have some fun together as a school family and I would like to thank all of our families for getting into the spirit of the day!

We hope you all enjoyed the long weekend with the gorgeous Dunedin weather! Your children have enjoyed writing stories about their weekend adventures this morning.
**Sport:**

*Touch: Thursday 23rd March*

3:45 pm on Field 5B vs Bathgate Park Cubs

Congratulations to the ‘Player of the Day’ last week - Kiera Mullens

*Teeball Prize-giving: Saturday 25th March.*

9:00 am in the Southern Clubrooms.

Congratulations to the ‘Player of the Day’ last week - Alicia Johnstone

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**Friendly Reminders**

Please ring or email the school office (476 4277, secretary@st-marys.school.nz) rather than text teacher’s personal mobile numbers. This is just in-case teachers have left their phone at home, is not charged, or don’t have time to check it. Ringing or emailing the office is the recommended, and most reliable way to communicate with the school.

Please remember to pack a little extra food into your child’s lunchbox on the days they are booked into After School Club. Children finish what is in their lunchboxes at 3pm before they start playing and doing their homework. This is more effective than families dropping off food to share as we have various food allergies at present. Thank you for your support with this.

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**School Trip**

We are planning a trip to the Otago Museum to wrap up our Science units on the Butterfly Life Cycle and Mammals.

Mr Morgan has booked a session on Wednesday 5th April from 10 - 11:30am. We have enough adult helpers, but children under 7 will need to bring their booster seat to school that morning.

*To help with the cost of this trip we are asking that each child bring $2 to school before then. Money will be collected through the office. Thank you in advance.*

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**Easter Raffle Hamper**

Thank you for the many donations we are getting. This week is bringing along an Easter treat or Easter craft.

There are still a few spots to fill in the raffle selling at Fresh Choice.

How are you going with selling your family tickets? There are spares in the school office if you need more.
**Special Character and Religious Education:**

**The Annunciation - 25 March**

*The Annunciation records the announcement by the angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary that she would bear a Son of the Holy Spirit, to be called Jesus.*

"In the city of Nazareth, in Galilee, there lived a young woman named Mary. Mary was soon to marry a carpenter named Joseph. One day Gabriel, an angel, visited Mary and said: "Greetings, most favoured one, and do not be afraid. God has chosen you among all women. Very soon you will have a baby, you must call him Jesus" ‘Luke 1: 26-38

We are celebrating The Annunciation at school on Friday at 2:40pm with a short liturgy. Families are very welcome to join us.

**Teddy Bears Picnic:**

*Next Friday - 31 March*

The Year 5&6 Exec have sent home invitations today - so check your child's bag!

Children are to bring along their Teddy Bear and a plate of food to share with the school.

The Exec have decided to use this day to raise money for the Caritas Lenten Appeal, so children are invited to wear mufti clothes to school and to bring along a gold coin donation.

Thank you to the Exec for organising this fun event.
Last week was another busy week for the children in Room 3. The later part of the week was spent testing the children on their listening comprehension and maths skills. This is a test the children take part in at the beginning of each year. The results are used to give us an indication for areas pupils are strong in and areas to target for further improvement. The children in Room 3 all did very well in their testing results and we have managed to gather some great information.

Naomi, our sports activator, was in taking the children through some vigorous and fun challenging games. She is a great sports activator who really enjoys her work and has a plethora of activities for children at all age groups.

Our inquiry topic was a bit slow to start-and-go last week however we will pick it back up and finish of our project presentations this week. Each child has received feedback on their presentation so be sure to ask them through the week about the feedback they received. We have started to plan and create our mammal dioramas and will finish the unit off with these. We also have an excursion to the Otago Museum planned for the whole school in week 10.

Thanks everyone! - Jeremy

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**Sausage Sizzle Fridays** -

Name _____________________________  
No. of Sausages $1.50 each ____________  Ice Block $1.00 each _______

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We pretended we were leprechauns and wrote about where we would hide our gold!

I am Elizabeth. I would hide my gold in an apple tree.

I am Kaila. I would hide my gold under a chair.

If I were a leprechaun I would hide my gold in the tree and I would put a cage on top of the pot of gold.  **By Isobel**

If I were a leprechaun I would hide my gold in the backyard under my trampoline and under the dirt.  
**By Will**

**We also imagined that we found the leprechaun’s pot of gold and made our 6 wishes....**