Principal’s Message:

This term we continue to focus on how to be a good friend. Being a good friend ensures that everyone at St Mary’s enjoys their day at school and becomes confident and comfortable in their surroundings so that they can learn to the best of their abilities.

Our lovely RTL then led some Circle Time sessions about what being a good friend looks like, and sounds like.

Our Blue Ticket Reward system has been focusing on friendships recently also, and it has been wonderful to see the teachers awarding so many tickets in the playground and classroom!

We hope the friendships children make at school can last for years to come. Ask your child if they can tell you what makes a good friend and how they showed/were shown this at school today.

Today we also met a new friend! Mr Alan McInally, our new principal. He was in Dunedin this weekend looking at houses and couldn't wait to pop in and meet us all! It was lovely meeting you Mr McInally and we are looking forward to getting to know you and your family next term.

is always there to help you
plays with you
always lets others join in
always listens
is kind
always honest
is gentle
respects you
always looks after you
shares
wouldn't make you sad
care about you
does things for you

www.st-marvs.school.nz
Sport:

**Touch**: Thursday 30th March
3:45pm on Field 5B vs Balaclava Bandits
Congratulations to the ‘Player of the Day’ last week - Will Deerness

**TBall**
Well done to our Tee-ball team on a fantastic season. They had their prize-giving in the weekend - we will present their certificates at this Friday’s assembly. A huge thank you to Suzy & Alice for their excellent coaching and organisation during the season, and to our parents for their enthusiastic support.

**Winter Sports - Hockey and Miniball, Futsal or Rugby**
A extra notice is going home today asking for interest in our winter sports which run through the school - Hockey and Miniball. If your child is interested in Futsal or Rugby, please let us know and we’ll put you in touch with various clubs or join with another school.

**Cricket**
Unfortunately today’s Cricket Festival run by Otago Cricket has been postponed due to wet weather, it is now on Thursday! Children in the team to please wear their sports uniform to school on Thursday.

School Values Trophy:
Our school values are: RESPECT, HONESTY, HELPING and LOVE

**Congratulations to Gabriel Kubala!**

Gabriel showed our school value of HELPING on Thursday afternoon, he helped out the opposition team by playing for them. Gabriel did this without hesitation and tried his best for the other school. Bathgate Park school were very appreciative and their coach called Gabriel an angel, to which he replied “That’s because I was named after an angel!” Well done Gabriel, thank you for helping, we are very proud of you!

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 to those who have already paid.

Easter Raffle Hamper
Thank you for the many donations we are getting. This week is bringing along Easter Eggs: big or little, hollow or marshmallow, egg or rabbit or chicken it doesn’t matter we appreciate everything we get to go in the hamper.

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.
**This week at a glance: Easter Raffle bringing Easter Eggs week**

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| Thursday | Cricket Festival for Year 4-6 at Bishop’s Court  
Touch 3:45 pm |
| Friday | Teddy Bear’s Picnic  
Assembly 2:30 pm  
Easter Raffle Selling at Fresh Choice |
| Saturday | Easter Raffle Selling at Fresh Choice |
| **Next Week** |  
Wednesday - Museum Trip  
Thursday - Fundament Movement Skills for Room 2 at Edgar Centre  
Friday - First Friday Mass (The Way of the Cross) |

**Special Character and Religious Education:**

In our RE classes we are continuing to learn about Jesus’ time on earth and how we can be more like him. Jesus was also a good friend!

As we head to the end of the Term and the end of Lent, we lead into one of the most important weeks of the churches year - Holy Week. This is the week before Jesus died and then rose again at Easter.

We are planning on celebrating the ‘Way of the Cross’ at next weeks First Friday Mass at 9:30 am on 7th April. Families, you are very welcome to join us.

**Teddy Bears Picnic:**

*This Friday - 31 March*

The Year 5&6 Exec have sent home invitations last week.

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 in Room 3 we started our Dioramas about mammals and their natural habitat. The children have been working very enthusiastically and so far they are looking great. We have also entered the Dunedin Public Library writing competition.

The children have completed their stories about a sea lion and have written some great pieces.

The winners will be announced at 4:15 pm on Monday the 24th April on the 4th floor. We have some great writers in Room 3 so I am very interested to see if we are lucky enough to receive a prize.

For Religious Education we have been looking into the life and times of Jesus. The children have been working on locating scriptures in the bible and making some comparisons. We also acted out some of the different religious groups that were around at the time. Pharisees, Scribes and the Sadducees were some of these groups. This was very entertaining where I discovered we have some very talented actors in our class.

This week we look forward to cricket and the amazing Gifted and Talented programme that has been running in school these past few weeks.

Many thanks!

Jeremy

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**Sausage Sizzle Fridays**

Name _____________________________

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

We enjoyed a ‘Hungry Caterpillar’ inspired Discovery Time on Friday! We have loved our science topic this term learning about the Life Cycle of the Monarch Butterfly and can’t wait to visit the Butterfly Display at the Museum next week!