**Principal's Message**

Thursday morning’s breakfast with Anna Grimaldi, Rory McSweeney and the Otago Volts was a lovely experience and the long jump and cricket that followed was a lot of fun with our guests getting involved alongside our children. Many thanks to the parents who were able to come along to breakfast and in some cases stay on for the games also. We really appreciate having our school families with us on these types of occasions as it adds to the warm family atmosphere.

I mentioned last week that we would have reviewers from the Education Review Office with us in school this week looking at how our school operates. The staff and I would like to extend a very warm welcome to Tess Livingstone and Lee Rowe from ERO who have joined us this morning.

We would like to extend a huge congratulation to Janivah Moata’ane who has been selected to represent Otago in Touch this summer season. She has been selected into the Under 12 Girls team including playing in the South Island tournament in Christchurch leading up to Christmas. Very well done Janivah.

The gifted and talented programme being introduced to school in 2017 is a fabulous initiative for our school and we are really looking forward to working alongside Kavanagh College with this next year.

Nga mihi

Richard Duffy
### This week ...

#### Monday
- Mihi Whakatau & Liturgy to welcome Mrs Livingston and Miss Rowe from the Education Review Office at 10:00 am in Room 1.
- PTA Christmas Hamper Raffle cards coming home today.
- TBall practise after school today.
- 5:30 pm - BOT meeting in the staffroom.

#### Tuesday
- Please remember to get your Health Consultation questionnaires back in today or tomorrow.

#### Wednesday
- 5:30 pm - BOT meeting in the staffroom.

#### Thursday
- Touch - Players will be notified when we have the draw.

#### Friday
- Discovery Time

#### Saturday
- TBall - St Mary’s Mets vs Kaikorai Kakapos Bathgate 7 at 9:00 am.
- Altar Servers at Mass.

### This Week
- Kickstart Breakfast Club and After School Club, please remember to email the school office to book in - secretary@st-marys.school.nz. Please remember to pack a little something extra in your lunchbox for After School Club - Thank you.

### Coming up
- School Photo orders - Due back at school Wednesday 16 November.
- School Graduation Mass - Saturday 10 December 6:00 pm in the church.
- Christmas Carols and Prize-giving - Tuesday 13 December 5:30 pm in the church.

### Term Dates for 2017
- Term 1: Tuesday 31 Jan - Thursday 13 Apr
- Term 2: Monday 1 May - Friday 7 July
- Term 3: Monday 24 July - Friday 29 Sept
- Term 4: Monday 16 Oct - Friday 15 Dec

### Weekdays
- KickStart Breakfast: 7:45 am - 8:30 am
- After School Club: 3:00 pm - 5:30 pm
End of Year Celebrations - Dates for your diaries!

**Graduation Mass**  
*Saturday 10th December at 6pm*  
This Mass celebrates the wonderful year we have had at school and in particular we celebrate our Year 6’s and wish them well for their future. It is also an opportunity to farewell families who have their last child moving on to intermediate.

**Christmas Carols & Prize-giving**  
*Tuesday 13th December at 5.30pm in the Church*  
Join us in the church where the children will lead Christmas Carols, it’s another lovely way to celebrate the year and also get into the Christmas spirit. This will be followed by our End of Year Prize-giving. Extended family and friends are very welcome!

**It’s Christmas Hamper Term**  
This week we are asking families to bring along Christmas themed items.  
Remember every item you bring along, enters you into the family hamper draw.

**Gifted and Talented learning hub 2017**

We are very excited to announce the formation of a gifted and talented initiative that has been formed with Kavanagh College to begin next year and based on our school site.

The programme will involve students from both schools with Kavanagh students and their teacher using Room 1 for up to 2-3 hours per week. Kavanagh students will work alongside selected students from our school as well as work independently on their projects.

Kavanagh College currently run a highly successful gifted and talented program catering to students from Years 7 to 10 with a range of interests and talents.

Entry into this group is by application and portfolio. The programme is a genuine gifted and talented class and fits in the mold of 21st-century learning focusing on a number of key competencies and higher order learning through experiential learning, hypotheses and collaboration with peers and the wider community.
We raced to the top field to play long jump and cricket. Me and William batted first. The Otago Volts played too. Anna did a big jump and so did Janivah.

By Katia

The Paralympians Anna and Rory came to Breakfast Club on Thursday. Anna showed us her medal. By Isobel

Jacquie ran two awesome ‘Construction Workshops’ for us last week. We made special gifts for a special woman in our lives. We explored different textures, layer and elements. We are so looking forward to our next workshops in the downstairs ‘man-cave’ where we will be making something for the men in our lives with a cool steampunk theme.

By Christian

Early in the week we finished our swimming lessons at Moana Pool and on Tuesday some people went to the Zone athletics.

On Thursday we had a breakfast and games with the Volts and Anna Gamaldi which was a lot of fun. We got to do long jump with Anna. A javelin thrower called Rory McSweeney came with her as well.

My group finished a crossword and did reading where we had to read to find different information.

On Friday we logged in and joined the school class with Google docs and found a page where information links were and we opened these to see what they were about.

By Christian

Sausage Sizzle Fridays -
Name _____________________________
No. of Sausages $1.50 each ___________
Ice Block $1.00 each only 1 per child___________