Dear Parents/Caregivers,

Our children have really had some fantastic learning experiences over the past week. Our Year 3-6 children greatly enjoyed the opportunities they had with their Electives programmes on Wednesday. Mike Mullens and I noticed the children who were skating improve significantly over the course of the lesson and look forward to seeing how capable they are at skating by the end of the elective. Our children working with Mr Taylor our Master builder had a great time involved in a number of building skills.

Thursday’s World Cup cricket experience was wonderful for our children with the atmosphere of the cup and the presence of different cultures on display at the ground. We then had Year 3-4 children at the Stadium on Monday morning with Mrs Deerness participating in an athletics morning and finally having a former professional baseball player at school teaching our children throwing and hitting techniques. A big thanks to Will Deerness for coordinating this visit from the baseball pro for us.

These types of experiences fit in with the concept of broader learning in what we could call largely cultural events but some of the memories and possible links to other and new learning that children may make from these learning experiences are really significant.

Hasta pronto (Spanish farewell)

Richard Duffy

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

Goal Interviews
Assembly
Ski Camp Meeting
PTFA Meeting
BOT Meeting

Wednesday 4 March
Friday 6 March 2:30 pm in Room 1
Monday 9 March@7 pm
Friday 13 March@3:30 pm
Monday 16 March@7 pm

Altar Servers
7 Mar      Soni and Semisi Taungapaue
14 Mar     David and Aitu Makasini
21 Mar     Jean Luc and Angelique Peyroux
28 Mar     Kata Moata’ane and Sam Al-Balushi

Sports News ...
St Mary’s T Ball Tigers
Draw for Saturday 7 March: Bernies Busters Diamond 6 9 am

As stand in coach for Panz on Saturday, I would like the TBallers to know how super fantastic they were, I felt very proud to be a stand in coach for such an awesome team/school. Saturday ran very smoothly, not a single hiccup—thanks team.
From Asela

Player of the day was Emile for great overall play.

Prizegiving for end of season Saturday 28 March whole team is expected to be there in full sports uniform to be confirmed.

Touch
Draw for Thursday 5 March: St Mary’s Maroon vs ?? Field 1 4:15 pm

Electives 2015
Two of our Electives this year are based out of school. Currently we have a group at the Ice Stadium and in term 4 will have some children involved in water safety at Moana Pool. Many thanks to Mike Mullens, Mrs Deemess and Asela Moata’ane for their efforts with transport to date.

We have 3 more sessions at Dunedin Ice Stadium with two being on Thursdays and one other likely to be on a Wednesday.

We will be leaving school each week at 12.30pm and finishing at the stadium at around 2.30pm.
If you are able to help at any time over the last three weeks with this could you please let Richard know.

Goal Setting Parent Interviews
Term 1 goal sheets went home with children on Monday and some parents have taken the opportunity to attend an interview to discuss their child’s progress. This date was set aside for some time but as always, parents are able to have a casual chat about how their children are progressing at school with staff from time to time.

Ski Camp Group Meeting
There is a meeting in Room 3 this Monday March 9 from 7pm for the parents of Year 4-6 children who are involved in the ski camp this year. At the meeting a breakdown of total costs will be given and the sausage sizzle at Mitre 10 from (9 am to 4 pm) will be discussed along with any other possible fundraising events coming up for this group.
Sacramental Programme Volunteer Needed

We have a group of 3 children from our school and parish that will prepare for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Communion this year. We would like to begin this early in Term 2. It would be run either after school or at Mass on a Saturday night. The programme is all prepared and just needs to be delivered. If you think you can help, with one sacrament or all three, please contact the school office.

School Fundraiser for A&E
"Child Distraction Packs"

A reminder to please bring $2 to school this week. Thank you.

Parents/Teachers/Friends Association

The next meeting of the school PIFIA is next Friday March 13 from 3.30pm in the staffroom. All are welcome to come along and be involved in some of the discussions about one or two of our upcoming ventures.

Big Thank you

The school would like to extend a big thank you to Holly, Kelly, Susanne, Benedette and Janean for their big efforts with preparing, packaging and delivering morning teas for volunteer helpers at the Weetbix Triathlon over the weekend. We greatly appreciate their efforts and understand that the ongoing efforts of the PIFIA benefit all of our children at school. We encourage all of our school parents to be able to volunteer to help with one event over the year as it lightens the load for each of us in our school.

Look at the busy week we have had

We went to a World Cup Cricket game at the University Oval. We cheered for both Scotland and Afghanistan.

We did athletics with American Mike Powell who holds the World Record for long jump.

We improved our throwing, catching and striking with American baseballer DJ Carrasco and his wife Autumn.
We have written letters of encouragement to the Black Caps.

Dear Black Caps
I like seeing the wickets light up when you bowl people out. Good luck!
Love from Gabriel.

Dear Black Caps
I hope you get the World Cup. You are the best team ever! Get lots of very big sixes please! I think your uniform for cricket is very cool. I went to a game in Dunedin, it was a World Cup game. I had lots of fun in the ‘Fun Zone’. We have been learning about cricket at school.
Love from Lily

Dear Black Caps
You are good at playing cricket.
Love from Matthew

Over the past week we were able to go to a cricket world cup game thanks to Mrs Deerness winning some tickets. Everyone got to dressed up in blue. There was a fun zone for kids and it had a bouncy castle which was cool. We all had so much fun.

Last Wednesday we had Electives. I did wood work and it was great learning some new things. We are making a bird house and we got to do a plan and cut some wood to put the bird house together.

Sausage sizzle/Ice Blocks Order Form - Friday Lunchtimes

Name __________________________

Number of Sausage/s $1.50 each ________________ Ice blocks $1.00 ____________

Please write your child’s name and what they want. If you have more than 1 child please list them separately.

Eg. Chloe 1 Iceblock, Sophie 1 Sausage and 1 Iceblock not Deerness family 1 Sausage and 2 Iceblock