

*"We strive to stimulate our learners by
using the learning areas
to meet their needs"*



St Mary's Kaikorai School



6a Cromwell Street, Wakari, Dunedin 9010

Ph: 03 476 4277 . **Fax:** 03 476 4278

Email: principal@st-marys.school.nz or secretary@st-marys.school.nz

Website: www.st-marys.school.nz

*Together we strive to become confident, creative, lifelong
learners who follow Christ.*

WELCOME TO ST MARY'S KAIKORAI

Thank you for considering St Mary's for your child's education. If you have not already made contact with the school please phone us on 476-4277. We would love to have the opportunity to show you around the school and discuss your child's educational needs. You may prefer to bring your child during class time, to see how our programme functions. This would be welcomed by all staff.

Even though we are a catholic school there are opportunities for non-catholic students to be enrolled. All students need to be enrolled by our Parish Priest, Father Cipriano Fernandes, but this enrolment can be completed with the support of our Principal.

St Mary's is a Catholic Primary School catering for boys and girls from New Entrants to Year 6. The school is nestled privately on a well situated site with spacious school grounds, a newly developed orchard/garden and fully refurbished buildings in a city environment. A strong sense of family exists and children are encouraged to foster relationships across the school.



Both the Education Review Office (ERO) and the Catholic Education Office (CEO) have recognised the excellence in teaching and learning in the school.

"The special character of the school is strongly evident. Teachers actively promote the school's values of respect, honesty and helping. Students learn in a safe and caring environment. They are respectful of each other and of other adults in the school."

"Teachers use a range of assessment tools to effectively monitor and improve student achievement. Achievement information for reading and numeracy in Years 1 to 6 shows that most students achieve at or above national expectations. Students who are not achieving at expected levels are provided with appropriate support programmes."

We hope that your family enjoys and benefits from joining our community of learners.

SETTLING YOUR CHILD INTO SCHOOL & DISCOVERY TIME PROGRAMME

Six weeks before your child is due to start school the new entrant teacher will make contact with you about bringing your child along for 'school visits'. This will involve a weekly visit spread over six weeks prior to your child's starting date. You and your child are most welcome to come along to our school assemblies.

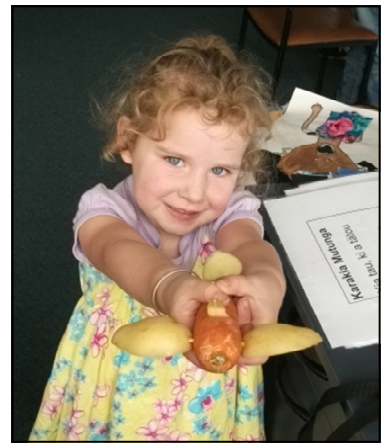
It is also a really good idea to bring your child to the playground at the weekends or after-school so they get familiar with the surroundings of the school before their first visit.

If you would like more information about school visits or have questions, please either phone or call in and see our new entrant teacher and principal, Rachael Deerness.

Discovery Time Programme

Studies have shown that children adapt more readily to school when they have been given the opportunity to integrate into classroom procedures gradually. We have a pre-school programme Discovery Time on a Thursday to aid the transition of children from kindy to school. Please contact the school office for further information.

Children are invited to join the Discovery Time programme as soon as they turn 4 along with a parent or caregiver.



Children will participate along with our new entrant class in the activities of alphabet formation, number work, music and movement, craft, physical education games, mimio active board experimentation and Discovery Time. These will help to develop listening skills, interaction with others, social skills, concentration and school routines resulting in settled, happy children.

2018 SCHOOL TERM DATES

- Term 1 Wednesday 31 January to Friday 13 April
- Term 2 Monday 30 April to Friday 6 July
- Term 3 Monday 23 July to Friday 28 September
- Term 4 Monday 15 October to Friday 14 December

HOLIDAYS

- Waitangi Day - 6 February (Tuesday holiday)
- Otago Anniversary Day - 26 March (Monday)
- Good Friday - 30 March
- Easter Monday - 2 April
- Easter Tuesday - 3 April

- Anzac Day - 25 April (during school holidays)
- Queen's Birthday - 4 June (Monday)
- Labour Day - 22 October (Monday)
- Christmas Day - 25 December
- Boxing Day - 26 December



THE SCHOOL DAY

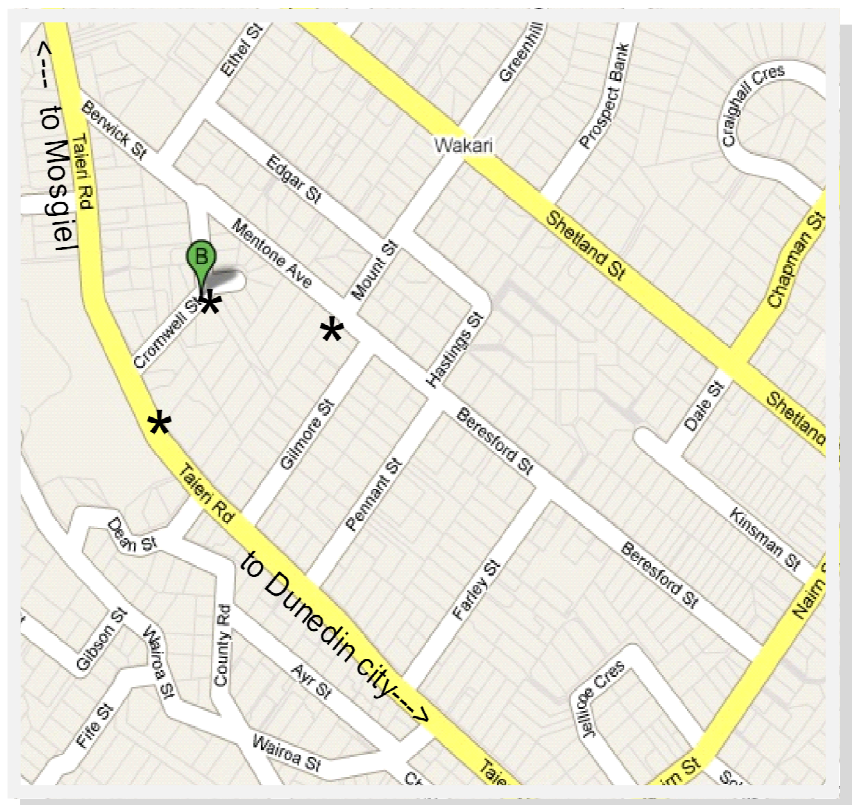
The school office is attended from 8:30-12:00 noon daily. We ask that you please ring the school office if your child will be late or absent before 9:15am.

8:30 am	The school is open for children
9:00-10:40 am	Morning session
10:40-11:00 am	Morning tea
11:00-12:30 pm	Morning session continues
12:30-1:20 pm	Lunch
1:20-3:00 pm	Afternoon session

Messages can be left on the answer phone at any time. Please collect children are by 3:30pm as there is no supervision for them after this time.

School Access Points

- Cromwell Street (supervised)
- Mount Street (unsupervised)
- Taieri Road (unsupervised)



SCHOOL CONTACTS

STAFF MEMBERS

Rachael Deerness	Principal/Teacher in Room 2 (Years 0-3)
Jeremy Morgan	Teacher in Rm 3 (Years 4-6) and
Jacque Tetlow	Office Administrator
Deanne Barton	Teacher aide/ESOL
Thelma Collis	Cleaner
Linda Hartstonge	Volunteer

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chairperson	Erin Barton
Principal	Rachael Deerness
Staff Rep	Jacque Tetlow
Proprietor Reps	Father Cipriano Ferandes, Susan Kubala.
Parent Reps	Nick Sorensen, Will Deerness, Caroline Walker, Mike Mullens

The Board of Trustees meet regularly and the school community are invited to attend. It is made up of elected parent representatives, representatives of the Bishop and staff. The Board governs the school, working alongside the staff and school community.

PARENT TEACHER AND FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

We are grateful to the PTA, a group of parents, staff and friends of the school who are involved in the general support for the School. They run social evenings, various fundraising activities and working bees. The PTA organised a fabulous gala during our Centennial Celebrations at Labour weekend in 2012. Their meetings are advertised in the newsletter.

FUN THINGS SPONSORED BY THE PTA

- Annual Swim and Slide afternoon at Moana Pool
- Magician
- Parent/Teacher Social Events

PAST CONTRIBUTIONS

- Books for the library
- ICT equipment : IPads, Data Projectors, Mimio Interactive Whiteboards
- School Camp
- Ice Skating
- Reading Resources
- Classrooms Resources
- School library shelving
- Compost bins
- Digital Cameras for each class
- Reading and Maths games
- Contribution to classroom consumables
- Swimming lessons
- Transportation
- Sports Equipment



COSTS AND SCHOOL UNIFORM

HOW MUCH ARE THE SCHOOL FEES?

This varies a little from year to year. Stationery is approx. \$50 per student each year. Estimated activity fees \$30 per student each year and Donation \$20 per student or \$30 per family each year. *The resources donations can be claimed back from the IRD as donations.*

If your child decides to be part of a sports team, sports subs of between \$20 - \$40 (usually) need to be paid. This varies depending on the sport and how many are in each team.

During the year you may be asked to help with transport if you can or sometimes a small charge towards a trip is asked for if we are travelling by bus.

HOW MUCH ARE THE ATTENDANCE FEES?

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Dunedin for attendance dues directly and are separate from the school fees. These help to cover proprietor costs relating to land and buildings. If you are concerned with the dues we have discrete measures in place to greatly reduce these. Simply contact the principal for a confidential discussion.

UNIFORM

Our uniform is the Catholic School uniform for the Dunedin area. We expect our full uniform to be worn to and from school each day. These can be purchased from The Warehouse or online at www.schooltex.co.nz. There are also some second hand uniforms in the school office for purchase. Please ensure all clothing is clearly named as it all looks alike.

Girls

White blouse

Catholic School Pinafore

White socks

Boys

Grey shirt

Grey shorts

Grey socks

Both boys and girls

Royal Blue jersey and/or navy blue monogrammed polar fleece (*purchased from the school office \$45*)

Navy blue trackpants are optional for winter.

Black/ brown footwear



SUNHATS

All children require sunhats when outside during terms 1 and 4. These are available from Warehouse.

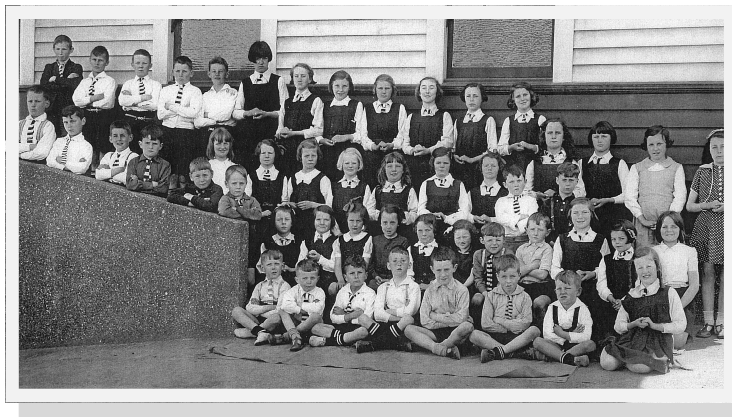
SPORTS UNIFORM

St Mary's sports shirts and shorts are supplied by the school as needed.

OUR HISTORY

Our church and school celebrated its centennial in 2012. In 1910 the Catholics of Kaikorai bought a section in Taieri Rd on which to build their Church and in June 1912 the foundation stone was laid by the then Bishop of Dunedin, Bishop Verdon. In a few short months the church was completed and opened on December 8th the same year. Unfortunately the Bishop was on a visit to the Hot Springs so the ceremony was performed by Rev Fr Coffey. For a number of years Father Coffey travelled from Rattray St. to St Mary's by horse and trap on a Sunday morning to say Mass. The entrance from Taieri Road was much wider in those days and Father was able to bring the horse and trap into the grounds and tie up the horse where the hall is now. Then Father became the proud owner of a Model T Ford which he used to drive into the church yard. However history relates he was not so happy when one morning he drove it over the bank, the same history does not say if anything apart from his pride was hurt.

In February of 1913 the Dominican Sisters came to teach school in the back half of the Church which was curtained off. There was a promised attendance of 40 children and 32 were listed as first day pupils ranging in age from 5 to 10 years.



A new departure was made in favour of the new suburban school. The Dominican Sisters, for the first time made use of Cable Cars from the Octagon up Stuart St, to the terminus at the Nairn St. cable sheds, which meant that the Sisters had to walk up Taieri Road in all weathers. As a result sometime the Sisters arrived badly weather beaten. However, there were many compensations.

'The school can claim bright sunshine, pure air and a beautiful view. The chil-

dren too are affectionate and were never as happy as when performing some service for the Nuns, so that it is a pleasure to teach and train them. Every year many desirable pupils pass from St Mary's to Christian Brothers Secondary School and St Dominic's. In both establishments the Kaikorai pupils take a good stand. Indeed some of the most successful pupils in the higher examinations come from the Kaikorai Hill.'

In 1929 the lower school was blessed and opened by Bishop Whyte, and in 1953 Bishop Kavanagh opened the upper school. A third classroom and an administration block were added in 1980.

Molly Lane became the first lay Principal in 1978, and the last teaching sister left the School in 1979. Today the staff members are all lay teachers who aim to preserve its special character.

2003-2005 saw an extensive rebuilding programme. We now enjoy a new administration block, refitted classrooms, new resource areas library and toilet block. We continue to use the lower school hall for assemblies and other activities. The upgrades reflect the support and advice received from the Board of Trustees and the Diocese of Dunedin.

ST MARY'S VALUES AND BELIEFS

CURRICULUM PLAN AND SCHOOL CHARTER

These documents are the basis of decisions and planning within the School. They are the result of the Board of Trustees, Staff and Community consultation. If you wish to view a copy of them please ask at the school office.



EDUCATION IN FAITH

We are Catholic and Christian in our beliefs and faith. The Word of the God is central to our decision making and teaching practices.

Our beliefs are expressed as valuing uniqueness, developing an atmosphere of co-operation and respect, and the celebration of independent thinkers who make decisions about their learning.

We incorporate the values of respect, honesty and helping; and these are displayed in our classrooms.

The concept of dignity is something we also promote. We express the view that all people need to be treated with dignity regardless of their individualism.

The school has regular school masses and liturgies. Prayer begins and ends the day. Each class takes turns to lead assembly.

We support the Parish preparation for the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Seniors are also part of the St Vincent de Paul Youth Organisation and as such take part in a number of charity ventures, e.g visiting the elderly, helping them as required, and collecting for the needy.

We regularly visit the Little Sisters and share with them what we have been doing in school.



ST MARY'S VALUES AND BELIEFS - CONT'D

MISSION STATEMENT

St Mary's School promotes excellence in teaching and learning in a climate of faith and pastoral care within the parish community of St Mary's.

VISION STATEMENT

Together we strive to become confident, creative, life long learners who follow Christ.

OUR BELIEFS

Learning is most effective when learners are:

- Encouraged to recognise Jesus in themselves and others.
- Valued for their personal uniqueness, talents, skills and culture.
- Striving to work alongside others in an atmosphere of co-operation, respect and reflection.
- Challenged to develop independent questioning and thinking skills.
- Involved in decision making about their learning.
- Given literacy and numeracy skills to ensure success in communication.

OUR VALUES



THE SCHOOL PROGRAMME

Jesus Promoted Love

And because of this we'll ...

- Treat each other with dignity
- Prioritise Religious Education, Literacy and Numeracy

Then...

During our afternoon, our intention is to offer your children a wide range of learning opportunities

By... Contextual Learning

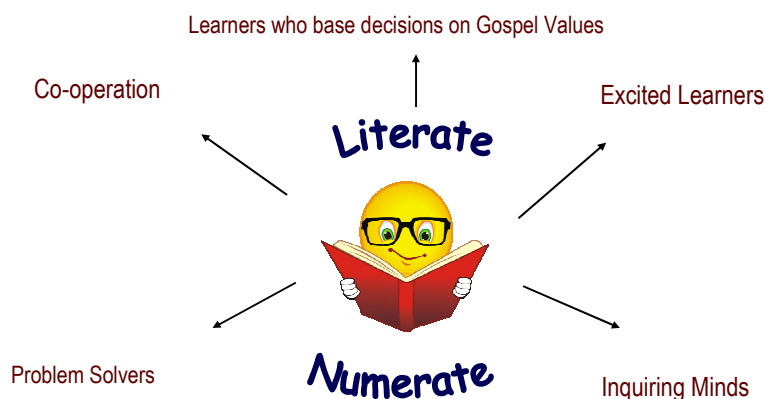
- **Hands on Learning**
 - mechanical, - scientific
- **Environmental Sustainability**
 - paper recycling to make combustible fuel, veggie garden skills, food technology
- **Science Learning through Experimentation**
 - compressed air experiments, chemical reaction, experiments, powering, circuits - switches, pulleys and weight-loading
- **ICT Development**
 - Blog, email, podcast, video promotions
- **Theory Learning Sessions to complement practical sessions.**



This learning is Inquiry driven through individual child interest **not** learning areas

Lead question: "What do I want to spend the next three weeks learning about?"

To...



Achieve

"All learning experiences require learners to be numerate and literate."

Learners are more motivated towards using and developing these skills when they feel actively engaged."

THE SCHOOL PROGRAMME - CONT'D

DISCOVERY TIME

is a 60 minute programme that we have started in our Junior room once a week. It provides opportunities for the teacher to meet the diverse needs of students.

There is a focus for each day, which may target a specific area of the key competencies ie: managing self, relating to others, participating and contributing, thinking, using test and symbols.

The students choose any of these activities during that 60 minutes. An essential part of Discovery Time is reflecting on their learning, which is done after each session.

WHY ARE WE DOING IT?

Students need opportunities to:

- Direct their own learning, Participate in new experiences
- Encounter new challenges, Extend existing skills
- Work co-operatively, Interact socially
- Problem-solve creatively

SO FAR?

- The kids love it!!!
- The parents helping are enjoying themselves
- The learning is happening in a fun way ie
 - Measuring while cooking and sewing,
 - Investigating by pulling apart an old video machine,
 - Building skills while constructing



St Mary's Kaikorai Aspire Awards We Aspire To Be All We Can Be

To raise our children's awareness of what makes a valuable all-round citizen, we have established our school-wide Aspire Programme. The awards are based on three inspiring New Zealanders, who strove to succeed in different types of undertakings and overcame obstacles along the way.



 **St Mary's School
Kaikorai**

has earned the **Dame Whena Cooper Award**
for recognition of
Helping, Caring and Honesty

Dame Whena Cooper devoted her life to helping others and showing love through the peaceful way she went about trying to improve the lives of others.



ASPIRE



 **St Mary's School
Kaikorai**

has earned the **Sir Ernest Rutherford Award**
for recognition of
Academic Effort and Achievement

Sir Ernest Rutherford was a scientist who worked very hard pushing himself in his learning to develop amazing discoveries for humans in how science is used now.



ASPIRE



 **St Mary's School
Kaikorai**

has earned the **Sir Edmund Hillary Award**
for recognition of
Cultural and Sporting Involvement

Sir Edmund Hillary pushed himself to achieve everything he was capable of achieving. He understood the importance of never giving up and doing his best at all times.



Signed: Teacher _____
Principal _____

ASPIRE

Education Out of the Classroom

Gardens, Butterflies, Museum, Art Gallery, Public Library, Camps, Beach Education



Grandparents Afternoon ... Family Fun Nights



Productions, Music Lessons, Choral Festival, School/Class Masses and Liturgies





Sporting Events:
 hockey, soccer, netball, cricket, t-ball,
 flippa ball, golf, swimming, tennis,
 cross country, ice-skating, tennis...



Our very own Olympic Teams



Up-to-date
 Information Communication
 Technology,
 Technology Specialists,
 Community Involvement

