

**2007 Excellence in Teaching and Leadership Awards**

**‘Excellence Deserves Recognition’**

Parents/Caregivers, do you have a staff member whom you would like to nominate for a Teaching or Leadership Award? **Excellence in Teaching Awards:** nominations for this category will take account of the teacher’s exemplary classroom skills and innovative approaches to teaching that serve as models to schools. **Excellence in Leadership Awards:** nominations will take account of the leader’s quality to inspire teachers to achieve outstanding learning outcomes for children, and who set ambitious but achievable goals for their school or centre community.

Closing date for applications is the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2007. Please see the office for the criteria and application forms.



**On this Feast of the Assumption of Our Lady let me leave you with these words from Fr. Tommy Lane, Mount St Mary’s Seminary, Maryland, USA:**

So on this feast of the Assumption of Our Lady I encourage you to pray the Rosary every day. While we pray the Rosary we don’t just say prayers. Saying the prayers is to help us enter into a spirit of deep prayer, contemplation on the fifteen mysteries in the lives of Jesus and Mary, five joyful, five sorrowful and five glorious.

Like any good mother, Our Lady is concerned for us, her family, so after her Assumption in heaven she continues to help us from heaven but she needs your Rosaries to help her achieve her plans. Give a bouquet of roses to your heavenly mother every day by praying the Rosary. The bouquet of roses will then be transformed by Our Lady so that she can help people around the world.



**God Bless,  
Reg Nimmo, Principal**



**ST MARY’S CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
(ROTORUA)**

**37 CARNOT STREET**

**PH: 348 1701    FAX: 348 1209**

**Website: [www.stmarysrotorua.school.nz](http://www.stmarysrotorua.school.nz)**



**Newsletter No. 15**

**15<sup>th</sup> August 2007**

**PLEASE READ ME !!!**

***Positive Attitude Equals Positive Actions***

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The term has started extremely well with staff, pupils and parents assisting me to make sure the standards are maintained and our children are in school where everyone is learning and caring for each other.

From Wednesday this week I will be away from school visiting my son and his wife in London and visiting relations in the U.K. (a vacation planned long before I was asked to assist St Mary's). I will return for the fourth term but in my absence Mr Volschenk, Deputy Principal, will be Acting Principal. I know you will give him as much support and assistance as I have received.

Congratulations to Mr McMillan, currently with St Joseph's, Whakatane, who has been appointed Principal at St Mary's Catholic School, starting officially in Term 1, 2008. I wish him all the best and our prayers will be for smooth transitions for both ourselves and St Joseph's. There will be ongoing contact between myself and Mr McMillan as we prepare for the change over but for each of us currently our present positions will remain our first priority.

**WELCOME**

Welcome to our new entrant students: Aukustino Tino, who has joined us from Sunset; Salaseini Kaitani, who has joined big brother Solomon; and Davis Vhavha. May you and your families feel welcomed and support by our school community.

**✚ PRAYERS ✚**

Prayers are requested for Jim & Natalie Clough, grandparents to Devon & Christie, as they battle ill health and for Lyell Clare's mother, Cassandra Clare's grandmother, as she is very sick. We thank you for continuing to pray for those who may be sick or suffering hardship in our St Mary's School community, your prayers are of comfort and support to our families.

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME**

There will be a last meeting for parents/caregivers of children making their First Communion and receiving Confirmation. **Wednesday – 6:30pm – Room 16, St Mary's School.** The actual event will be on the 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 9:30am Mass, St Mary's Church.  
Miss Smith, Director of Religious Studies

**CATHOLIC INTEGRATED SCHOOL'S OFFICE  
2008 Attendance Dues Increase**

Please note Primary school Attendance Dues will increase in 2008 to \$308.00 (GST incl).

**MAORI FESTIVAL – JUNIOR SCHOOL**

Is there anyone in the school community who is willing to assist the Junior School with our upcoming Maori Festival? We would be happy to have your assistance in whatever way you wish to contribute – all offers will be leapt upon ☺. Please contact Mrs Brickland Ph 0273411098.

**SPORTS RESULTS – Player of the Day**

Coaches - please ensure your results are forwarded to the nominated person below who will make certain the results are forwarded to the office by 10am each Monday. Unfortunately not all results have been coming through to the office on time, or at all, and it leads to disappointment for the children:

**HOCKEY:** Donna Keaney **MINIBALL (Wed):** Marie Hughes  
**MINIBALL (Fri):** Tania Gracie **SOCCER:** Denis Marriner  
**NETBALL:** Francie Watson

**PARENT SUPPORT GROUP**

**Pop this in your diary now !☺!** All parents/caregivers and interested friends are encouraged and welcome to attend the Parent Support Group meeting in the school staffroom on **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2007 at 7.30pm.** Come along and support this wonderful group as they in turn support our school and students.

**PRESENTATION:** At the end of last term the Parent Support Group was proud to present to St Mary's a cheque for \$20,000 - proceeds from the school gala held earlier this year. Sister Julian was pleased to accept the cheque on behalf of the school and to announce it would be earmarked for the long-awaited Astroturf.

**SCHOOL DISCO:** The next school disco will be held on Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> September, 5.30pm – 7.00pm. Theme – PJ party.

**SAUSAGE SIZZLE:** Thank you Melissa Martin for offering to co-ordinate the Friday sausage sizzles. We still need some more volunteers to help though so if you can help, please phone Melissa, Home 347-2191 or Work 343-1625.

**For more information on Parent Support Group, don't forget to check out the school website.**

**ST MARY'S 2007 CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS**

Well done to all Middle/Senior students who took part in the qualifying run for the Interschol Cross Country Team on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> August. Special mention must be made of those who have qualified for the Interschol Team:

Girls 7-8 yrs	Bethany Cheesman, Anna Piebenga, Ariel Dannenbring
Boys 7-8 yrs	Matthew Wilson, Nathan Monne, Blair McLeod
Girls 9 yrs	Samantha Deakin, Brianna Frost, Cassandra Clare
Boys 9 yrs	Blake Wilson, Paul Wright, Declan Keaney
Girls 10 yrs	Grace Bruere, Ella Florence, Morgan Tabuteau
Boys 10 yrs	Josiah Kilkelly, Felix Cook, Simon Dyer
Girls 11 yrs	Robyn Deakin, Aidan McManus, Bianca Kelemete
Boys 11 yrs	Fintan Walsh, Connor Hamilton, Eric Leung

**NZ COMMUNITY TRUST**

We are happy to acknowledge the kind support of the NZ Community Trust who have granted our school \$2000 towards sports uniforms. We are currently awaiting the arrival of new maroon/blue sports shirts which will be worn with great pride when our sports teams represent our school. We sincerely thank the NZ Community Trust for their generous support ☺.

### **BOOK WEEK – Scholastics Book Fair, Character Parade**

A very big THANK YOU to all those people who supported the Scholastic's Book Fair. We sold over \$4,000 worth of books which earned the school \$800 to spend in the Library!! Thank you to all the volunteers who helped out – it's greatly appreciated and the Book Fair would not be the success it is without your help ☺.

The Rocket competition and the Character Parade were huge successes making it a difficult task for the judges to decide on the eventual winners. Thank you to all the children who took part and to the parents who supported their imaginative endeavours. The Character Parade was a fitting end to Book Week. Well done to all of you.

(Mrs Francis, Librarian)

### **ERO – Post Review Meeting**

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> August the Board of Trustees met with the ERO (Education Review Office) team for a post-review meeting. There were representatives from the staff and School Support Services to work with the Board members.

Together we reviewed the ERO report and worked from the report to use the strengths of our team to put together a plan to grow the quality education children receive at St Mary's. The start for drafting plans was begun in the areas identified in the ERO report. The meeting was led by members from ERO who reviewed goals, discussed a time line, considered who were the stakeholders and what steps were to be taken and who could help the school achieve the goals. e.g. professional development programmes and experts to bring into the school. The positive steps taken will now be presented to the teachers and staff to widen the input and, where appropriate, the school community.

The timeline for some of the matters in the report will take a term while others are embedded in the longer term school strategic plan. Once plans are drafted they will be forwarded to ERO. One hallmark of any organisation is to have a plan and to know where you are going ensuring the stakeholders are addressed at the right time. Incremental planned steps are where we are starting. The Board requested the post review meeting with the Education Review Office team.

(JR Nimmo)

### **SWIMMING LESSONS with Helen Rogers – Term 4**

Enrolments are now underway for swimming classes starting October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007. I have been very fortunate in 'obtaining' Maria Pomare as my assistant for this season. Maria is a mature, experienced and passionate teacher. This will mean I can offer smaller classes and I will be doing two lessons per week over 5 weeks. This is a more beneficial program as one is reinforcing and consolidating previously learnt skills. (All previously taught pupils will be automatically contacted with the time and day of their tuition.) New pupils: please contact Helen for all information and bookings as soon as possible to prevent disappointment – Ph 3439569 (leave message on answer phone) or Ph 075720918.



### **BOOK WEEK – Scholastics Book Fair, Character Parade**

A very big THANK YOU to all those people who supported the Scholastic's Book Fair. We sold over \$4,000 worth of books which earned the school \$800 to spend in the Library!! Thank you to all the volunteers who helped out – it's greatly appreciated and the Book Fair would not be the success it is without your help ☺.

The Rocket competition and the Character Parade were huge successes making it a difficult task for the judges to decide on the eventual winners. Thank you to all the children who took part and to the parents who supported their imaginative endeavours. The Character Parade was a fitting end to Book Week. Well done to all of you.

(Mrs Francis, Librarian)

### **ERO – Post Review Meeting**

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> August the Board of Trustees met with the ERO (Education Review Office) team for a post-review meeting. There were representatives from the staff and School Support Services to work with the Board members.

Together we reviewed the ERO report and worked from the report to use the strengths of our team to put together a plan to grow the quality education children receive at St Mary's. The start for drafting plans was begun in the areas identified in the ERO report. The meeting was led by members from ERO who reviewed goals, discussed a time line, considered who were the stakeholders and what steps were to be taken and who could help the school achieve the goals. e.g. professional development programmes and experts to bring into the school. The positive steps taken will now be presented to the teachers and staff to widen the input and, where appropriate, the school community.

The timeline for some of the matters in the report will take a term while others are embedded in the longer term school strategic plan. Once plans are drafted they will be forwarded to ERO. One hallmark of any organisation is to have a plan and to know where you are going ensuring the stakeholders are addressed at the right time. Incremental planned steps are where we are starting. The Board requested the post review meeting with the Education Review Office team.

(JR Nimmo)

### **SWIMMING LESSONS with Helen Rogers – Term 4**

Enrolments are now underway for swimming classes starting October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007. I have been very fortunate in 'obtaining' Maria Pomare as my assistant for this season. Maria is a mature, experienced and passionate teacher. This will mean I can offer smaller classes and I will be doing two lessons per week over 5 weeks. This is a more beneficial program as one is reinforcing and consolidating previously learnt skills. (All previously taught pupils will be automatically contacted with the time and day of their tuition.) New pupils: please contact Helen for all information and bookings as soon as possible to prevent disappointment – Ph 3439569 (leave message on answer phone) or Ph 075720918.



### **VISIT FROM THE BISHOP**

The Very Reverend Bishop Dennis Browne made a huge impact on the children at school when he demonstrated the mitre he wears on "Bishop" Fintan Walsh. As you can see in the photo below, the mitre is a tall folding cap, consisting of two similar parts (the front and back) rising to a peak and sewn together at the sides, two short lappets always hang down from the back.

The simile of the shepherds and his sheep amused the school as he said "I am like a shepherd and you are my flock of .....". Sheep," the students replied, and they enjoyed the joke. A very enjoyable assembly with Bishop Dennis, who was clearly at ease with the rapt attention of the assembly. A memorable time together. (JR Nimmo)



### **PARKING IN SEDDON STREET**

**Excerpts from a letter received by St Mary's Church from the Rotorua District Council:**

The Rotorua District Council has received a number of complaints from the residents of Seddon Street regarding the car parking habits of attendees at Church services held.

It appears that the footpaths are being blocked by some vehicles being parked on the footpath and grass verges, and a fire hydrant is continually obstructed. There are also several complaints regarding vehicles actually blocking the driveways of the residents in the area. Residents have asked drivers not to park on the verges or across driveways and it appears they have received verbal abuse for making such requests.

Due to the severity of the complaints it is felt that we have no option other than to have Parking Wardens attend the area.

Parking within 1 metre of any driveway; parking on a footpath; parking on a grass verge and parking within 500mm of a fire hydrant will all incur a fine of \$40.

We are hoping that your congregation will quickly learn to respect the rights of those that live close to the Church.

**We trust that those who need to pay heed to this notice will do so and those that do not will continue to respect and abide by the parking laws. Thank you.**

### **VISIT FROM THE BISHOP**

The Very Reverend Bishop Dennis Browne made a huge impact on the children at school when he demonstrated the mitre he wears on "Bishop" Fintan Walsh. As you can see in the photo below, the mitre is a tall folding cap, consisting of two similar parts (the front and back) rising to a peak and sewn together at the sides, two short lappets always hang down from the back.

The simile of the shepherds and his sheep amused the school as he said "I am like a shepherd and you are my flock of .....". Sheep," the students replied, and they enjoyed the joke. A very enjoyable assembly with Bishop Dennis, who was clearly at ease with the rapt attention of the assembly. A memorable time together. (JR Nimmo)



### **PARKING IN SEDDON STREET**

**Excerpts from a letter received by St Mary's Church from the Rotorua District Council:**

The Rotorua District Council has received a number of complaints from the residents of Seddon Street regarding the car parking habits of attendees at Church services held.

It appears that the footpaths are being blocked by some vehicles being parked on the footpath and grass verges, and a fire hydrant is continually obstructed. There are also several complaints regarding vehicles actually blocking the driveways of the residents in the area. Residents have asked drivers not to park on the verges or across driveways and it appears they have received verbal abuse for making such requests.

Due to the severity of the complaints it is felt that we have no option other than to have Parking Wardens attend the area.

Parking within 1 metre of any driveway; parking on a footpath; parking on a grass verge and parking within 500mm of a fire hydrant will all incur a fine of \$40.

We are hoping that your congregation will quickly learn to respect the rights of those that live close to the Church.

**We trust that those who need to pay heed to this notice will do so and those that do not will continue to respect and abide by the parking laws. Thank you.**