



Dear Parents and Caregivers

Kia ora, Talofa lava, Malo e lelei, Kia orana, Bula vinaka, Warmest Greetings to you all.

St Patrick's Day / Soul Friends

On Tuesday 17th March, Father Iosevo celebrated a beautiful mass for St Patrick's Day and our **Soul Friends**. It was truly wonderful to see the older children helping their younger soul friends during the mass. I am sure all the children were also more settled sitting with their soul friends rather than just with their own classes. Father remarked how much he enjoyed this mass as well. Father will now be visiting classes each week on Thursday mornings to get to know the children and support the teachers in their Religious Education teaching.

Parish Sacramental Programme

Preparation classes for the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist will be starting shortly. Parents will need to register the children over 8 years of age to ensure they are able to complete this important stage of their spiritual growth. To support the Parish in this important ministry we will be sending home registration forms for our students from St Pius X Parish who have not completed a sacramental programme. The children usually need to be over 8yrs of age.

We are now more than halfway through Lent and must not forget our preparation for the coming Easter Season. We continue to remind the children that it is about doing something extra rather than just giving up on something you like. I hope families are also able to support us and the children in their Lenten preparation.

Room 1 "What did Jesus eat?"



The children of Room 1 have been learning all about what life was like in the time of Jesus. Their wonderful teachers have been giving them all sorts of great learning experiences including a meal of the types of food children in Jesus' time would have eaten.

Duffy Role Model Assembly

We had a wonderful Duffy Role Model assembly this week. Mary Kippenberger (story teller) and Peter Charlton-Jones (Musician) performed a very entertaining show which had all the children and staff shrieking with laughter. Mr Peter Baron and Mr Peter Dunn from The Rotary Club of Parnell helped present all the children with their books.





Mrs Pulotu enjoyed being part of the Duffy story about the sky falling on Henny Penny's head.

Cluster Cricket Field Day

On Wednesday Mr Slade and Mr Tuipulotu took two teams to the Cluster Cricket Field Day at Colin Maidmen Park. They had been practising for a couple of weeks but were still very nervous before the games started. It was an excellent day. I received very positive feedback from the organisers about how well our children did. They learned very quickly that it is not as easy as it looks. Mr Slade commented that our batting was much better than our bowling but that our bowling was much better than some of the other teams. It is great there was so much interest in the cricket particularly that we don't usually take part in this sport. The Black Caps good results in the World Cup must have inspired our players.



The silver beet is growing well with the recent wet, warm weather. Samuel (Room 5) enjoying our Getwise Financial Literacy Programme provided by the ASB Bank.



Year 4 Dictionary Donation



Our Year 4 students from Room 3 received brand new dictionaries supplied by the St John's Rotary Club. Mrs Michele Mann visited the class to present the dictionaries. This sponsorship has been happening for many years now and we are very thankful.

Board Talk

1. 2015 – Your Board members

Parent Representatives – Catherine Ringwood (chair), Wayne Moa (deputy chair), Silia Vaka'uta, Betty Wang, Epi Timu ;

Proprietors' Representatives : Akata Siale, Nimo Patelesio (+ 2 positions)

Staff Trustee – Debbie Williams

Principal – Paul Coakley

2. How well did our students achieve in 2014 ?

In March, Mr. Coakley sent in our achievement results to the Ministry of Education. We can be particularly proud of the achievements of our junior school. Thank you to **all** our school teachers for your hard work and commitment to achieve these results. Thank you also to our Senior Leadership Team, Mr Coakley, Mrs Williams and Mrs Tui, and all our wonderful support and admin staff.

3. Annual Catholic Review

In January, the Board received a letter from the Catholic Schools Office, thanking us for our 2014 Proprietor Representatives' Report. Thank you to Mrs Tui and our Proprietors' Representatives who completed this report on our behalf, and to our parents for completing the questionnaires.

4. Decile Rating – Less \$\$\$

The government have changed our rating from 1b to 1c. This means we will get less money from the government, so we may have less teachers next year. Mr. Coakley is putting in an Appeal to show that we should still be a 1b. Thank you to those parents who have already completed the survey form. This survey form will help Mr. Coakley with his report.

5. Board Training

This year the Board have decided to work closely with NZSTA advisers Sei Brown and Sam Lees, to help us improve how the board reviews our school. This will help us understand what is working well in our school and what we can do to help our school become even better. We are going to start by having a workshop in April.

No Board meeting in April – workshop instead :

BOARD WORKSHOP – next month we will trial our first workshop for this year – the tentative date is **28th April**. We will confirm as soon as possible. Please keep this date free.

NEXT BOARD MEETING - Monday 18th May at 6.30 – 9.00pm. Parents and caregivers are also welcome to come.

Term 1 2015

March 2015				
16 RE Focus Jesus Strand	Week 7	17 St Patrick's Day Soul Friends' Mass	18	19
23 RE Focus Jesus Strand	Week 8	24	25 Feast of Annunciation	26
30 RE Focus Jesus Strand	Week 9	31 Year 7/8 Immunisations		27 Room 5 Assembly 29 th Palm Sunday
April 2015				
		1	2 Holy Thursday Easter Liturgy 11.00am in hall. Last Day of Term 1	3 Good Friday Holiday

Don't Forget . . .

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DUES SPONSORSHIP SCHEME

The Attendance Dues Sponsorship Scheme - has been created to assist families who may need financial support with the payment of attendance dues, for students attending Catholic schools in Auckland Diocese, both primary and secondary.

The purpose of the sponsorship scheme is to allow parents or caregivers facing financial hardship another option to seek relief where they may be reluctant to approach their school for help.

The existing financial hardship scheme – operated by your school – is also available to parents or caregivers facing hardship and we do encourage families facing financial difficulties to please contact your school office.

Application forms are available from school and parish offices, or can be down-loaded from the Catholic Schools Office Website: www.catholicschools.org.nz (go to Property and Finance / Finance / Attendance Dues)

If you have any queries or require assistance with the payment of attendance dues under the sponsorship scheme, you are invited to phone in confidence, Carol Krebs (Ph. 360 3069) at the Auckland Diocese office.

Applications to the sponsorship scheme for 2015 attendance dues will be accepted by the Auckland Common Fund Ltd up to **November 2015**.

Rugby Weigh-in

All those students who have asked to join the University Rugby Club should go to the weigh-in at the club rooms in Merton Ave on Saturday morning. Trainings have started and are held each Tuesday and Thursday evening from 4.30 to 5.30pm. Once teams have been finalised there may be some changes to training times but these will be discussed with coaches.



KAI TIME

Making money go further: Using \$30 food with whanau to cook healthy, affordable kai! March 2015

Your FREE Community Event

Kai means food and this 3 hour event aims to increase our confidence of cooking healthy affordable kai. Kai Time is an amazing community experience where we all come together to share our cooking skills, ways to save money and be well.

Q: How is Kai Time delivered?

A: Community coaches bring Kai Time to groups in Tamaki. We bring all the cooking equipment and food with us. We need 1.5 hrs before and after the 3 hours to set up and pack down.

Q: How do I put my name down to come to Kai Time?

A: If you want to experience Kai Time, complete the tear off slip, return it to St Pius X School and we'll arrange to bring Kai Time to you.

What do you need to bring?

It is free! Bring your smile, containers to take food home and you leave with the recipes!



We Cook all of these family meals with you on the day:

- 1. Chicken Pasta**
- 2. Mince Stew**
- 3. Spaghetti Bolognese**
- 4. Chicken Stir-fry**
- 5. Chicken Minestrone**

Using just \$30.00 food.

Contact: Diana Neru on 0800/021 URGFIT (874 348) or email gfit@twp.org.nz

Yes, I would like to come to KAI TIME:

(please circle) day time / evening / weekend. Preferred Date _____

Name _____ Contact Number _____

Number of people coming with you: _____ adults _____ children