



Dear Parents and Caregivers

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

Last Thursday and Friday I had the absolute privilege of joining our Year 8 Leaders on their Retreat at the Franciscan Friary in Hillsborough. Brothers Phillip and Esmond led the students through a range of discussions, activities and reflections on what makes a good leader. Having the chance to stay overnight allowed plenty of time to practise some of the skills they had learned as well as building on the strong relationships already within the class. We were so pleased that most of our teachers were able to join us for a special candle ceremony before dinner on Thursday evening. We were also very fortunate and thankful, that Fr Ioane was able to visit on Friday to celebrate our closing mass.

We have been taking our students to the Friary for some time now and once again all children had a wonderful time. I remember coming to the Friary for my first school retreat forty years ago when I was in Year 8 at St Peter's College. It certainly brought back many memories. It is a beautiful and very spiritual place.



The following children received Virtues Certificates at our last assembly

Lezabelle K	- Diligence	Sonya H	- Diligence
Pauliasi H	- Confidence	Vililatai M	- Commitment
Etuale T	- Self Discipline	Charis A	- Diligence
Mikaela T	- Diligence	Alex V	- Enthusiasm
Diego H	- Enthusiasm	Patience M	- Excellence
Seuati P	- Responsibility	Ezra N	- Patience
Alan S	- Caring	Keira M	- Joyfulness

### Caught Being Good

**Akesa** Rm 4, **Fiapo** Rm 4, **Lenleigh** Rm 5 (x3), **Kalisi** Rm 5, **Charis** Rm 2, **Justin**, Rm 6, **Catherine** Rm 2, **Valenisia** Rm 6 (x2), **Kilistina** Rm 6 (x2), **Szaskia** Rm 6

## Catholic Schools Day 2013

Last Tuesday we were joined by St Joseph's School from Orakei to celebrate National Catholic Schools' Day. Schools from all over New Zealand take the opportunity to celebrate being part of a wonderful and very successful education system. We started the day with a beautiful Mass in our church con-celebrated by Fr Terry from Orakei and Fr Ioane from St Pius. Children from both schools led different parts of the service and sat together during the mass. After mass the children sat together for lunch before spending lunchtime playing on the field together. It was great to see all the children mixing so well and making new friends. The respective staff also had the chance to share lunch together and get to know each other. After lunch we had a concert where each school provided all the acts. We had great singing, dancing, poetry as well as several music groups performing. At the end of the concert, the St Joseph's Principal, Ms Ryan presented a gift to our school which had been created by all the children from their school. This will be put on display in our library. Both schools have agreed to continue sharing their learning in the future with a return visit later in the year being planned.



ST JOSEPH'S  
SCHOOL  
FAITH & UNITY  
WHAKAPONO ME  
KOTAHITANGA





### **Swimming Pool**

As you will have seen by now, the pool has arrived. We have had a little bit of trouble balancing the water so it is safe for the children to use. The timetable for swimming will be given to the children each week so they know which days to bring their togs and towel. All year 3-6 children will have 10 swimming lessons by professional swimming coaches from the Glen Innes Pool provided free by the Ministry of Education. The rest of the school will have their swimming programme taught by our teachers. Please remember that swimming is part of our school programme and so all children are expected to take part unless they are ill. They will not be allowed to swim if they have any open wounds or sores.

Special thanks to the parents who came last week to help assemble the pool. This was a huge effort and very much appreciated.



### **Board of Trustee Elections**

Last chance to vote. The votes must be in by mid-day Thursday 30<sup>th</sup>. If you have not posted your voting papers yet please bring them to school on Thursday morning and place in the polling box in our school office. It is so important that you have your say who represents you over the next 3 years.



### Netball update

Our two teams have now completed their second round of grading games with great improvement already. They look great in their new uniforms. Team members please remember to bring your subs to school as soon as possible.

This week's results:

Year 8 win over Baradene 9 - 2

Year 7 win over ANI 5 - 2

### Home School Partnership Meeting

Please keep Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June free for our important Home School Partnership meeting for this term. We are presently planning the evening which all families are expected to send a representative to. This will have a Health focus and start at 6.00pm and go for about an hour and a half.

## Term 2 2013

May 2013				
27	28	29	30	31
June 2013				
3 Queen's Birthday Holiday	4	5 Cluster Netball Field Day Auckland Netball Centre	6 Home School Partnership Meeting 6.00pm Each family needs to be represented	7 Rooms 5 and 7 Feast of SHJ Whole School Mass
10 RE Focus God Strand Weeks 6 – 9 Class and Team Photos	11	12 Hearing and Vision Testing	13	14
17	18 Last Day of Football	19	20	21 Rooms 1, 2 and 6 Mass
24	25	26	27	28
July 2012				
1	2	3	4	5 Rooms 3 and 4 attend Mass
8 RE Focus Charism	9	10 Parent Interviews School closes 12.30pm	11 Last Day of Term for students	12 Teacher Only Day