



Dear Parents and Caregivers

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

It is great to be back after the holidays, although it seemed I was here on most days for one thing or another. Finally the drainage work has been finished so (hopefully) there will be no more floods in front of the entrances to Rooms 1 and 2 and the hall. Unfortunately the digger cut our alarm cable to the library and Multi-purpose Room so we had some issues sorting that. Luckily we were able to get all the repairs finished before school started again, so all is well.

I need to thank all parents who came to the Goal-Setting interviews in the last week of Term 2. This was the first time we used specific interview times rather than just turning up and waiting. Everybody has said things worked out so much more smoothly and so we will be sure to run the interviews like this in the future. We had a great turn-out with some classes having every single child represented, so that is fantastic. Our children can only reach their full potential when parents are actively working with us.

Staff Changes

Last Friday we were very sad to farewell **Miss Leuapepe**, our Room 6 teacher. Miss Leuapepe accepted a position as Advisor for Priority Learners specialising in Maori and Pasifika student achievement. She will be based at the National Library in Parnell. We had a beautiful mass last week to say goodbye. We will all miss her but understand opportunities need to be taken when they arise so wish her all the best in the future. At the mass we also welcomed our newest staff member, **Mr Eric Slade** who is the new Room 6 Teacher.



Mr Slade grew up in South Auckland and studied Art and Design at Auckland University of Technology before completing his Teaching Qualifications also at AUT.

I know he is very excited about joining our St Pius X family and is looking forward to getting to know his new class and fellow teachers. As well as being very artistic, he loves sports and still plays rugby at a senior level on the North Shore. I am sure he will get very involved with our sports programme in the coming months.

Today we also farewell our new caretaker, **Mr Sefo Aitiope**, who has only been here a short time. Sefo has accepted a full-time position so has had to resign. We have loved getting to know him and really appreciate all the work hours he has put in, extra to his normal hours. We are presently advertising for a replacement caretaker. In the meantime Mr Sepulonga Tai will be our caretaker.

We also were very sad to hear after the holidays that **Fr Ioane** had left the Parish to return to Samoa. We wish him well as we welcome **Fr Iosevo** to the St Pius Community. I am sure you will agree with me that over the years we have been so blessed to have such a wonderful and faithful group of men serving this community so well.

Badminton



Last Tuesday Room 4 had our first Badminton lesson. We had to go to the hall and take off our shoes because the instructor, Robbie, said so. He showed us a racquet and a shuttlecock and told us all about it. He showed us the real shuttlecock. It had goose feathers. It had 15 goose feathers. The bottom was made out of cork. Robbie said, "Hold your racquet like a frying pan then you line up behind Samasoni." Robbie gave us a shuttlecock and told us to line up against the wall. We played 'Stuck in the Mud'. We played 'Tiggy' and the taggers were Aaliya and Macky. The next taggers were Fiapo and Samasoni. They tagged me and then Kiera came and double hi-5 my hand. After this Room 4 had the shuttlecocks. Robbie showed us how to bounce the shuttlecock on the racquet. It went flying up all the way up to the ceiling. I could do it as well as Robbie. I hit the shuttlecock up in the air. I bounced the shuttlecock higher and higher. Last of all Room 4 played the Hamburger game. We went forwards and backwards. The shuttlecock kept falling off and we kept on practising. My team kept on trying and trying. Room 4 almost got it but there was no time to practice. Robbie said, "We will have Badminton every Tuesday". I liked the way it was cool and

wonderful.

By Maris-Stella

Swimming Pool Pack-up



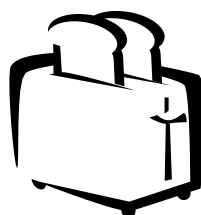
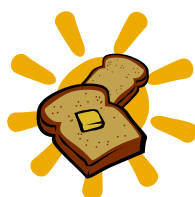
Thank you so much for the parents who spent the last Wednesday of the holidays helping us pack-up the swimming pool and then setting it up again at Panmure Bridge School. Without this generous help we would not be able to give the children such a wonderful experience. As you can see it was quite a technical job but all went well, with the guidance from the experts from **Pools-in- Schools**. I think it returns to us at the end of next year so the children will certainly be looking forward to that.

They have had a fantastic time, especially on

the last day when a couple of classes tried to 'drown' me (or it seemed like that) as we had our last swim. Extra special thanks to **Mrs Hoggins** who worked tirelessly to make sure the water was balanced properly and always the right temperature. This required checking three times each day.

Breakfast Club

In recent times there has been much publicity about schools providing breakfasts for students who are arriving at school hungry, particularly from low decile communities such as ours. We are well served by many very generous benefactors who support our families in many ways from helping with Attendance Dues, Netbook payments, uniforms, food parcels, medical bills, shoes and many, many other ways. We have just received some sponsorship to provide simple breakfasts for any children who may need it. We will be starting this week and will continue on Wednesday and Thursday mornings from about 8.15 until 8.45am. We may be asking for a couple of parents to join a roster to help set-up each day so that the whole thing runs very easily with minimum fuss, effort and cost. We also understand that we need to be sensitive and so any child is welcome to come if they want to. Most of the food is being supplied by the **Kids Can** Charitable Trust but we do have a couple of other generous suppliers, so are very thankful for their support. We may extend to more days each week, if we find there is a need.



Netball

Both our teams are back into the swing of their competitions and doing well. Thank you to coaches and parents for making this possible. Sport is so important as young people grow and develop.

Term 3 2013

August 2013

5	6	7	8	9
RE Church Strand	Badminton Kiwisport	Student 'Lock-Down' Training	BOT Training 6.00-9.00pm	

12	13 SPC Cross Country	14 Cluster Soccer	15 Assumption Day Whole School Mass	16 Room 2 Assembly Sun 18 th 10am St Pius X Parish 1 st Holy Communion
19 BOT Meeting 6.30pm	20	21 Feast of St Pius X Rain Day Soccer	22	23 Whole School Mass
26	27 League Kiwisport begins	28	29 Strategic Plan Meeting 6.30 – 8.00pm All parents need to attend.	30 Room 5 Mass Room 1 Assembly
September 2013				
2 RE Sacrament Strand	3	4 Cluster Rugby	5 JAM Bus here	6 Catholic Schools SLT Day Room 3 Mass
9	10	11	12	13 Rooms 1&2 Mass Kids4Kids performance – Room 3
16 Junior CRT day BOT Meeting 6.30pm	17	18	19 Catholic Schools Quiz at St Ignatius Year 6	20 Senior CRT day
23 Mr Coakley away all week Duffy Theatre 11.00 RE Cluster meetings	24 Last Day for League	25 Cluster Cross Country	26	27 Room 6 Mass Room 7 Assembly Last Day of Term

Any Worries . . .

Please remember we want to hear from you if you have any concerns about your child or their learning. Please contact the school office on 5287257 to leave a message for your child's teacher or email us at office@saintpiusx.school.nz

If you have more serious concerns please drop in to see me or give me a call to discuss the issue. It is always far better to sort things out early than to have to deal with things afterwards when sometimes they have escalated more than necessary. I will certainly call parents in if I have issues with student behaviour.