



Dear Parents and Caregivers

Kia ora, Talofa lava, Malo e lelei, Kia orana, Bula vinaka, Warmest Greetings

Our whole school community was saddened to hear last evening about the passing of one of our wonderful parents, Melefusi Fisihoi after being ill for some time. All our prayers go out to her family especially her children at our school, Sefesi, Savelio, Viane and Malia. We know they will be struggling to understand why this has happened but I know with the love and support of their teachers, friends and family, they will get by. She is now at peace with her God and we know her gentle spirit will always be close by.

Prayers also are requested for other members of our community who are ill at this time.

I spoke to a parent last week who requested he receive an email version of the school newsletter, when it goes out. We can do this for any family who would like this to happen. Please give us your email address and we can add you to our list. This will be particularly useful once the Manaikalani free wireless is completed for our netbook use, later in the term.

Assessment

Our testing Programme is now well underway and will give us up-to-date and accurate information about where our children are in relation to children from other schools around the country in Reading, Writing and Mathematics. We will then test again in Term 4 to measure the progress the children have made during the year. Every year they do make great progress but many often fall behind again over the summer holidays and so have to catch up again before moving forward with their learning the next year. We are always looking at ways to limit this very typical and frustrating situation. I will talk more about our plans as the year progresses.

Bullying Programme

You will have received home yesterday an information sheet about a show the children will be seeing on Friday. To save costs we are joining with Glen Innes School and will be walking down to their school hall for the afternoon shows. The cost has been discounted to \$2.00 per child. Please bring this to the class teacher on Friday morning.

The first show for the Juniors is call **'Hi Rez Comes to Earth'** and deals with Inclusion and Empathy and designed to be most suitable for Years 1 – 4. The second show for the senior students focusses on digital safety and is called **'CYBER BUSTERS'**. This is about the different types of bullying, what to do if you are cyber-bullied, how it can happen and how harmful it can be.



If you are able to help by walking with the children, please arrive before 12.30pm for the Junior show and about 1.00pm for the senior show. Each show lasts about 45 minutes.

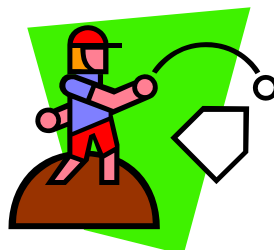
Meet the Teacher Evening.

Last Thursday we had a small but very enthusiastic turnout for our picnic tea to mix and mingle with the teachers and other parents. Unfortunately the weather meant we had an inside picnic but it was great to have the chance to relax and chat with those who were able to make it. I do expect a much larger turnout for our formal Home School Partnership meetings later in the year.



Softball Field Day

Last week we sent two teams to represent St Pius at the Cluster Softball Field Day at Mt Wellington Reserve. Our teams were very inexperienced but tried their best and had a great day. Although they didn't win many games they played as hard as they could and had a wonderful time. Both teams certainly improved as the day went on and many showed some wonderful skills.



Play Group

Fortunately the St Pius X Catholic Play Group has been able to continue this year, the same as last year. Please drop in any day from 9.00am and talk to Halamehi Anae to register.

Watch Out

I received a letter this week asking me to ask our students and families to take extra care around the railway lines over the next few months as they test the new electric trains. They are much faster and quieter and they are being tested 24/7. So watch out !!!



High School Enrolments for 2015 - Attention Year 8 students and their Parents

The following Catholic Secondary schools have let us know about their Open Days and Enrolment Information and deadlines. If you are planning on sending your sons or daughters to one of these schools please check the following information carefully. Generally they do not accept late enrolments.



St Paul's College in Ponsonby.
Open Day
Tuesday 4th March
Tours starting at 11.00am and 1.30pm



St Mary's College, Ponsonby.
Open Evening
Wednesday 12th March
Time – 7.00pm
Enrolments close – 4th April

BARADENE COLLEGE
of the Sacred Heart



Baradene College, Remuera.
Open Evening
Tuesday 4th March
Time – 7.00pm
Enrolments close – 31st March



Sacred Heart College, Glen Innes
Open Day
Wednesday 19th March
Tours starting at 12.30pm and 1.15pm
Enrolments close – 28th March

Details for other schools will be published as soon as they come to hand. Please don't wait but talk to your child about the best school for them. We plan to hold an evening at school to help parents complete enrolment forms, later in March.

Term 1 2014

February 2014				
24/2 Jesus Strand Continues Testing Week	25/2 Year 7/8 Technology	26/2 Reading Together Meeting 3.30pm	27/2	28/2 Anti-Bully Show at Glen Innes Primary
March 2014				
3/3 Lent Strand	4/3 Year 7/8 Technology	5/3 Ash Wednesday Liturgy Year 8 Immunisation Talk 11.30am	6/3	7/3 Room 7 Assembly 12.00pm
10/3 Caritas Lent Unit	11/3 Year 7/8 Technology	12/3	13/3 Mobile Ear Clinic at school	14/3 Room 4 attend Mass
17/3 Caritas Lent Unit Life Education Staff Meeting BOT Meeting 6.30pm	18/3 Year 7/8 Technology	19/3	20/3	21/3 Whole School Mass Soul Friends
24/3 Jesus Strand	25/3 Year 7/8 Technology	26/3	27/3	28/3 Room 3 attend Mass Room 6 Assembly
30/3 Holy Spirit Strand				
April 2014				
	1/4 Year 7/8 Technology	2/4	3/4	4/4 Rooms 1 and 5 attend Mass
7/4	8/4 Year 7/8 Technology	9/4	10/4	11/4 Room 7 attend Mass
14/4 Holy Week	15/4 Year 7/8 Technology	16/4	17/4 Easter Liturgy Last Day of Term 1	Good Friday