



Dear Parents and Caregivers

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



This week's newsletter is our last for this term. It is a couple of days late as I wanted to wait until our farewell assembly for our much loved and long serving Music Teacher, **Mrs Frances Carter** who had her last day at school yesterday. Frances plans to continue part-time teaching but to also spend more time improving her technology skills in relation to making and teaching music. For almost ten years Mrs Carter has shared her considerable talents helping Marimba Groups, Guitar, Ukulele, Recorder, Band, Kids 4 Kids, Drumming, Busking, visiting Rest Homes, Choirs, Song Writing and Performing. She has helped with school talent shows and always spends many more hours than she is actually paid for supporting her students. She has a wonderful caring nature and the children really excel under her endless energy. We will

miss her but I am sure she will drop in from time to time to catch up with our great children and staff. Each of the classes performed an item and presented her with cards showing their appreciation of her love and support. We also received some very moving tributes from some of our recent past pupils, a couple of whom even came along, for their thanks and best wishes.

Holy Week

Next week sees the final stages of our Lenten celebrations with the beginning of Holy Week. This is the time leading up to the Passion and Resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday morning. All the children have been learning about Easter at their level and have been practising for our Holy Thursday Liturgy where different parts will be acted out by the children. As always families are invited to join this special time with us at 11.00am in the church. Please check times for Parish celebrations over Easter.

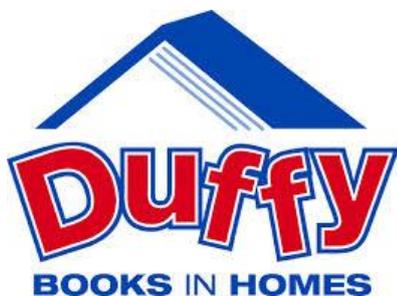


Caught Being Good

The following received books for 'Caught Being Good' books during the last week.

Folauhola Rm 7, Justin Tyler Rm 5, Manu Rm 5, Solomone Rm1, Keira Rm 3, Fiapo Rm 3, Malakai Rm 5, Jerome Rm 3, Deja Rm 7, Jane Rm 7, Lose Rm 7, Leone Rm 7, Ascott Rm 7, Dalaney Rm 7, Annalise Rm 6, Kilistina Rm 6, Osca Rm 7

Duffy Role Model Assembly



On Wednesday this week we were very fortunate to have Mr Tony Williams visit our assembly as a Duffy Role Model. Tony gave a very funny but inspiring talk about how he became an author and about some of the books he has written. He said he had scribbled over 40 books and written over a million words. Some were non-fiction like "Fizz, the Wildest Boy in the Universe" and others were non-fiction, mostly about his favourite sport, rugby. He has visited over 600 schools over many years but said he was very impressed with the friendly children and the sensible questions they asked.

Medical Issues requiring Medical Action Plan

We have several children at school who have particular health needs which on sometimes requires urgent attention. Parents usually let us know when children first enrol about health issues but occasionally we don't get the information if and when needs change. If your child has a specific action plan for a medical condition, please make contact with our school office so we can make sure all our staff are aware of what to do if something happens. This could be for an allergy to food or bee stings or some other condition which may require urgent medical attention.

Peace Officers in Place



This term we have introduced a new leadership opportunity for our senior students. We call them 'Peace Officers'. They have been trained to help students playing at break times and to help sort out any disagreements between students. Mostly though they just play with the younger students showing them how to play together so everybody has a good time. Ascott, Szaskia, Osca, Siniva,

Sione-Toa, Latanoa, Folauhola, Rachel, Valenisia, Zheiyne and Taiwan are doing a fabulous job.

Safety at the School Gate

Before and after school is a busy time for everyone. Parking rules help protect our children and keep them safe. Thank you to everyone who has been helping with this. The Auckland City Council Wardens will be coming around checking and will fine people without warning if the rules are broken. Example of fines include:- Parked on the footpath or berm \$40, Parked across or within 1m of a driveway \$40, Parked on a bus stop \$60, double parked \$60, Parked on a broken yellow line \$60. So please take care. We also ask that the children don't play on the footpath while you are waiting for other siblings. Thank you all so much for helping with this.

This week I met with Auckland Council Traffic Officers to look at how we may be able to add a formal crossing across Merfield Street to improve safety. I will keep everybody posted on developments.

HELP RAISE MONEY FOR OUR SCHOOL

Please bring your used paper from home (including newspapers, junk mail, magazines, books and flattened cardboard boxes) and place them in the specially marked "Paper From Homes" recycling bin.

Full Circle Recycling will collect the paper and recycle it here in New Zealand.

OUR SCHOOL WILL THEN RECEIVE MONEY FOR EVERY TONNE WE RECYCLE!!!



Free in 2014 – Solomon Group - Adult Courses

- **Free Literacy and ESOL Night Classes**
 - Held at 24 Clifton Court, Panmure and 236 Great South Road, Manurewa
 - Monday and Wednesday nights from 6.15 – 8.30 pm.
 - A friendly and professional learning environment with skilled tutors.

- **Career Focused Literacy and Numeracy – 20 day programme**
 - Held at 24 Clifton Court, Panmure and 236 Great South Road, Manurewa.
 - Monday – Thursday 9am – 2.15 pm
 - Focus on literacy, numeracy, digital skills, financial literacy, CV's plus much more.

- **Whanua Ara Mua - Certificate in Family Learning & Child Development (L2)**
 - Held at, Pukekohe, Papakura, Homai, Manurewa, Panmure, Ellerslie, Kelston and Henderson.
 - Monday to Thursday 9 am – 1.15 pm
 - Gain a NZQA qualification whilst learning to support your children's educational needs.
 - Staircase to higher qualifications in education, health, social services and business.

ALL COURSES REQUIRE EVIDENCE OF CITIZENSHIP OR PERMANENT RESIDENCE OF NEW ZEALAND.

Contact 0800 SGROUP (747 687) and ask to speak to Maria.

Term 1 2014

April 2014				
7/4 Life Education Caravan here all week.	8/4 Year 7/8 Technology	9/4 Newsletter	10/4	11/4 Room 7 attend Mass
14/4 Holy Week BOT Meeting 6.30pm	15/4 Year 7/8 Technology	16/4	17/4 Easter Liturgy Last Day of Term 1	Good Friday

Life Education Caravan

The Life Education Caravan has been here this week. All children have had several visits with their classes. Lynn the Life Education Teacher has told me how much she enjoys coming to St Pius X as the children are always so friendly and eager to learn. Once again, special thanks to our Board of Trustees who pay for this wonderful learning opportunity.



Youth Town Holiday Programme at Selwyn College – Free Entry – Free Bus

April 22 – May 2 (Ages 11-17)

Activities include – Watersports, Team Challenges, Outdoor Adventures, Art Workshops, Sports and Games, Cooking and Awesome Daytrips

Register at www.youthtown.org.nz

Take it to the Hoop

Free Basketball Camp

22-24th April, 2014. 2-5pm for 7-17yearolds at Tamaki Recreation Centre next to Tamaki College. Prizes and Give aways.

Supported by Auckland Basketball Services Limited

Holidays

School holidays start on Thursday 17th April at 2.45pm and Term 2 begins at 8.55 sharp on Monday 5th May. A reminder the Education Review Office will be at St Pius during the first week of term. They may catch parents before or after school for a chat about how you feel about the school. They will be meeting with staff, Board of Trustees as well as visiting classes and talking to children. It is a chance to showcase the great work we are doing providing top quality twenty-first century learning. Be safe over Easter.

PS:

Advance Notice: We will be having a special Parents' Meeting on the 10th June to discuss our recent achievement results with a special emphasis on Pacific Students results and to look at ways families can help. It is vital we have representatives from every family at this meeting so please put the date in your diaries now. We will be making more formal invitations early next term with more details about the evening.