



Dear Parents and Caregivers

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

Thank you so much to all the parents who were able to brave the terrible weather to come to our Parent meeting on Tuesday evening last week. At the meeting we discussed the Pasifika Education Plan and how we can as a community help lift our student achievement levels, particularly in relation to the National Standards. Our results compare very favourably when compared to achievement levels for children in similar schools to ours and in many cases we are making accelerated progress. We still have a long way to go to meet the Government's goal of 5 out of 5 Pasifika learners achieving successfully in Literacy and Numeracy and having 85% of Year 1-8 Pasifika children At or Above the National Standard across the subjects.



During the meeting parents had the opportunity to break into smaller groups to discuss ways in which our families are already engaging with their children's learning. Some fabulous ideas were shared and I know everybody who attended enjoyed learning from other parents just like them. I will summarise the responses and send them out in a later newsletter. The meeting was keen to get together again to continue on this learning journey.

The following were **Caught Being Good** this week and received **Duffy Books** as their reward.

**Kalisi Rm 5, Von Rm 5, Justin-Tyler Rm 5, Joshua Rm 6, Diego Rm 4 (x2), Gabriel Rm 4, Opeti Rm 4 (x2), Sebastian Rm 4, Analisa Rm 3.**

### Attendance at School

Far too many children at arriving at school late. Some days we have as many as 25 students arriving after the bell and some as late as 10.00am. This creates distractions for everybody else when they come into class late but also causes stress for the child themselves as they have to approach the teacher and disturb the class. It also distracts their own learning as they have missed instructions and other important items. I do understand it can be very busy and traffic problems do happen occasionally but please do your very best to ensure the children arrive in plenty of time.



## Netball Results

Last week we sent 4 teams to the Cluster Netball Field Day at the ASB Netball Centre. All players had a great time and although we didn't win any of the championships we did have some good results and everybody had a fabulous time.



Our Tuesday evening teams are still both unbeaten at present in their respective grades. Players are reminded to arrive on time and in the correct uniform. Thank you to all the parents who come along each week to support the girls.

## Note to Parents

I will be away from school from next Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June for the rest of the term as I will be attending the International ISTE Conference in Atlanta, USA with a group of Principals and Senior Leaders from our Manaiakalani Cluster. This is the world's biggest Educational Technology gathering where Future Focussed Learning will be discussed. The work we are doing here in Glen Innes is at the forefront of digital learning and being closely followed by experts from around the world. I will report back more next term about where I see St Pius X and how we can best help our students improve their learning. Mrs Williams will be acting Principal while I am away.

**BOT July Meeting Cancelled.** At the June meeting the Board decided to not have a monthly BOT meeting during July as this follows straight after the holidays but will instead hold a training workshop. We are required to inform our community about this change.



Last year the New Zealand Catholic Newspaper ran a competition that our Year 7 student Tokilupe entered and won. She wrote to the paper explaining why she would love to win some books and she did. Well done, Tokilupe. She is pictured with a certificate and book she won about making things for dad.



### Staffing Changes

After almost seventeen years at St Pius X, **Mrs Marja Pole** will be retiring at the end of the term. In that time she has taught most levels in the school very successfully and been involved with several programmes to support children's learning. For several years Mrs Pole ran the **'Roots of Empathy'** Programme where mothers brought their new babies into school each week to work with her class. At least one of those babies ended up as a student here. More recently she has been our **Duffy Books in Homes** Coordinator and has ensured plenty of our children are **'Caught Being Good'** while at school. This also involved organising visits from celebrities, and Duffy Role Models as well as finding Caught Being Good Mothers, Fathers and Grand Parents for special awards. Mrs Pole has had a huge impact on many, many students over the years and will be sadly missed. We are holding a special farewell Mass on Friday morning in the church so all parents are invited to share this time with us.

We are presently advertising to find a suitable replacement teacher.

## Term 2 2014

|  |      |                              |  |  |   |
|--|------|------------------------------|--|--|---|
| 16/6<br>BOT Meeting  | Wk 7 | 17/6                         | 18/6<br>Cluster Rugby League<br>Year 8 Retreat | 19/6<br>Year 8 Leadership Retreat (cont) | 20/6<br>Farewell Mass for Mrs Pole                          |
| 23/6   | Wk 8 | 24/6                         | 25/6<br>Principal at ISTE Conference           | 26/6                                     | 27/6<br>Whole School Mass<br>Feast of Sacred Heart          |
| 30/6<br>Government Book Week Assembly<br>Senior Sports Retreat | Wk 9 |                              |  |  |   |
| <b>July 2014</b>   |      |                              |  |  |   |
|  |      | 1/7<br>Senior Sports Retreat | 2/7<br>Senior Sports Retreat                   | 3/7                                      | 4/7<br>Last Day of Term<br>Mufti Day to support Mufti-Mania |

# Fit For Mission

## Takatu Ki Te Mau I Te Rongo Pai

*Are we ready to be Christians full time, showing our commitment by word and deed?*

Pope Francis

Catholic Diocese of Auckland - Pastoral Plan 2014-2019

Many of you will have already seen through your Parish, Bishop Pat's Pastoral Plan for the next five years. It has been distributed to parishes, schools and other groups to ensure all Catholics are working together to bring about our Mission. The Mission of sharing our faith.

Pope Francis is encouraging the whole church to look again at the sharing of our life and faith in today's world. He calls us to go to the edges, to the people who have forgotten, or never heard the message of Jesus. To inspire others to a personal relationship with Jesus through the witness of our lives. Bishop Pat invites us all to be dynamic, enthusiastic messengers of the Gospel among all with whom we live and work, and beyond.

4 Priorities have been identified for our diocese to be 'fit for Mission'.

### Reaching out

#### Working together

#### Good leadership

#### Diocesan support

#### Excellent communication

### Go The Mass is Ended

The first priority is to urge parishes, communities, and schools to focus more specifically and practically on reaching out to those outside our communities. To find ways and means to draw them more fully to know and love Christ Jesus.

Pope Francis puts it like this:

*"Jesus teaches us another way. Go out. Go out and share your testimony. Go out and interact with your brothers and sisters, Go out and share, Go out and ask. Become the Word in body as well as spirit."*

This challenges us to ensure that the pastoral and evangelising activities of our communities are Mission focussed. In doing so we will become more loving communities of welcome, inclusion and outreach.

The Church does not "have a mission". No, the mission of Jesus "has a Church"!

Concrete ways in which we can promote this Mission.

- Communicating the message of Jesus within and beyond the Catholic Community.
- Welcoming new and returning members.
- Collaborating with wider society on issues of justice and peace.
- Reaching out to those in any kind of need, physical, spiritual or emotional.
- Assisting families who may be facing difficulties.
- Relating to people different from ourselves.
- Developing and supporting overseas missionary work of the church.
- Linking with other churches or civic organisations serving people in need.
- Cooperating with other Christian Churches and other faiths.

I will expand on the other priorities in future newsletters during the year.