



Dear Parents and Caregivers

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



### Field of Remembrance - LEST WE FORGET

On Friday we had a very moving service to remember those who lost their lives 100 years ago at Gallipoli, as well as all those who died in the service of our country over the many years since. We joined the St Pius X Parish for mass then moved to the school Grotto, which is our 'Sacred Space', where we had set up a 'Field of Remembrance' containing 30 white crosses representing soldiers from our area who made the ultimate sacrifice on many battle fields since. The white crosses are a silent reminder of all these brave New Zealanders. We were very fortunate to have Mrs Jan Castle representing the Panmure/Mt Wellington RSA with us. She said she was very pleased to have been invited and felt the children were marvellous ambassadors for our school and their families.

103,000 New Zealanders served overseas during World War 1

59,500 were casualties

18,200 died

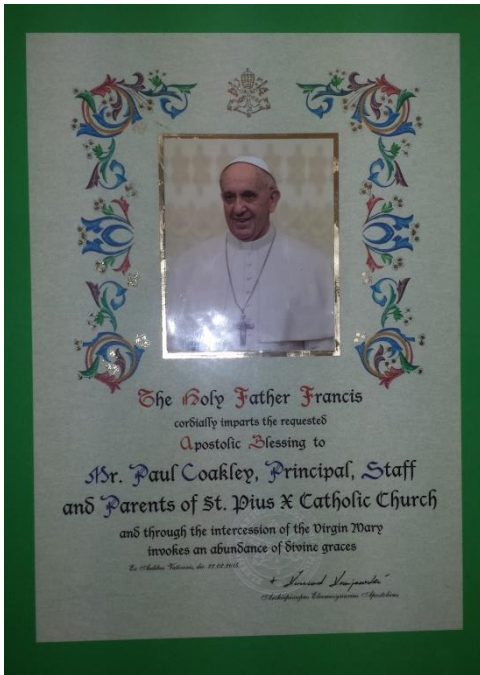


We shall remember them.



Welcome back to Term 2 after a busy Easter Season and hopefully restful break from school. I have told the children that this is the most important stage of the year and that there are no excuses for not working to the highest level possible. Teachers will be carrying out the in class testing which will go with the class work to achieve grades for the progress reports that go out at the end of this term at our 3 Way Goal setting conferences. You will be invited to make an appointment for these interviews later in the term.

We welcome several new families to St Pius this term and look forward to getting to know them and showing them what a special place our school is. We have lost a couple of families who have moved out of our area because of housing needs. As you will be able to see, there are many, many building sites around the school as the Northern Glen Innes Project gathers speed. The rest of the Tamaki region is also going through major redevelopment which will have a huge impact on our school in the future. Because of the roll fluctuations we have decided to move a few children to new classes this term. This has allowed us to have a straight Year 5 class in Room 5 rather than mixing with the older Year 6 students.



### **Papal Blessing**

The Holy Father Pope Francis sent us a special Apostolic Blessing which now hangs in our school office alongside similar blessings sent by Pope John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI.

### **Parish Sacramental Programme**

The St Pius X Parish Sacramental Programmes start shortly. I have given our enrolment forms to most of the children over eight years of age who have not yet made their First Reconciliation, Confirmation or First Holy Communion. If you have not returned these please do so straight away to the Parish office or to school. We are happy to pass these on to Father.

### **Classroom Visits**

Over the last few weeks Father Iosevo has been visiting classrooms after Mass on Thursday mornings which he and the children have been enjoying very much.

### **Retreat Fundraising**

Our Year 8 Leaders are preparing for their Retreat at the Franciscan Friary later this term and are busy fundraising. Thank you to everybody who has been able to support this so far and into the future. There are a couple of things planned for the next few weeks so we really appreciate all the support we can get.

**Road Safety Week** starts on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May. Please talk to your child about safety and model safe practices yourself to make sure everybody keeps safe. Remember children usually copy what they see adults do rather than just what they hear them say. Also please remember what Constable Gordon said about car seats for children under 7 years of age and that he will be visiting us again to monitor families as they drop off and collect children. Last time quite a few families received warnings. Next time there **will** be fines.

### **Class Blogs**

**Remember I have a special prize for the first class that can have every child receive a comment on their blog by a parent. Ask your child about this if you are unsure.**

### **Breakfast Club**

This operates each morning from about 8.10 until 8.45am. Any child who has missed breakfast is welcome to attend. If you are a parent or caregiver and would like to help one morning per week for about an hour please see Philippa in our office for details.

## The Swimming Pool Has Arrived

Thank you so much to all the parents who were able to spend the afternoon last week helping put up the swimming pool. We could not afford to pay for this so a 'Working Bee' was the answer. Special thanks to Mr Marsters, Mr Talataina, Mr Esekielu, Mr Sanalio, Mr Tai, Mrs Vatakani and all the others I may have forgotten to mention. Hopefully we will be swimming next week once we have tested the water and made sure it is warm enough.



## Rules for Swimming

All children are expected to swim unless they have an illness, or an open cut or sore. They will need a written note from a parent to explain why they can't swim. This is part of the NZ Curriculum and part of our teaching programme. The children will need some suitable togs and a towel, brought to school in a plastic bag so their books won't get wet inside school bags. Please put the child's name on togs so 'when' they are lost we can return them quickly.

I received this week the great news that each child in the school will receive 10 free swimming lessons from a professional swimming coach during the term so in order to get their certificate they need to swim each time their class has their turn in the pool. This is a great asset so we must use it to its full potential while it is here. We won't get it again for a long time.

## School Uniform

Black school shoes should now be worn as part of our school uniform. We also have quite a number of school jerseys sitting unnamed in the lost property. Please check if your child can't find theirs.

# Te Oro

**Te Oro - Official Opening Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May 11.00am – 4.00pm All Welcome.**

The long held community dream of a music and arts centre for young people in Glen Innes is here. In this multi-purpose space young people and the local community can come together to perform, practise and learn the arts; express their creativity and talents; and celebrate their cultures.



## Term 2 2015

April					
27	Week 2	28	29	30	
RE Focus Holy Spirit Strand ANZAC Day observed Holiday		BOT Training Workshop 6.00pm		Mobile Ear Clinic	
May					
					1 Rooms 3 & 7 attend Mass Mobile Ear Clinic
4	Week 3	5	6	7	8
Swimming Starts			Cluster Soccer Catholic Support Staff Day		Whole School Mother's Day Mass Rm 7 Assembly
11	Week 4	12	13	14	15
Photo Life Portraits				Visit from Furman University – Atlanta BOT Boards Forum 6.30 Pt England Sch	
18	Week 5	19	20	21	22
RE Cluster Meetings BOT Meeting 6.30pm				Year 8 Retreat Friary Day 1	Year 8 Retreat Friary Day 2 Rooms 1 & 6 Mass
25	Week 6	26	27	28	29
RE Focus God Strand				Sailor the Puffer Fish Show 2.00pm	
June					
1	Week 7	2	3	4	5
Queen's Birthday Holiday					Rooms 4 & 5 Mass
8	Week 8	9	10	11	12
Photo Life Class/Team photos			NZ Catholic Schools' Convention	NZ Catholic Schools' Convention BOT Boards Forum 6.30 Panmure Bridge School	NZ Catholic Schools' Convention
15	Week 9	16	17	18	19
22	Week 10	23	24	25	26
			Cluster Orienteering		Rooms 1, 3, 4 attend Mass
29	Week 11	30			
July					
		1	2	3	
				Rooms 5,6, 7 attend Mass Last Day of Term 2	