



Dear Parents and Caregivers

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

This term must have been one of the busiest for many years. There have been so many incredible activities happening which had added to the learning opportunities for all the children. There is a real positive feeling around the school and on the most part the children are happy in their learning. Thank you to all the families who have returned the **3 Way Goal Setting Conference** Interview sheets. Remember we need every family represented so we can ensure a real partnership between home and school exists. If you have not already done so or have lost the form, please ask for another. We only need one sheet per family but need all the children included. We will send home the actual interview times next week. The conferences happen on the afternoon and evening of Tuesday 5th July. School finishes for classes at 12.30pm so the children will need to be collected. If that is not possible, please let us know.

This week we take our Year 8 leaders on an overnight retreat to the **Franciscan Friary** in Hillsborough which is always one of the highlights for this class each year. We have been very fortunate to receive a grant from **Rotary Club of St John's** to pay for this retreat so all the children can go for free.

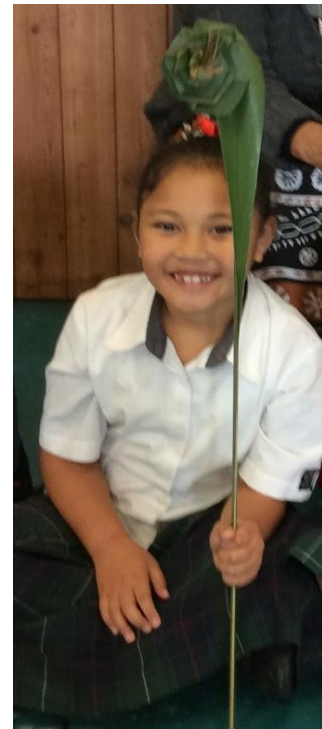
Items of note coming up before the end of term.

1. Year 8 Retreat
2. Whole school trip to St Patrick's Cathedral
3. Government Book Week Assembly and parade. Child can come dressed as their favourite book character. More details will come home about this.

Term 2 2016

June 2016					
20 RE Focus BOT Meeting 7.00pm	Week 8	21	22	23 Year 8 Retreat at Friary	24 Year 8 Retreat at Friary Mass Rooms 3 & 5
27	Week 9	28	29	30	
July 2016					
					1 Whole school trip to mass at St Patrick's Cathedral. Leave 11.00am
4	Week 10	5 3 Way Goal Setting Conferences Starting at 1.30pm – 7.30pm. School finishes at 12.30pm	6	7 Book Week Parade 12.15 Assembly Duffy Government Book Week visitor	8 End of Term Mass Last Day of Term

One of the most significant was our whole school trip to **Ruapotaka Marae** in Glen Innes. The weather gods helped to keep us dry as we walked down to GI. We assembled outside ready for the formal powhiri. **Ana Lei** was exceptional as she responded to the call from the **tangata whenua** on our behalf. We then, as **manuhiri** or visitors experienced the formal Maori welcome ceremony or **powhiri**. This was the first time most of our children had been to a marae. It was great to learn from our local community and that we could all now include Ruapotaka as our marae in our **pepeha** or introductory speech based on our **whakapapa** or genealogy. Please have a look at some of the children's blogs, particularly from Room 3. Following the powhiri the children split into groups to do some **harakeke** - flax weaving or Maori action songs. We received excellent feedback from the staff of the marae about how interested and well behaved the children were. I absolutely expect this but it is still nice to hear it. The teachers did a wonderful job preparing the children.



Congratulations to Albert F from Room 7 who has been selected for the Eastern Zone Open Weight Bill McLaren Rugby Representative Team for the Auckland Tournament in the upcoming holidays. This is the second year that Albert has been selected. Well done, Albert.

Paper4Trees

For the last few years we have been recycling paper from both our classroom and from our families. The weight of the paper generates us a certain number of free native trees. Last week we received 15 young native trees to help beautify our school. Here, **Albert** is helping **Mr Tai** plant the trees along the boundary where the entry to the new school will eventually be. The system has just recently changed so now we are being charged for our paper to be recycled so we are not able to collect community paper for recycling. We will still be eligible for trees though so look forward to more trees in the future.



Creating Communities Hillary Trail Fundraiser

Mr Murdoch Dryden and his team from **Creating Communities** visited school last week to present a very generous cheque to support our programmes at school. His friends had decided they would like to do something to help our school as well as Glen Innes Primary by having a fundraising activity. A group from their company decided they would try to walk the Hillary Trail on the West Coast of Auckland within a 24 hour period. This was a very big challenge as the whole trail is over 80 kilometres long. The children heard just how hard it was to walk through the bush all through the night in atrocious weather conditions. It happened to be the night of the recent huge thunder and lightning storm which added to the difficulties. They set up a 'Give-a-little' page and were able to donate over four and a half thousand dollars to support a special project at school. We will let everybody know once this is finalised. Seuati received the cheque on our behalf and thanked Murdoch for the generous gift and ongoing support of the school.



Variety Children Charity Bikes for Kids Programme

For the last twelve years, the Variety Children Charity have been giving away brand new bikes to deserving children. This year our school was selected to nominate five Year 3 or 4 children to receive the bikes. They were presented at a special ceremony at Glen Innes School last week. About thirty children received the bikes at this ceremony but there were going to be several other events across the city and around New Zealand.



The photos show Charis, Aria, Christopher, Solomone and Sefopalu patiently waiting for the ceremony to begin. It then shows the children a little stunned as they realise that they have just received a brand new bike for them to keep. They thought they were going to a road safety day.

Breaking News

Congratulations to **Mr Sonny Haiosi** who was last night elected to be the new Chairperson of the **St Pius X Board of Trustees**. Well done, Sonny!

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