

St Patrick's School Bryndwr

Te Kura O Hato Patariki

'Called to Shine.'



Weekly Newsletter

Term 1 - Issue 2

Friday 12 February 2010

<http://www.stpatricks.school.nz>

From the Principal's Desk

Parent Teacher Evening

The Annual Parent Teacher evening will be held on Monday 15 February. The Parent Teacher evening is designed to provide parents an opportunity to meet the classroom teacher and be presented information relating to the classroom programme and classroom routines. In addition to this, information will also be presented relating to the school's new homework programme.

The homework programme has been designed to reflect general community beliefs about homework as identified using the 2009 Community Survey Education Research. As a result the homework programme has been designed to ensure teachers focus on what is really important, students to value the work set and to provide a life balance for many children who are busy broadening their education with extra-curricula activities.

This year the school will be introducing a social skills programme throughout the school. The social skills programme is targeted at installing life skills students will be able to use when faced with challenging social interactions. It is my hope that the new programme will help children develop their social resilience: be emotionally strong so that they can constructively manage their social interactions.

Its founder, Robert Periera, who is an international social skills expert, will initiate this programme. Robert will be visiting the school on Monday and Tuesday next week. During this time he will be working with both the teachers and children. He has also agreed to provide a parent seminar on Monday night from 7pm to 9pm. I believe that this is a great opportunity for parents to understand the approach the school will take towards teaching social skills. The presentation will also give parents a number of tools they can use at home when they try to help their children deal with issues such as gossip, bullying, breaking up with friends, or dealing with an argument. It would be great to have a big turn out from the parent community. I am sure you will find Robert not only highly entertaining but enlightening.

Meet the Teacher Evening Timtable for Monday 15th February:

R5 – Mrs Woods is available if parents want issues clarified 4.30 - 5.00 pm

R6 in R6 - 4.30 - 5.00pm

R4 in R4 - 5.00 - 5.30pm

R7 in R7 - 5.00 - 5.30pm

R1 & 3 in R3 - 6.00 - 6.30pm

R2 in R2 - 6.30 - 7.00pm

Robert Pereira Presentation (detailed above) Hall 7.00 - 9.00pm

School Mass

It is Ash Wednesday – Beginning of lent next week. As a result all children will attend Ash Wednesday Mass: 11.30am to 12.30pm St Matthews Church.

Traffic Congestion

Discussion at the recent PFA meeting highlighted that traffic congestion around the school was an issue. Many parents at the meeting were concerned with their children's safety walking to and from school and embarking and disembarking from cars.

Areas identified as particularly hazardous included: the pedestrian crossing parallel to the train line on Wairaki Road, the church car park and the Orkney Street school gate.

The Board of Trustees, PFA and myself are being very proactive regarding this issue. I am currently working with the parish to develop a plan to increase the safety in the church car park, the Board are currently investigating a number of possibilities to improve the entrances to the school and the PFA are consulting the council.

However as a community we also need to take ownership of issue and ensure that as individuals we are ensuring the safety of children at our school. Consequently I would like to make the following requests;

- Parents refrain from using the church car park between 8.30am - 9.00am and 2.45pm – 3.15pm.
- Parents refrain from parking or dropping children off immediately outside the Orkney street gate. This will leave this space free for children to cross the road.

Newsletter Email – There was a little glitch with the newsletter email out last week. We hope to have this rectified and sent to you by Friday afternoon this week. However the practice of emailing newsletters home has also highlighted that some families have not updated the school with new contact details. If you move house or change your contact details, please inform the office immediately so that we can update our records. This is especially important in the event of an emergency when we need to contact parents or caregivers in a hurry. If you have not received this email by Saturday morning, please contact the office so that we can verify your contact details.

Year 6 students enjoying their Cycle Safe Course this week



Junior School Swimming Sports

The junior school swimming sports will be held at Jelly Park on March 5th from 12.30-1.30pm. Children will travel to and from Jelly Park by bus and will need to bring their swimming togs, towel, goggles etc in a named plastic bag or swimming bag. Children will opt into events that they feel comfortable doing. Events are for children aged 5-7 year olds and will take place in the teaching pool. Events will include the following; freestyle one length, kick board on front, kick board on back, kick board with arms, floating and kicking on back, running race, walking and blowing bubbles and walking with a ball. The emphasis is on having fun in the junior events. Permission slips will be sent home for you to sign.

PFA NEWS

The PFA met, for the first time this year, on Wednesday night. We are fortunate to have a great committee of enthusiastic people, and have welcomed another three new members to our ranks.

We have identified better communication, with all members of our school community, as one of our goals. To this end, we have appointed a member of the PFA to be a Class Representative for each class. It is hoped that their role will include organising a class contact list (for those who wish to be on the list), co-ordinating class social functions and facilitating any pastoral care matters.

We will put a list of PFA members and Class Reps in next week's newsletter and also on the school noticeboards.

Our wonderful Fair committee have been working very hard to organise, what we are sure will be, a very successful School Fair. The PFA are now considering what the proceeds of the Fair, and any other fundraising activities we undertake this year, should be used for. We have begun discussions with the Board of Trustees, Mr Richards and the staff as to any items which may form a "wish list". If anyone in our school community has anything which they would like to be added to the list, for consideration by the PFA, please feel free to email me at karen@enso.co.nz. Of course, the more support we have for our fundraising activities, the more "extras" we can provide our children and the school.

The PFA intends trialling the running of a second hand uniform sale towards the end of the term. Details of the date and time will be confirmed in the next couple of weeks. If anyone has any clean uniform items that they would like to donate, please leave them in the office and a PFA member will collect them. We will also sell "on behalf of" if you attach your contact details and asking price. Any proceeds from the donated items will go to the PFA fund. If you have any queries, please see Hayley Hall.

Karen Mountford

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Fair 2010

Muffi Day-Tuesday 16th February, please bring a wrapped bottle/jar suitable for an adult for the mystery bottle stall. If it is alcohol please do not wrap it.

Shamrock tree-This is like a lucky dip for both adults and children. We need more items for this, if you have any suitable items please drop them into the box in the office.

Year 7 & 8 stall-please drop off any unused children's vouchers from your entertainment books into the office.

Thanks to those who have offered to help on a stall, we still need more helpers so if you are not already on a stall please contact Bridget or Claire. Thanks

Bridget and Claire

Notices!

Home Help Wanted

Help wanted in Totara Street after school for a couple of hours for school family expecting 4th baby next week. If interested please phone Pieta Aitken 343 6433.

Baby-sitting

My name is Genevieve Kent. I'm a passed pupil of St Patrick's School and I am currently in year 10 at Villa Maria College. I'm available for baby-sitting, and have experience with four younger brothers and sisters. If you need a baby-sitter please call or text me on 0277400180. Thank you.

An invitation to come together to pray the Rosary – Everyone is welcome

An open invitation to come together as a school & parish community, to pray for the sick & for all of the special intentions of those in our community.

9:00am every Tuesday in term time, St Mathews Church (approx 25mins) All welcome. You don't need to be familiar with the Rosary to join in pray.

Matthew 18:20 "For where two or three meet in my name, I am there among them."

MARIST HOCKEY CLUB

Trials for 11Aside and Super 8 (Boys and Girls primary teams) will be held at Nunweek Park from Sunday 28th of February, 10.00am to 12.00pm

Registration day for the 2010 season is at Nunweek Park on Sunday 7th March from 3.00pm to 5.00pm.

Please check our website www.maristhockey.co.nz or contact Angela Baker, ph:3545975, email steveangelab@xtra.co.nz or Tracey Hughes, ph:3555447, email p_t.hughes@paradise.net.nz

Marist Albion Rugby Club

Warmly welcomes all returning and new players to the 2010 season.

REGISTRATION DAYS

- Wednesday 17th February 5:30pm-7:30pm Restaurant, Riccarton Club
- Sunday 21st February 11am-2pm Parkview Lounge, Riccarton Club
- Saturday 6th March 10am-12pm Marist Albion Office, Riccarton Club
- Saturday 13th March 10am-12pm Marist Albion Office, Riccarton Club
- Saturday 20th March 10am-12pm Marist Albion Office, Riccarton Club
- Saturday 27th March 10am-12pm Marist Albion Office, Riccarton Club

Check out the Club Website www.maristalbion.co.nz or contact John Lynch ph 3555278, email john@nzpeltandskin.co.nz or Tony Gill ph 3239089, email tonygill@primepanels.co.nz

Merivale Papanui Rugby Football Club Junior Registration U6 – U13

Details on Junior noticeboard or flyer in office.

Coming Events**February**

Mon 15 th	Meet the Teacher Evening 4.30pm – 9 pm
Tues 16 th	Mufti Day – Bottle Tombola, 9.00 am Rosary in the Church
Wed 17 th	Ash Wednesday – Mass 11.30am
Fri 19 th	Assembly R3, Rms 1 & 3 Swimming at Wharenui
Tues 23 rd	9.00 am Rosary in the Church
Thurs 25 th	Rms 5 & 6 Class Mass
Fri 26 th	Assembly R4, Rms 1 & 3 Swimming at Wharenui

March

Tues 2 nd	9.00 am Rosary in the Church
Fri 5 th	No Assembly, Swimming Sports at Jellie Park 12.30 – 3.00 pm
Tues 9 th	9.00 am Rosary in the Church
Wed 10 th	Zone Swimming Sports
Thurs 11 th	Mufti Day – Bottle Tombola, Class Mass Rms 1 & 3
Fri 12 th	Assembly R5, Rms 1 & 3 Swimming at Wharenui
Tues 16 th	9.00 am Rosary in the Church
Wed 17 th	St Patrick's Day
Fri 19 th	Assembly R6, Rms 1 & 3 Swimming at Wharenui
Sun 21 st	School Mass, School Fair
Tues 23 rd	Reconciliation Rms 1, 2, 3 & 7, 9.00 am Rosary in the Church
Thurs 25 th	Rm 2 Class Mass
Fri 26 th	Assembly R7, No swimming, Wharenui Pool closed
Tues 30 th	9.00 am Rosary in the Church