



ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL
"Be it known to all who enter here that CHRIST
is the reason for this school"

16 February 2012

Dear Parents,

'Now is a favourable time' – a time to start a New Year. The following words from a Beatitudes prayer really epitomise our call to start a new year.

*Now is a favourable time
a time to commit ourselves with determined energy
a time to conquer hesitation and to abandon lingering doubt,
a time to celebrate the Faith that binds us
and in the celebration, to find new reasons to believe:
a time to laugh at our fears
to let love rule our hearts
and to take the leading edge to meet
the horizons of God's remarkable promise
of peace and justice and happiness for all.
Now is a favourable time when we are renewed and inspired by each other
to take up the journey once more.*

This year we are ready to review our Charter document. The Charter is a living document, that is, one that is added to, annotated and amended as the year goes on. We will download the draft Charter to our website next week for your perusal and at the Open Evening we will put a couple of copies up around school and in the Hall. We ask you to read and comment on any of the sections you are interested in. There will be post-it notes by the Charter document. It is a word document and not all of it will be of interest to everyone.

A Charter is a Ministry requirement and we – the Board and staff at St Michael's believe everyone should have ownership of it. You will find sections on Special Character, Environment, Teaching & Learning, Governance etc. We will collate our findings and report back to you the community responses, before a final Charter will be compiled and sent to the Ministry. We have only this Term for the consultation process and our next full Board of Trustees Meeting is Week 8. Therefore, we will display the Charter for two weeks to gather your feedback. Everyone's opinion is valued so please take the time to read and respond, either by post-its or email.

Mrs Carolynn Phillips
PRINCIPAL

FRIDAY 17TH FEBRUARY - SWIMMING SPORTS HAS BEEN POSTPONED

It is with deep disappointment and beyond our control that we need to **postpone** tomorrow's **Swimming Sports** at SHC. There has been a double booking and an admitted mistake by the YMCA booking person who is responsible for bookings at Sacred Heart. We confirmed our booking in October last year but for some reason the 'new' YMCA admin person who manages the pool bookings deleted us from her system. This is very frustrating for all of us teachers, students & you the parents. We have rebooked for Monday 27th Feb.

We are aware that many of you will have organised time off from work and other commitments to be there tomorrow and we are so sorry we were unable to inform you earlier. We are very grateful to Jo Gray in the organisation of the Swimming Sports as part of her role as Sports Co-Ordinator and it was fortuitous that as part of her processes she double checked with the venue today; meaning we are not in the position of turning up tomorrow and being turned away.

Please pass on this information as we need to distribute it to everyone as soon as possible. We will email this message, put it on the website and include it in the newsletter. Thank you for your understanding.

THE WEEK AHEAD

FULL SCHOOL/PARISH MASS & PICNIC - Sunday 19th February 10.00am – 2.00pm

All children are to gather by 9.45am in the Parish Centre in Summer Uniform. The PTA are organising a Cake Stall, Sausage Sizzle and the selling of frujs outside our St Mary MacKillop Hall. All families are asked to donate a homemade cake or goodies for selling at the stall. Please deliver these to the Hall kitchen before Mass. Tea & Coffee will also be available. You are invited to set up your picnic spot on the field and enjoy the community atmosphere. The school pool will be open from 11.30am – 1.30pm with PTA members supervising approximately 20-25 children at a time. Please ensure your child/ren has/have their swimming cap/s.

We are looking forward to a fun-filled celebration of a community coming together at the start of a New Year. We look forward to seeing you on Sunday.

ASH WEDNESDAY – Wednesday 22nd February

On Wednesday we begin the Season of Lent. This is a solemn season for the Catholic Church. A time to prepare for Easter Week. On Wednesday the Senior school will all be attending the 9.15am Parish Mass and at 11.00am the Junior school will gather in the Church for an Ash Wednesday Liturgy. All families are welcome to either service.

This term we will also have an **Open Evening on Thursday 23rd February between 5 – 7.00pm**. This will be an opportunity to see your child's goals for the term, to meet the other children and parents in your child's class and to view how learning will occur in your child's class this year. So as to try and accommodate all families we will run the evening from 5.00pm – 7.00pm so you are able to choose the time you and your child/ren visit their class/classes. At 5.00pm and repeated again at 6.00pm there will be a 10 minute Introduction to 2012 presented by Louise Campbell and myself in the St Mary MacKillop Hall. Therefore you could attend one of the presentations at the time to suit your family dynamics, and then visit the class/classes of your child/ren. We look forward to seeing you all take this opportunity to share in your child's learning.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Miss Nicola Gray on the announcement of her engagement to Paul Tyler. We are very excited for Nicola and wish her and Paul all God's Blessings as they continue their journey towards married life.

To Mrs Anne Bennett formerly Anne Kee. Congratulations Anne on your marriage last Friday to John. We wish you all the very best as you begin your married life together.

BEREAVEMENTS

Our thoughts and prayers are with the following families on the loss of their loved one. Madeleine & Felix Larkin lost their Great Grandmother. Ella, Nico & Leon O'Brien lost their Great Uncle and Mrs Christine King who lost her Father-in-Law.

STUDENT VOICE

YEAR 6 CAMP

We all packed our bags into the back of the bus to head off to Camp Adair. I was squished up against Milly and we were chatting away. After 45 minutes we finally arrived at Camp Adair. With excitement, I jumped up and got out of the bus and went up to see which cabin I was going to be staying in and the girl's I would be sharing with.

My first activity was the Rambo bridge. As soon as I heard the name of it I thought it sounded scary and I was right! My highlight of the course was the 'Confidence Course' because you got to do all 11 activities in one go and got really muddy. Sadly, before we knew it, it was time to leave and come back to school.

By Isabelle Coman – Room 7



Year 6 Camp

It all begins with a bus trip to Camp Adair. We all settled into our cabins and left our luggage and went straight to the activities. We all could not contain our excitement. For me, the highlight out of all the activities was the flying kiwi. You stand on the ground with a rope attached to you with the rest of your group holding on to the rope at the other end. You run ahead on the count of two and the rest of your group turn and run the opposite way you are running and you are hoisted up into the air like you are flying. Each night we all huddled into the dining hall for a hot milo and diary writing. For me, Camp Adair was an awesome experience filled with fun and laughter.

By Sophie Everitt – Room 8



2012 YEAR 6 LEADERS

Congratulations to our 2012 Student Leaders. We proudly present to the Community our Year 6 Students who will fulfil their leadership roles with pride and success. Every student holds a role and is ready to serve the school in their final year at St Michael's Catholic School. We wish them all the best and thank them for accepting their responsibilities.

Our 2012 Student Leaders are:

MacKillop House Leaders: Theodore Lotul'iga & Alexandra Bassett

MacKillop Deputy House Leader: Emily Hooper

Patrick House Leaders: Connor Sheehan & Felicity Piper

Patrick Deputy House Leader: Julia Wells

Pompallier House Leaders: Branwen Hastings & George Burston

Pompallier Deputy House Leader: Milly Tooman

Cluny House Leaders: Shaun Olsen & Ruby Hosking

Cluny Deputy House Leader: Maxwell Nicholls

Playground Angels: Madeleine Larkin, Joshua Malolo, Emma Ireland, Francesca Ireland, Ariarna Ross, Isabelle Coman, Ella Duncan, Paris Kingdon, Daniel Martin, Sinead Pawlick, Oliver Ward, Teresa Austin & Ella Stone.

ICT Leaders: Sophie Everitt (Head of ICT), Bella Hosking (Deputy of ICT)

Sports Leaders: James Evans (Head of Sport), Jemima Ferrier (Deputy of Sport)

Library Leaders: Mikaele Ymker (Head of Library), Sophia Lynch (Deputy of Library)

Jump Jam Leaders: Coco Lennon (Head of Jump Jam), Imogen Harvey (Deputy of Jump Jam)

Technicians: Samuel Ashton (Head Technician), Georgie Higham (Deputy Technician)

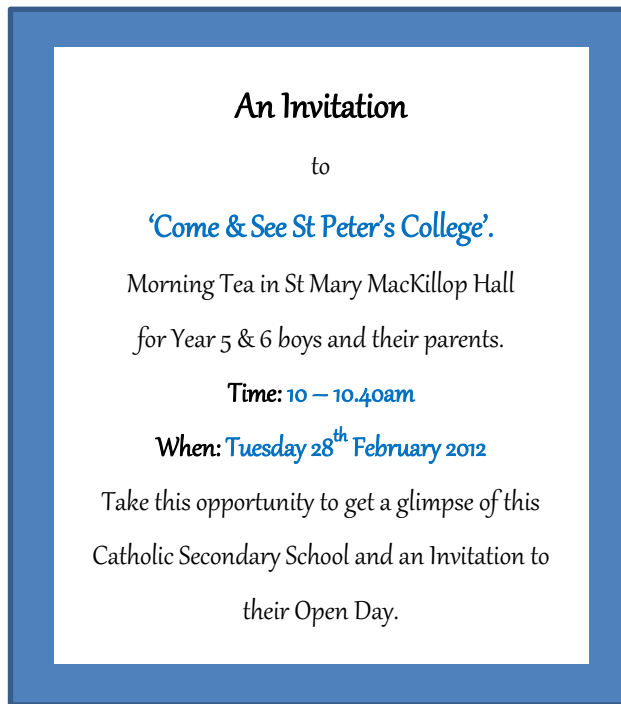
Caring Shed Monitors: Honor Browne, Dhynzel Pritchard, Claudia Green & Christian Lavulo

A Big Congratulations to all of our Year 6 Leaders for 2012!

THANK-YOU'S

- To all of the Year 6 students for their exemplary behaviour on Camp, you were great role models.
- To all of the incredible Parent helpers on Camp. You made it a truly wonderful experience and your support was greatly appreciated.
- To Ms Jo Gray and Mrs Phoebe Cunningham Tyler for their organisation of an amazing week and their tireless energy and enthusiasm. Without you, this special event would not have happened. Thank-you!

St Peter's College to visit St Michael's.



We are strengthening our ties between our local Catholic Schools. This is the first of other school invites. Please join us and discover how lucky we are to have amazing Catholic Secondary Schools for our children to move onto and continue their Academic and Faith journeys.

PTA NEWS

Volunteers

Thanks so much to everyone who has volunteered to join the PTA, be a class rep or help with anything. Your help is really, really appreciated! The person in charge of each event will contact volunteers closer to the time. Thank you.

Frujus Fridays

In case you missed the first one, Fruju Fridays are back for term 1. Frujus will be sold every Friday, lunchtime (\$2 per fruju) and thanks to all the fruju sellers who help when classes are rostered on.

SCHOOL MASS AND SCHOOL PICNIC (THIS SUNDAY 19 FEBRUARY)

CAKE STALL

Our after school mass **Cake Stall** is back this Sunday by popular request. Bake a delicious cake, slice, muffins or biscuits and bring along to the school hall before mass this Sunday. Homemade please, and remember to pop it onto a paper or plastic plate, wrapped and labelled. If you are just plain flat out and don't have time to bake, a \$10 - \$20 donation towards our cake stall would be appreciated. Come along after mass and buy for the picnic or to take home for school lunches!

As well, there will be tea and coffee in the hall, a sausage sizzle and frujus to buy.

SWIMMING

Hopefully Sunday will be a stunning February day and the children can cool down in the school swimming pool. The pool will be open 11.30 - 1.30pm, we'll limit numbers swimming at one time and there will be time slots to make sure everyone has a turn. Two PTA marshalls will be supervising at all times, but parents, when your children are in swimming, please be in the pool area. We want every child to be safe and have a great time. Don't forget your swimming caps, no cap, no swim.

SUMMER SPORT TEAMS

We have our year 5 and 6 summer sports teams organised with special thanks to Amanda Ferrier, Vanessa Thorndon and Nadina Thwaites (Girl's cricket) Joseph Lyons (Boy's cricket) Rhonda Ross (Year 6 Softball) and Melinda Harvey (Year 5 Softball).

Practice for these teams are as follows:

Boys Cricket Wednesday lunch time commencing 12:40 from week 4

Girls Cricket Wednesday morning commencing 8am from week 4

Year 6 Softball Tuesday Lunch time commencing 12:40 from week 4

Year 5 Softball to be confirmed. (If you would like to help Coach/Manage a Softball team please see Ms Gray)

Summer Sports day is on Tuesday March 27th and all teams will be attending this day. It is a whole day event that will need parent help for transport and supervision, please diarise this date. A newsletter will go out closer to the time regarding this event. Summer sports inter school exchanges are limited this term however I am trying to fit in at least one or two before summer sports day.

Children in sports teams will need to wear correct regulation sports gear for all out of school games including appropriate footwear and school caps. Cricket whites are not necessary but may be worn if desired. We will be using St Michael's sport equipment however, if your child prefers to use their own bat etc they are welcome too.

For all correspondence for year 5/6 sport please see myself in room 7 or check the sports noticeboard outside the staff room.

WATER WISE

On Wednesday and Friday of week 4 we have an aquatics specialist in to encourage water safety and confidence, lifesaving and team work in the water. Your child will have one session with a qualified teacher from Swimming New Zealand in our school pool. Your child will be doing activities in the pool such as rope rescues, inflatable boat capsizing, swimming with clothes and shoes, wearing a life jacket etc. If you are interested in observing this session please ask your child teacher when their session is timetabled.

DANYON LOADER – NEW ZEALAND OLYMPIC SWIMMER

Our Olympic Ambassador Danyon Loader came to talk to the senior students last Monday about the Olympian values and being the best you can be. These values are described as; pursuit of excellence, fair play, joy of effort, balance of body, mind and character and respect for others. During the day Danyon spent some time in the pool with the seniors encouraging and coaching their swimming for Swimming Sports. Danyon Loader will also be our Olympic Representative at our swimming sports event.

2nd HAND SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP

The School Uniform Shop will be open at 2.45pm on Thursday 23rd February. The shop will open on the last Thursday of every month. If you have any urgent uniform requirements outside the opening times please contact Angela Deehan on 027 444 0772. The School Uniform Shop relies on the support of parents donating old uniforms. The sale of these uniforms provides a handy school service as well as an important income stream for the PTA to put back into the school.

We urgently need more summer uniforms, especially girl's dresses. Any uniform donated is greatly appreciated.

NOTICES

NANNY

I'm looking for a caring, fun and child-loving person to help me with my four young children and some domestic duties on 3 afternoons a week around 2-5pm. If you can help, please call me - Fiona Twomey on mobile: 021 510 073 or home ph: 522 8067". Thanks Fiona.

EXPERT MATHS TUITION Ltd

All levels up to Year 13, please view website at www.mathexperts.co.nz

Locations are New Market, Mt Albert, Blockhouse Bay and Titirangi. Please call 09 - 820 3637 OR Email info@mathexperts.co.nz