

REMINDER:
School Closed Tuesday
24th May - Teacher Only
Day

Newsletter No 07
Tuesday, 10th May 2011
Tena Koutou Katoa

Dear Parents,

On behalf of the staff I extend a warm welcome back to everyone. The winter terms are associated with weekend winter sports and interschool winter sports exchanges. This year we have a lot of parents and supporters who have donated their time and energy to help coach a team or teams for their children. I would like to thank our coaches for their time and effort.

In 2009 and 2010 the teachers were involved in professional development programme focusing on raising student achievement in writing. The progress made in terms of student achievement was some of the highest in the Waikato / Bay of Plenty regions. The Ministry of Education is holding a meeting where five principals from the Waikato / BOP regions are sharing strategies and initiatives used to raise student achievement in their schools. I am proud to share that I have been asked to present the strategies and initiatives that were implemented here at St Michael's Catholic School.

On a personal note, Bob Stiles (Principal at Owkata School) and I completed the 1 / 4 Marathon held during the holidays. Bob and I (along with another principal) have now entered into a team's event where Bob will kayak 8 kms and I will run 12 kms. The event is being held in 4 weeks time.

Seasons for Growth

Seasons for Growth is a non-denominational Christian counselling programme designed to support children who have experienced the loss of a close relative. If you would like to undergo training to use Seasons for Growth as a counsellor, can you please contact Bronwyn in the office.

INVITATION REMINDER TO FAMILIES

THIS SATURDAY 14TH MAY - CONFIRMATION & FIRST COMMUNION MASS AT ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH 6PM. CHOIR CHILDREN TO MEET IN THE CRYPT AT 5.45PM. DON'T FORGET YOUR PLATE OF FOOD! THE CHILDREN ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO YOUR SUPPORT.



ST MICHAELS' SCHOOL PTA UPDATE

Hi to you all.

We, the new committee of St Michael's PTA, are pleased to announce that our big fundraising focus this year is to raise money for 300 new chairs for our school hall (approx total cost \$20,200.-) so all our family & friends can sit safely & comfortably, enjoying our children's performances.

RAFFLE TICKET FUNDRAISER

Every family is encouraged to sell raffle tickets for our Mid Winter Raffle, proudly sponsored by Central Pharmacy and proceeds will go to our chairs. The family that sells the most tickets will receive a mystery prize. Tickets are coming home with this newsletter and will close by 17th June 2011.

If you are able to help us or are interested in joining our committee, please feel free to contact one of us. Chairperson; Angela van der Bruggen 3474081 or 027-3091462 angela.b1@slingshot.co.nz Secretary; Teacher Brigitte Holmes in Room 8. Treasurer Natasha Timms 3502255 or 027-3051213. Look out for another update in the next newsletter, we will reveal what the mystery prize will be and have an events calendar ready.

Angela and the rest of the committed PTA team

Church News

• CONFIRMATION AND FIRST COMMUNION

A reminder that next weekend Monsignor Bennett visits our parishes, representing Bishop Denis, and our children will be confirmed and receive their First Communion. (St Michael's Saturday 6 pm 14/5) Please keep the children in your prayers. Our thanks once again to those who have prepared them so well.

• PASIFIKA INFORMATION EVENING -EDUCATION

The Ministry of Education have been running a series of community meetings around our region to keep our Pasifika community informed on some of the developments on the education front. The next meeting is on Wednesday 11th May. **DATE:** Wednesday 11th May **TIME:** 5:00pm - 6:30pm **VENUE:** St Michael's Church Crypt (under the church), Lake Road, Rotorua. **Light refreshments afterwards. COME ALONG AND BE INFORMED**

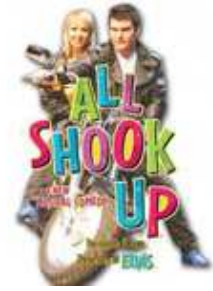


LOST & FOUND :

A pair of girls white sneakers with pink heels and light blue stripes along the side were found last week outside Room 3 after lunch. They have been shown around the school several times but still no one has taken ownership of them. If you think they may belong to your child please come to the school office.

ALL SHOOK UP:

JPC Players Present the Musical that Rocked Broadway Opens 20th May Civic Theatre Tickets available from: Ticketmaster Box Office NOW!



BABY BIBS REQUIRED

I am entering the Wearable Arts Competition and would like Baby Bibs that are no longer needed. These can be dropped off at school or phone me on 3496357 -Carolyn Herniman, many thanks

Ballet Classes for children 3yrs +

Stretch Dance and Fitness are now taking enrolments. Classes are held at the Westbrook School Hall on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please contact Emily Linklater for further details 0211165019 or stretch.dance@hotmail.com

Parenting Evening 'The Early Years 0-6'

Great kids need great parents and with the right tools anyone can be a great parent. If you are looking for practical strategies, inspiration, encouragement and insight then a Toolbox parenting group is for you. Over six sessions key parenting principles are explored and participants are encouraged in their parenting. \$67.50 pp or \$90 per couple Tuesday 17 May 7.30pm to 9.30pm at the Open Home Foundation, 17 Marguerita Street, phone Dee Home on 3455447 for more information. Subsidies available on request. – www.parentsinc.org.nz

'Dyslexia – 'Parents Evenings' – 2 hour Evening Workshop 11/8

Staying connected to your child and their learning can be difficult when the challenges of dyslexia or other differences arise – especially when it comes to homework and learning for tests. Focusing on aspects of reading for meaning, spelling tricky words and organising ideas on paper, this unique workshop teaches parents some of the “tricks of the trade”. Single parent / guardian \$30; couple \$50; accompanying children FREE. To register phone 03-5280094 ext 1 or fax (forms held in the office) 03-5280095 or register online www.actiondyslexia.co.nz

REMINDER -RICE DAY TOMORROW!

Children do not bring lunch to school tomorrow, instead they bring along \$2, a bowl and spoon in a plastic bag. The children are allowed to bring their normal morning tea.



Reading Books

A big thank you to the parents who helped processed our new readers. These new readers cost our school \$8,000 and we ask our families to respect these books when they go home and return them to school in the condition you received them. Many thanks.

Sports

Interscholar winter codes

The yr 4 to 6 children will be involved in winter code sports this term. The children will either be playing soccer, netball or hockey. Training for winter codes is Thursday afternoons from 2.00pm to 2.45pm. The children must wear their school PE gear for sports practices.

- Hockey players need a mouth guard, shin pads, if they have any. The school does have some shin pads and suitable shoes.
- Netball players need suitable shoes.
- Soccer players' play barefoot (no soccer boots allowed).

WE NEED A PARENT HELPER to help Ray Guilford with soccer if you can help please come along to our trainings on Thursdays.

The year 3 children will be involved in sports practices on Thursdays but they will not participate in winter sports exchanges.

Below is the sports practice timetable:

Monday lunchtime 12.45pm to 1.25pm – both rippa rugby teams, midgets mini ball team and midgets Saturday netball team.

Tuesday after school from 3.00pm to 4.00pm – midgets mini ball team (training will be under shelter outside the classrooms if it's raining)

Wednesday lunchtimes 12.45pm to 1.25pm – Yr 3 & 4 mini ball team (Jason's team) and Yr 5 & 6 mini ball team (Frank's team)

Wednesday after school from 3.00pm to 4.00pm – yr 5 & 6 Saturday netball team (Theresa's team)

Thursday lunchtime 12.45pm to 1.25pm – both rippa rugby teams and midgets Saturday netball team

Thursday 1.30pm to 2.30pm – Senior Saturday hockey team

Thursday after school from 3.00pm to 4.00pm - yr 4 & 5 Saturday netball team (Amanda's team)

Friday lunchtime 12.45pm to 1.25pm – Yr 5 & 6 mini ball teams (Frank's team and Lisa's team) and the yr 4 & 5 Saturday netball team (Amanda's team)

WE ARE STILL MISSING SCHOOL SPORTS UNIFORMS FROM LAST YEAR. PLEASE RETURN THESE TO WHAEA LIZ ASAP!

No reira, tena koutou, tena koutou, tena

St Michael's school staff