

Newsletter No 05

Tuesday, 27th April 2010
Tena Koutou Katoa



Dear Parents,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to everyone at the start of the second term. As a school we had a fantastic start to the year and in discussions with staff I know that this term looks productive as well. Term 1 ended with the Easter concert and success on the sports fields. Success leads to more success and this contributes to enhancing the positive culture of St Michael's Catholic School. The children and school definitely look, sound and feel good at the moment.

The new ActivBoards in Rooms 1, 2, 3, & 6 have made a positive impact on the children's learning. The new technology opens new doors for the teachers and children. I have been privileged to use the technology and I can honestly say that the technology makes teaching more powerful and meaningful for the children. I had a great conversation with the children about how much fun they are having with the technology. Teachers have changed the layout of their classroom to best utilise the new boards.

Naturally the teachers in the other rooms want ActivBoards in their own room. I am focussed on ensuring that somehow this happens.

School Calendar Events

➤ **Monday 3rd May – Teacher only Day**

School will be closed on the 3rd of May as the staff are involved in professional development. We are fortunate to have a visiting Marist Brother join us from America. Br. Loughlan is a qualified psychiatrist and will be talking about the importance of forgiveness and reconciliation. As a school we are also honoured to host teachers and principals from the Catholic schools from Rotorua, Taupo, Otorohanga and Putaruru.

- **5th May – Andrew Chinn** (Australian Catholic Musician) visiting the school. A notice will go out nearer the time re afternoon concert.
- **11th May – Parent Interviews** – A notice will go home soon to organise your appointment time and just a reminder that school closes at 2pm on this day.

- **12th May – R.E. Parent meeting** – 3.15pm – Parents and caregivers come along and discover what your children are learning at school about Religious Education. This is a great opportunity for discussion and questions you may have about the R.E. programme run here at school.
- **16th May – ‘Ascension Sunday’** -School Mass at St Michael’s Church 8am
- **17th – 19th May – Life Education School Visit**
- **19th May – Catholic Schools Day**
- **9th June – Marae School visit** to Ohinemutu
- **17th June – School Mass** – School Hall
- **19th June – Confirmation Mass Saturday 6pm at St Michael’s Church**

Board of Trustee Parent Elections 2010

Due to the wonderful response calling for nominations we now have 8 candidates for our Board of Trustee elections. This is a fantastic response to a reminder sent out last week. Many thanks to these wonderful volunteers and we wish them all the very best.

"Strong leaders make strong schools"

Election Timeline dates as follows:

Voting papers distributed	by 28 April 2010
Voting Day	7 May 2010
Count votes	13 May 2010
Board takes office	14 May 2010

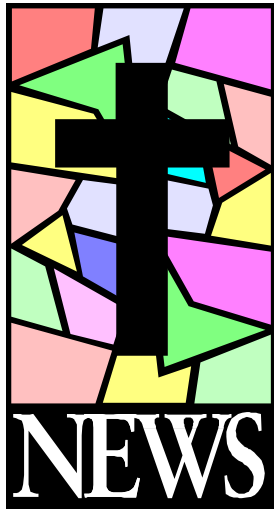


Special thanks

Last Thursday the St Michael’s school board farewelled Thomas O’Leary. Thomas was a very dedicated and hardworking trustee for 10 years. He began his service as a proprietor rep then spent the last 6 ½ years as Chairperson. We thank Thomas very much for his wonderful enthusiasm and sincere dedication to the staff and families of our school. Thomas’s faith was always reflected in his commitment to the school and parish community and we wish him well for his future endeavours.

A special thank you also to Carolyn Tombleson who has also stepped down from the board. Carolyn was co-opted onto the board in 2009 to fill in a vacancy. We thank Carolyn very much for her sincerity and kind generosity, it was very much appreciated.

St Michael's Parish News



Sunday Mass in Te Reo Maori

Saturday evening, 6 pm at St Michael's Church, Lake Road on the following dates:

- **May 22**
- **June 26**
- **July 24**

Confirmation & First Eucharist (Communion)-

Preparation classes, for those children who made their First Reconciliation in 2009, will begin again on **May 2nd** from 11.15am. Families are encouraged to attend Mass first. Classes will run every Sunday in May.

Children must attend every session. Confirmation Mass for St Michael's will be held on Saturday 19th June at 6pm.

Sports

Touch Uniforms and any other school sports uniforms need to be returned to Whaea Liz as soon as possible. (NOT Saturday netball uniforms or Miniball uniforms)

Miniball Practices: Midgets Team practice on Wednesday Lunch times. Junior team practice on Friday lunch times and Senior team practice Tuesday and Friday lunchtimes.

Kids Bike Jams: The only national mountain bike series for kids aged 5-13 yrs in NZ. All competitors receive a medal, water bottle and goodies. When: Sunday 2nd May at the Redwood Forest. Entries close 26th April 2010. For more information, or to register please see www.kidsbikejams.co.nz

Netball draw for Saturday 1 st May Grading Games		
Court 1 9.30am	Aorangi B	St Michaels Juniors Y3 & 4 team
Court 2 9.30am	Ngongotaha Angels	St Michaels Midgets Y1 & 2 team
Court 3 10.15am	Owhata Mystics	St Michaels Seniors Y5 & 6 team



Netball games are played at Westbrook Netball Courts. The girls will be given a uniform this week. The girls are to wear suitable running shoes, their school skivvy under their school t shirt and bib, short black or blue tights under their skirt or shorts if it's cold or wet and white socks. Please parents ensure the girls are reasonably dressed tidy on those cold wet mornings.

All players must be at the courts at least 20 minutes before game time.

Game cancellations are played on the radio stations from 7am.

Netball practices are:

- Midgets training with Charmaine – Mondays and Wednesday lunchtimes 1.40pm to 1.20pm.
- NOTE CHANGE IN PRACTICE TIME FOR JUNIORS - Juniors training with Theresa – Wednesdays after school 3.00pm to 4.00pm.
- Seniors training with Amanda – Mondays and Thursdays after school 3.00pm to 4.00pm.

ALL CHILDREN MUST ATTEND THESE PRACTICES!

THE \$30.00 NETBALL FEE NEEDS TO BE PAID TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY THIS FRIDAY 30th APRIL!!!!

League/ Development sessions:- 8 Week skills clinic for 8-12yrs of all abilities. Tuesdays 5.40pm – 7pm from 11th May – 29 June at the Rotorua International Stadium on Field 2 at \$10 per session.

Give it a go Day:- This is a fantastic opportunity to try out a new sport. There will be a wide range of activities from water to land bases activities eg Swim lessons, volleyball, marching, kayaking and much more this Sunday 1st May at the Rotorua Aquatic Centre and Kuirau Park from 12pm to 3pm – free of charge.

**No reira, tena koutou, tena koutou, tena
St Michael's School Staff**

