

Newsletter No 01

Tuesday, 8 February 2011

Tena Koutou Katoa



Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome to you all at the beginning of the 2011 school year at St Michael's Catholic School. We hope you have had an enjoyable Christmas and holiday break, and are now into the new school year with enthusiasm. We invite you to actively support your school at every opportunity, and your involvement is always welcomed and appreciated. We highlight as the year begins, factors that will ensure St Michael's continues to be a great school for your child:

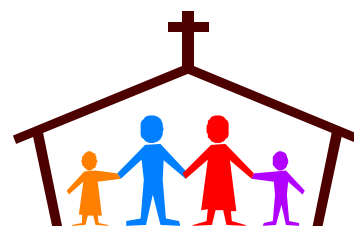
- **Our Catholic Character**
- **Quality teaching and learning**
- **Striving for Excellence – high standards**

We want your child to have the absolute best chance possible to learn as much as she/he can, and in partnership with our parents, we will succeed and make 2011 a great year for your child.

New Families/Pupils

A very warm welcome to the following new families. We hope you enjoy your time here at St Michael's.

Anna & Lou Steed -Billie-Jo Rm 1; Katrina & Colin Harman- Tiana Rm 1; Rebecca King & Warren Spencer -Kane Rm4, Amber-Lee Rm4; Anna & Chris White -Jordyn Rm2; Christine & Eugene Wepa -Narcisse Rm2; Estella Gregorash Rm9; Amelia McCurdy Rm9, Michelle & Bradley Portland -Arabella Rm9; Shaun Mendis Rm8; Victor & Rachel Chan-Nicole Rm6, Ernest Rm1.



Mrs Holmes

We are pleased to share that Brigitte Brosnan was married in January 2010 and has now changed her name to Mrs Holmes. Brigitte's husband attended St Michael's as a child.

Visiting Teacher Trainee

We warmly welcome Jakayla Roderique-Trask (Past Pupil) who is currently completing a teacher training placement here in Mrs Koene's class for six weeks.

CARS USING DRIVEWAYS

PLEASE DO NOT DRIVE INTO THE SCHOOL GROUNDS at busy times, particularly 8.30 – 9am, 2.45pm-3.15pm, when lots of children are using our entrance ways, especially on wet days. Parents are asked to park either in Lisa Crescent, May Road or the hall car park, in Clayton Road and NOT ACROSS people's / school driveways, lawns, or in the Lisa Crescent bus stop!

The gate in May Road is the Sisters of Mercy's entrance to their convent, and as our May Road signs says, please use the Lisa Crescent entrance, not the Sisters entrance. This is for pedestrians only.

Bicycles

It is school policy that only children 9 years and over ride bikes to school. It is law that they must wear an approved safety helmet. It is great to see children getting their daily exercise by biking to school. There have been some thefts of bikes in the neighbourhood therefore **we strongly recommend that bicycles be securely locked to the stands at all times while at school.** *Cyclists must wheel their bike to and from the school gate.*



BEGINNING OF YEAR PARENT / TEACHER MEETINGS

These will take the same format as last year, and will take place during the afternoon of **Wednesday 9th February.** These group meetings are very successful opportunity for all parents to meet with our teachers and learn about classroom routines and expectations. Parents or teachers who need a one on one meeting may arrange one on another time. Meeting times for each room are set out below:

Rooms Rm 3	4pm – 4.15pm
Rooms Rm 8 & 9	3.15pm – 3.45pm
Rooms Rm 1, 2,4,6 & 7	3.45pm – 4.15pm

PTA MEETING

The first meeting for the PTA is on **Tuesday 15th February** beginning at 7pm in the school staffroom. As a group the PTA is dedicated to raising additional funds to enhance your children's learning opportunities. New members are warmly invited

Attendance Dues / Fees to Catholic Education Office

If anyone is finding it difficult at any time to meet these payments that you have to pay to the Catholic Education Office, please feel most welcome to come along and chat to me confidentially about this, as my door is always open. Parents are assured that no child will be denied a Catholic Education if there is a financial problem. **It is better to be proactive at the start of the year rather than waiting**



until the end of year. If there is a difficulty meeting school expenses please come in and let me know so that I can help you.



ABSENTEES – SCHOOL CELL PHONE

When your child/ren is absent from school please REMEMBER to phone the school office 3481362 or text the **school cell phone 0278183849** preferably before 9am.



SCHOOL COMMISSIONING MASS – SATURDAY 26TH FEBRUARY 6PM ST MICHAELS CHURCH

Please have children at the church by 5.50pm. If you are unable to attend due to arrangements that cannot be changed, please write a letter to the classroom teacher. All school masses are part of our special character and correct uniform must be worn e.g. black/brown sandals, girls' summer tunics, boys grey shorts with pale blue polo shirt.

UP DATE CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS / ADDRESSES

It is essential that we have up to date contact numbers and address for you in case of emergency or accident.

- * Please use the form provided on this newsletter to update our records
- * All families (except new 2011 enrolments) please do this whether you have changed or not.

Foyer Information

On the table in our foyer are our logbook, newsletter file, Parent Library and other general information. Please feel free to browse.

Junior Orientation Picnic – Rms 6,7,8 & 9



This takes place on **FRIDAY 18th FEBRUARY** 9.30 – 2pm at Hannah's Bay. We are praying for a lovely fine day to enjoy this special time together. Just a reminder to return your child's permission slip from the special notice to be sent out. This picnic is always a huge success so I am sure everyone is looking forward to it once again.

ROTORUA AFTER SCHOOL CARE

This is held at St Michael's School hall Monday to Friday 3pm to 5.30 pm for 5yrs – 11 yrs at very affordable rates. The children follow a structured afternoon of activities and are provided with a healthy afternoon tea. At 4 pm the children have the opportunity to sit down to do their homework, while others do quiet activities. This programme has the approval of Child Youth and Family and childcare subsidies are available. **To register your interest or making a booking please phone Raewyn 07 3472273 / 021767545**

“Striving for Excellence”

This has become our motto over recent years, and has been commented on positively by the Education Review Office. It is timely at the start of a new year to renew our efforts with this, and urge parents to support us in having high expectations of our pupils, and pride in our school.

The most practical way on a day to day basis to support “Striving for Excellence” is to ensure you send your child to school in the **correct uniform at all times.**

To assist and refresh all memories, here are details of uniform requirements. All pupils arriving in incorrect uniform without a note from his/her parents will receive a notice requesting an explanation. We look forward to your positive support in making sure our pupils are well presented, and proud to be part of this excellent Catholic School.

GIRLS' UNIFORM: SUMMER

Dress (Blue & White St Michael's check)

St Michael's Sweatshirt / or polar fleece with monogram

Flat Black sandals

Blue Aussie style sunhat

BOYS' UNIFORM-SUMMER:

Grey cotton shorts.

Pale blue St Michael's polo shirt with monogram.

St. Michael's sweatshirt /or polar Fleece with monogram.

Black flat sandals.

Blue Aussie style sunhat.

SPORTS UNIFORM:

Blue St Michael's shorts.

Yellow St Michael's T-shirt with monogram.



Note that Sports uniform is compulsory for Y3-6 and optional for juniors. Children will only be allowed to take part in interschool / public sports events when in correct sports uniform.

Girls' dresses are sold at the school office, all other items at Postie Plus.

- **Please help by making sure all uniform items are correctly named.**
- **Sunhats are compulsory this term please**



Children will have to sit in the shade during their lunch break if they do not have their sunhat



Caring Community

For several years now we have had kind parents volunteer to form a “Caring Community Group”, that can be contacted if a family is in need. It may be due to a bereavement, sickness etc that a kind gesture such as a freshly baked cake, a meal, a plate of scones etc can be made and sent to the home. With several volunteers, you may not be called upon to do this very often, but I know this service is appreciated. To volunteer, please phone Bronwyn 3481362 or text 0278183849 at our office. Many thanks.

Mobile Ear Clinic

Free ear checks for children – dates / venues are as follows:

- 9 Feb 9.00 – 2pm Selwyn Primary
- 14 Feb 9.00 – 2pm Rotorua Primary
- 15 Feb 9.00 – 2pm Sunset Primary
- 23 Feb 9.00 – 2pm Malfroy Primary

Rotorua City Junior Football (Soccer) AGM Notice

Welcome aboard 2011 football season. RCJFC will be holding their AGM on Wednesday 16th Feb at Selwyn Primary School staffroom at 6.30pm. All enquires to Chrissy 3490 833

Ngongotaha Rugby League

Muster Day for school boys – grades (U6s – U15s). 9am – 12pm Saturday 12th at Puketawhero Park, Vaughans Road, Rotorua. Some of the Vodafone Warriors and Sydney Roosters NRL players will also be there to run through skills and drills with the kids. Contact Rachael Beresford 0211168452 or email codyadams@xtra.co.nz

SPORTS

Senior fitness

Rooms 1, 2, 3 and 4 children will be doing fitness circuit's Monday to Thursday. All children need to be wearing the school PE uniform.

Touch

Touch is starting up again next Wednesday for the year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children. These teams are now full and some children still need to pay the \$10.00 touch fee please.

Touch practice times for the yr 5 & 6 mixed touch team is Tuesday lunchtimes. Practice times for the yr 3 & 4 mixed touch team are still to be confirmed.

The touch draw is sent out weekly and it is also posted on rotoruatouch.bebo.com website.

Game cancellations - The school is notified by 9am Wednesday morning if there is no touch and then the message is given to the children at school. However parents can ring the school office to find out as well.

Cricket

Unfortunately we didn't have enough players to make a year 4, 5 & 6 cricket team this term but we will look at entering a team in term 4. However we do have a few 5 & 6 year old children wanting to learn how to play cricket. So thank you to those parents who have returned the slips and paid the \$30.00 cricket fee. If there are any other 5 or 6 year old children wanting to learn how to play cricket please let me know by this Thursday please.

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

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- **Special Congratulations to ex pupil Connor Aislabie** who was awarded the following at the end of year John Paul College Junior Prize Giving 2010: (Well done Connor!)
 - Excellence Award Year 8 Drama
 - English Speech Winner Year 8
 - Certificate of Merit in Religious Education
 - Year 8 Mary MacKillop Award

- **Piano Lessons** are being offered for Beginners – please phone Norma on 346 0042
- **Friday School Lunches:** Begin again this week, spare order forms are found on the school office front desk. All orders must be placed before Friday. For this term we have replaced the sausage roll for egg sandwiches for \$2 and also have available fresh fruit at 50c each available.
- **BOT Meeting to be held Thursday 17th February** at 7pm in the school staffroom.
- **Science in the Park:** - This year's Science in the Park is being held on Saturday 12 March from 9am to 3pm at Scion, 40 Sala Street. Science in the Park is a wonderful way to learn how Scion contributes to research, the environment and economy of Rotorua. We have a number of parents who work for Scion and from what I've hear the day promises to be very exciting for all the family

We wish everyone a successful and happy new year, and we look forward to your active support of St Michael's Catholic School.

**No reira, tena koutou, tena koutou, tena
St Michael's school staff**

St Michael's School Friday Lunch Order Form : Orders to office before Friday		
	1. Chicken Burger & Cookie	\$3.00
	2. Egg Sandwiches &Cookie	\$2.00
	3. Pizza and Cookie	\$2.50
	4. Chicken Filled roll & Cookie	\$3.00
	5. Apple or Banana	\$0.50c
Received:		Change:
Name:		RM:

Everyone to Complete (Except 2011 new enrolments)

**ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL
PHONE AND ADDRESS UPDATE AS AT
FEBRUARY 2011**

Child / Children Names:

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Caregiver's full name:

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Address:

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Home Phone:.....

Work Phone (Mother):.....

Work Phone (Father):

Cell Phone:(We strongly

recommend that we have land line phone numbers on file as well as cell phones - cell phones are not reliable as they are changed frequently and or have not credit on them)

Alternative name and contact number for emergency e.g.

relative, nearby friend or neighbour etc.

..... NamePhone No