

# Newsletter No 01

Tuesday, 9 February 2010

Tena Koutou Katoa



**Dear Parents,**

A very warm welcome to you all at the beginning of the 2010 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:

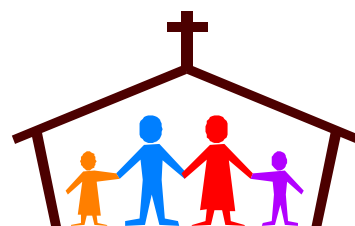
- **Our Catholic Character**
- **Quality teaching and learning**
- **Striving for Excellence – high standards**

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 2010 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.

Maree & Mark White (Shakequel Rm1 & Xanda Rm6), Ngawai Kohi (Anahera Rm 9, Matua Rm1), Vimesh Kumar & Shilpa Ben Lal (Esha Rm3), Denise & Geoff Kitson (Jacob Rm2), Dahna Fleming ( Matthew Rm 3), Connie & David Gavin (Isaiah Rm 8), Lisa & Malcolm Collins ( Max Rm9), Hilary & Dale Williams (Luke Rm8), Ursula Ratana & Lynda Hoare (Trelyse Rm 8), Jaime Corbett & Jimmy Jenkins (Cody Rm7), Crystal Kanara (Xavier Rm4), Belinda & Anthony Managh ( Cody Rm4), John & Cheryl Thompson (Anaiah Rm4), Dioscord & Melissa Dy (John Rm9)



## **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!

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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. 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 **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> 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 7, 4 & 6	3.15pm
Rooms Rm 2, 9 & 8	3.45pm
Rooms Rm 1 & 3	4.15pm
Finish at 4.45pm	

## 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.** Likewise if anytime meeting school expense is difficult, please come in and let me know so that I can help you.



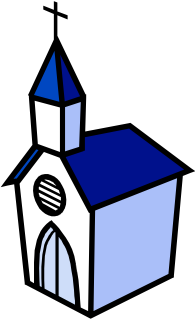
## ABSENTEES – SCHOOL CELL PHONE

When your child/ren is absent from school please REMEMBER to phone the school office 3481362 or text the **school cell phone 027818349** preferably before 9am.



## SCHOOL MASS – ASH WEDNESDAY

The first school Mass this year is on **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> February** at St Mary's Catholic Church at 9.30am. This Mass celebrates the beginning of lent, traditional a day of Fasting and absence. 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. Parents / caregivers and friends are welcome to attend



## 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 2010 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 6,4,7 & 8



This take s place on **FRIDAY 19th 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. This picnic is always a huge success so I am sure everyone is looking forward to it once again.

## MR 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 Y4-6 and optional for juniors. Children will only be allowed to take part in interschool / public sports events when in correct sports uniform. For Y3 pupils we encourage them to bring a change of clothes for PE.**

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.

### **Please keep in your prayers**

Mrs Howard (Teacher Aide) who is recovering from surgery at Rotorua Hospital.

### **Mobile Ear Clinic**

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

- 15 Feb 9.00 – 2pm Rotorua Primary
- 22 Feb 9.00 – 2pm Rotorua Primary
- 23 Feb 9.00 – 2pm Ngongotaha Primary
- 24 Feb 9.00 – 2pm Malfroy Primary

### **Rotorua City Junior Football (Soccer) AGM Notice**

Welcome aboard 2009 football season. RCJFC will be holding their AGM on Wednesday 18th Feb at Selwyn Primary School hall at 6.30pm. This is for Saturday sport for children interested in playing football 5yrs – 15yrs. All enquires to Bryan 3486448 or Jan 3477617

### **Sausage Sizzles – Volunteers to cook**

These are starting up again this year on Fridays –Sausages are \$1.50 each. Until we get a PTA up and running we required some kind volunteers to help cook these sausages. Please phone the school office.

### **Ngongotaha Rugby League**

Muster Day for school boys – grades (U6s – U15s). 10am – 12pm Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:codyadams@xtra.co.nz)



# SPORTS

**Children's and Family Fun Day at the Redwoods.** Free activities for all ages including: Art and crafts, story telling, bike skills, games, face painting, etc. This will be held on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> March at the Redwood on Long mile Road from 10am – 3pm. At 1pm there will be the Great Go Kart Race, entry fee for this is \$5 and all funds raised go to Rotorua Hospital Children's Unit Trust. For more information contact the Redwoods Information Centre on 07 350 0110.

## **Free Tennis Coaching Evening**

The Topguns Tennis Academy will be holding a free evening at Rotorua Girls High for Primary and Intermediate students on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February 3.30 pm - 5.30pm. Use your own racquet or brings your own. Spot prizes to be won. To book please phone Guy on 348 4693

## **Cricket / Tee Ball Coaches**

We need parents to help coach cricket or tee ball. If you are interested please see Whaea Liz in Room 3. Tee Ball is on Tuesday afternoons from 3.40 – 5.30pm and Cricket is on Thursday afternoons from 3.40 – 5.30pm.

## **Zumba Classes – St Michael's School Hall**

Every Monday and Wednesday from 6 – 7pm, first class free. This is an excellent way to get fit (loose those extra kilos gained over the Christmas break). Casual rate is \$7.50, A punch card of 10 sessions is \$50 but for **Staff and Parents of St Michael's students we have been offered a discount rate – punch card for 10 sessions at \$40.** Bring along water, towel and wear comfortable sweat clothing.

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**

**Everyone to  
Complete** (Except 2010 enrolments)

**ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
PHONE AND ADDRESS UPDATE AS AT  
FEBRUARY 2010**

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 - cell phones are not reliable especially if we have to leave messages)

Alternative name and contact number for emergency e.g. relative, nearby friend or neighbour etc.

..... Name .....Phone No